



Galerie Maria Wettergren presents

HANNE FRIIS

*PHASES*

Exhibition 23.05 - 27.07



# HANNE FRIIS *PHASES*

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Galerie Maria Wettergren is pleased to present *Phases*, an exhibition of textile sculptures by Norwegian artist, Hanne Friis. Floating throughout the space, on the walls, and lying on the floor are Friis' characteristically twisted and delicately condensed masses of silk, wool, denim and canvas. The sculptures have been carefully crafted by hand with repetitive movements that create variations in shape, texture and color. Her method of draping loose fragments against the tightly stitched mass allows the body to breathe out of its restrained folds. From afar, the figures appear animated and as the tension of the stitching alternates, they naturally curve, exuding sensuality.

Approaching the soft, sensuous forms, notions of the hand become increasingly apparent. With the sculptures measuring up to 250cm, it is prominent that patience and attention to detail are essential to Friis' process. What begins delicately with a needle and thread explodes into large, violent forms. While the denim is second-hand, the silks, canvas, and wool have been hand-dyed using natural elements, such as oak acorn and mugwort ditch plants. She transforms materials from nature while simultaneously imitating the natural.



The alternating folds billow like smoke or waves, their shades fade like phases of the moon. The sculptures are alive, heaving. Their organic shapes evoke parts of the body that can be difficult to discern. Our bodies amongst other living forms of nature are vulnerable as we float from birth to death; life's natural phases are present within Friis' fine lines.

Two paintings entitled *Worthless Remains I* and *Dark Part* were created using acrylic on paper and glass, providing an ethereal background for the sculptures. The muted brushstrokes become increasingly more transparent from the center of the support, juxtaposing the tension and firmness of the textiles while mirroring their spiraled form. The notion of spirals as a principle of instinct and growth, such as those found in DNA, tree trunks, and fingerprints, is a reoccurring theme in Friis' work. A sense of tension and of comfort in opposition between growth and decay, patience and urgency, restriction and breath are present in *Phases*. Friis' forms invade the space and help us to question the human condition as well as the world around us



*Burden*, 2014-16

Diameter 200cm  
Wool dyed by mugwort, sewn by hand





*The Juice From the Trees II, 2019*

250 x 95 x 30 cm

Canvas dyed by oak acorn and iron mordant, sewn by hand

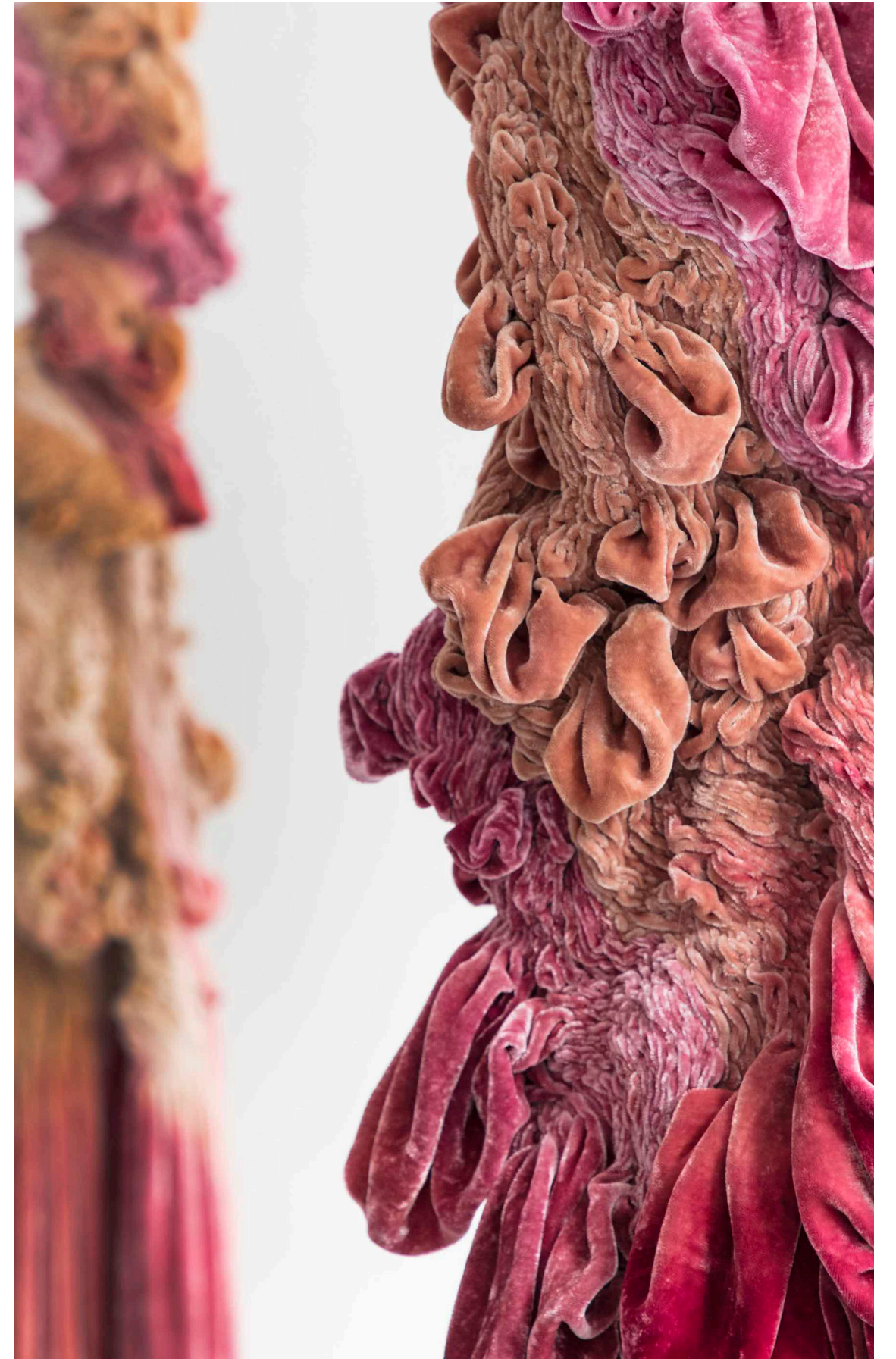




*New Ornaments I (The Silk Series), 2015-19*

215 x 30 cm

Silk velvet dyed by cones and cochineal, sewn by hand







*New Ornaments IV (The Silk Series)*, 2015-18

150 x 35 cm

Silk velvet dyed by cones and cochineal, sewn by hand



*New Ornaments II (The Silk Series)*, 2015-18

98 x 35 cm

Silk velvet dyed by cones and cochineal, sewn by hand





*Spiral I*, 2018

160 x 50 cm  
Canvas, sewn by hand



*Worthless Remains II*, 2018

106 x 76 cm  
Acrylic on paper/glass and frame





*Grey Monument I, 2018*

53 x 35 cm

Canvas dyed by oak acorn and iron mordant, sewn by hand

*Grey Monument II, 2018*

60 x 43 cm

Canvas dyed by oak acorn and iron mordant, sewn by hand







*Secrets (Blue)*, 2008  
117 x 50 x 24 cm  
Denim, sewn by hand



*Dark Part*, 2018  
106 x 76 cm  
Acrylic on paper/glass and frame





*Buoyant*, 2017-18

160 x 65 cm

Canvas dyed by indigo, sewn by hand





*Spring, Autumn, 2017*

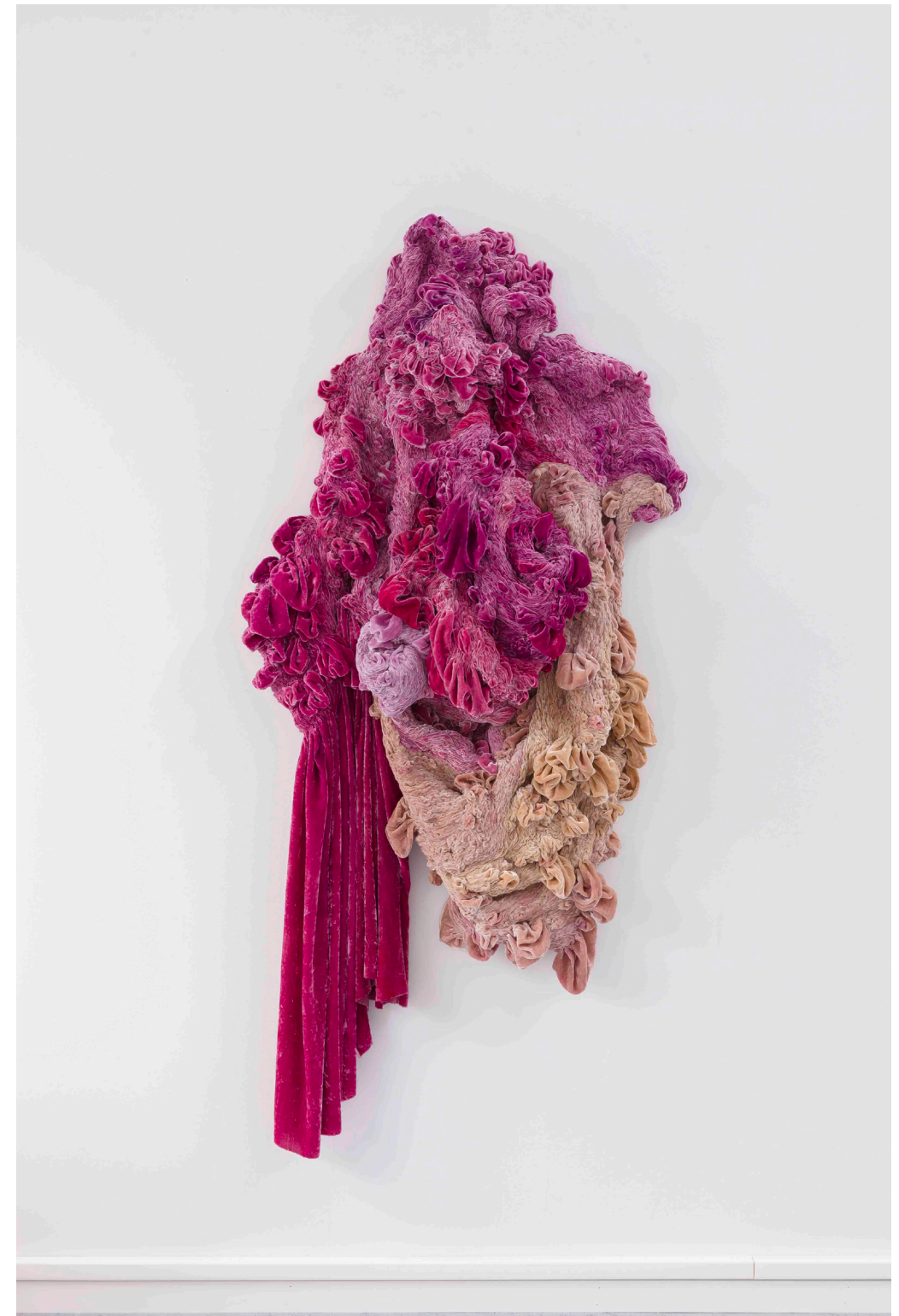
225 x 110 x 25 cm  
Silk velvet dyed by plants from the ditch



*The Waves, 2009*

190 x 110 x 27 cm  
Secondhand denim, partially bleached, sewn by hand





*Phases*, 2018

H 160 cm W 75 cm D 25 cm  
Silk velvet dyed by cones and cochineal, sewn by hand





Before specializing in textile art, Hanne Friis studied sculpture and painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Trondheim between 1992 and 1996. Today she is considered one of the most influential Norwegian contemporary artists working with textiles. A large number of her works are included in both public and private collections, such as the National Museum of Art in Oslo and the National Museum of Decorative Arts in Trondheim in Norway. Her most recent group exhibitions include Revelations at the Grand Palais, Paris in 2019, Tissage Tressage at the Villa Datriis Foundation in France in 2018, and The Forgetfulness is Full of Memory at Gallery Marso in Mexico City, Mexico in 2018, among others.

Portrait taken by Alette Schei Rørvik  
Images of the sculptures taken by Øystein Thorvaldsen  
*New Ornament* detail photographs taken by Ole Akhøj



## Curriculum Vitae

Hanne Friis, b. 1972 Norway

### EDUCATION

1992 – 1996 Academy of Fine Arts, Trondheim, Norway  
1993 Myndlista- og Handidaskóli, Reykjavik, Island  
1991- 92 Rogaland Art School, Stavanger, Norway  
1990- 91 Bergen Art School, Bergen, Norway

### SOLO SHOWS

2019 Maria Wettergren Gallery, Paris  
2018 Spiral, Trafo Kunsthall, Asker  
2017 New Ornaments, ARTendal, Arendal, Norway  
2016 Metamorphoses, Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway  
2010 MJUK, Ram Galleri, Oslo, Norway  
Layers, Gustavsbergs Konsthall, Gustavsberg, Sweden  
Layers, Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway  
2007 Konservativen, Punkt Ø, Halden, Norway  
Inside out and round and round, Soft, Oslo, Norway  
2006 Change, Akershus kunstnersenter, Lillestrøm, Norway  
2003 Connections, Tromsø Kunstforening, Tromsø, Norway  
Connections, Galleri F15, Jeløya, Norway  
1998 Mellow, UKS Galleri, Oslo, Norway

### SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

2019 Revelations, Grand Palais, Paris  
2018 Manners of Communication, Ways of Telling, Dropsfabrikken, Trondheim  
Tissage Tressage, Foundation Villa Datriis, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France  
The Forgetfulness is Full of Memories, MARSO Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico  
2017 re:construction, Hint Project, Aarhus, Danmark, Disclosing the  
Uncanny, Kristin Hjellegjerde, London, England  
2016 Hanging Gardens, Kunsthall Grenland, Porsgrunn, Norway  
2015 Soft Monuments, KODE Art Museum, Bergen, Norway, Spring Depot,  
Tenthau, Oslo, Norway  
2014 We are Living on a Star, Henie Onstad Art Center, Norway  
CRAFT!, Liljevalchs Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden  
2013 Edvard Munch 150th Anniversary, Åsgårdstrand, Norway  
The Norwegian Sculpture Biennale, The Vigeland Museum, Oslo, Norway  
A Thousands Threads, Lillehammer Art Museum, Norway  
2012 National Art Exhibition, Oslo Central Station, Norway  
Norwegian Craft 2012, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway, Ba-  
lanced –  
unbalanced, Kunstbanken Hedmark, Norway  
2011 Collect 2011, Saatchi Gallery, London, England  
2010 Post Fossil, 21\_21 Design Sight Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
2009 Bomuldsfabriken, Arendal, Norway  
Tendencies, Galleri F 15, Punkt Ø, Norway  
2008 Norwegian pictures, Oslo Cityhall, Galleri Brandstup, Norway  
A world of Folk, Sandnes, Stavanger 2008, Norway  
2005-06 Objects, tradition and renewal, SKINN, Norway  
2002 Uro, Nordnorsk Art Center, Svolvær, Norway

To see and be seen, Østfold Art Center, Norway  
2001 Treff, Bergen Art Museum, Norway  
1998 Castor Fiber, UKS Gallery, Oslo, Norway  
A world of Folk, Sandnes, Stavanger 2008, Norway  
2005-06 Objects, tradition and renewal, SKINN, Norway  
2002 Uro, Nordnorsk Art Center, Svolvær, Norway  
To see and be seen, Østfold Art Center, Norway  
2001 Treff, Bergen Art Museum, Norway  
1998 Castor Fiber, UKS Gallery, Oslo, Norway  
1997 Diagnose, Stavanger Kunstforening, Norway  
Flash, Sandvika Teater, Bærum, Norway  
1996 Trivial Groove, Galleri F15, Jeløya, Norway  
Frisbee, Hordaland Art Center, Bergen, Norway  
1995 Bergen Ginseng, Galleri Otto Plonk, Bergen, Norway

### UPCOMING SHOWS

2019 Kristiansands Kunsthall, Kristiansand, Norway

### GRANTS

2016 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 10 year work grant  
2013 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 3 year work grant  
2012 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2011 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2010 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 2 year work grant  
2009 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2008 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2007 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2005 Norwegian Ministry of Culture, Work grant for young artists, 2 year  
2004 Norwegian Visual Artists Commission Fund, 1 year work grant  
2002 Chr. Lorck Schives legacy  
1998 Norwegian Ministry of Culture, Work grant for young artists, 1 year

### PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

2018 The National Museum, Oslo, Norway  
2017 The Museum of Decorative Art, Trondheim, Norway  
2016 The National Museum, Oslo, Norway  
The City of Oslo Art Collection, Norway  
2014 LO, gift to Hamar Culture House, Hamar, Norway  
2012 The West Norway Museum of Decorative Art, Bergen  
2009 The Museum of Decorative Art, Trondheim, Norway  
2003 The Art Museum of Northern Norway, Tromsø  
1998 The Art Museum of Northern Norway, Tromsø  
1996 Arts Council, Norway

### COMMISSIONS

2018 Aasta Hansteen, Statoil Art Programme, Norway  
2016 Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Ås, Norway  
Sentralen, Savings Bank Foundation, Oslo, Norway  
Hønefoss High School, Buskerud, Norway  
2015 Tromsø Police Headquarter, Tromsø, Norway



