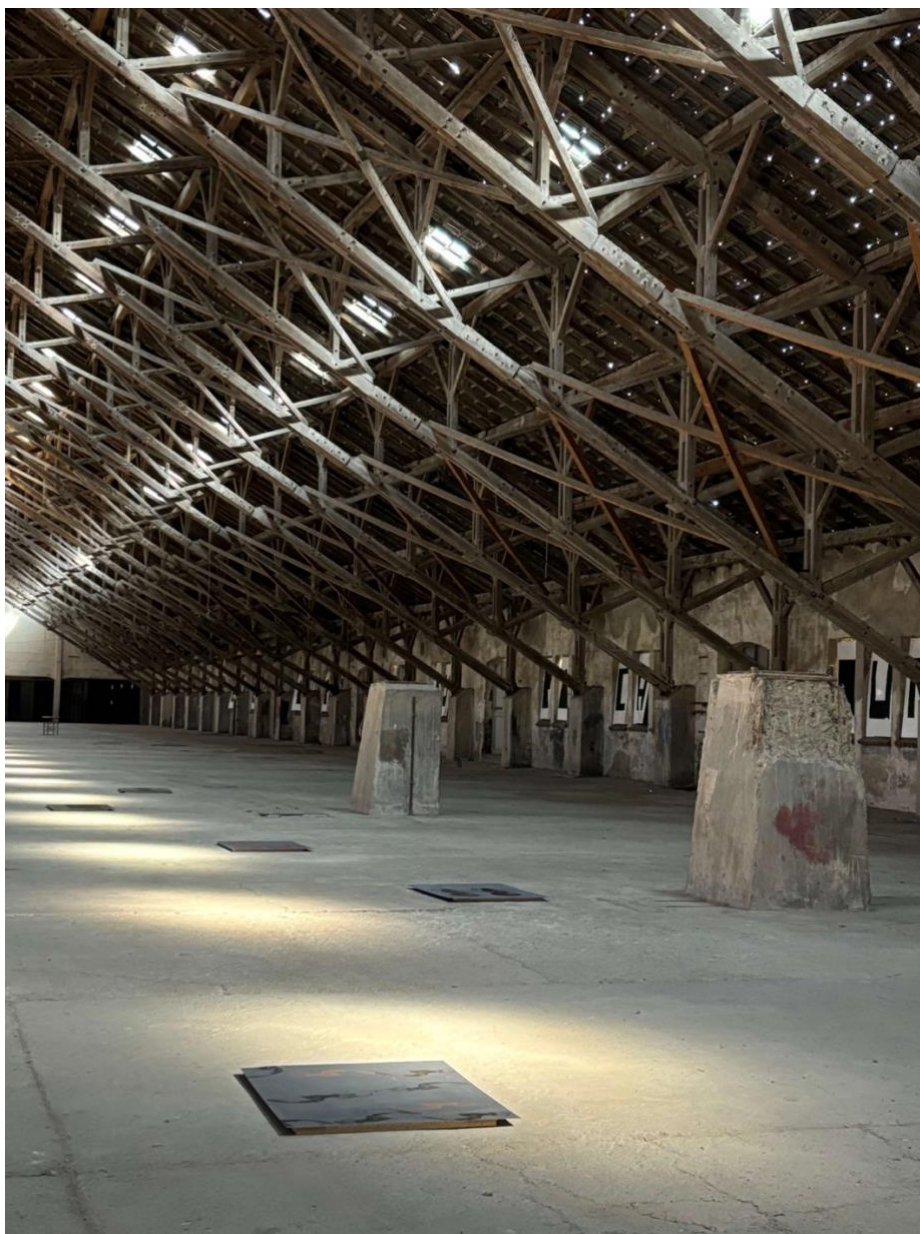


## **Sława Harasymowicz *Klinkerwerk***



*Klinkerwerk*, installation view, 2024

**Neuengamme Memorial, KZ-Gedenkstätte Neuengamme**

**25 August 2024 - 17 November 2024**

**Private view: Sunday 25 August, 1 pm - 3.30 pm including in-conversation Sława Harasymowicz with Dr Magdalena Ziółkowska.**

**Curated by Dr Magdalena Ziółkowska, art historian and critic.**

Supported by The Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage Scholarship Programme. With the kind support of the University of the Arts London, CSM doctoral programme.

*Klinkerwerk* is the first contemporary artistic project on the site of the former, and one of the largest concentration camps in the Third Reich. This site-specific installation within Neuengamme's brickworks forms part of a broader investigation around the fate of the artist's great-uncle, Marian Górkiewicz (born 1914 in Kraków) who was imprisoned in Neuengamme and died in the bombing of the Thielbek in the Bay of Lübeck on May 3, 1945.

Encounters with archival fragments, gaps, and inconsistencies triggered several exhibitions presented by Harasymowicz in the UK and Poland between 2015 and 2021. *Klinkerwerk* appears to conclude the artist's enquiry 'returning' to the place at its foundations.

As the artist emphasises, *my project excavates a voice 'bricked up' within the remnants of the modernist brick factory. The sentence spelled out in 45 windows along the building's east wall comes from Marian's 1939 diary, yet the works are associative, rather than reconstructive or biographical. Just as actual memory, blending what is known, with what remains unknown in our attempts to understand and 'locate' this place, historically and in the present. To me this building is a conveyor: it has different histories, the past can be encountered in the present, or it may still return further in the future. I wanted to underscore this, for example, by the group of works on metal, intentionally exposed to elements and left to rust, potentially integrating with the architecture as a 'new' element, a prop, but not of a specific history.*



*Klinkerwerk* setting up documentation; private view, photo c/o SHGL, Clara Mansfeld, 2024





*Pincer/Excavator*, screenprint on Tyvek paper, 5 m x 1.10 m, 2024

**List of works:**

1. *Day shapes*. A set incl. 4 x hand-printed, drawing-based screenprints and 2 x paintings, acrylic and varnish on sheet steel on mdf supports, 99,9 cm h x 82 cm each, 2024.
2. *...i pomarzyć /and to daydream /und zu traumen*.<sup>1</sup> A sequence of 45 hand-printed screenprints on Tyvek paper, 160 cm x 84 cm each (paper size), 2024.
3. *Pincer /Excavator*. 1 x hand-printed, drawing-based screenprint on Tyvek paper, 5 m x 1.10 m, 2024.
4. Table assemblage with monoprints and drawings on hand tinted paper, metal and sandpaper, archival copies, dimensions variable, 2023-2024.
5. *Circuit*. Sound intervention, loop, 18'07", in collaboration with Ian Powell, 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> The full artwork spells out: *Ich habe Lust eine Zigarette zu rauchen und zu traumen*, a German translation of a sentence taken from an entry in Marian Górkiewicz's diary dated 4 July 1939.

**About the Artist:** Sława Harasymowicz is an artist with essentially narrative-driven practice exploring interchanges between archive, auto/biography, architecture and fiction. Harasymowicz exhibited at The National Poetry Library Southbank Centre, London, The Freud Museum London, The Ethnographic Museum of Kraków, Poland and others. Her screenprints are included in the V&A Prints and Drawings permanent collection. She is a graduate of the Royal College of Art and is currently completing a practice-based PhD at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London.

**Recommended reading:** Dr Magdalena Ziólkowska *Sludge in Place of the Subject. On 'The Bay' by Sława Harasymowicz* (in English), BLOK Magazine, January 2021.



*Klinkerwerk*, selected installation views, 2024

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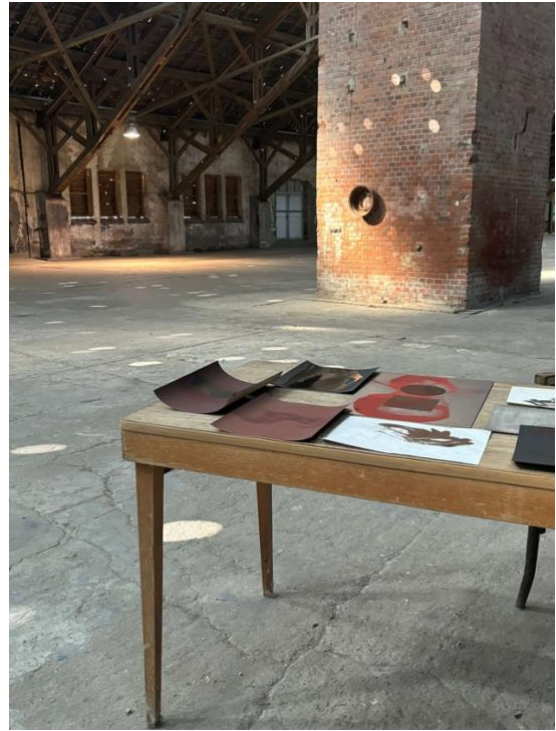
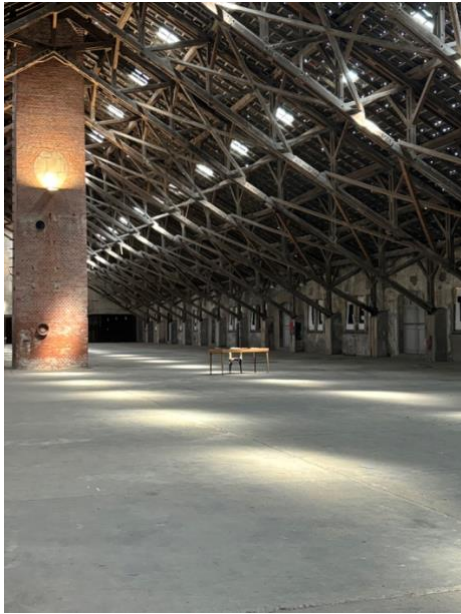
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Website:

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Klinkerwerk table assemblage and detail, 2024