

The Nature of the Beats, 2009



“The Nature of the Beast” is an art piece made by Goshka Macuga. It is composed of a conference table, chairs and a tapestry in the back. It was exhibited for the first time at the Whitechapel Gallery in London in 2009. The art piece was inspired by the 1985 United Nations Security Council room in New York and by Pablo Picasso’s famous painting “Guernica”.

Media

- https://vimeo.com/180483516?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=54182170
- https://vimeo.com/180498592?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=54182170
- https://vimeo.com/180507920?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=54182170
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S153kB4_xsc
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ts0i0JvZ4Co> (0:44-2:10)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1BAsr34vpVo>

Text and Interviews

"I have designed the exhibition space with a real emphasis on accommodating and encouraging meetings for discussion group, with Guernica used once again as a backdrop. You are therefore invited to host meetings and discussions around the central table."

- <https://ogrtorino.it/en/updates/an-artwork-for-meetings-conferences-and-discussions-goshka-macuga-the-nature-of-the-beast>

"Many of the groups who used the room were local and the documentation of the meetings demonstrated a strong presence of collective action in the area."

- <http://guernicaremakings.com/about/the-nature-of-the-beast/>
- <https://artsandculture.google.com/asset/the-nature-of-the-beast-goshka-macuga/ewFDWwdunwZ5TA>

"Creating complex networks of reference they are poignant reminders of the profound relation between aesthetics and politics."

- <https://www.whitechapelgallery.org/exhibitions/the-bloomberg-commission-goshka-macuga/>
- <https://zacheta.art.pl/public/upload/mediateka/pdf/559d28be5fb96.pdf>
(second part of the text in eng)

A Research Guide on Notice Board

When and where was the artwork installed for the first time?

Talk about the components that compose the artwork. In your opinion, why did the artist choose them?

How did the artist come up with this idea?

If you were sitting around this table with other people, what are the important issues you would like to discuss?

Think about our first meeting in class on Goshka Macuga and her artistic research. Which themes that are common to Macuga's works can also be found in "The Nature of the Beast"?

How does this artwork make you feel? Share your thoughts, emotions, impressions.

Is there anything you would like to ask Macuga about this particular art piece?







Preceding page
*The Nature of
the Beast*, 2010

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(details), 2010









