

Press release

MARIANNA SIMNETT – Headless

On view at the Max Ernst Museum Brühl of the LVR starting January 31, 2026

Brühl. 29.1.2026. The exhibition “Headless” by Marianna Simnett presents, for the first time, a comprehensive overview of seven years of artistic practice. It brings together works from different periods and across a range of media, such as sculpture, video and AI-based works, which are interlinked by a new body of paintings.

The expansive exhibition reveals Marianna Simnett’s close connection to Surrealism through her dreamlike imagery, exploration of the unconscious mind, and rejection of rationality and logic. A world both strange and seductive emerges, inviting viewers into a maze of fractured realities and uncanny encounters.

The exhibition’s title “Headless” pays homage to Max Ernst and is borrowed from his first collage novel, “La femme 100 têtes” (“The Hundred Headless Woman”) from 1929. In her latest **painting series, created especially for the exhibition and also titled “Headless”**, the British-Croatian artist connects past ideas of Surrealism with our contemporary moment, twisting and subverting Ernst’s collages into violent and sensual scenes.

Marianna Simnett (b. 1986 in London, UK) is a British-Croatian artist with a multidisciplinary approach who lives and works between Berlin and New York. Her immersive narratives centre around the overlapping and at times incongruous themes of vulnerability, autonomy, control, pain, metamorphosis, and care.

The exhibition will be on view at the Max Ernst Museum **from January 31 to July 5, 2026.**

The accompanying catalogue “Headless”, featuring contributions by Cecilia Alemani, Madeleine Frey, Sarah Louisa Henn and Lisa Tuttle will be published by Hirmer Verlag.

Further information: <https://maxernstmuseum.lvr.de>

Opening Invitation: the opening will take place on Friday, 30 January 2026, at 7 pm. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

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