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## Iris Musolf: 39th of May

Text by Andreas Bee Text by Birgit Möckel

**ISBN** 9783735609984

**Publisher** Kerber

**Binding** Paperback / softback

**Territory** World excluding Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the

USA & Canada

**Size** 277 mm × 210 mm

Pages 144 Pages Illustrations 120 color

£40.00

Price

- The first monograph on the artist Iris Musolf
- Musolf's works show us a world obsessed with consumption, in which power, sexuality and violence appear as cheap consumer goods

In the sculptural works of Iris Musolf (b. 1980), the smooth surfaces of a commonplace product aesthetic meet the strange and the unspeakable that is often concealed beneath. Her artistic reconfiguration of materiality and form creates visual ambiguities that highlight the true fragility of our society. Musolf's first monograph **39th of May** brings together objects and sculptures that seem like the symbolic props of a vacuous society obsessed with pleasure. In these works, sexuality and violence appear as infantilised consumer goods in the guise of dolphin-shaped vibrators and inflatable Kalashnikovs. Freedom and coercion are interwoven in a commercially driven context, and human emotions primarily emerge in the form of great confusion.

Text in English and German.

**Iris Musolf** \*1980, lives with her family in Berlin. From 2002-2008 she studied art and German language and literature at the Braunschweig University of Art and the TU Braunschweig. In 2009 she became a master student of Candice Breitz. After teaching at the HBK Braunschweig 2009-2013 and the Kunsthochschule Burg Giebichenstein 2014, Musolf will be a guest lecturer at the Berlin University of the Arts in the winter semester 2024-2025. In addition to exhibitions in Moscow at the Biennale for Young Art, Musolf's work has been shown at the Kunstverein Hannover, the Mannheimer Kunstverein, the Allgemeiner Konsumverein Braunschweig and SAVVY Contemporary Berlin, among others. In 2016, she won first prize in the Kunst-am-Bauten competition organised by the Federal Office for Radiation Protection. The artwork was realised in 2018 in front of the headquarters of the Federal Office in Salzgitter.





