# [n0dine] Human Maths - Sarah Cale & Various Artists 05/06/2021 - 22/06/2021



## Sarah Cale

1. Head of a Camel, 2021, jute, oil, linen and wood

2. Solar Cast, 2021, jute, oil, linen and wood

3. Rorscach, 2021, jute, oil, linen and wood

4. Facepalm, 2021, jute, oil, linen

5. The Body Feeds the Mind, 2021, jute and denim

## Various Artists

6. Math Combs, 2014, weaving on comb

7. T.d.F.rubber, 2015, elastics on wood

8. Fingerprints of God, 2012-21, spray paint on wall

9. T.d.F.nn, 1997-2021, laser cut on paper

10. codedIndex, 2021, laser cut on paper, metal boxes



image: Sarah Cale, Solar Cast, 2021



*Human Maths* is a duo show with Sarah Cale and Various Artists that explores the use of mathematics and coding to reach dense artworks that are multilayered.

**Sarah Cale**'s work as a painter has entailed a search for strategies that complicate and disrupt the lineage of historically accepted painterly gestures. She intentionally occupies a performative position, creating works where meaning must come from the materiality of the painting itself, rather than the conventions of representation used to describe it. The awkward tension on a painting's surface offers the cues from which to understand its creation, undermining traditional techniques that signal an established painterly language of marks. She is interested in how painting's vocabulary can be manipulated and transcended to communicate the specific cusp upon which both creation and dissolution coexist.

In the works created by Sarah Cale for the exhibition *Human Maths*, surfaces of paintings are designed with handcrafted jute knot-tying techniques, a repetitive action where form is slowly built-up through layers of idiosyncratic equations. Instead of a blueprint or pattern to rely on, figures appearing in the works are constructed by straying from the repetitive stitch upon which they are built. Through spontaneous manipulations of an established repetitive formula, forms are constructed to reflect the imperfect calculations of human-improvised math.

Various Artists considers 'human mathematics' to be an alternative artistic methodology that serves to make abstract art based on mathematics and data. Formal, factual, or personal information is used for the creation of (audio)visual work. The alternative aspect of *Human Maths* lies in its ability to render geometrical art human, complex, and unpredictable. It combines the abstract and the divine aspects of mathematics with the variables of data-based statistics, integrating artistic or personal research data in a multi-layered visual artwork. This way the predictability of formula based mathematical arts, and the more informative aspects of data graphics, are neutralised into new forms of data visualisation.

In the exhibition *Human Maths*, Various Artists presents three new drawing works where Human Mathematics are applied.

*Fingerprints of God*, 2012-2021 presents geographical data as the basis for a fictional image. The contour lines of maps are used to generate patterns.

*T.d.F.nn*, 1998-2021 depicts the human effort of cyclists in the Tour de France of 1998 and 2010. Physical data that were transformed to numbers are visualised in a drawing made by a laser cutter. *codedIndex*, 2021 The drawing is made on the cutting edge of a stack of index cards. The type of sketch, doodle or text fragment is hardly important for the final result. When the drawing is done, someone shuffles the stack of cards and the process can start all over again. This can continue until the end result is satisfactory. The cards can be numbered after each round, so that the drawings can be rediscovered later after some puzzling.

#### www.sarahcale.com

Sarah Cale was born in Montréal, Canada and is based in Brussels, Belgium. Her work as a painter intentionally occupies a performative position, creating works where meaning comes from the formal strategies used to make it, and in the materiality of the painting itself. Her work often applies traditional craft techniques to emphasize the labour of its making. Cale's work has been included in numerous museum exhibitions, such as Musée d'Art Contemporain (Montréal), The Vancouver Art Gallery (Vancouver), Galerie UQAM (Montréal) and The Power Plant (Toronto).

### www.various-artists.be

Various Artists is an art collective based on 24 fictitious characters, that originated in Brussels in 1995. The collective can be seen as a holistic concept, where all specific research topics and artistic practices of its members come together in collaborative installations or projects. One way to establish collaborations with other artists is through exhibitions and workshops. Various Artists developed a Human Mathematics workshop to share this creation method with other artists and students resulting in an exhibition at Museo Textil in Oaxaca, Mexico in 2014. In 2015 Human Mathematics was part of a duo exhibition with Cildo Meireles at Galleria Continua in San Gimignano. For the third presentation Various Artists invited Sarah Cale to present new work that broadens the definition of what Human Maths can be and mean.



image: Various Artists, Fingerprints of God, 2015