

Galerie Dix9 is pleased to introduce

# THE INNER DOOR

## Anila Rubiku

May 17 - June 21. 2025

opening Saturday May 17- 18h - 21h



*#3. Via Ugoni 3, detail - The Inner Door*  
embroidery on silk, stretched on wood  
24,5x17 cm, 2020 - 2024

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# THE INNER DOOR

In her recent project titled *The Inner Door*, Albanian-born artist Anila Rubiku explores the intimate boundary between private and public space through embroidered abstraction. Inspired by the inner doors of residential buildings in Milan—also known as the “Città Meneghina”—Rubiku reflects on forms of transition, thresholds, and domestic architectures. These doors, often overlooked yet architecturally significant, were designed by renowned Italian architects over the past three centuries, and have long held a quiet but poetic presence in Milanese urban life.

Using her signature method of hand-embroidery on canvas, Rubiku transforms these architectural elements into luminous fields of color and texture. Her meticulous stitching renders abstract compositions of light and form, evoking both physical thresholds and emotional passageways. The artist refers to these works as a metaphorical investigation into the idea of «interiority»—the inner spaces we inhabit, both architecturally and psychologically.

«I’ve always been fascinated by the poetry of everyday objects,» Rubiku says. «The inner doors of Milan’s buildings hold a unique kind of beauty—minimal, functional, yet quietly ornate. They mark a transition from the outside world into the personal realm.»

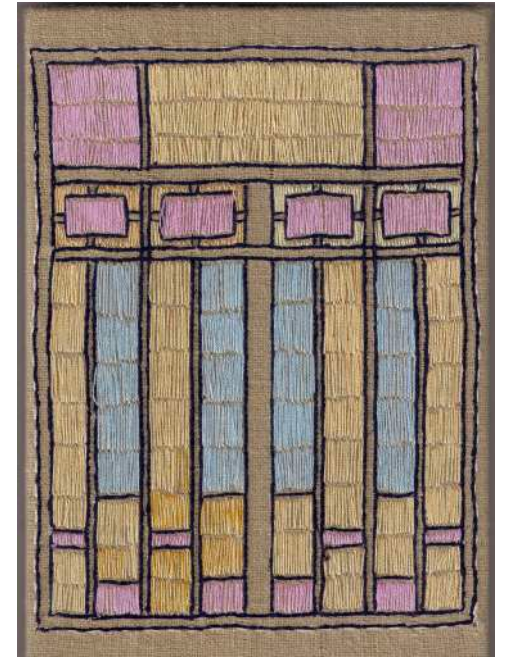
The act of embroidery, a practice traditionally associated with feminine labor and care, becomes for Rubiku a form of resistance and reflection. Her practice weaves together personal narrative, architectural memory, and political consciousness, creating what she describes as “emotional topographies.”

*The Inner Door* invites viewers to contemplate the invisible spaces we pass through each day—portals between self and society, silence and speech, concealment and revelation. Each piece becomes a gesture of connection between past and present, surface and depth, individual and collective.



Anila Rubiku is an Albanian-born, Italian artist. She holds a double degree in art from the Academy of Fine Arts in Tirana in 1994 and Brera Academy in Milan 2000..She currently works and lives between Milan, Toronto, and Durrës. Her work is intimately connected to political, social, and gender issues, using various media: installations, sculptures, embroideries, engravings, paintings, video, and printing. In her poetic and ironic works, she addresses issues related to gender inequality and social injustice (Havana Biennial, 2019; fifth Thessaloniki Biennale, 2015), which touch on environmental issues (Frac Centre-Val de Loire 2022; Kyiv Biennial, 2012) and relational (56th October Salon, Belgrade 2016), reflecting on the meaning of being an immigrant today (Biennale di Venezia 2011; Hammer Museum residency, LA, 2013) and on the relationship between city and democracy (Venice Architecture Biennale, 2008). Her work is part of the following private and public collections: Frac Centre-Val de Loire, France; National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC; The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Deutsche Bank Collection, London, UK; Edition 5 Collection, Erstfeld, Switzerland; and P.O.C.Collection, Brussels, Belgium. She was nominated in 2014 by the Human Rights Foundation for her social commitment and was selected as one of the top Global Thinkers by Foreign Policy magazine.





embroidery on silk stretched on wood, 24,5x17cm, 2020-2024

