

Photo reportage from the exhibition 'Do Come in, the Door is Open!' by Edith Karlson, Mary Reid Kelley and Eva Mustonen at Kumu Art Museum,

The title of the exhibition is a quote taken from the legendary Estonian TV series *Õnne 13* (translates directly as "13 Happiness Street"): this is how the shoemaker Johannes, a classically jovial and wise old man, used to greet any guest knocking on his door. This essentially friendly utterance expresses openness and hospitality even before the host has seen the newly arrived acquaintance or stranger. Today, years after the TV series became a classic, such trust in the unknown seems unexpectedly relevant, almost like a political statement, and is therefore worth recalling. But, within the context of this exhibition, it is also an absurd invitation: you are asked without any guarantee whatsoever to enter a distorted-mirror environment which is rooted in things mundane or personal and aims to take a more general stand on contemporary neuroses and tensions.

The exhibition consists of works by three artists who, despite working in different media and completely

dissimilar aesthetics, speak somewhat similar languages. The art practices of Edith Karlson, Eva Mustonen and Mary Reid Kelley can, in the broadest terms, be characterised as narrative art that uses fiction as a method. In their works, this takes the form of allegorical, autobiographical or mythological narratives and is also manifested through the creation of strong characters (people as well as objects) and mostly dramatic events. In other words, all three artists are essentially type-wise storytellers who use both words and visual images, often combining the two, to tell their stories.

The exhibition, mixing well-known pieces by the artists with their newest works, stretches out in front of the viewer as a loosely integrated set of stories, gradually unfolding through four keywords which play with ideas related to openness, entry or border: "monster", "body", "home" and "explosion".

Curator: Triin Tulgiste

Exhibition designer: Arthur Arula

Graphic designer: Tuuli Aule

We thank: Maria Ader, Maria Luiga, Kristina Oras, Katrin Kissa, Kim Taniel, Kris Lemsalu, Raul Saaremets, Nikolai Karlson, Lya Karlson, Urmas Karlson, Liisi Rünkla, Diana Tamane, Mari Volens, Piret Karro, Liina Raus, Kristjan Nagla and Kaisa Reimand and Kaja Arula

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Exhibition is on until 29 March, 2020



Edith Karlson, *Drama is in Your Head II.* 2013, Installation / concrete, metal. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson, Drama is in Your Head II. 2013, Installation / concrete, metal. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



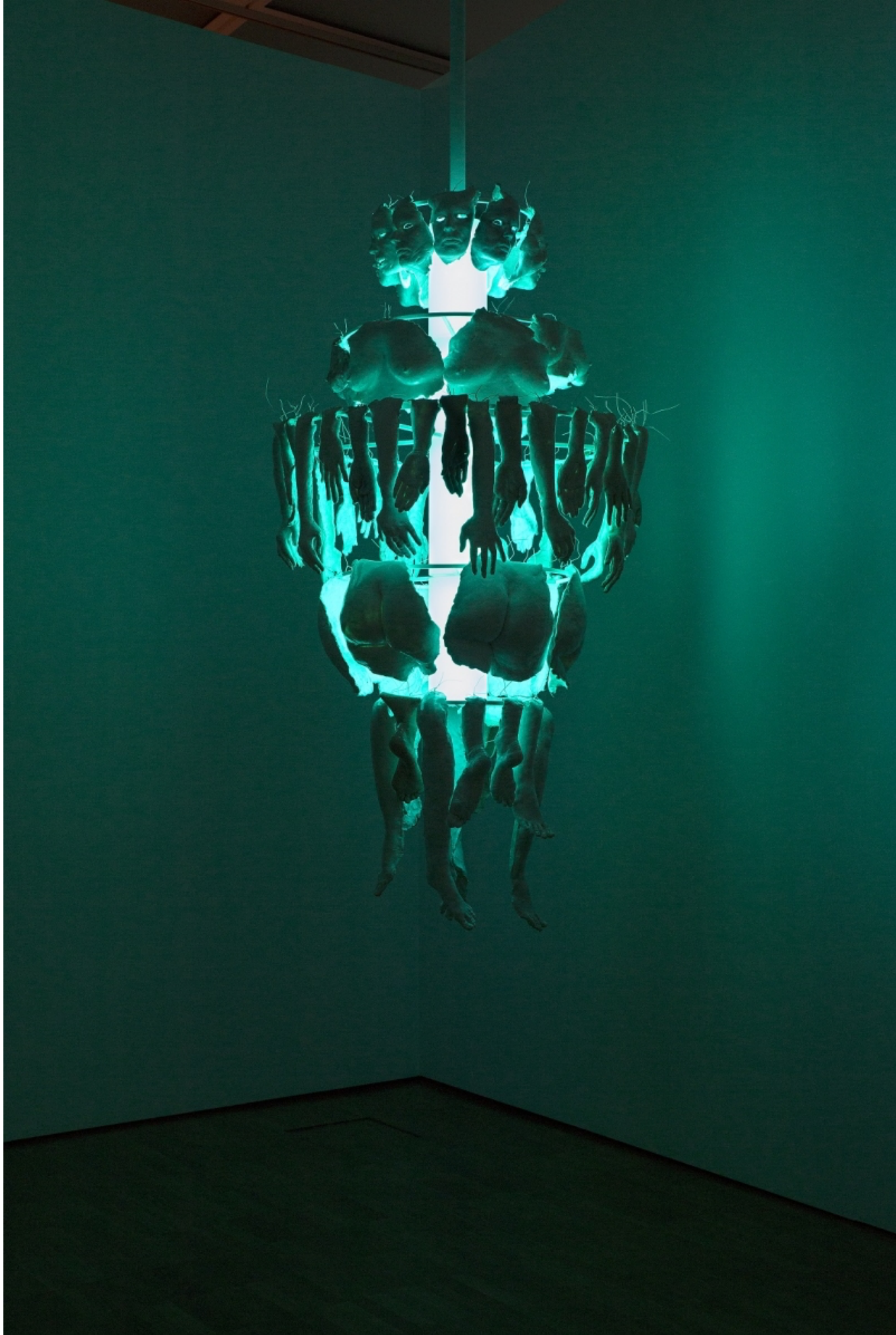
Edith Karlson, Sisters. 2019. Installation, mixed media. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson, *Sisters*. 2019. Installation, mixed media. Courtesy of the artist.
Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson, *Sisters*. 2019. Installation, mixed media. Courtesy of the artist.
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Edith Karlson. Doomsday. 2017. Installation / metal, porcelain, electricity systems. Courtesy of the artist and Temnikova and Kasela Gallery. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Doomsday. 2017. Installation / metal, porcelain, electricity systems. Courtesy of the artist and Temnikova and Kasela Gallery. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. *Four Letter World*. 2018. Installation / silicone, wood, polyester resin. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Four Letter World. 2018. Installation / silicone, wood, polyester resin. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



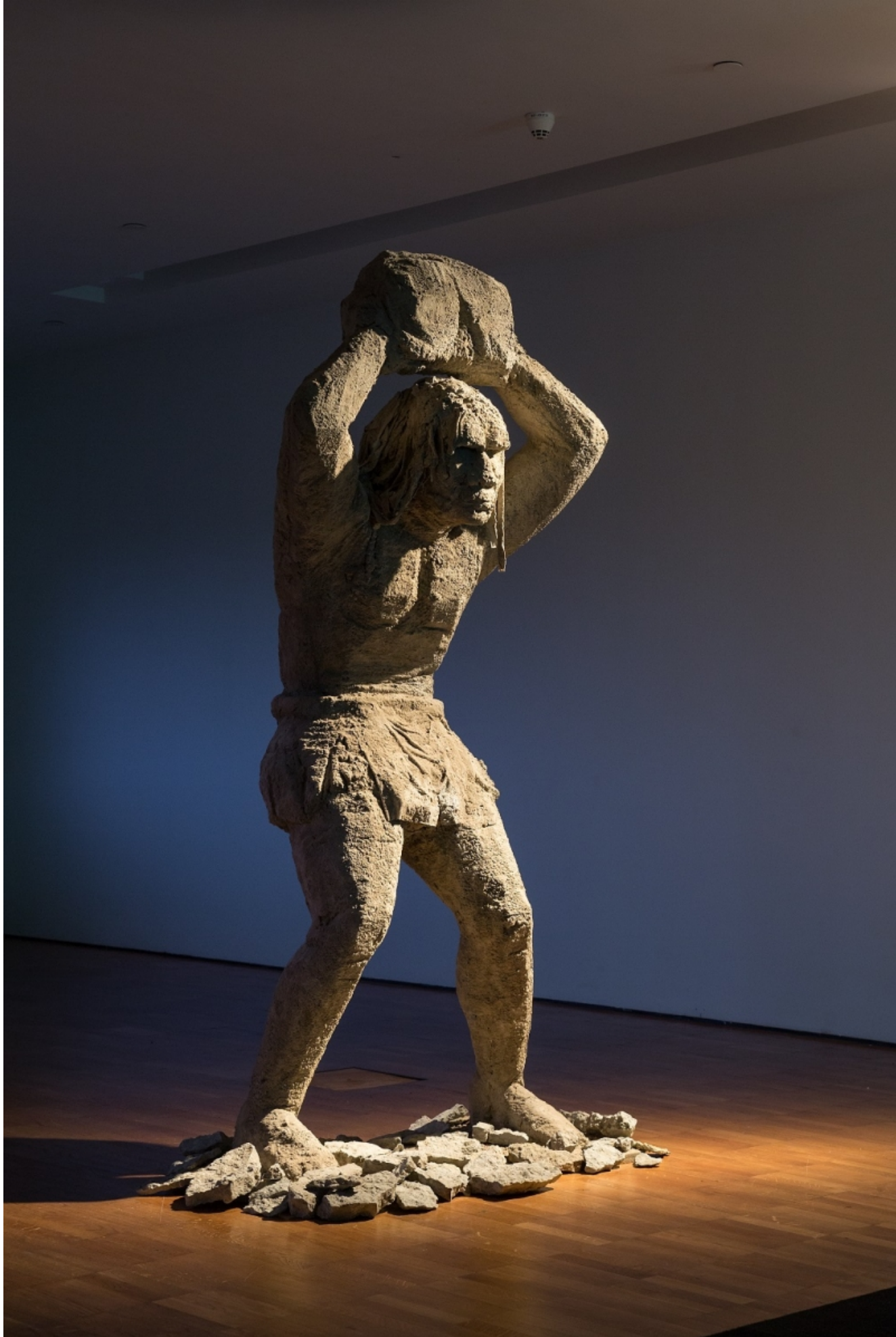
Edith Karlson. Four Letter World. 2018. Installation / silicone, wood, polyester resin. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Installation view. Courtesy of the artists. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Installation view. Courtesy of the artists. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. The End. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Best Couple. 2019. Porcelain. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Edith Karlson. Best Couple. 2019. Porcelain. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Mary Reid Kelley & Patrick Kelley. *The Thong of Dionysus*. 2015. Still from the video. Courtesy of the artists and the Pilar Corrias Gallery



Mary Reid Kelley & Patrick Kelley. *The Thong of Dionysus*. 2015. Still from the video. Courtesy of the artists and the Pilar Corrias Gallery



Mary Reid Kelley & Patrick Kelley. Still from the video. Courtesy of the artists and the Pilar Corrias Gallery



Mary Reid Kelley & Patrick Kelley. *This is Offal*. 2016. Still from the video. Courtesy of the artists and the Pilar Corrias Gallery



Eva Mustonen. If I'm missing someone, would it look like that? 2013–2014.
Installation / second hand furniture, wood, pantyhose, artificial lilies, tape,
wire. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. *If I'm missing someone, would it look like that?* 2013–2014. Installation / second hand furniture, wood, pantyhose, artificial lilies, tape, wire. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



EVA MUSTONEN
My Little Horror Picture Show, 2015-2016
Installation
Kunstsztu 101

My Little Horror Picture Show, 2015-2016
Installation
Courtesy of the artist

Exhibition view



Eva Mustonen. My Head is Strong. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist.
Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. My Head is Strong. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist.
Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. My Head is Strong. 2019. Installation. Edith Karlson. Best Couple. 2019. Porcelain. Courtesy of the artists. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. Eva's Garden. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. Samba! 2017. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. Eva's Garden. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. Wolf's Tail. 2016. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



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Eva Mustonen. *Eva's Garden*. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo

Timiseb võõras metsas

Mitte et me metsast midagi teaks.

Yga mets on võõras. Ühesi ju sõnum
ei tärki, tuleb veel mõni loom vastu.

Loom nägu mingi. Aga see on kattepoole,
mis metsas ei kehti. Seal on kogu
toiduahel plaatsis mingi metsas on see
puha pehupõsti. Mitte kedagi ei
huvita (metsas), et me pole sündinud.

Natukene midagi arast mitte.



Eva Mustonen. *Eva's Garden*. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



Eva Mustonen. Eva's Garden. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



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Eva Mustonen. *Eva's Garden*. 2019. Installation. Courtesy of the artist. Photo: Hedi Jaansoo



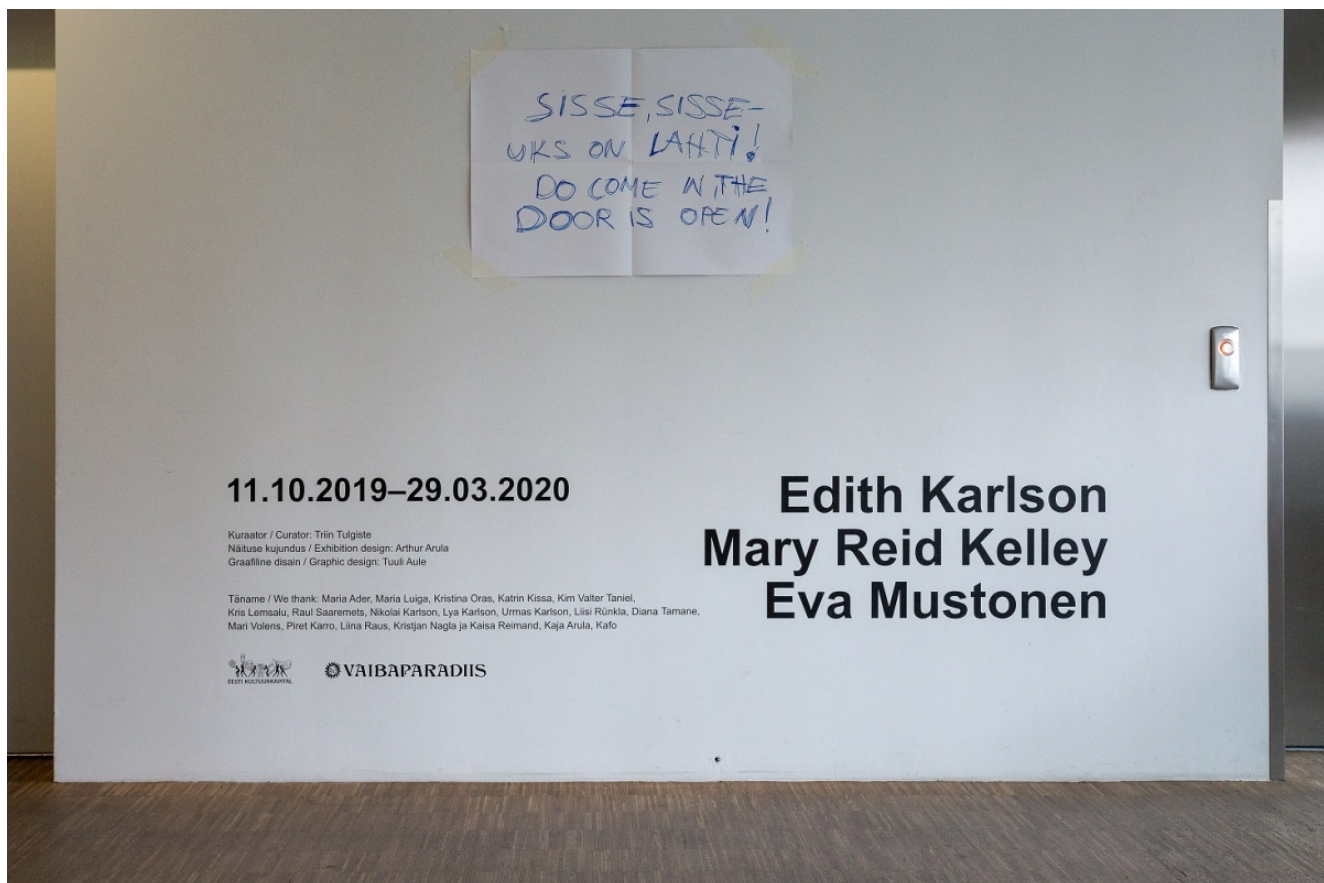
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Exhibition view