

KinoSaito announces the installation and performance of
Naama Tsabar's *Melodies of Certain Damage, Opus 5*
2nd floor theater gallery, May 13 - May 22, 2022
Performances: Saturdays, May 14th and May 21st at 1pm and 3pm

Opening Reception, Saturday, May 14th, 4-6pm



Installation and performance artist Naama Tsabar brings her internationally acclaimed large-scale installation, *Melodies of Certain Damage, Opus 5*, to KinoSaito's spacious theater gallery for four performances in May. Visitors are permitted to interact with the installation during gallery hours when performances are not taking place.

Across the gallery, shattered pieces of guitars form a landscape of musical debris suggestive of the violent breaks and crashes that came before. In fact, Tsabar has broken the instruments in her studio and documented each piece as it fractured. In painstakingly re-creating the aftermath of the breaks on the KinoSaito gallery floor, she forms a new sculptural work from the destruction. And by joining the fragments together with guitar and piano strings, she suggests the possibility of a new sonic landscape. Tsabar's act of smashing the guitars and carefully re-forming them anew subverts the longstanding trope of the climactic song-ending guitar break and recontextualizes this iconic act as generative, expansive, interactive, and intimate. The sum of the broken pieces become a new instrument that Tsabar and her female identifying and gender non-conforming performance collaborators become entwined with as they kneel and lie next to the parts of the piece they play. In this work, she minimizes the act of destruction by keeping it private, and uses the result of the act to summon a new sculptural landscape, a new beginning, a new sound.

KinoSaito will hold all-day screenings of two of Tsabar's video works: *Untitled (Babies)*, 2008 on May 15th, and *Stranger*, 2017 on May 22, both of which further explore the artist's appropriation of musical instruments for their conceptual potential in relation to power, intimacy, and agency.

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Naama Tsabar (b. 1982, Israel) lives and works in New York. She received her MFA from Columbia University in 2010. Her solo exhibitions and performances have been presented at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (New York), The Bass (Miami), Museum of Art and Design (New York), The High Line Art (New York), Nasher Museum (Durham, NC), Kunsthaus Baselland (Switzerland), Palais De Tokyo (Paris), and Tel Aviv Museum of Art (Tel Aviv), among others. Selected group exhibitions featuring Tsabar's work include: The Andy Warhol Museum, The Jewish Museum of Belgium, Ballroom Marfa, Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt, Elevation 1049 Gstaad (Switzerland), TM Triennale, Hasselt Genk, Belgium. Tsabar's work has been featured in publications including ArtForum, Art In America, ArtReview, ARTnews, The New York Times, New York Magazine, Frieze, Bomb Magazine, Art Asia Pacific, Wire, and Whitewall, among others.

Also on view at KinoSaito: Material Presence: Kikuo Saito, 1975-76, and a solo exhibition of recent works by Pooneh Maghazehe, beginning May 5.

KinoSaito is open Friday - Sunday, 10am-5pm, and on Thursday by appointment. Admission is free; a \$5 donation is suggested.

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