

Katharina Büttgen

Embroidering Dissent

2–24 October 2026

Opening: Friday, 2 October 2026, at 6 pm

Marignana Project

Dorsoduro 140 A, Rio Terà dei Catecumeni, Venice

Marignana Arte is pleased to present *Embroidering Dissent*, a solo exhibition by Katharina Büttgen at Marignana Project.

The exhibition is organised in collaboration with CREA Cantieri del Contemporaneo and follows the exhibition prize awarded to the artist as part of the collateral awards of the second edition of CREA OPEN, the international open call dedicated to emerging and established artists working across a wide range of disciplines.

The award was conferred within the framework of *Connecting Tissue*, an exhibition bringing together the twenty-four finalists of the 2026 edition and reflecting on the invisible yet resilient bonds that connect individuals within the contemporary world. Büttgen's practice enters into dialogue with this conceptual horizon through an artistic language in which textiles become sites of memory, testimony and resistance.

In her works, the artist interweaves embroidery, photography and found fabrics to address questions of identity, migration, political violence and loss. Drawing on her own family history and her relationship with Belarusian culture, Büttgen translates images of protest and repression into soft, domestic and seemingly fragile surfaces. Tablecloths, lace and ornamental motifs — traditionally associated with care, the home and women's labour — are transformed into material supports capable of receiving and retaining stark images connected to state violence and cultural erasure.

The contrast between the delicacy of the textile gesture and the brutality of the subjects represented generates a space of tension in which embroidery is no longer merely decorative, but becomes an act of articulation and dissent. Through a slow, repetitive and deeply manual process—stitch by stitch,

thread by thread—Büttgen transforms the political image into material memory, interrogating the relationship between intimacy and collective history, trauma and transmission.

Biography

Katharina Büttgen (Aachen, 2001) lives and works in Karlsruhe. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe, where she developed a practice spanning textiles, embroidery, photography and drawing. Her work has been presented in solo and group exhibitions across Europe, including in Germany, Serbia, Poland, Bulgaria, Latvia, Switzerland and Italy. Recent projects include exhibitions at BBK Karlsruhe, KC Grad in Belgrade and FRINGE Warsaw. In 2026, she received the Prize of the Regionale in Donaueschingen. In the same year, she was selected as a finalist for CREA OPEN in Venice, where she received a special mention in recognition of her artistic research.

Opening hours:

- from Wednesday to Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- on other days by appointment only

Waterbus stops: Salute - Line 1, Spirito Santo - Lines 5.1 / 5.2 / 6