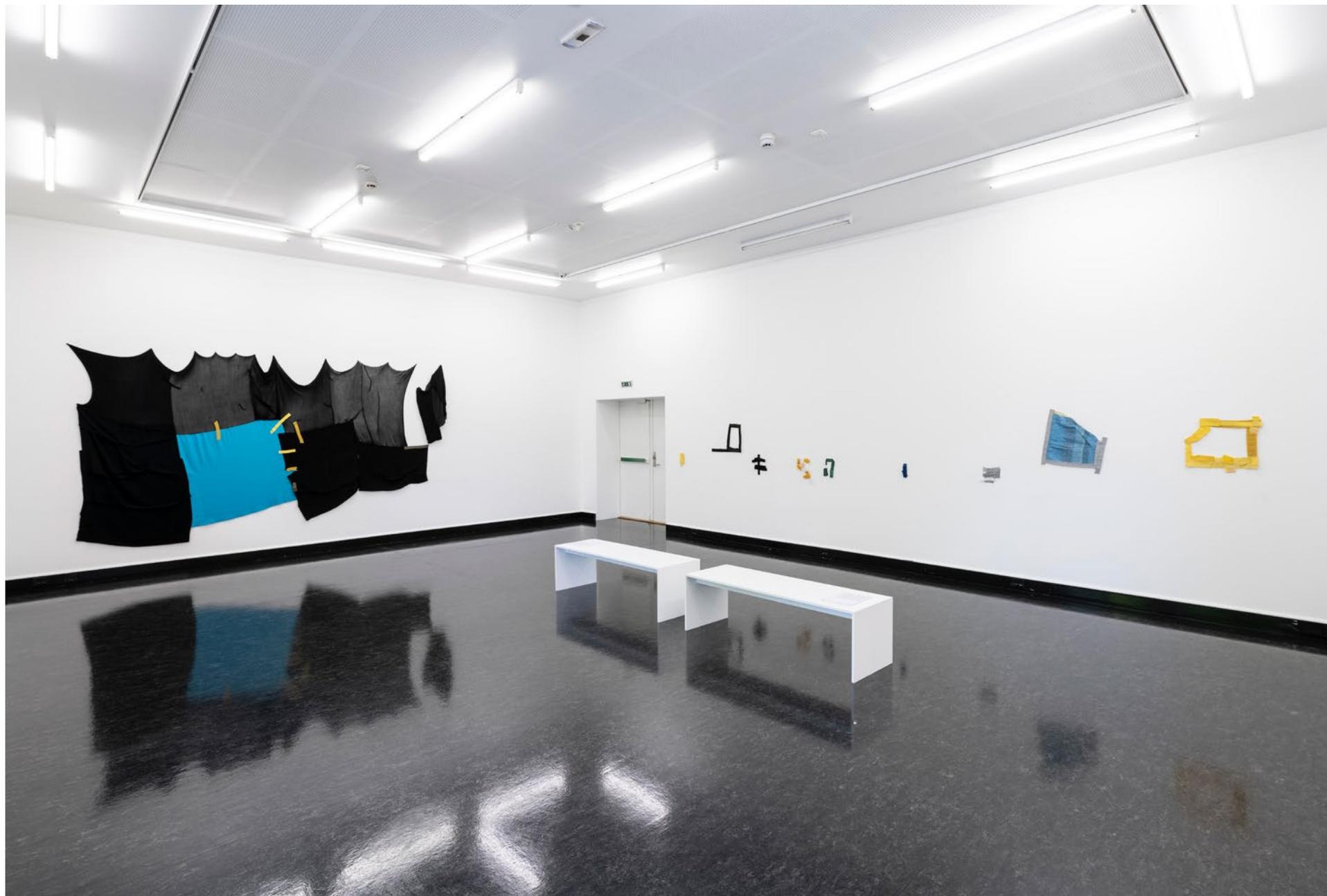


HANA MILETIĆ





*Materials*, 2021, Hand-woven textile, 3 elements installed approx.: 46 × 68 × 1 cm



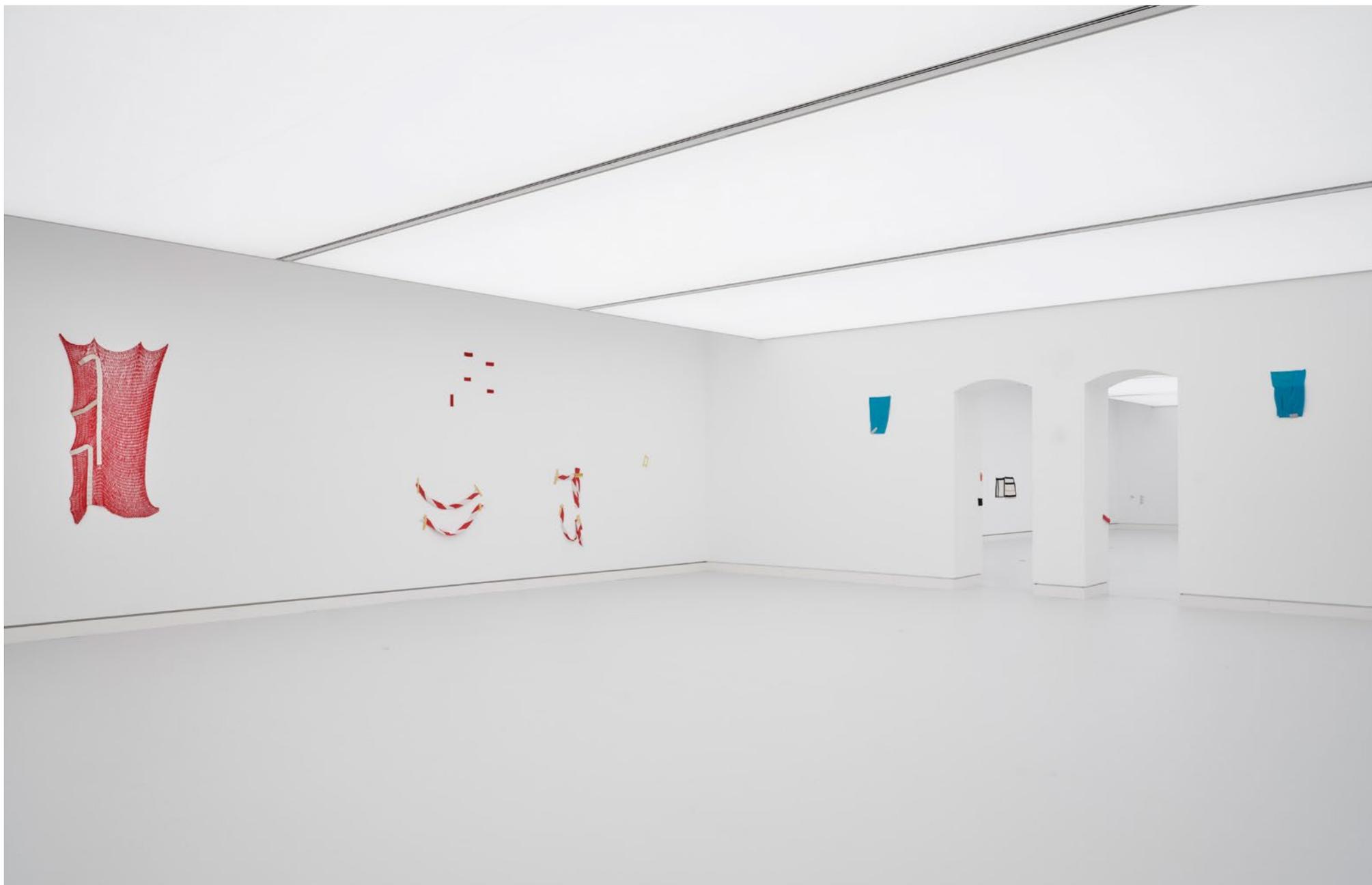
Cartoon for *Materials*

### Materials, 2015–

*Materials* is an ongoing series of small and medium- to large-scale hand-woven textiles. Although their design may seem abstract and arbitrary, they are based on the photographs that Hana Miletić takes with a small digital camera in the streets of Brussels and Zagreb. The medium and large tapestries are modelled after images of protective tarpaulins in public space. The tarpaulins covered the construction sites of very specific buildings, such as the Van Humbeeck memorial in Brussels or the new branch of Croatia's former largest supermarket chain Konzum. By reproducing the fabric of the tarpaulins, including its traces of wear and tear, into a hand-woven textile, the artist refers to the domestic origins of textile production, before it was industrialized. Despite their monumental scale, the significance of these works lies in the details of their constructed networks, in the intricate bonds that are formed between the yarns.

Miletić practices weaving as a labour of both mind and body, which moves from head to hand and back again. That is why she prefers not to exhibit the photographic reproductions on which these works are based, but rather gives prominence to the extended process of making, thinking and feeling for which weaving allows.

The small textiles reference pictures of broken infrastructure or car parts (mirrors, headlights and windows) that were mended in creative, improvised ways by their owners, mostly by means of cardboard, plastic and tape. The colours and textures of each textile are based on the materials that were captured in the photograph. However, here again, Miletić aims to overcome the reliance on reproduction by approaching the medium of weaving as an emblematic process that allows her to more consciously deal with the conditions and consequences of the transformation of everyday life.



Exhibition view, *Pieces*, Kunsthalle Mainz, Mainz, 2022



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven and crocheted textile, 179 × 102 × 0,5 cm



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven textile, installation size: 80 × 115 cm



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven textile, 1st element: 55 × 38 × 1,5 cm, 2nd element: 55 × 35 × 1,5 cm



Exhibition view, *Pieces*, Kunsthalle Mainz, Mainz, 2022



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven textile, 124 × 261 × 7 cm



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven textile, 4 elements; installation size: 58 × 30 × 1 cm



*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven and hand-knit textile, 80 × 85 × 3 cm



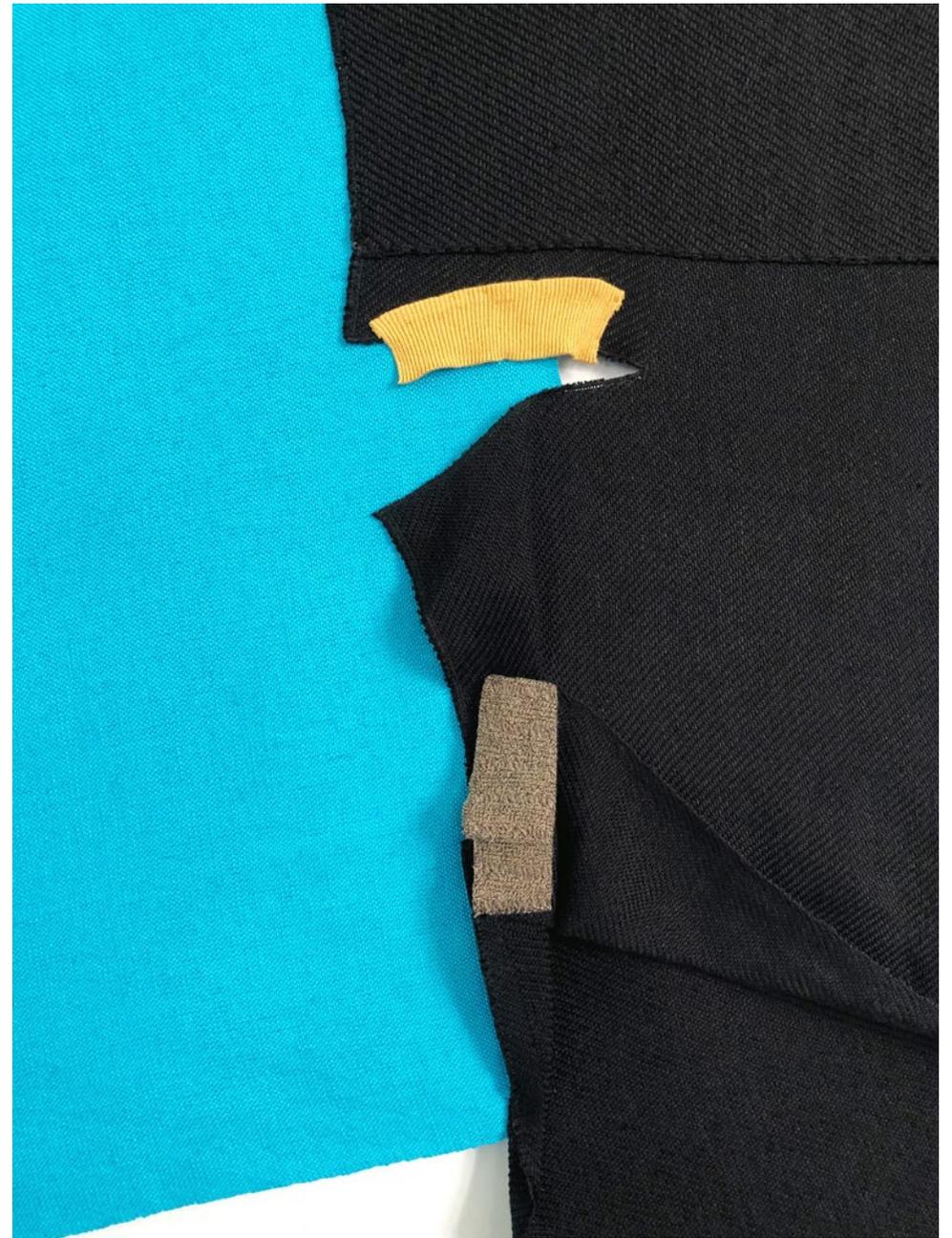
*Materials*, 2022, Hand-woven textile, 23 × 44 × 2 cm



*Materials*, 2018-21, Hand-woven textile, 49 × 31 × 2 cm



*Materials (Arena, Pula)*, 2019-20, Hand-woven and hand-knit textile and repurposed knitwear, 200 × 400 × 5 cm



Details, *Materials (Arena, Pula)*, 2019-20



*Materials*, 2020, Hand-woven textile, 54 × 99 × 1 cm



### Incompatibles (Unitas), 2018–

Made with bags of discarded, incompatible yarn that the artist bought from the only still existing yarn factory in her hometown Zagreb (Unitas), the handwoven wall tapestry *Incompatibles* pays homage to the textile industry in Yugoslavia.

*Unitas* is the first ever spinnery and yarn factory in the Yugoslav region, founded almost 100 years ago in Zagreb. Exceptionally, today it is the only producer and exporter of yarn in Croatia, after the Yugoslav Wars in the 1990's that were followed by privatization processes during which the production of most textile factories was dismantled and the real estate of the factories was sold. One of the reasons why *Unitas* was able to keep its production line running was because the factory was, and still is producing a lot of yarn for the international market. This grew exponentially during the years and today *Unitas* exports more than 90% of total production to different countries in Europe, Russia, South Korea and the United States, among others.

As the majority of *Unitas* yarns are produced for export markets, the range of their products found on the local market is quite small. The yarns that are produced for export, in different colors and combinations of cotton, wool, viscose and silk, are only made available on the local market as imperfect leftovers. Miletic started buying bags of this leftover yarn, called 'incompatible color yarn' by the company itself, and making woven works with the content of the bags. The color combinations and compositions of the woven works and tapestries that Miletic has made are dictated by the yarn found in the bag. Their partly unbound forms refer to the seemingly random situation in which separate elements were put together as a result of social and financial processes.



*Incompatibles (Unitas)*, 2020, Hand-woven textile, 144 × 160 × 1 cm