

EXHIBITION GUIDE



TITLE: Degrow

ARTIST: Bene Bergado

PLACE: Azkuna Zentroa (Exhibition Hall)

DATE: 29th June, 2023 to 7th January, 2024

THE ARTIST

Bene Bergado is a sculptor.

She was born in Salamanca in 1963.

Her work is characterised by mixing what is real and unreal.

Everything seems to be true and false at the same time.

Her sculptures can be seen in museum collections, such as JUMEX, in México, Banco de España, in Madrid, MUSAC, in León, or ARTIUM, in Vitoria-Gasteiz.

THE CURATOR

Juan Luis Moraza is the exhibition **curator**.

He was born in Vitoria in 1960.

He is a tenured professor at Vigo University and lectures at other universities.

He has curated exhibitions for ARTIUM, Museo Reina Sofía in Madrid and Guggenheim-Bilbao.

Curator: the person responsible for choosing the works of an exhibition. As an expert on the topic, he/she prepares a theoretical discourse on what is being exhibited.

THE DESIGNER

Almudena Burkhalter has designed the exhibition space.

THE EXHIBITION: Presentation

Bene Bergado has called this exhibition “Degrow” because one of the topics proposed is precisely **degrowth**.

The author wants to make people aware about the need for degrowth in our society via her sculptures and installations.

Degrowth: a current of thought defining the reduction of production and consumption to ensure survival of the planet.

We live in a capitalist society
where we produce and consume without limits,
using fossil fuels (oil, coal, etc.) for energy.
In this way, we are exhausting resources and damaging the planet.
Therefore, degrowth is both a solution and a need
that we can either choose or come to it, by obligation.
In this exhibition, installations such as
“Burnt Earth” and “Generator” show all these ideas.

“Degrow”: The author reflects on her work

Since I was very young I have wondered why
a company has to grow and produce non-stop
in order to be successful.

Capitalism

The economic model we live in
is based on non-stop and unlimited growth.
To this end, it requires energies such as oil,
which are becoming exhausted.
Moreover, the planet is unable to regenerate its resources
at the fast speed we consume and produce.

Consumption

Our society consumes more and more,
people want to have lots of things,
they envy the rich, admire luxury...
Consumerism is the new religion.

Degrowth

This idea proposes “living better with less”.

The only way humanity can survive in the future is to reduce and regulate production.

Fossil fuels must be replaced with **renewable and technological energies**, which can neither be stored nor grown.

The coming future forces us to change our habits, i.e. use less energy, reuse, recycle, redistribute, etc.

Renewable energies and technologies: energies obtained from natural elements such as the sun, wind and sea with the aid of technology.

Art and Artists

The world of art can also help with these changes.

With our works, artists can make visible the possible paths to do away with habits of excess.