



# **GUT INSTINCT**

Art, Food and Feeling

**GLUCKSMAN**



## Elif Erkan

Born in Turkey, 1985

In Elif Erkan's sculptural artworks, the combination of unusual materials provokes irrational behaviors and reactions that befit her synthesis of literary references, personal memories, and classical associations. In her series entitled *Lotus Eaters*, the artist explores the ancient Greek myth of those who consumed the narcotic fruits and flowers of the lotus tree, except updated with natural remedies and health foods such as Omega 3 oils. Embedded within (and slowly contaminating) plaster casts, the works ask whether an object can suffer depression, do they feel the effects of their own fragility.

Based in Los Angeles, Elif Erkan has exhibited her work in solo presentations at Maison des Arts, Brussels; Portikus, Frankfurt am Main; Mixer ArtLab, Istanbul; and Opelvillen Schleuse, Rüsselsheim. She has also shown in group exhibitions at Honolulu Zürich; Ellis King, Dublin; Galerie Balice Hertling, New York; WIELS Centre d'Art Contemporain, Brussels; KfW Stiftung, Frankfurt am Main; and M3, Lausanne. She is represented by Weiss Berlin and Park View, Los Angeles.

### Exhibition works

*Frown*  
2016, plasticine, pigments, fleece tissue

*Primitive Improvements (Lotus Eater / Shelter Piece)*  
2016, wheat grass, omega 3, St. John's wort, plaster

*Small Talk*  
2015, plasticine, pigments, lime

*Taken Care Of (Lotus Eater / Shelter Piece)*  
2016, wheat grass, seaweed, plaster

All works courtesy of the artist and Weiss Berlin



Elif Erkan, *Small Talk*, 2015, plasticine, pigments, lime