



FIGURES ON A GROUND AT FONDATION CAB

// until 12 December
open Wednesday to Sunday, 12 pm - 8 pm
@ Rue Borrens 32, 1050 Ixelles
€6.5 admission; €5.5, 4.5 concessions

It is often assumed that the feminist fight for recognition and equality is on the right track. But the state of play in the industries of production and thought has not changed a lot over time. Art history is one of the areas.

The works and the artists are set within the context of the books by white male theorists and thinkers. Until quite recently, the movement of Minimalism in art was mostly associated with male artists, while female artists were often presented as their followers.



Minimalism was a reaction to abstract art and modernism: a call to return to simple geometric shapes and forms, which minimal artists had seen as the 'alfa' and 'omega' of art. The geometric abstractions of early twentieth century radical artists such as Kazimir Malevich, Piet Mondrian and Constantin Brâncusi laid the foundation for the emergence of the movement in the aftermath of the Second World War.

The Fondation CAB exhibition, *Figures on a Ground*, recontextualises Minimalism by presenting works by pioneering female Minimalist artists. The works of Agnes Martin and Anne Truitt as the matriarchs of the movement take the centre stage.

The curators say, "the exhibition brings the alternative touch to Minimal art ... approached through themes such as spatial perception, relationships, nature, the sacred, the body and spirituality." The works by the founding artists of the movement are juxtaposed with the contemporary interventions by Anna-Maria Bogner, Claudia Comte and Sonia Kacem, among other artists. They compare the current context with the concerns of the minimalists almost 50 years earlier, including the critique of over-representation and the politicisation of art.

The exhibition goes beyond its subject into the deeper realm, looking at the concerns of the contemporary zeitgeist.