



'LIFEGUARD' (2012), MADE WITH PERFORATED PLEXIGLAS, CHROME PAINT AND LED LIGHT



Hole hearted

Spanish artist *Amparo Sard* punctures surfaces to let their meaning through

She deals with anguish.

In her latest show, Mallorca-born Sard — whose work can be found at Guggenheim and MoMA New York — wants you to consider landscapes a metaphor for existence: “As life goes by, one needs to be conscious of being in front of a landscape”, i.e. keep your eye on the big picture, to be truly self-aware. The interdisciplinary artist punches holes through Plexiglas, fibreglass and paper to create topographical and figurative works of art which deal with themes of doubt and anguish. The varying size and

density of the intricate puncturing stand in for paint and colour.

She began toying with this in school.

Sard is fascinated by the unique outcomes of perforations on different materials and works across disciplines like video and sculpture (mostly fibreglass installations) — with monochrome as her unifier. She remembers first experimenting with the technique in college, at the University of Barcelona, where she’s currently a professor of fine art. Back then, Sard was creating textures with different piercings

but mostly experimenting with abstracts. Eventually, she let go of colour “to allow the immateriality of ideas to enter the game”.

She’s inspired by the sinister.

Her work falls somewhere between the placidly beautiful and uncomfortably dark. And that’s true of the artists she admires too: “The surreal characters of artist Otto Dix, the deformations of Louise Bourgeois, the elongated bodies of El Greco and Picasso’s ‘Guernica’.”

Boundaries is on from November 18 to January 17, at Galerie Isa, Mumbai. Galerieisa.com