



**CENTRALE**  
FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

**box**

## Yvonne De Grazia

(1969, Saarbrücken, Germany. Lives and works in Brussels)

### *Danger... it's what you run away from, 2020-2021*

The title *Danger... it's what you run away from* evokes danger, but also fleeing.

The starting point for this work is the book *Bambi, A life in the woods* (1923) by Felix Salten, adapted for the cinema by Walt Disney. This text evokes both the gentleness of the fawn and the dangers it faces. Yvonne De Grazia takes this story as a springboard to open it up in various registers of subject matter and content. The artist proceeds by archiving texts, low-resolution images found on the internet, images from Disney's *Bambi* (1942), and images from the Cold War era (circa 1945/1947-1989), which began only a few years after the film was released.

Yvonne De Grazia is very interested in History, which she analyses and reworks. She re-draws collated archive elements in order to give them a different articulation, via different materials and techniques. The artist removes pixels from the collected images, translates the data into diagrams and statistics and then transposes them by means of weaving, print-on-demand, or laser printing on fabric. In this way, subjectivity confronts a factual and pre-established vision of the world, and a new scenario is created.

In this installation, sentences from *Bambi, A life in the woods* (1923), dealing with metaphysics, existential angst, death, and the terror felt by the fawn character, are printed on pieces of fabric. These excerpts show the contrast between the original text and the cartoon depicting a love story, through ideal images of a forest inhabited by endearing beings.

*When I am frightened, I have streaks before my eyes so that I can't see at all and my heart beats so fast that I can't breathe.*