

ARTFORUM

THE ARTISTS' ARTISTS

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Twenty-six artists reflect on 2022

To take stock of the past year, *Artforum* asked an international group of artists to select a single exhibition or event that most memorably caught their attention in 2022.



Suzanne Bocanegra, *Honor*, 2022. Performance view, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, April 29, 2022. Suzanne Bocanegra and Lili Taylor. Photo: Elon Schoenholz.

NIKITA GALE

Suzanne Bocanegra (Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles)

One of the most surprising and moving works I saw this year was Bocanegra's *Honor*. The actor Lili Taylor plays the artist onstage, leaving Bocanegra literally lurking in the shadowy corners. Bocanegra whispers lines from her lecture about a sixteenth-century tapestry in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's collection named "Honor" into a mic; her words are sent to an earpiece worn by Taylor, who then recites them for the audience. I laughed, I cried—I learned so much. The performance is tender and obsessive, acoustic and forensic, so deeply personal—familiar terrain for any artist. I was instantly won over by Bocanegra's universe, which seamlessly shifts between the massive scale of history and the intimacy of her own heart. I am always moved by work that says to me, "Yes, we can go here, too." *Honor* is now on that list. These questions of what it means to perform and profess in a field obsessed with the image of the artist are so difficult, and it was thrilling to see someone really swinging for the rafters. Celebrity! Visibility! Women of a certain age! I loved this shit!