

Symbolic language is intrinsic to the evolution of society—that is to say, a language of expression and communication that relies on images and imagination as much as it does on words. The creation of this language is a continuous process that goes hand in hand with the creation of a social or collective identity; it gives meaning to social relationships, it gives space to society's desires and needs. Symbolic language has a creative and liberating function in our society, hence its fundamental importance.

We should keep in mind, however, that the symbol is never one with absolute meaning. It can and must change over time. The symbol is never static in this sense, and in effect has different associations or definitions that accord with our particular perspectives. Yet all the while, a shared understanding of a symbol's value within society, means that it will always provide a common ground for discussion about its meaning and relevance to the present.

The symbol, born precisely from a common visual vocabulary, creates a feeling of connection with others. The sense of togetherness arouses empathy for the collectively lived experience. Daily life is based on the sharing of aesthetic feelings linked to the symbols of the community. A community recognizes itself in such feelings. Promoting a development of the collective potential of the symbol means promoting a holistic understanding of our society, which emphasizes the organic nature of the whole and how its different elements complement it.

The series of sculptures, some selected for ROMINA, are dedicated to the research of those symbols that have the potential to elicit fears, hopes, and other human feelings during this time of deep transformation. The sculptures introduce new symbols to express well-known concepts and phenomena that have already been part of our modern life for some time but still lack a common symbolic representation that encompasses their essence. Lacking such associations, they remain unspoken discussions, despite being urgent issues of our time. All symbolic sculpture immerses each of us in our own emotional and imagined experience of the world and prompts us to contemplate new connections between what is represented and its significance within society.

It is within this sphere that art can effect subtle changes in our communal understanding and perception of the world without conscious awareness. In this sense, these sculptures do not seek to impose a prescribed meaning or to force different perspectives towards a similar orientation; instead, the symbolic sculpture can provoke an open discussion where different interpretations of a social topic are indeed necessary, both in relation to the variability of cultural contexts and with respect to the plurality of social spheres.

These symbolic sculptures therefore can lead us to reflect in a conscious and truly collective manner on these issues, because the symbol itself has the characteristic of suggesting many meanings while always maintaining a single purpose: promoting empathy in the collectively lived experience.