

# TEMPLON



PRUNE NOURRY

ENTREVUE, January 16, 2025

## Prune Nourry brings women who are victims of violence back to life through her sculptures

ALICE LEROY



In his exhibition *Venus*, presented at the Templon gallery until March 1, 2025, Prune Nourry reinvents the famous prehistoric Venuses to pay tribute to women victims of violence. This project, born from a collaboration with the Maison des femmes de Saint-Denis, saw eight participants pose nude for the artist, symbolizing an act of personal and collective reconstruction. "I sculpted with the abstraction of the prehistoric Venuses to preserve their anonymity while integrating their personal stories," the artist confided to the media *Franceinfo*.

Nourry's studio, temporarily set up in a former girls' home in Saint-Denis, provided a safe space where these women could overcome cultural and personal taboos related to their bodies. During the sessions, often described as therapeutic, the artist used metal structures covered in clay, illustrating a process of reconstruction. At the end of each posing session, many of the women spoke of 'reconstruction,' Nourry explained. These sculptures thus bear the traces of an experience lived together, indelible imprints of reconstruction and resilience.

Prune Nourry's sculptures, in terracotta or bronze, are accompanied by rammed earth bases that symbolize the layers of time. After their visit to Paris, they will travel before being exhibited at the Paul Éluard Museum in Saint-Denis. At the same time, Prune Nourry is collaborating with the architect Kengo Kuma on an installation of 108 suspended Venuses in the future Saint-Denis-Pleyel train station.