



Olivia Appelius

Selected works 2015 - 2026

oliviaappelius.art

AN INSIGHT INTO THE WORK

... the ability to avoid becoming overly academic is a far too underappreciated quality of modern art. Remaining free, avoiding aesthetic niches, and rejecting all constraints—whether they be themes, techniques, or even market-driven advice—means being free in artistic creation, as we can see in the works of Olivia Appelius.

No theory holds back her spontaneous work. New, previously unknown facets of herself and of art in general are constantly being revealed. Whether through painting or photography, abstract or figurative art, there is always a strong artistic drive, a quest for the unknown. The viewer immediately senses the artist's irrepressible and sensual curiosity, with which she confronts the realities of the world to challenge them through her work and reinterpret them in new ways. Her art defies categorization. Wonderful !

Dieter Ronte, 2019

Art historian, former museum director in Vienna (AT), Hanover, and Bonn (DE)

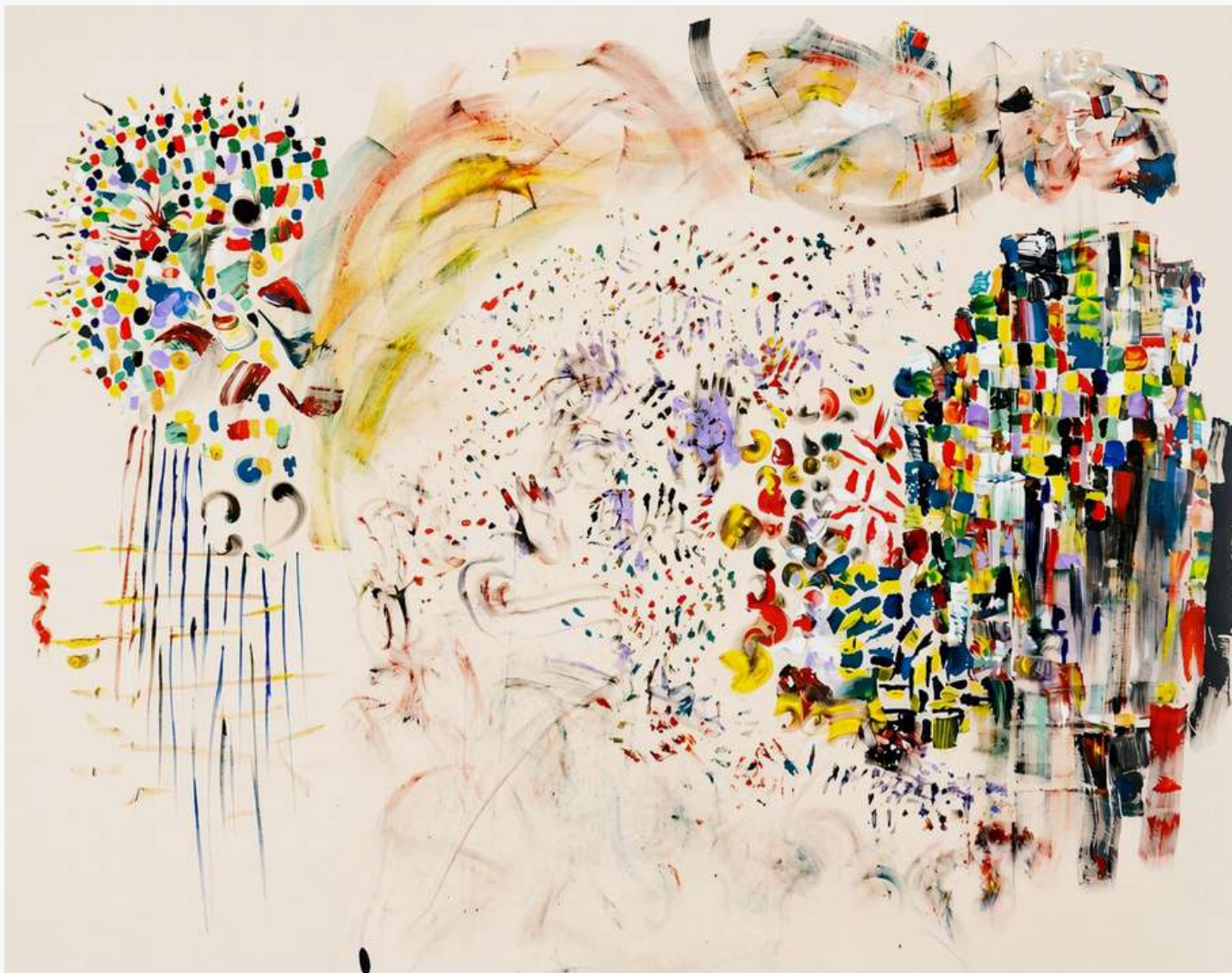
PAINTINGS | *Danse with the canvas*

Dance with the Canvas is the first series of abstract paintings by the artist, who was born in Venice. Created with a fluid, spontaneous brushstroke, these works mark the beginning of an intuitive exploration in which the body becomes an extension of the brush. These canvases represent an encounter between movement, material, and spontaneity.

They allow a subtle figuration to emerge, sometimes barely perceptible. The viewer's gaze oscillates between abstraction and apparition, inviting each person to discover their own images. More than a representation, this series is a sensory experience: a silent dance where gesture reveals what words cannot express...



Bow wow, 2015
Acrylic on canvas, 60 x 100 cm



Lyrical portrait, 2015
Acrylic on canvas, 200 x 240 cm

PAINTINGS | *Sensitive explorations*

This series marks a period of exploration in which the paint recedes to make way for the vibrations of color, transparencies, and the breathing spaces left by the medium. Emotion is built through light, rhythm, and silences as much as through the paint itself.

The pigments settle, diffuse, and intermingle, revealing inner landscapes. The image does not seek to describe reality, but rather to evoke a sensation, a memory, or a state of presence. The work gradually reveals itself in a delicate balance between spontaneity and contemplation.



Color mentation, 2016
Acrylic on canvas, 70 x 75 cm



Inprints, 2016

Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 150 cm

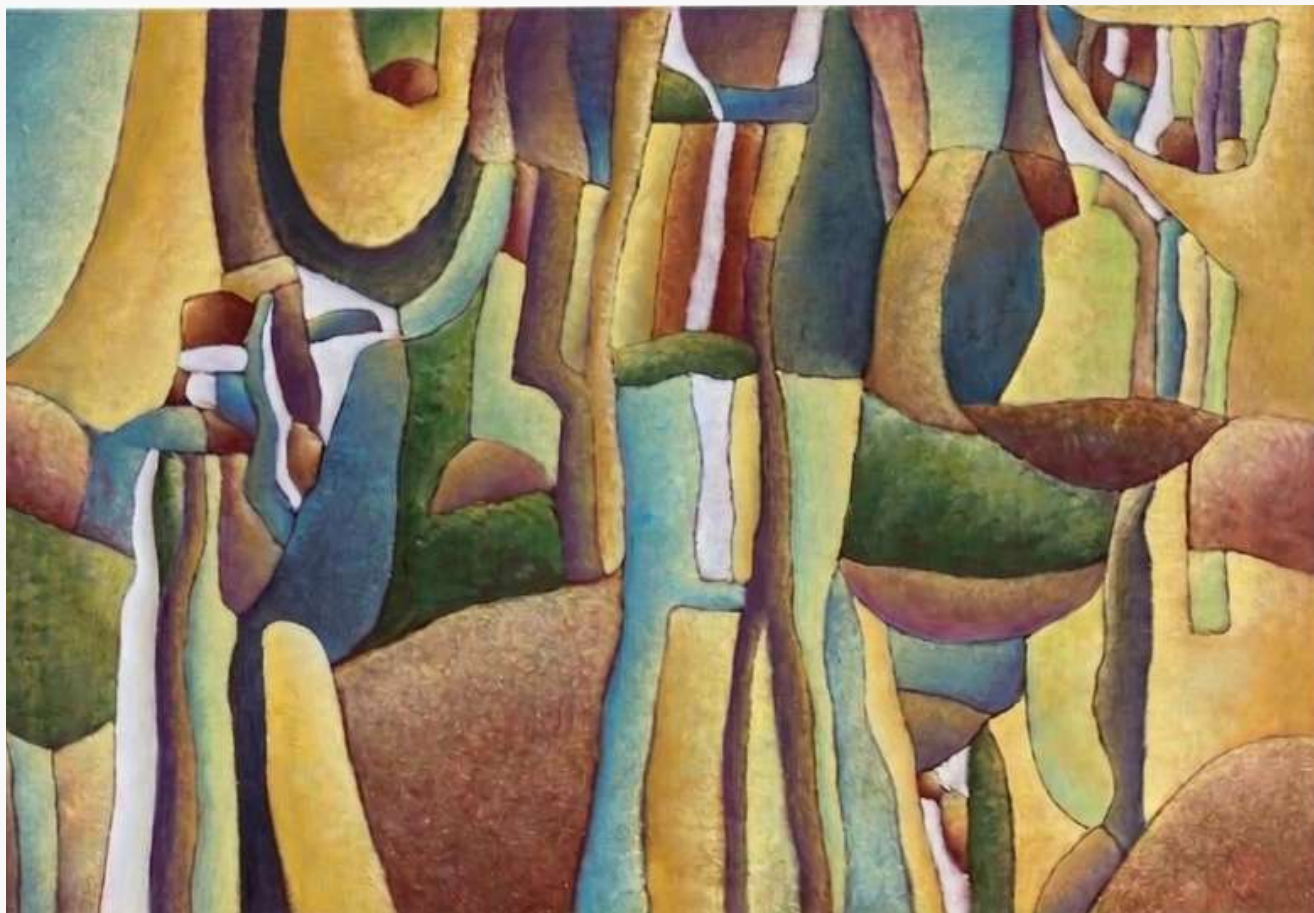
PEINTURES | *Immersion into matter*

Somewhere between abstraction and apparition, these paintings explore the tensions between smoothness and roughness, light and shadow. The surface is no longer merely a medium but a sensitive territory where color, texture, and movement interact freely.

These works invite a visual and tactile experience, in which the material seems to vibrate, breathe, and draw the viewer's gaze beyond the image. Applied in brushstrokes, layered, or left in its raw state, the material retains the memory of the artist's touch and reveals the different layers of the creative process.



Cubist variation, 2023
Acrylic on canvas, 92 x 158 cm



Inner landscape, 2023
Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 150 cm





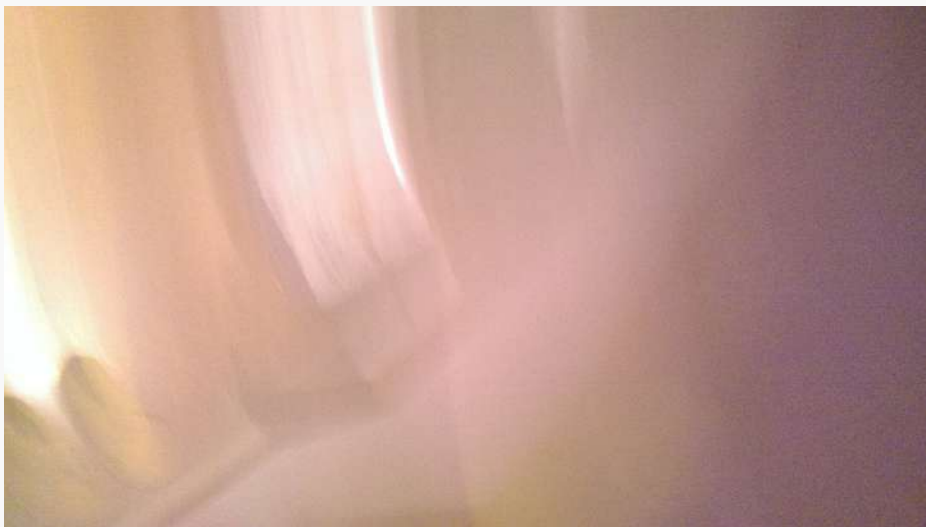


PHOTOGRAPHIES | *Lightflows*

The series brought together under the title *Light Flows* explore photography's ability to evoke an atmosphere, an emotion, or a sensation through the movement of light.

Photography gradually moves away from the representation of reality to become a space for sensory experimentation in which light is transformed into visual matter.

Shapes dissolve, shift, and reinvent themselves as traces, flows, and vibrations. Colors, rhythms, contrasts, and movements come together to form images reminiscent of gestural writing—like paintings of light or visual scores.



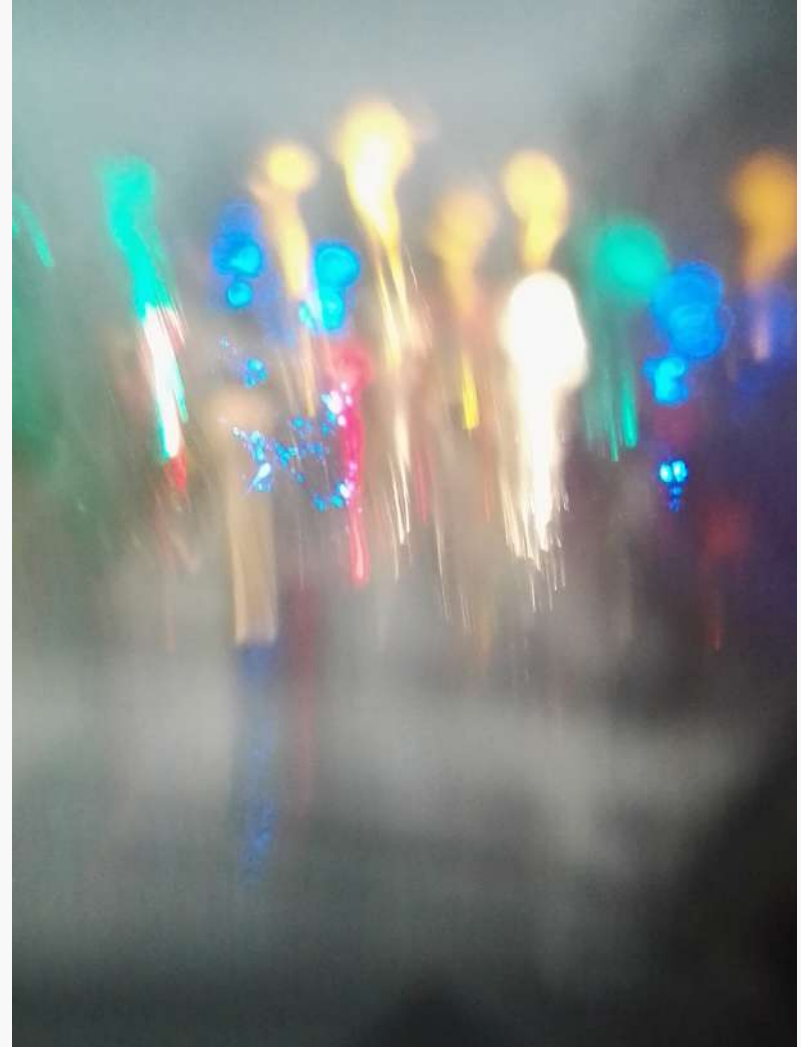
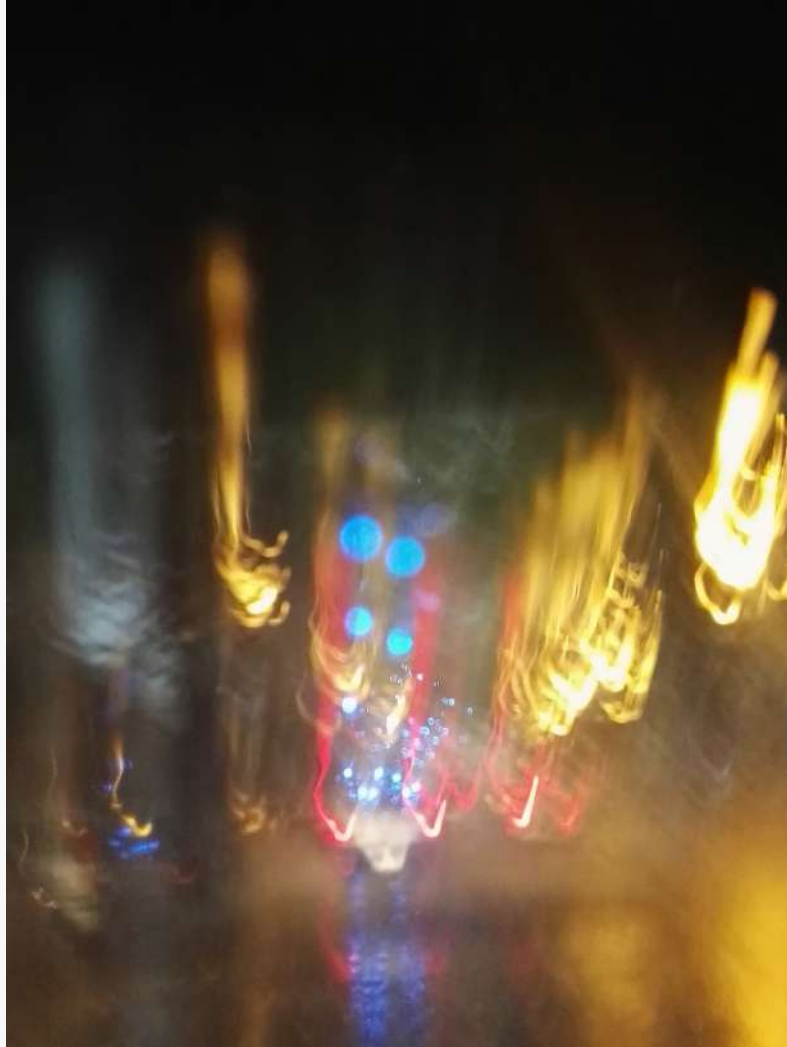
Liquid lights, dyptich, 2017
Digital photography,
variables dimensions



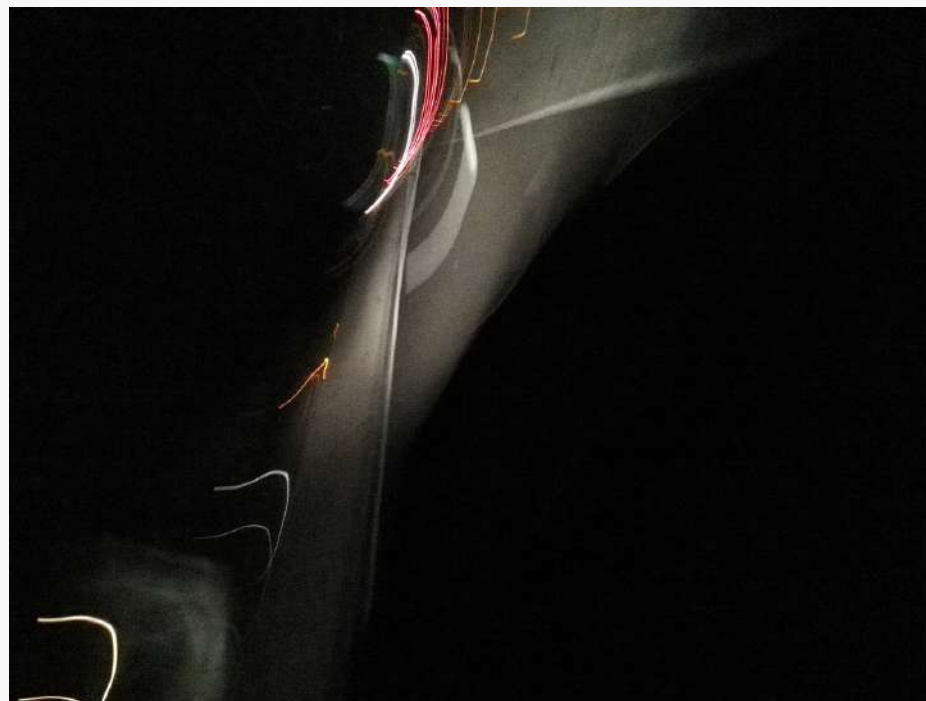


Lichgestalten, 2017
Digital photography,
variables dimensions





Autumn rain, 2017
Digital photography, variables dimensions

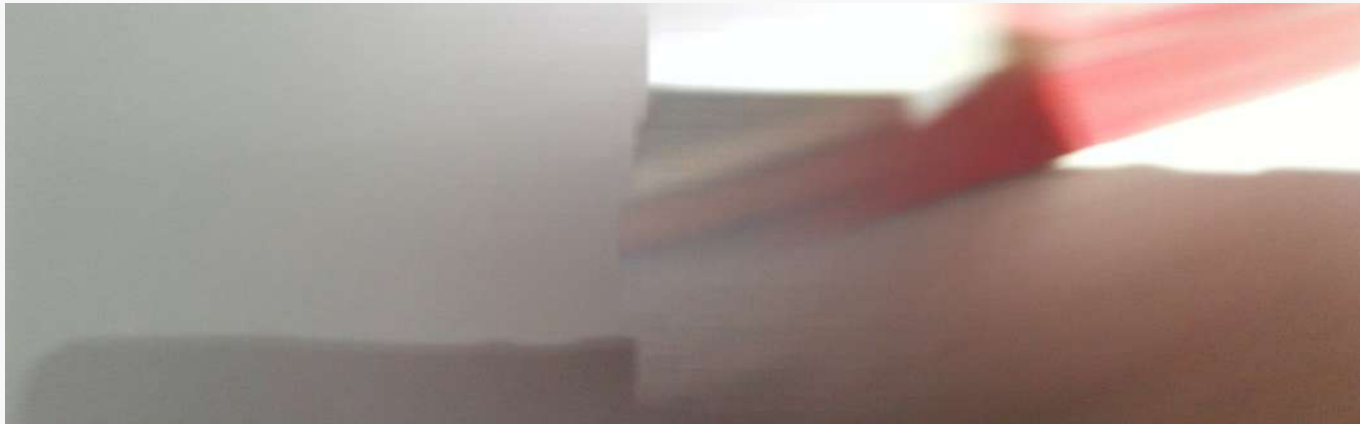


Darkflows, 2016
Digital photography, variables dimensions

PHOTOGRAPHIES | *Topography*

This series explores built landscapes, materials, and architectural fragments as sensitive territories traversed by light, time, and memory. Forms break away from their original function to become lines, rhythms, and surfaces, oscillating between abstraction and reality.

Close-up framing, the play of light, and the movement of the camera transform concrete, metal, and stone into almost painterly compositions. Space is no longer described; it is felt. The photographs invite the viewer to explore these silent reliefs where the boundaries between interior and exterior landscapes blur.



Afterlight, 2017
Digital photography, variables dimensions



Pro fundus, 2017
Digital photography, variables dimensions



Afterimage, 2017
Digital photography, variables dimensions

PHOTOGRAPHY | *Shadow paintings*

Shadow paintings brings together several photographic series that explore the relationships between darkness, matter, perception, and the forms of light it conceals. Dominated by dark tones, this body of work focuses on what emerges from the depths of the visible: a vibration, a presence, a texture, a glow...

Straddling mystery, contemplation, and the quest for beauty, these images suggest rather than assert, allowing the viewer's gaze to wander freely among the forms, textures, and nuances. Shadows, transparencies, and depths combine to create silent atmospheres, reminiscent of dreams or memories.



Loneliness, 2019
Digital photography, variable dimensions



Duality, 2019
Digital photography, variables dimensions



Shades of Black, 2017
Digital photography, variables dimensions

PHOTOGRAPHIES | *Selfportraits*

This series of self-portraits explores the connections between the body, identity, movement and perception. Far from being documentary or descriptive representations, the images seek to capture a presence, an emotion, an inner state. The body appears as a sensitive instrument, permeated by light, gesture, and transformation.

They question what constitutes a person's uniqueness beyond their appearance. Here, the self-portrait asserts itself as a space for sensory exploration, a means of crystallizing states of mind and fragments of experience in a visual language that is at once poetic, fluid, and deeply personal.



Imprint body, 2019
Digital photography, variables dimensions



Shadows bodies 2019
Digital photography,
variables dimensions





Bodyface, 2018
Digital photography,
variables dimensions









WORKS ON PAPER

The Shapes and Colors of Water
(based on a watercolor by Olivia Appelius)

The colors of the watercolor crackle
in the bristles of the brush held by a light hand;
the tones and shades flow,
running down the white slope of the paper.

An enema? No,
the exit.

The outline of a blue-gray dog
in a sandy light
on watery legs.
Marvels with its
black ears

two water sculptures,
colors:
one of a transcendent blue,
the other with a red-violet head
on long, flowing legs
across a yellow-brown field
into the transparent violet
of a possible body.
What abstracts from the figurative
magically brings forth forms
in the gaze.

Siegmund Kleinl, 2020 (poet)



Between flesh & Silence, 2019
Techniques mixtes, 31,5 x 23,5 cm



Colors of transparency, 2019
Mixed media, 8,5 x 10,5 cm



Blue poem, 2016
Acrylic on fineart paper, 40 x 33 cm

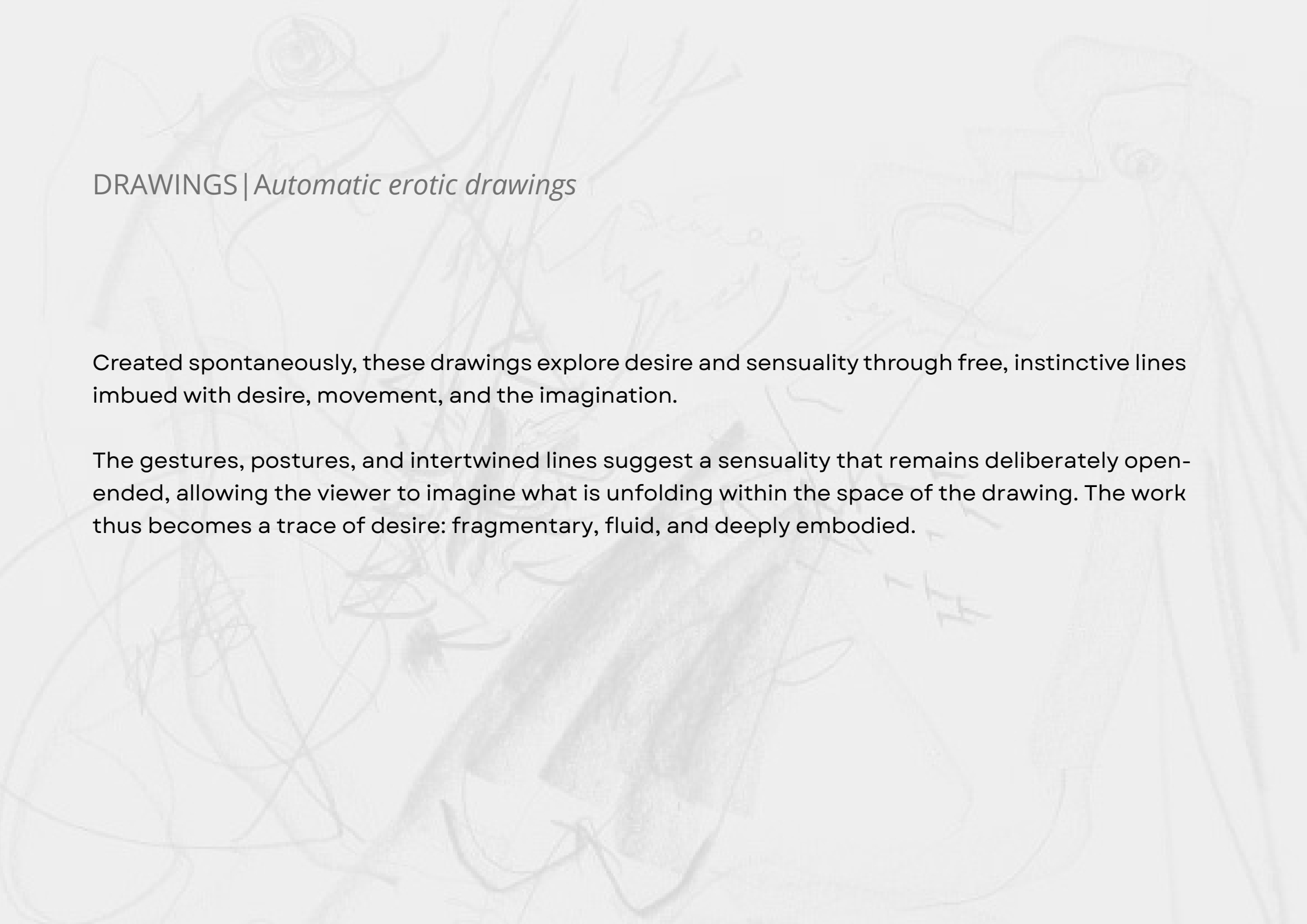


Color traces, 2019
Acrylic on paper, 80 x 230 cm





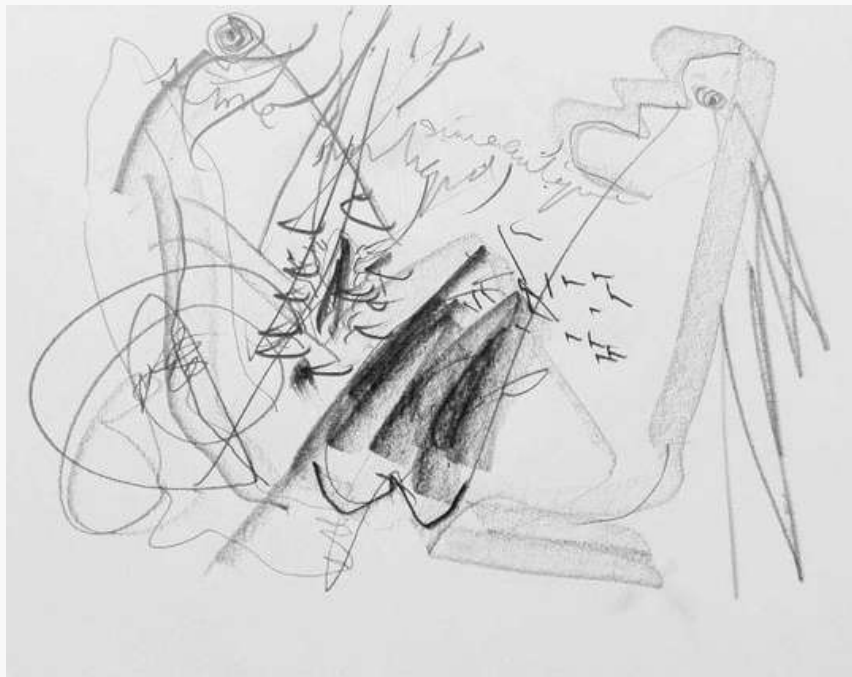


A faint, light-colored pencil or charcoal drawing serves as the background for the entire page. It depicts a man and a woman in an intimate embrace. The man is on the right, leaning towards the woman on the left. Their forms are suggested by loose, gestural lines, with some areas of soft shading. The overall mood is sensual and romantic, consistent with the 'Automatic erotic drawings' theme.

DRAWINGS | *Automatic erotic drawings*

Created spontaneously, these drawings explore desire and sensuality through free, instinctive lines imbued with desire, movement, and the imagination.

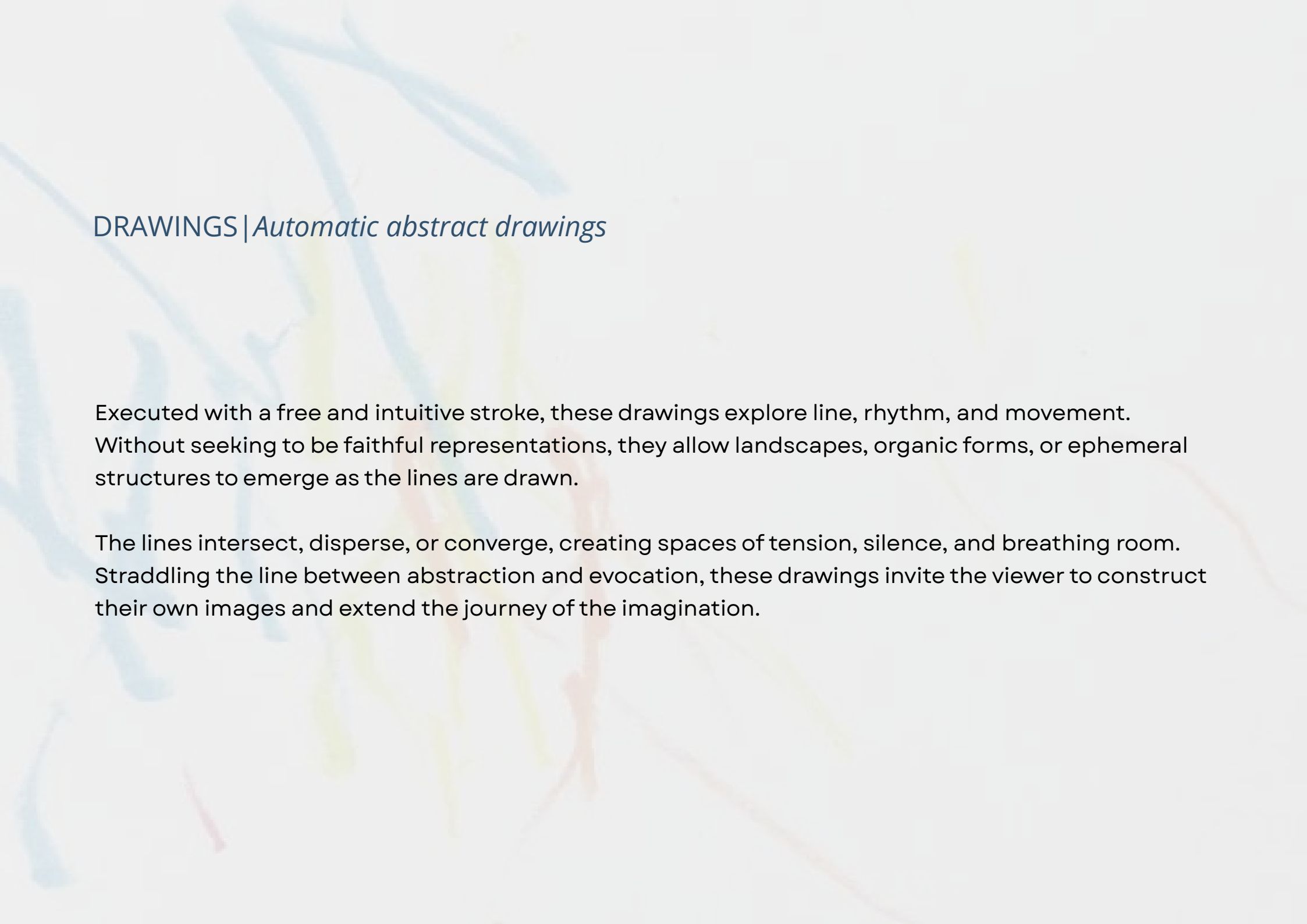
The gestures, postures, and intertwined lines suggest a sensuality that remains deliberately open-ended, allowing the viewer to imagine what is unfolding within the space of the drawing. The work thus becomes a trace of desire: fragmentary, fluid, and deeply embodied.



Automatic drawings, 2020
30 x 21 cm, pencil on paper



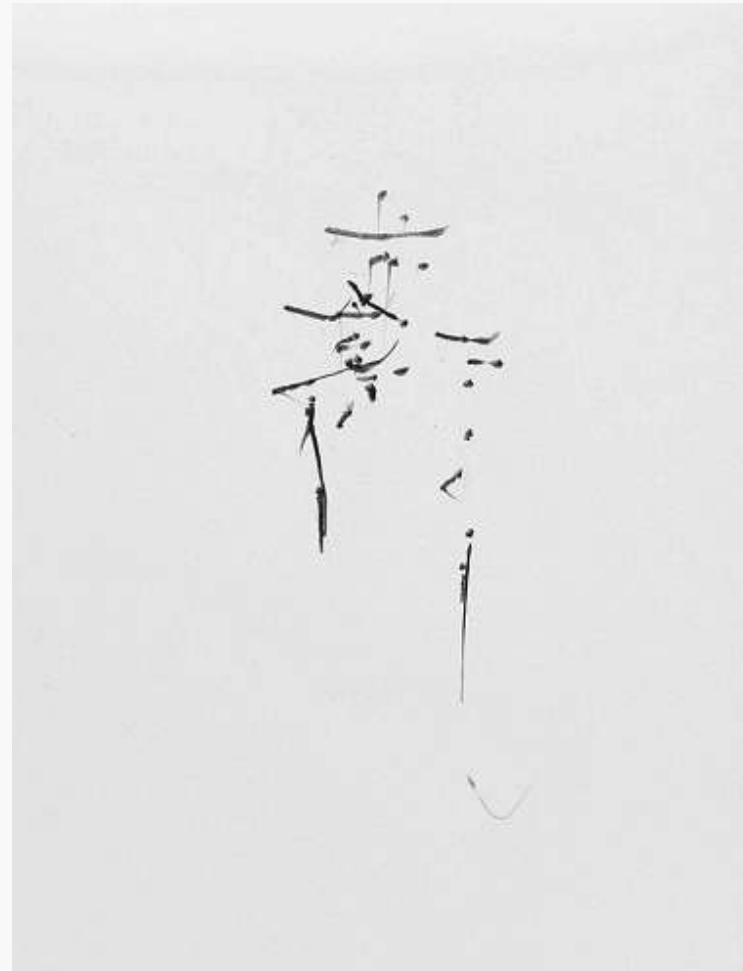
Automatic drawings, 2024
13 x 15 cm, pencil on paper



DRAWINGS | *Automatic abstract drawings*

Executed with a free and intuitive stroke, these drawings explore line, rhythm, and movement. Without seeking to be faithful representations, they allow landscapes, organic forms, or ephemeral structures to emerge as the lines are drawn.

The lines intersect, disperse, or converge, creating spaces of tension, silence, and breathing room. Straddling the line between abstraction and evocation, these drawings invite the viewer to construct their own images and extend the journey of the imagination.



Soul signature, 2020
18 x 10cm / 20 x 21 cm, pencil on paper

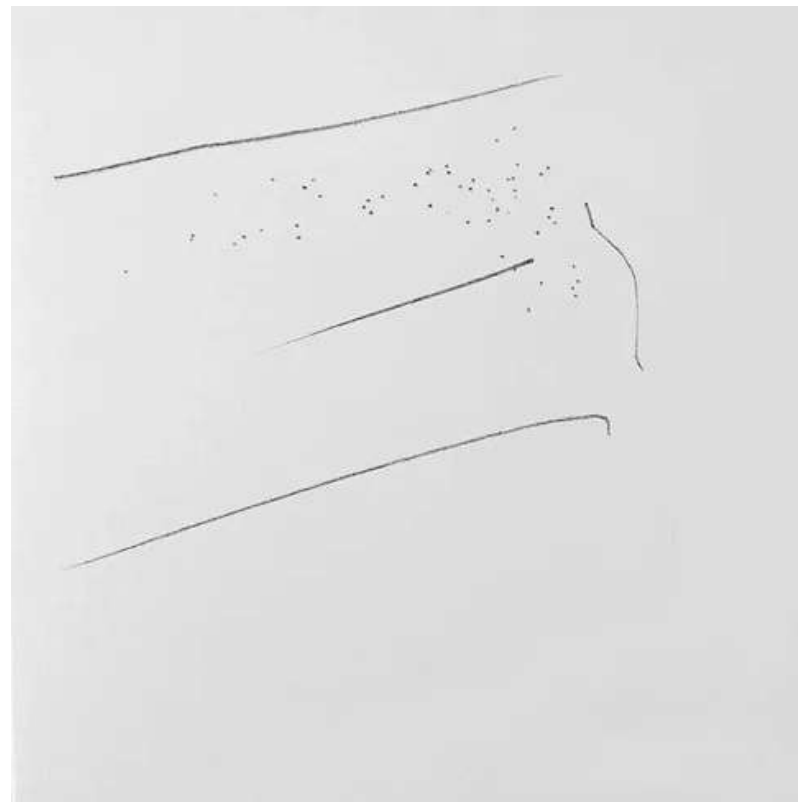


Incidence, 2019
9 x 7,5 cm, pencil on paper

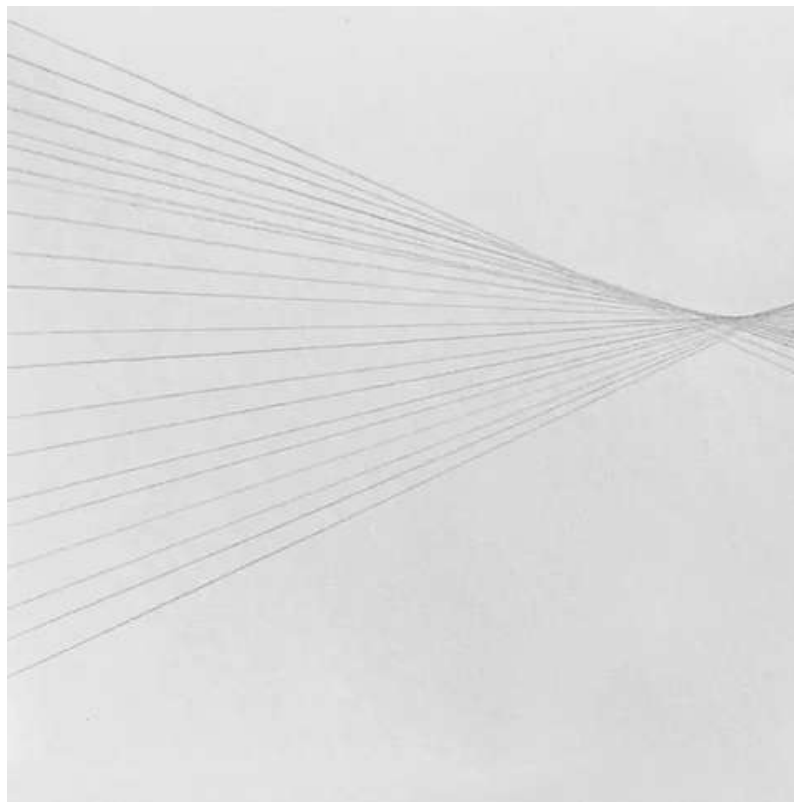
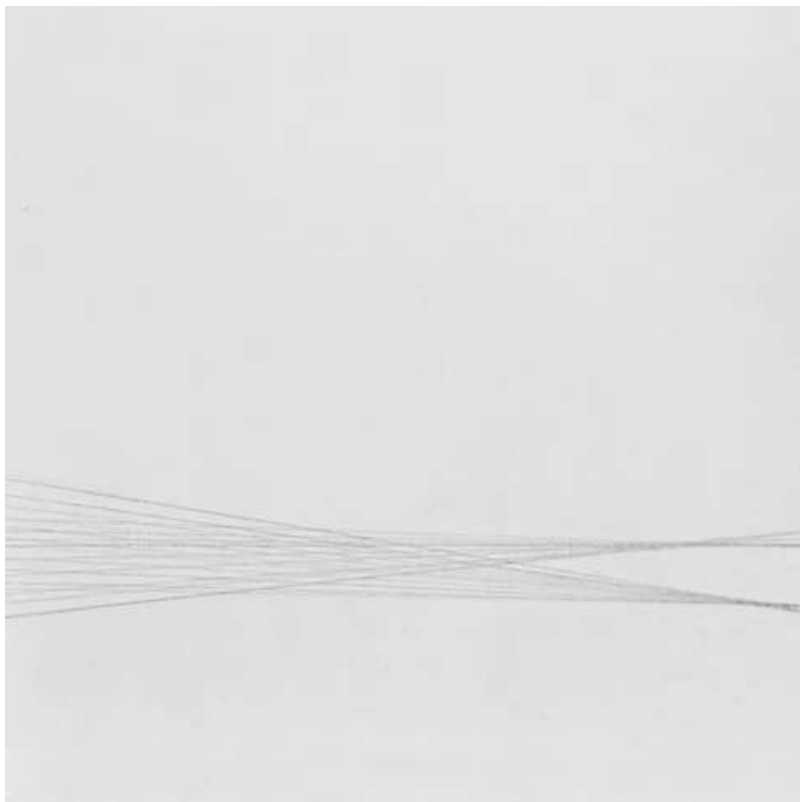
DESSINS | By the lines

Through a vocabulary reduced to simple lines, these drawings explore the concepts of space, rhythm, and balance. The lines intersect, extend, or overlap, giving rise to fragile architectural forms, horizons, and imaginary perspectives.

Straddling geometric precision and freehand expression, the compositions seek a point of tension where order meets uncertainty. Emptiness becomes an essential element, allowing the eye to wander and revealing the expressive power of the simplified form.



Along a precious case, 2019
10 x 10 cm, pencil on paper



Along the lines, 2019
10 x 10 cm, pencil on paper

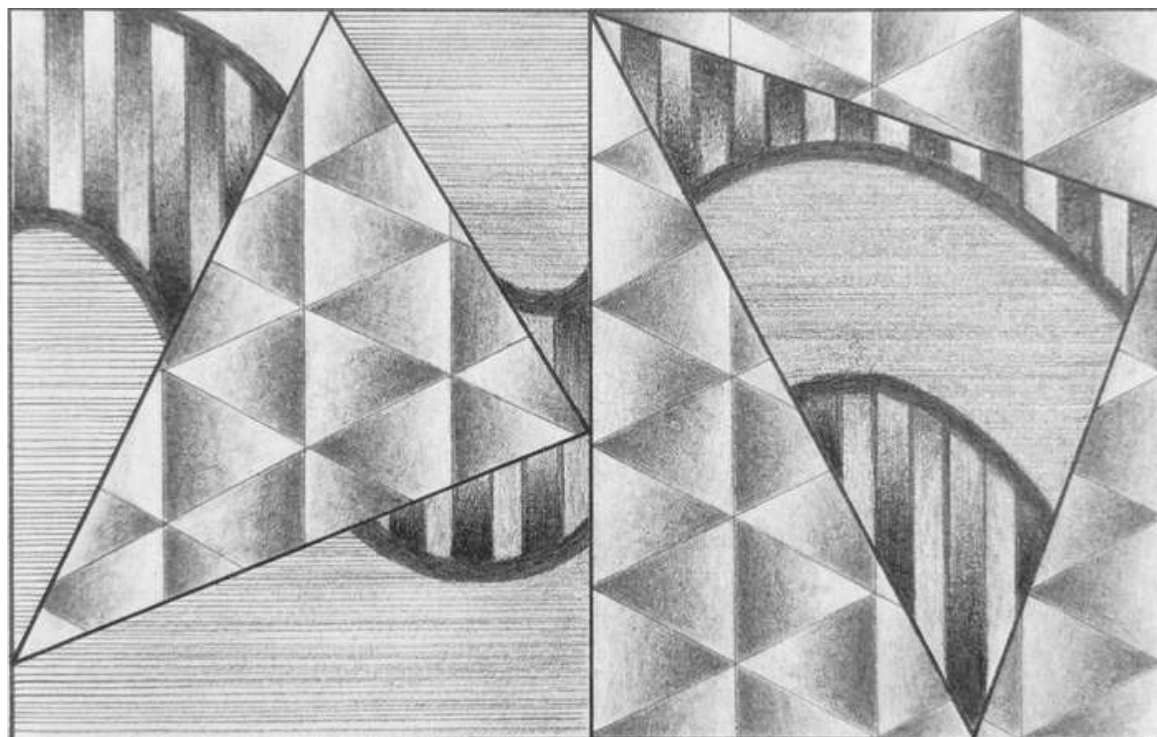


"Au fil des lignes" installation linéaire

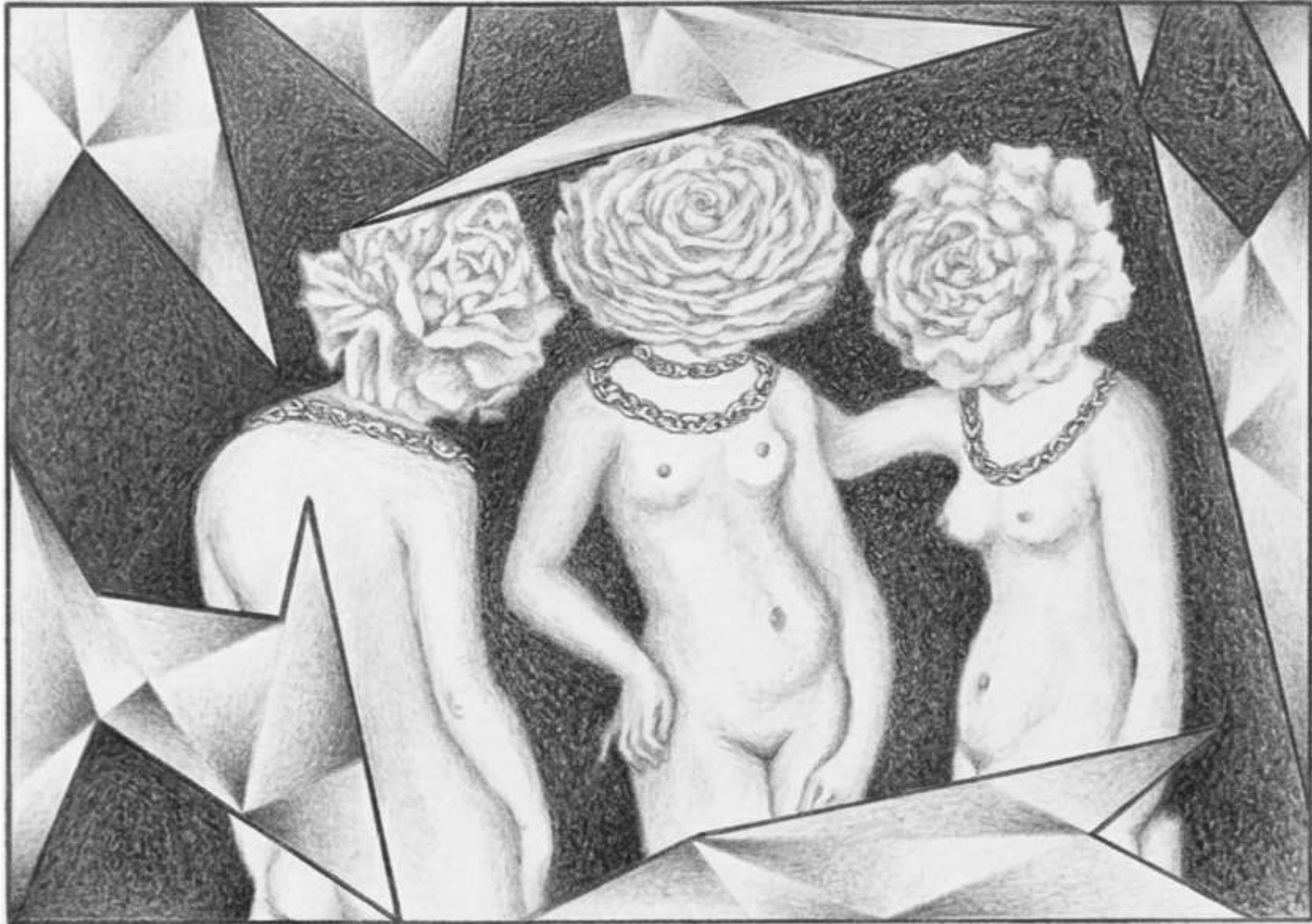
DESSINS | *Geometric drawings*

These drawings explore the expressive possibilities of line, form, and geometry. Through repetition, variations in rhythm, and compositional play, they bring forth spaces of balance between order and sensitivity, between architecture and poetic inspiration.

These works invite silent contemplation, in which the line becomes a sensitive language capable of evoking both the inner landscape and the built environment. Without seeking to pit abstraction against figuration, they give rise to a silent poetry in which the rigor of composition becomes a way of inhabiting the living world.



Geometric triangles, 2025
10,3 x 6,5 cm, pencil on paper



The three graces, 2026
21,5 x 29,5 cm, pencil on paper





ARTIST STATEMENT

"I explore the relationships between light, matter, movement, line, and perception through a multidisciplinary practice to create sensory experiences that blur the boundaries between media.

In a world saturated with images and stimuli, my practice seeks to slow down perception and reintroduce an intuitive, bodily, and emotional experience of the image. For me, painting, photography, drawing, poetry, and performance are not separate practices, but different expressions of the same artistic language.

In this way, I build bridges between disciplines: words made of images, pictorial photographs, living brushes, bodily music, or the poetry of movement. Through gesture, light, color, and material, my works explore the transitions between the visible and the invisible, image and sensation, presence and transformation."

Olivia Appelius

BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1992 in Bordeaux, Olivia Appelius developed an artistic practice from childhood onward, drawing inspiration from painting, music, and dance. After studying at the Ateliers des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux and the Maurice Ravel Conservatory, she pursued her own artistic exploration at the intersection of painting, photography, drawing, poetry, and performance.

An initial artistic residency in Venice marked a turning point in her career. The light, contrasts, textures, and timeless atmosphere of the city fueled a body of work centered on sensuality, movement, and the relationship between the visible and the invisible.

Today, her work spans France and other countries, through exhibitions and artistic projects that explore the connections between matter, light, the body, and the imagination.

CURICULUM VITAE

FORMATION

2015 / 2022

Artistic residencies and immersion programmes in Europe (Austria, Italy, Spain), exchanges with artists and curators

2015

Ateliers of Fine Arts (5 moths), Bordeaux, FR

2010/2014

Bachelor's degree in Musicology, Information & Communication, University of Bordeaux, France

1998/2009

Training in Music and Dance, Maurice Ravel Conservatoire, Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France

Artistic practice developed from childhood within a family of painters, largely through self-teaching.

EXHIBITIONS

2026

Emergences sensibles, paintings and photographs, La Maison de l'Eau cultural centre, Allègre-les-Fumades, France (duo)

2025

Chemins interdits, salle Grenette, Aubenas, France (group exhibition)

2024

Festival de photographie Bessèges, serie of photographs, Bessèges, FR (collective)

2019

Monochrome, photographie, The Glasgow Gallery of Photography, Glasgow, ST (collective)

2018

Mare nostrum, photographs, Arsenal of Amalfi, IT (virtual)

2016

Private viewing, paintings, Churhaus St. Stephan, Vienna, AT (solo)

Wide Eye, paintings, Suppan Contemporary Gallery, Josephsplatz off-space, Vienna, AT (group)

Justmad7, paintings, Madrid, ES (group)

2015

Simply O, a collection of paintings, Spazio Arterra, Treviso, Italy (solo exhibition)

PRICES & AWARDS

22/23

Luxembourg Art Price, Certificate of Artistic Merit

20/22

MIFA, Moscow International Foto Award, Honorable Mention

2019

14th Pollux Prize, Honorable Mention

2018

Premio Antica Repubblica d'Amalfi, Artetra, Certificate of Artistic Merit

15/22

Academia Arterra Association, awards and residencies in Austria, Italy, and Spain

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Paul Gulda's Private Collection, AT

arterra Museum, AT

Fernando Galan Collection, ES

Carlo Bilotti Museum, Villa Borghese Collection, IT

PORTFOLIO READINGS

2022

Rencontres d'Arles, Arles, FR

PARUTIONS

2026

Midi Libre, articles on the exhibition and the staged reading *Émergences sensibles*, Maison de l'Eau Cultural Centre, Allègre-les-Fumades, FR

2018

Artetra Magazine, feature on the Mare Nostrum photography project as part of a call for artistic proposals, IT

2016

Artes Magazine, feature on the My Mother project, ES

Midi Libre - MERCREDI 4 FÉVRIER 2026

Allègre-les-Fumades Véronique Rio et Olivia Appellus s'exposent à la Maison de l'eau

Le vernissage de l'exposition "Émergences sensibles" se déroulera à la Maison de l'eau vendredi 6 février, à 18 h 30. Une exposition visible du 6 février au 13 mars avec les œuvres de Véronique Rio et Olivia Appellus remplies de poésie, de sensibilité, entre le visible et l'invisible, la recherche de la beauté.

Véronique Rio est née à Paris d'une famille très connue dans l'art, à Vogue, où elle a obtenu un diplôme. Elle est titulaire d'une maîtrise d'art consacrée au sculpteur Jules Pélissier. Contant, réalisée auprès d'Aune Pingot, conservatrice du Musée d'Orsay. Elle a travaillé un temps auprès des commissaires pri-
vées à l'Hotel Devout à Paris. Depuis toujours, Véronique Rio pratique peinture et dessin. Elle collabore avec plusieurs artistes. Elle partage son temps entre son atelier et sa galerie Espace Rio à Montpellier, à proximité du

musée Fabre. Elle s'appuie sur deux techniques principales : peinture à l'huile en période hivernale et encres et acryliques utilisées en extérieur en périodes tempérées. Elle aime peindre au sol ou sur table.

Quête artistique sensuelle
Les "Émergences sensibles" de sa vie constituent la source essentielle de son inspiration : visites d'ateliers, rencontres, son-
venirs de films, photographies sont des déclencheurs. Véronique Rio cherche à transmettre une émotion, celle de la trans-
mutation.

Olivia Appellus a grandi au Pays basque. Toute petite, elle peint, dessine, influencée par ses parents peintres. Elle explore la musique et la danse au conservatoire Maurice Ravel à Bordeaux. Elle fait un bref passage aux Ateliers des Beaux arts. Mais c'est un voyage à Venise qui



Deux artistes, deux talents associés.

marquera un tournant décisif dans son chemin de vie. Elle y découvre une atmosphère in-
temporelle qui l'enchantait. Olivia Appellus est sans cesse en recherche. Une quête artis-
tique sensuelle. Elle multiplie les résidences à l'étranger : Autriche, Italie, Espagne. Ses ex-
périences l'amènent à devenir

une artiste pluridisciplinaire. Sa série photographique a été distinguée à Moscou à Parce-
lons. Elle crée avec des perfor-
mances mêlant lecture, poésie
dans des lieux culturels.

> Exposition visible du lundi
au vendredi de 9 heures à midi
et de 14 heures à 17 heures.

AU FIL DES COM

Saint-Victor-de-Maiz LES BRANCHES TOMBÉES PE ONT OBSTRUÉ LA CHAUSSEE

Mardi 3 février, des 7 h 30
l'entreprise Ginoux paysage
de Saint-Ambroix a été
dépechée en urgence
pour débayer les branches
tombées d'un grand cèdre
durant la nuit tempétueuse.
Celles-ci obstruaient la voie
publique près du pont, à
l'embranchement de la rue
de la Villardie et de la route
des Pauvriers. Il n'aura fallu qu'à M. Ginoux et à son équipe
du chantier et rétablir la circu-

Saint-Ambroix

GRATIFIER DU SEL

La gratifier organisée
par le Sel L'Attre covenoi
aura lieu dimanche 8 février,
de 10 heures à midi, dans
la salle de la Filature de la d'Al
Un principe simple : tout est g
Pour rappel, une gratifier est
où chacun donne ce qu'il veut
Aucun échange monétaire, au
de réciprocité : pas besoin de
ustensiller un autre. Vêtor m
vous n'avez plus besoin pout
à l'issue de la manifestation,
sera partagé, venez avec vos
humeur et votre panier-repas.

► Correspondant: Midi Libre - 06 10 04 10 10