

Portfolio

15/01/2021



Amaury BOUQUET

Amaury BOUQUET is a Berlin-based french artist who grew up in Saint Maur des Fossés, France.

With a background in social innovation, he creates a bridge between art, social change and mindfulness.

His illustrations, paper cuts, masks and murals play with the forms and meanings of symbols. He also develops the concept of Art-experience to help people dive into one's interiority. Both mediums, pictorial symbolism or symbolic actions are representations of our collective psyche and each individual history. His work encompasses the joyful transgression of public space through murals, bringing back elements of nature into the urban landscapes, to the social performance of participatory street-art installations.

In 2018 he founded the transdisciplinary art collective BIMBIM.

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Urban Practice

Our proposal for the open call



Architecture models and candles at the Floating E.v

CONCEPT

Around 1883, painter Arnold Böcklin ran aground on Tempelhofer Feld with a visionary attempt to create an aircraft without an engine. This painter was also the creator of the famous symbolist painting *The Isle Of the Dead*.

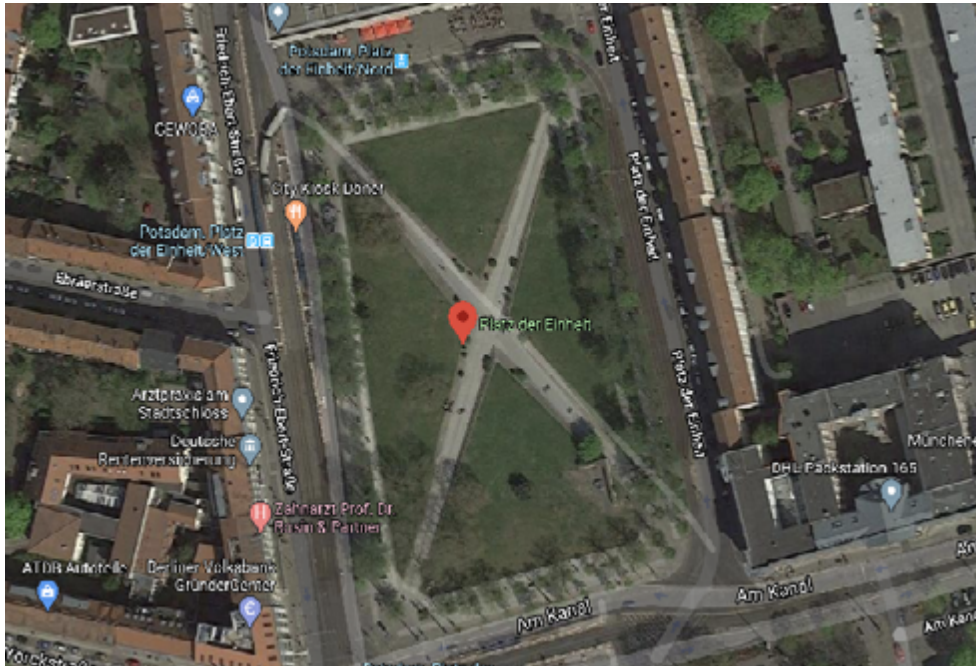
In this hypnotic painting, Böcklin depicted a small piece of land with massive rocks and trees, and a small boat reaching to the island. The man at the front of the boat reminds us of Charon, the mythological figure leading the dead to the underworld.

In the tarot, death is seen as the card of radical transformation, the revolution. It is also seen as an agent of destruction for the sake of new beginnings. In this process of radical transformation, it is said that we leave behind what is unnecessary for our personal growth.

Drawing from these concepts, we imagine the Floating University as the *Isle of the Dead*, a transformative utopia. Working in the frame of *Urban Praxis*, we will focus on ambitious ideas that were left behind. That is, we will gather the documentation of urbanism projects that could never be realised and enquire for testimonies about them by their authors. This is something we experienced ourselves with our project *Nexus*, that was cancelled due to the pandemic. From this, we will create models of these projects with degradable materials. At the end of the residency, we will present the models during an outdoor event set out as a ritual. They will be displayed floating on the basin, lit by a candle that could result in burning them.

neXus

Abandoned project



*Location : Platz der Einheit,
Potsdam*

CONCEPT

neXus is an installation located at the crossroads in the middle of Platz der Einheit in Potsdam. Composed of 4 walls made of a metallic structure supporting a two-sided flexible mirroring surface, it creates an empty reflective space inspired by the Roman forum designed to playfully foster encounters and self-reflection, thus altering its usual function from place of passage to centre of civic relations.

Despite the potentially devastating physical, psychological and economical effects of the health crisis on a number of people, we believe that Western society must seize the opportunity of the recent suspension of “normality” in our lives to perform an introspection of its core values and existential motivations at this crossroad in history, rather than concentrating on the fear and shock consecutive to this situation.

Through the multidimensional symbolic aspects of this project, we aim at recreating a centre for civic engagement, the conditions for a nexus between the multiple and sometimes contradictory dimensions of our society. Camouflaged by its mirroring surfaces, neXus reminds us that despite the perceptible complexity of the world we live in, there is still space for free and collective reflection towards change. This is also reflected in our choice of the location. Beyond its architectural interest, Platz der Einheit's name reflects our search for a greater social cohesion, which would determine a new ethos as building blocks for the future.

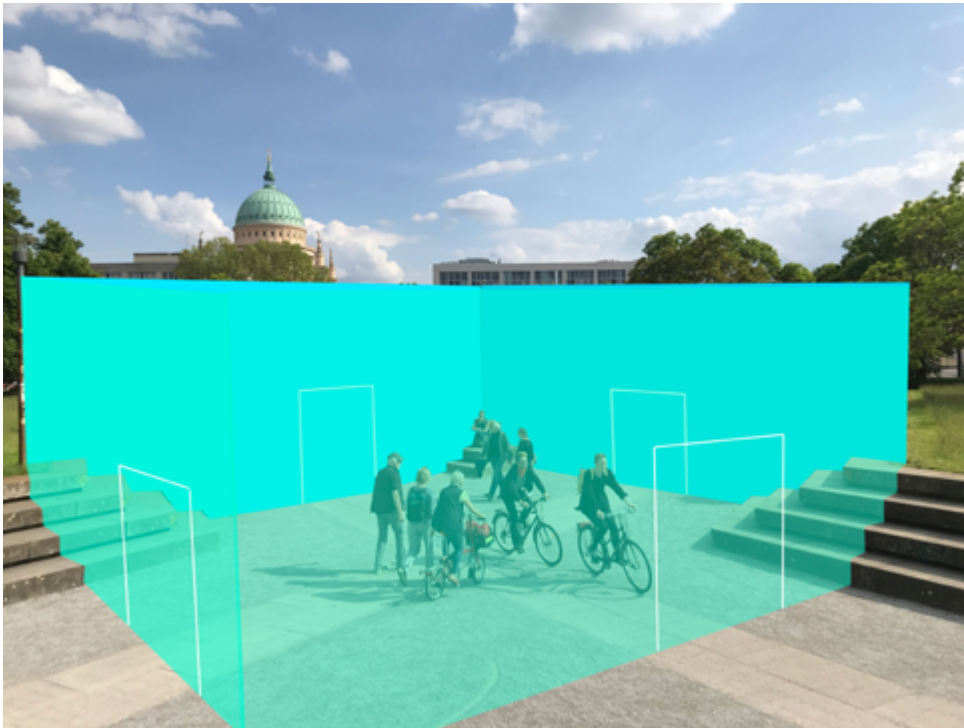
neXus

Visual Insertion

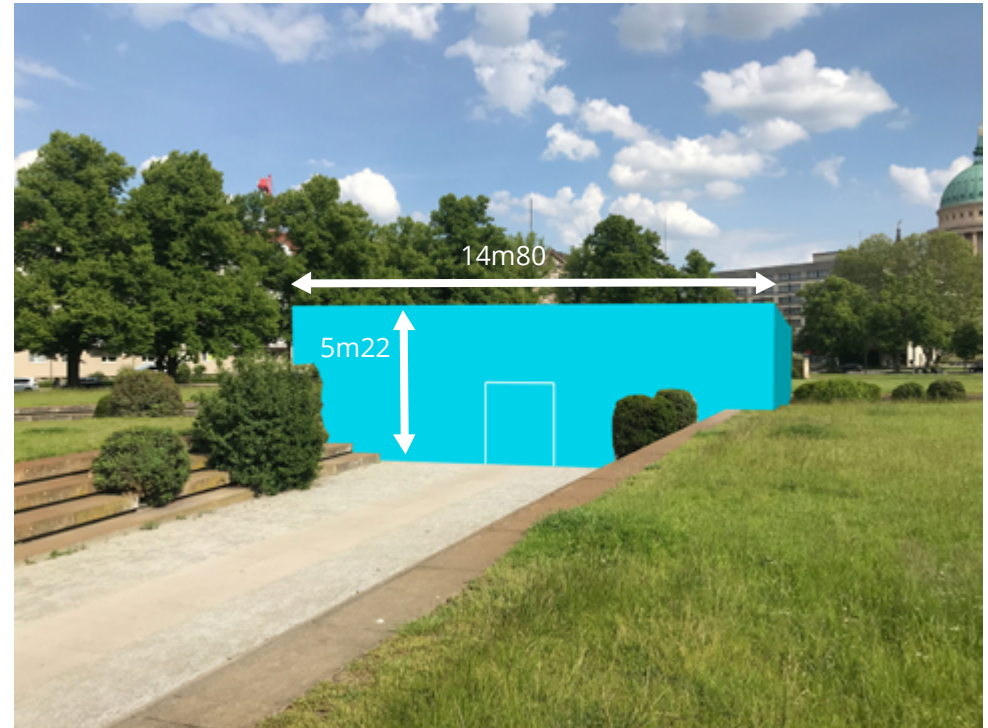


neXus

Sketches



neXus
Inside



neXus
Outside

Temporary magical spaces

Urban interventions

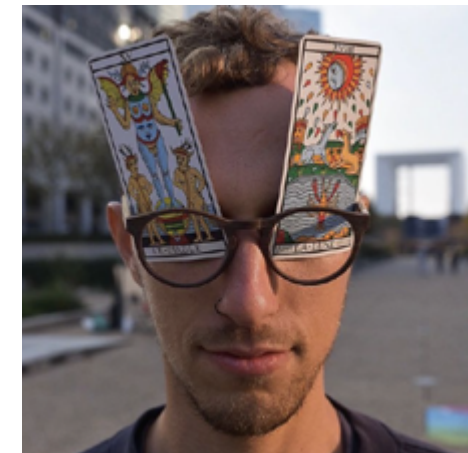


Tarot reading in La Défense, Paris

The urban space as a laboratory

In 2018, BIMBIM collective used the urban space as a laboratory to test and iterate the concept of Art experience. This performance of urban tarot reading took place in the center of La Defense (Paris - FR), the biggest office district in Europe.

BIMBIM creates immersive art experiences offering people to explore themselves in a playful way. The collective combines art, social innovation and mindfulness to create unique, deep & long-term change.



Visions

Berlin poster art scene



Posters in the streets of berlin

VISIONS is an ode to Berlin's nightlife.

Posters placarded all over the public space announce the next club night, but are also the remnants of our introspective visual excursions, soon to disappear under layers of new posters.

VISIONS is a studio re-appropriation of our streets, of our nights - a journey composed of salvaged posters, tickets to our destinations, transformed through paper cuts, paint and collages.



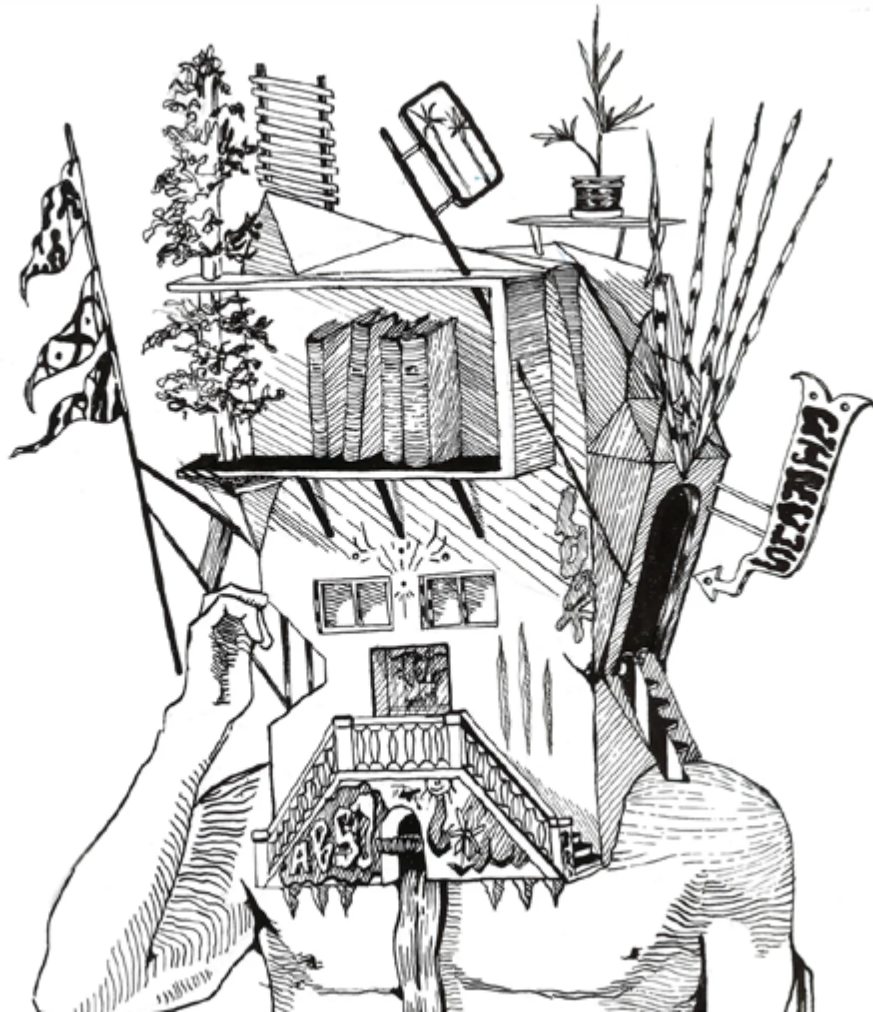
Visions

Series of artworks



Cabans

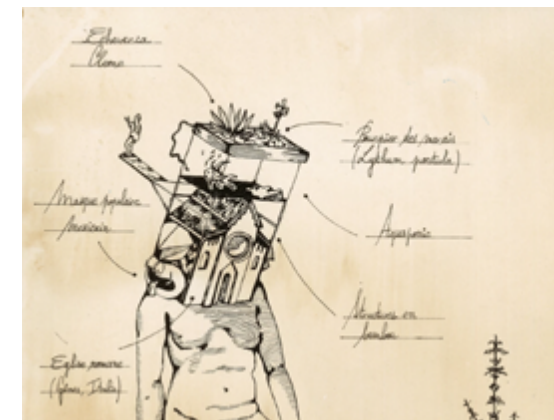
A series of illustrations



Imagining future tribes

In this series "Les Cabanes de l'Imaginaire", I combine the visual elements that stike me on a daily basis and aggregate them onto these ritual masks.

Trying not to forget its roots - both successes and failures - this society of the future therefore appropriates our current cultural elements (architecture, objects, symbols) to constitute its own. In doing so, it incorporates into its' masks an ecosystem logic specific to Nature, capable of proposing interactions between the economic system, the anthroposphere and the biosphere.



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Valentine Emilia Bossert

Portfolio of Selected Works

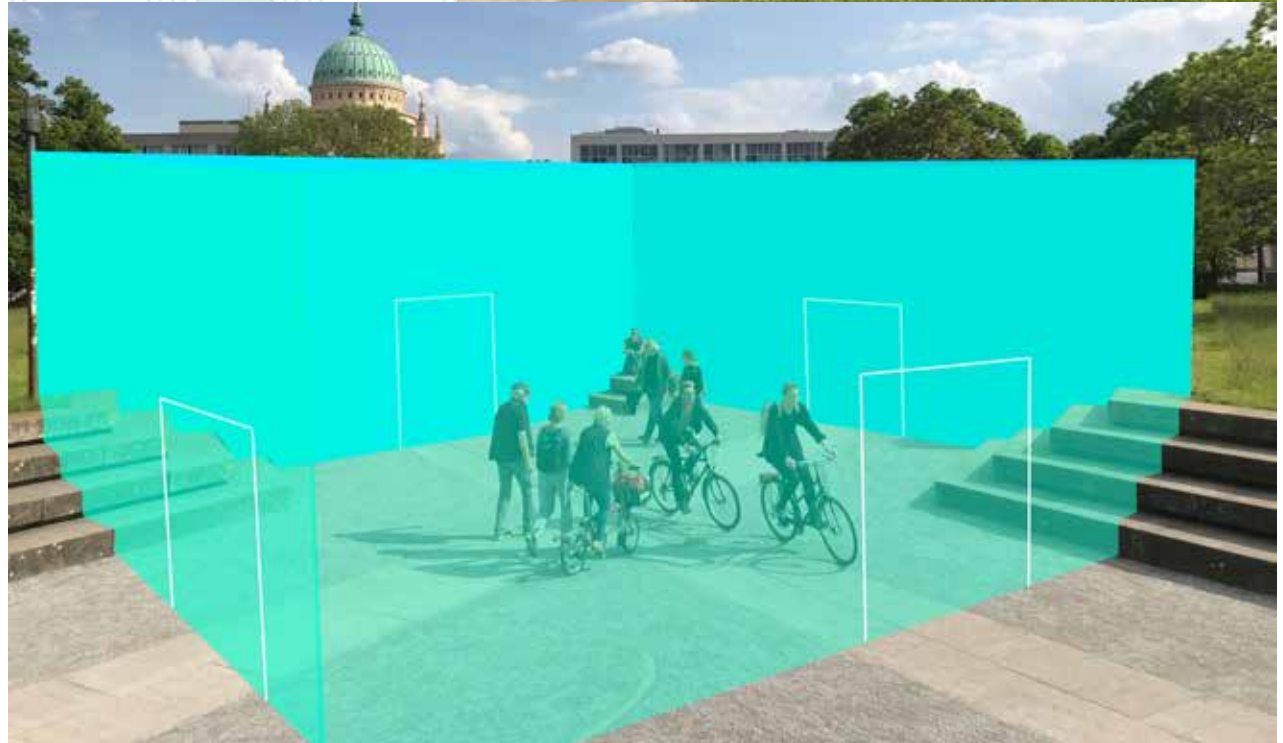
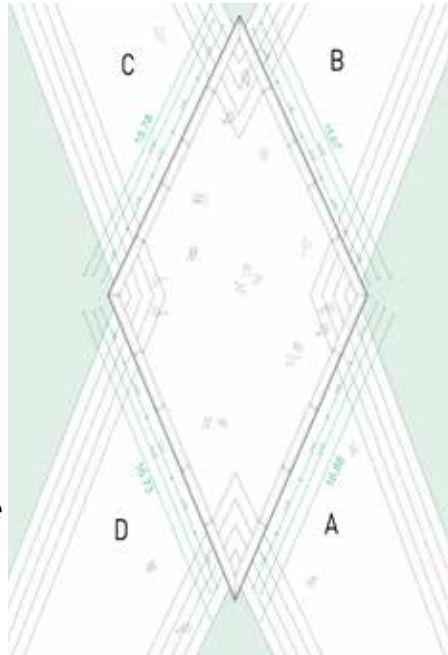


Voidscapes Sculpture, Ceramic, 30x40x10, 2012

neXus

Public installation, Steel, 1500×1600×300cm, 2020 (cancelled)

This public installation was designed for Platz der Einheit in Potsdam in collaboration with artist Amaury Bouquet and Brustudio architecture collective. It was selected for Localize Festival 2020, before being cancelled due to the corona crisis. It consists of a scaffolding structure covered with a reflective surface. It encloses the central space of the square to transform this intersection into a public forum. Its aim was to question visitors about the function of the city centre as a space for civic interactions. It is currently on hold.



Artefacts

Sculpture Series, mixed materials (found objects), various dimensions, 2019–21

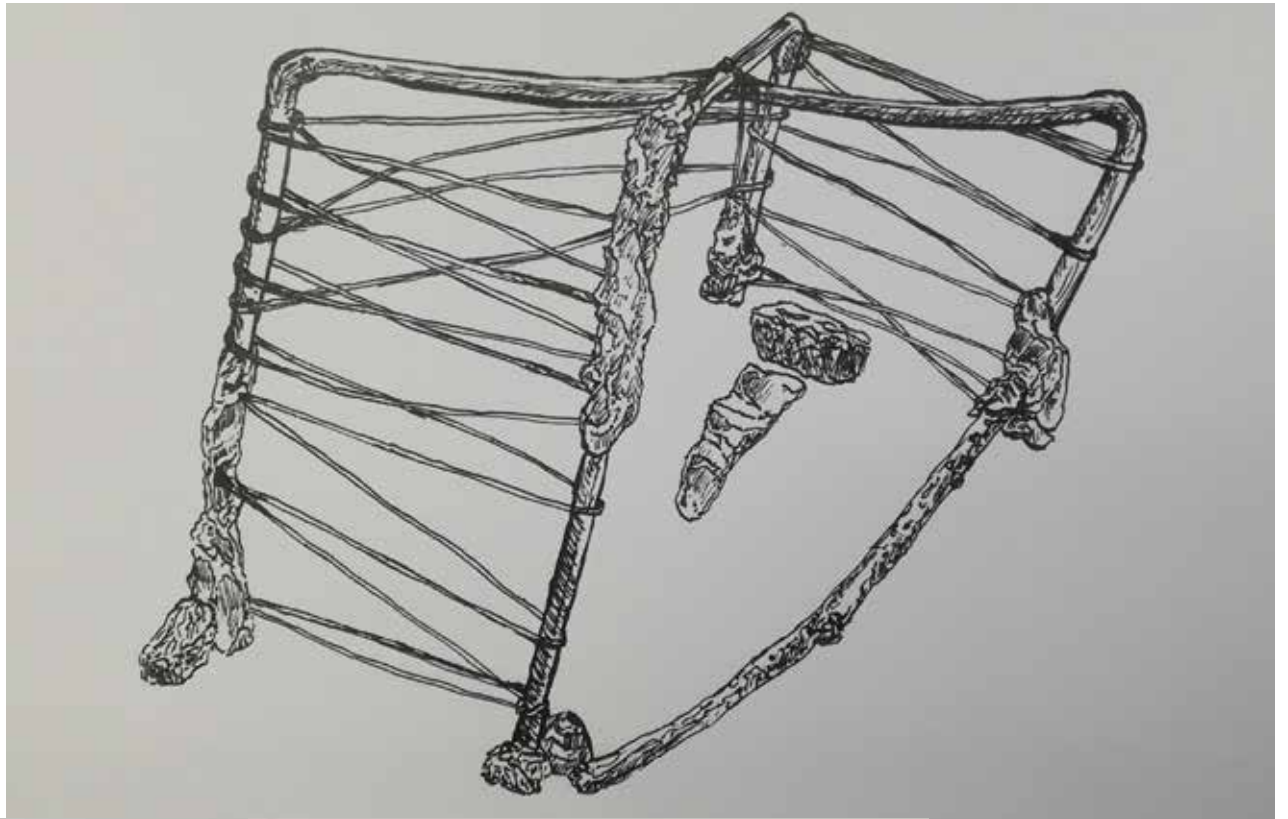
These small architectural structures are fake remnants of utopian cities built with found objects, clay and natural string. I leave them in public space for the passers-by or future archaeologists to find, as a reminder of impermanence and to question the function of art in today's society.



Archeologies

Drawings Series, Ink on paper, 14,8×21cm, 2019–21

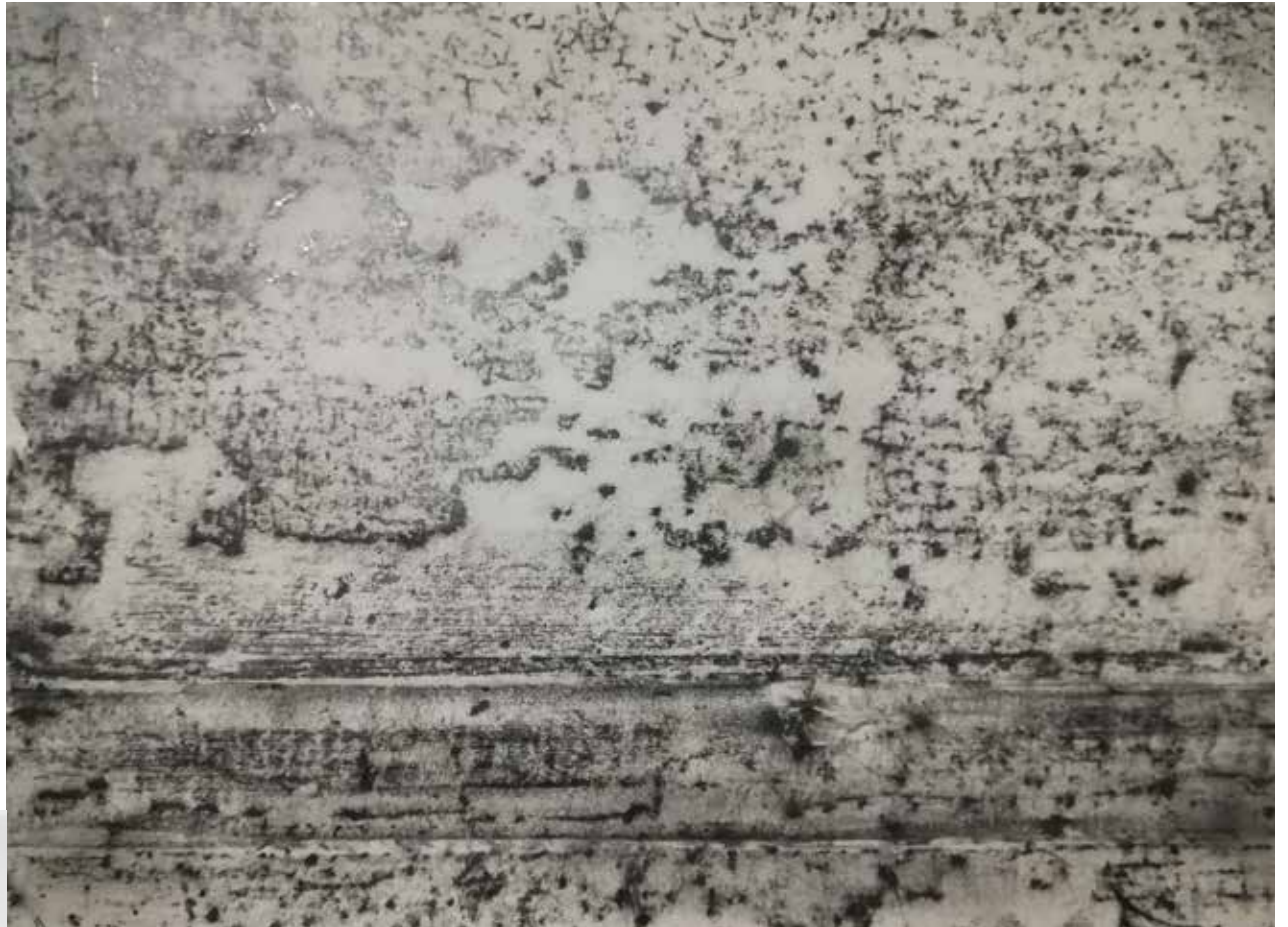
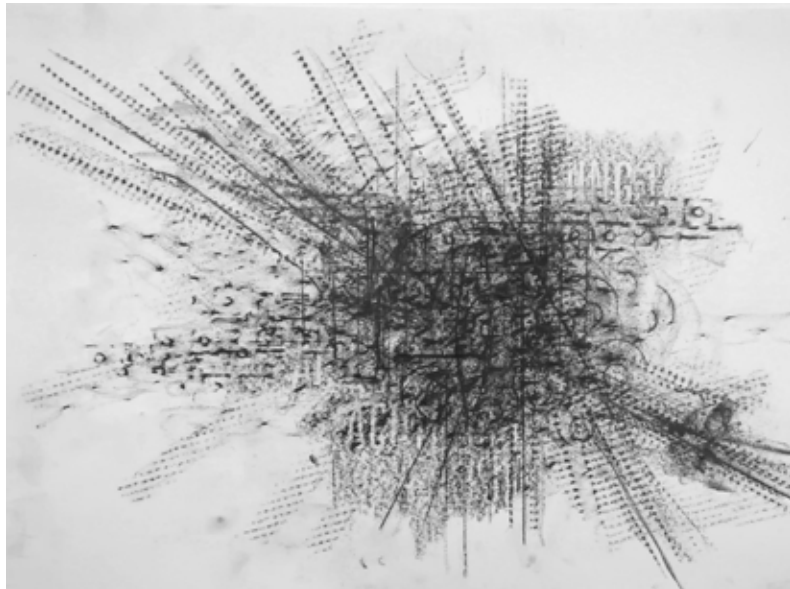
This series of drawings documents fabricated and ephemeral archaeological finds made to merge with their surroundings in public spaces (urban or natural) and to remain largely unnoticed by passers-by before disappearing. Together, they form the archive of a fleeting collection of objects, whose true dimensions are impossible to grasp.



Atlas Temporalis

Drawings Series, Graphite/Charcoal/Pastel on paper,
29,7×42cm, 2020-21

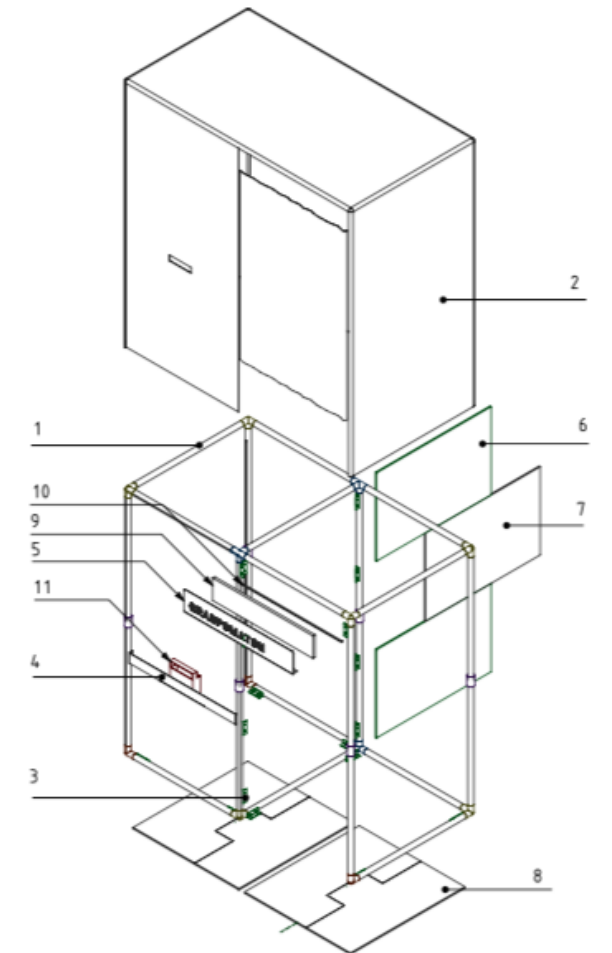
Through a frottage technique on walls, floors or other architectural features, these drawings map the traces that time leaves on the surface of buildings in the form of degradation. It questions our relationship to the urban environment, to history and to our mortality.



Graspomat

Public interactive installation, mixed materials,
200×200×100cm, 2017–21

In this reproduction of the vintage photo booth, a hidden artist creates portraits and gives portraits of visitors sitting in front of a one-way mirror. It is a space for reflection and a special encounter between the artist and the audience, as well as a place where people can spend a moment with themselves as they would in front of a work of art. It is now being developed into a transportable device with the help of industrial designer Maud Perrard.



Liminal Space

Installation, mixed materials, 20×200×300cm, 2019

Liminal Space records ten years of my living spaces. The imprecise floor plans, conceived like old anatomical specimens trapped in resin and placed in an architectural structure, refer both to the fluctuating nature of memory and to the indeterminate definition of home.

