

The First Stone

From Prehistory to the Present

Friday, October 13th — Saturday, November 25th, 2023

Marion Adnams

Anna-Eva Bergman

Christian Bonnefoi

Jonathan Bréchnac

Ithell Colquhoun

Eugène Delacroix

Sidival Fila

Anthony Goicolea

Julio Gonzáles

Gregory Granados

Hans Hartung

La Méditerranée

Nikita Kadan

Per Kirkeby

Kapwani Kiwanga

Troy Makaza

Paul Mignard

Josèfa Ntjam

Vera Pagava

Štefan Papčo

Société Réaliste

Evariste Richer

Sophie Ristelhueber

Edgar Sarin

Hugo Servanin

Djamel Tatah

Georges Tony Stoll

Anna Ternon

Darío Villalba

Kees Visser

Ittah Yoda



Symbolically titled " The First Stone ", the inaugural exhibition of Galerie Poggi's new space brings together contemporary and modern art with several ancient, antique and even prehistoric pieces, thanks to the friendly collaboration of Galerie Chenel, Galerie Kugel and Galerie Carion (Paris), as well as Nicoletti (London), Michel Rein (Paris), Meessen de Clercq (Brussels), RAW - Rediscovering Art, galerie Kugel and galerie Carion (Paris) as well as Nicoletti (London), Michel Rein (Paris), Meessen de Clercq (Brussels), RAW - Rediscovering Art by Women, the Collection de Bueil & Ract-Madoux (Paris) and the complicity of the collective La Méditerranée.

While the title points at the founding act of the gallery's new chapter, the 'first stone' is above all a reference to the importance that stones have had for many artists since the dawn of time – not as a material, but as a subject, or object.

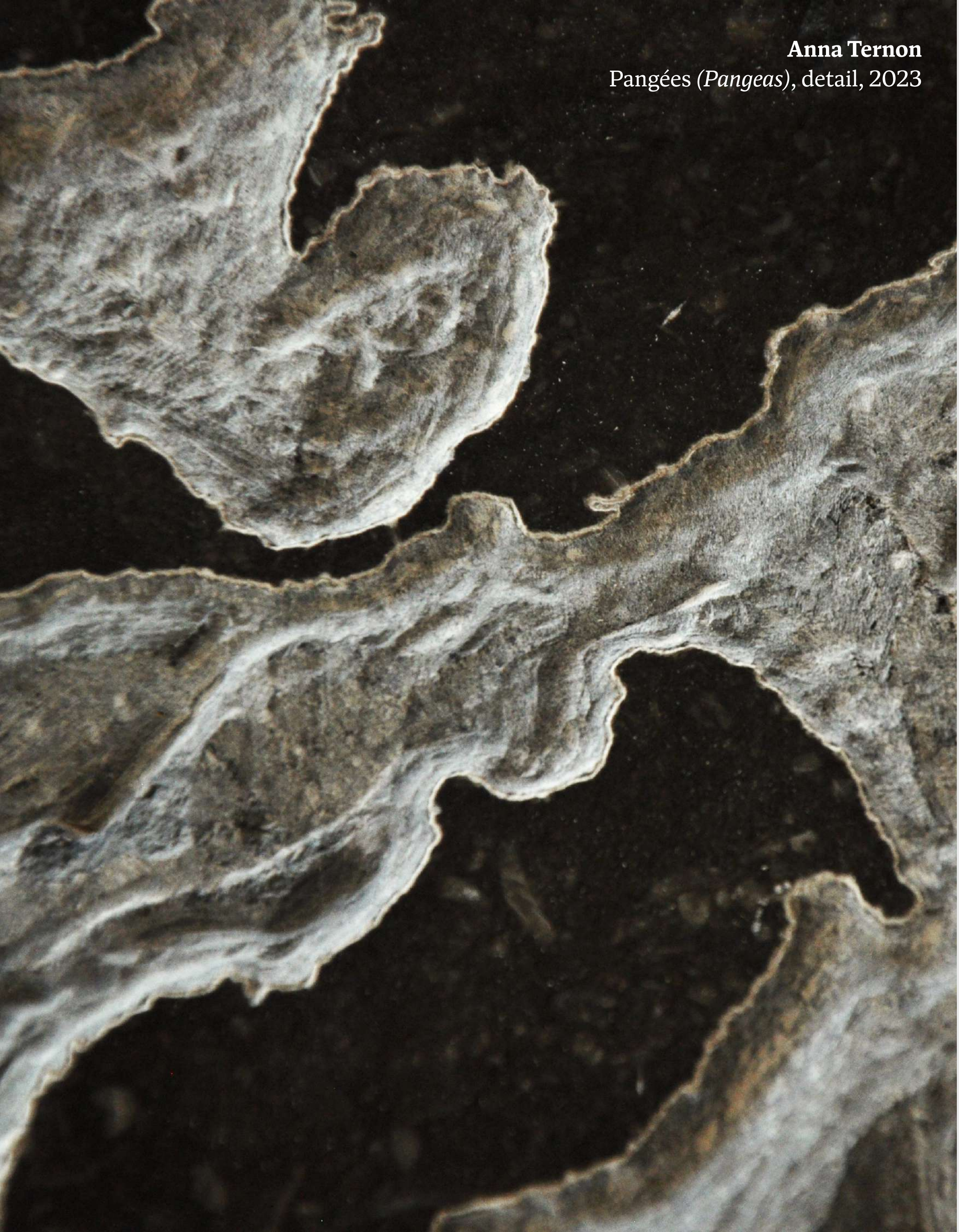
Content

PRESENTATION _____ p. 4 - 5

EXHIBITED WORKS _____ p. 6 - 26

CONTACT & INFORMATIONS _____ p. 27

Anna Ternon
Pangées (*Pangeas*), detail, 2023



This exhibition thus refers to the myth of the ‘first stone’, that primitive stone from which all others would have been born. Indeed, as the poet Francis Ponge wrote, ‘all rocks are born out of scissiparity from the same enormous ancestor’, condemned to perpetual disintegration, until they become sand and then dust. There are many mythological and religious narratives based on the idea of a first stone. This myth of origins comes close to that of the quest for the *prima materia* : namely, the philosopher's stone, whose creation is the goal of alchemy so that to reach absolute consciousness.

It is perhaps this same quest that each of us pursues, by collecting stones, pebbles, or cobbles, with a form of curiosity tinged with fascination and mystery, as well as appropriation and melancholy in the face of this ineluctable crumbling of the mineral world that we hold in our hand, not to mention atavism even, by reviving in this way the most remote ritual gestures of monolithic civilisations.

The exhibition takes as a starting point a rare collection of ‘stones’ by Anna Eva Bergman, mainly from the 1950s, and brings them into a dialogue with further works of modern and contemporary art, as well as several older, ancient, or prehistoric pieces. These especially include the loans of exceptional 17th-century painted stones from the Galerie Kugel, Greco-Roman stones from the Galerie Chenel, and prehistoric cut stones from a private mineralogy gallery, alongside rare meteorites.

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All these artefacts are displayed next to contemporary works by most of the artists with whom the gallery has been collaborating (Sophie Ristelhueber, Djamel Tatah, Georges Tony Stoll, Kapwani Kiwanga, Troy Makaza, Paul Mignard, Ittah Yoda, Josèfa Ntjam, etc.), as well as guest artists (Anna Ternon, Edgar Sarin, Hugo Servanin, Jonathan Bréchignac, etc.), and further great names from the history of art (Eugène Delacroix, Hans Hartung, Julio Gonzáles, etc.).

This exceptional project was achieved in close collaboration with partner galleries, including Galerie Kugel, Galerie Chenel and Galerie Carion (Paris) as well as Nicoletti (London), Michel Rein (Paris), Meessen de Clercq (Bruxelles), RAW - Rediscovering Art by Women, the Collection de Bueil & Ract-Madoux (Paris) and the complicity of the collective La Méditerranée.

Djamel Tatah

Untitled (Inv. 16002), 2016



Exhibited works

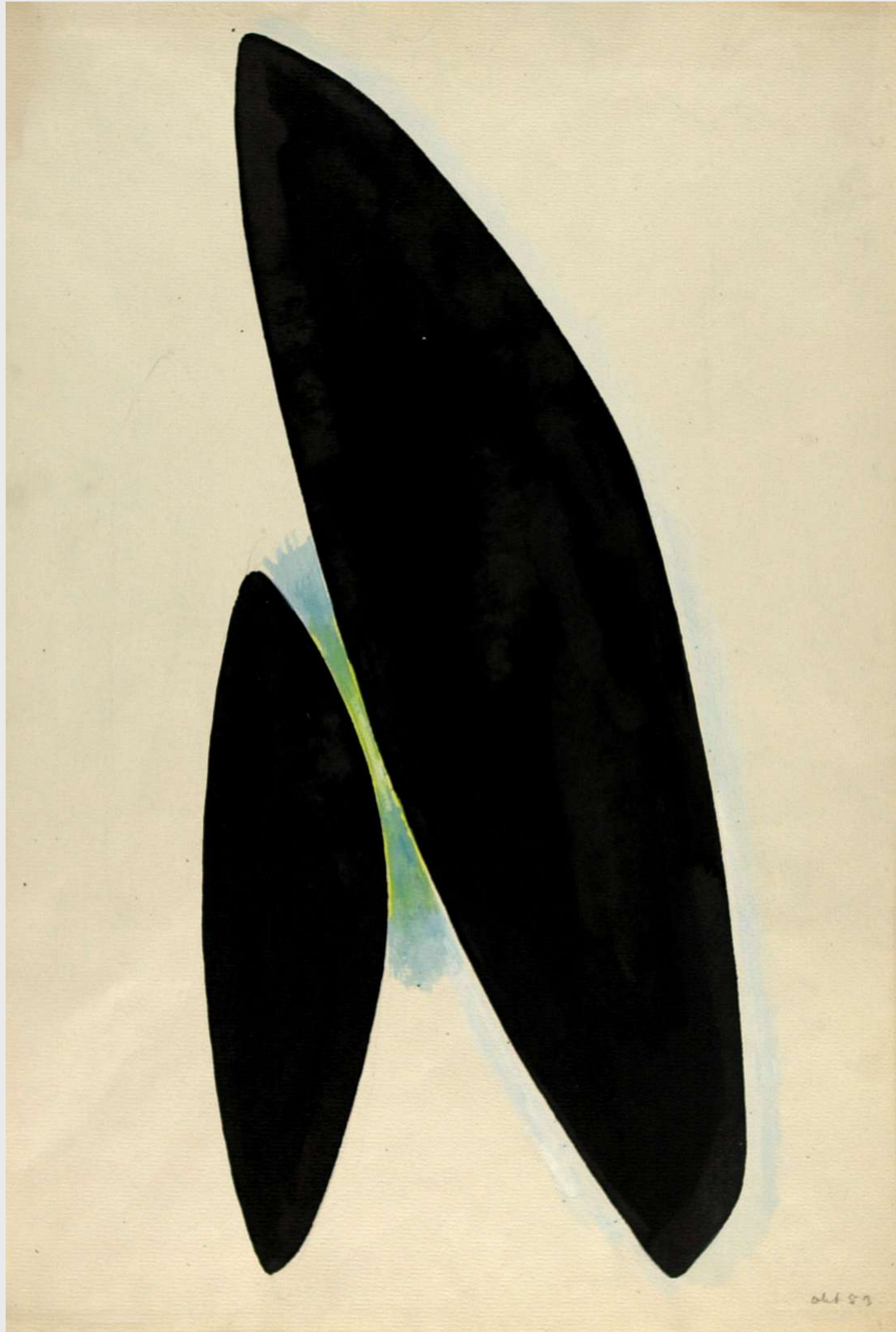
Selection

Anna-Eva Bergman
N°22-1973 Deux rochers séparés, 1973

Acrylic and metal leaf on canvas
81 x 65 cm

Courtesy Fondation Hartung-Bergman, Antibes / Galerie Poggi, Paris

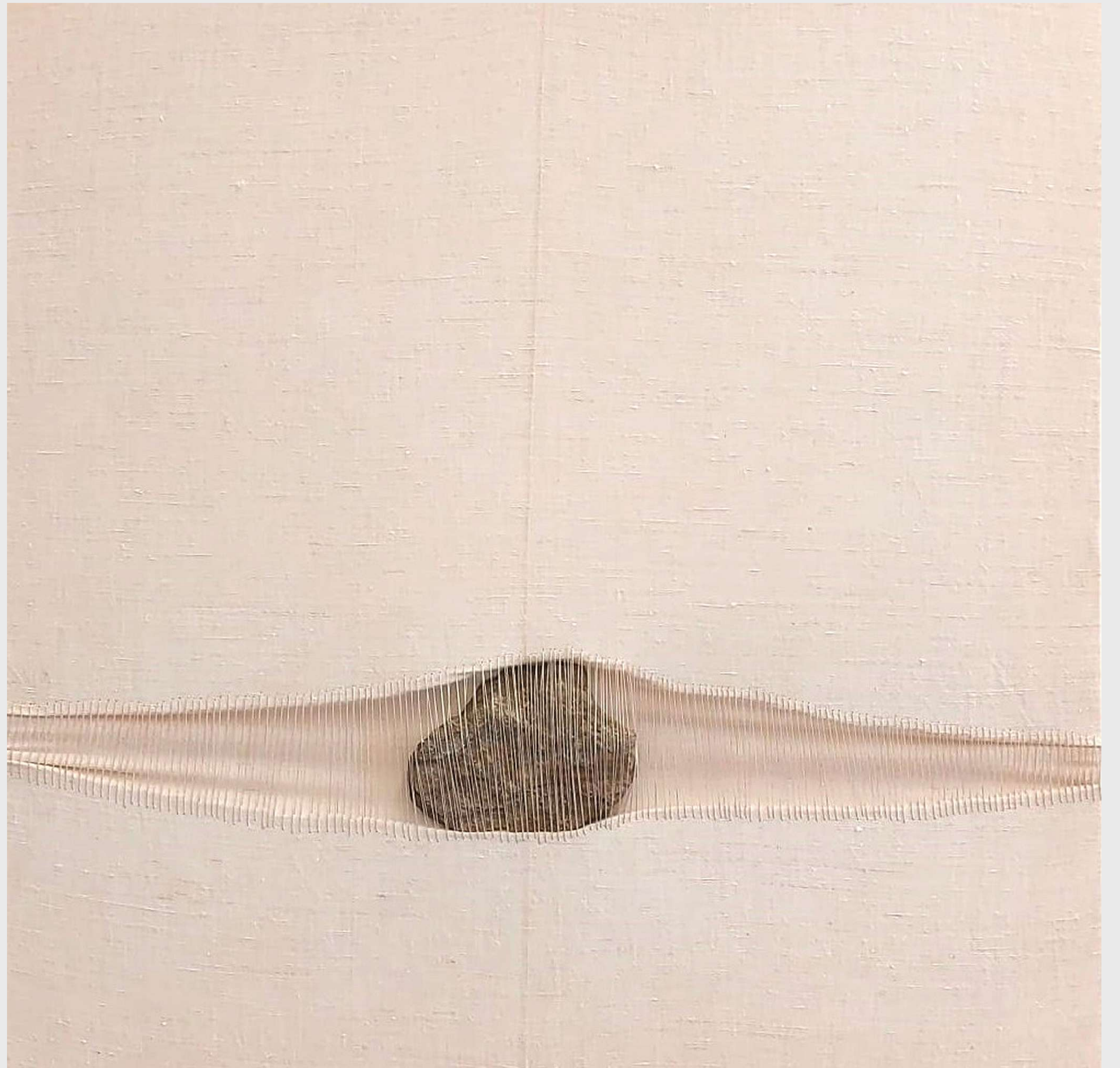




Anna-Eva Bergman
Untitled, 1952

Tempera on Ingres paper
43 x 29 cm
Courtesy Fondation Hartung-Bergman, Antibes / Galerie Poggi, Paris

Sidival Fila
Senza Titolo Pietra Cucita, 2023
Antique linen with quilted stone, on frame
55 x 55 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris





Marion Adnams

A Candle of Understanding in Thine Heart, 1964

Tempera on board
58,4 x 48,2 cm

Sophie Ristelhueber
WB #22, 2005

Color silver print mounted on aluminum, framed
120 x 150 cm
Edition of 3 plus 1 Artist's Proof
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris





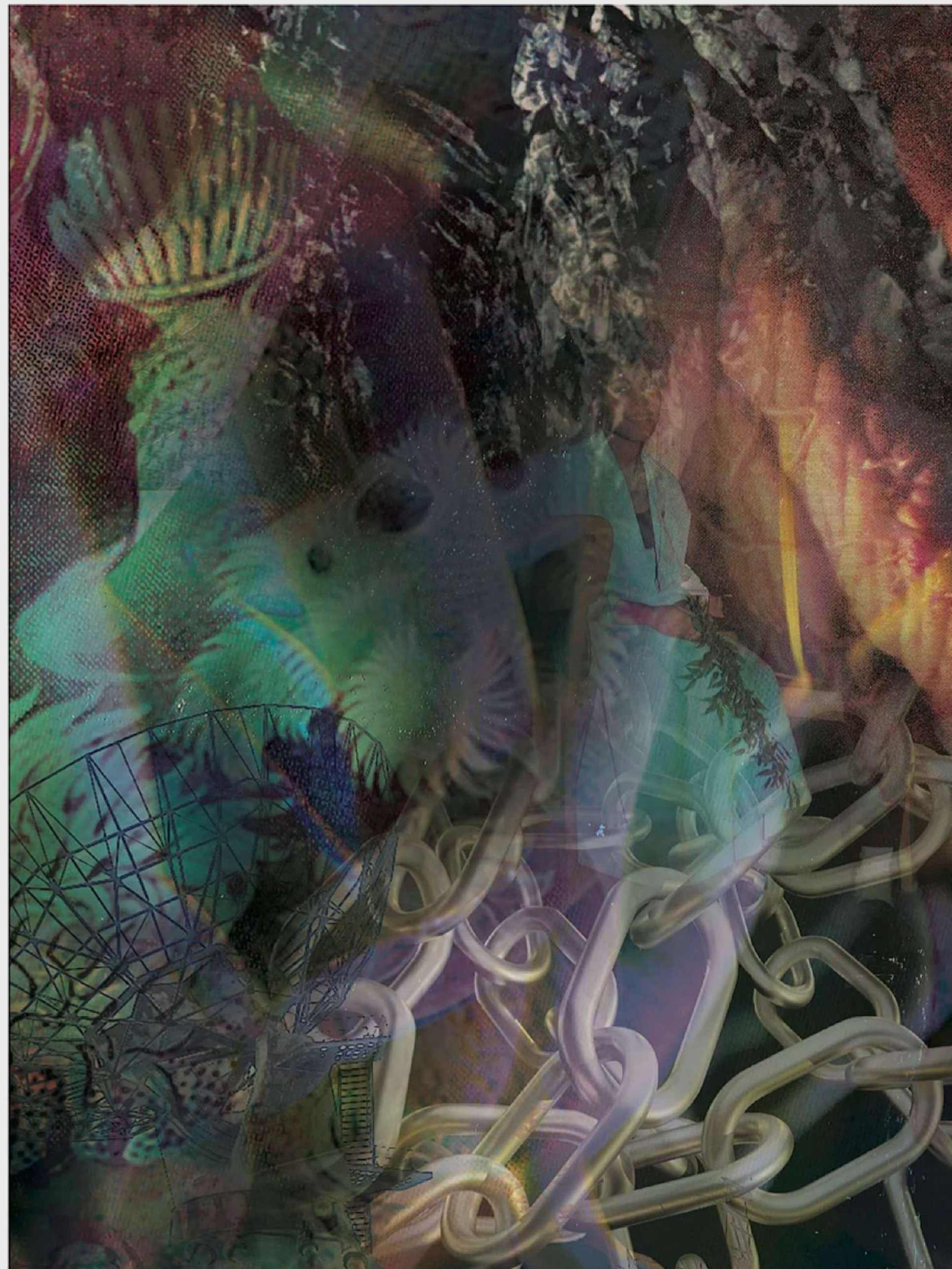
Julio González

Tête de Femme Couchée I, entre 1934 et 1936

Montnyon stone sculpture
18 x 22 x 17 cm

Josèfa Ntjam
Through the Cave, 2021

Photomontage printed by sublimation on aluminum
100 x 70 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris





Ithell Colquhoun
La Cathédrale Engoutie, 1952

Oil and traces of charcoal on canvas
130 x 194 cm

Anonyme
Stèle, IVth century BC

Greek marble sculpture
66 x 35 x 20 cm
Courtesy Galerie Chenel, Paris





Djamel Tatah

Untitled (Inv. 16002), 2016

Signed and dated on the back

Oil paint and wax on canvas

180 x 160 cm

Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris

Eugène Delacroix
Two studies of a naked man crouching on a stone, 1860

Pen and brown ink on paper
Dated lower left '31 Janvier 60'.
20 x 13 cm (with frame 34 x 42 cm)
De Bueil & Ract-Madoux Collection, Paris





Jonathan Bréchnac
Alien Rock 073, 2021

Recycled materials, resin, pigments, plastic, concrete,
synthetic plaster, phosphorescent powder
35 x 18 x 10 cm

Anthony Goicolea
The Pianist, 2023

Acrylic and graphite on Mylar film
91.4 x 76.2 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris





Evariste Richer
En attendant la foudre, 2019

Fossilized turtle, copper bar
313 x 32 x 28 cm

Georges Tony Stoll
Signatures, 2023

Silver print, Diptych
120 x 160 cm (120 x 80 cm x 2)
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris



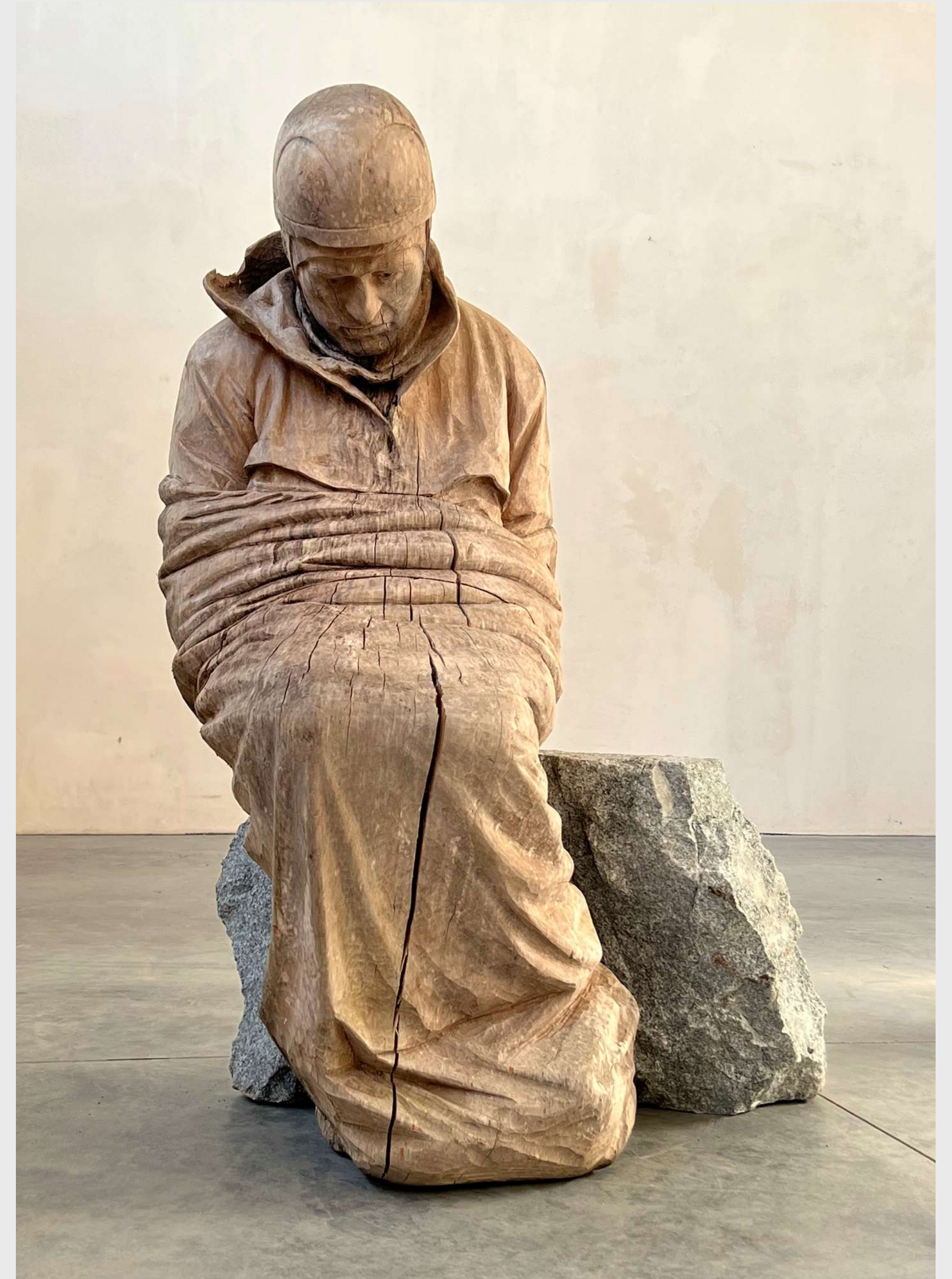


Vera Pagava
Untitled, 1964

Oil on canvas
73 x 92 cm
Courtesy of the Cultural Asso and Galerie Poggi, Paris

Stefan Papco
Igor (Citizens series), 2012

Wood sculpture, granite stone
132 x 50 x 70 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Poggi, Paris





Anonyme

Sepulchre of Prosdokia, 4th - 5th century

Marble sculpture

22,5 x 22,5 x 4 cm

Courtesy Galerie Chenel, Paris



Troy Makaza
Doilies 1, 2023

Silicone infused with pigments
152 x 118 cm
Courtesy de l'artiste et de la Galerie Poggi, Paris



Anna Ternon
Pangées, 2023

Engraving on limestone (Bleu de Hainaut)
18 x 18 x 2 cm
Courtesy de l'artiste et de la Galerie Poggi, Paris

PREVIEW

Thursday, October 12th, 2023
2 pm to 10 pm
Upon invitation only

PUBLIC OPENING

Friday, October 13, 2023
2 pm to 10 pm

VIEWING ROOM

The First Stone
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CONTACT

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