# EXPO CHICAGO

Thursday, April 10th — Sunday, April 14th, 2024

Booth 302

Anthony Goicolea Josèfa Ntjam

IN/SITU

Curated by Amara Antilla

Josèfa Ntjam

The project takes a curatorial approach, focusing on the symbolism of water in Goicolea's paintings and its reflection of broader themes in his practice. Goicolea explores water's reflective qualities, symbolizing introspection and societal reflection, as well as the unsettling deformations it implies.

Water bodies, which he highlights as being transitional spaces, are the setting for crossings, both personal and political. His personal experiences as a queer Cuban-American lend depth to these explorations, which also carry universal significance, evoking images of migrant crises and humanitarian tragedies.

Ntjam's small photomontages offer an echo to this examination of water. They evoke an opulent universe where, where by making the micro and the macro coexist, documentations of historical events and representations of ancient African deities merge with a vast array of abstract cellular forms and aquatic elements. These collisions allow for inspiration to be drawn from nature's collective modes of organisation to instigate new ways of resistance and revolt.

## IN/SITU

Josefa Ntjam's presented work is a site-specific, immersive installation, composed of a film that premiered in her solo show at Fondation Pernod Ricard (FR), which is centered around the figure of Marthe Moumié, a central, female, figure of Cameroon's independence.

The work consists of a video of a plant-human hybrid cyborg reciting the ingredients for medicinal elixirs intended to incite revolution in the consumer.

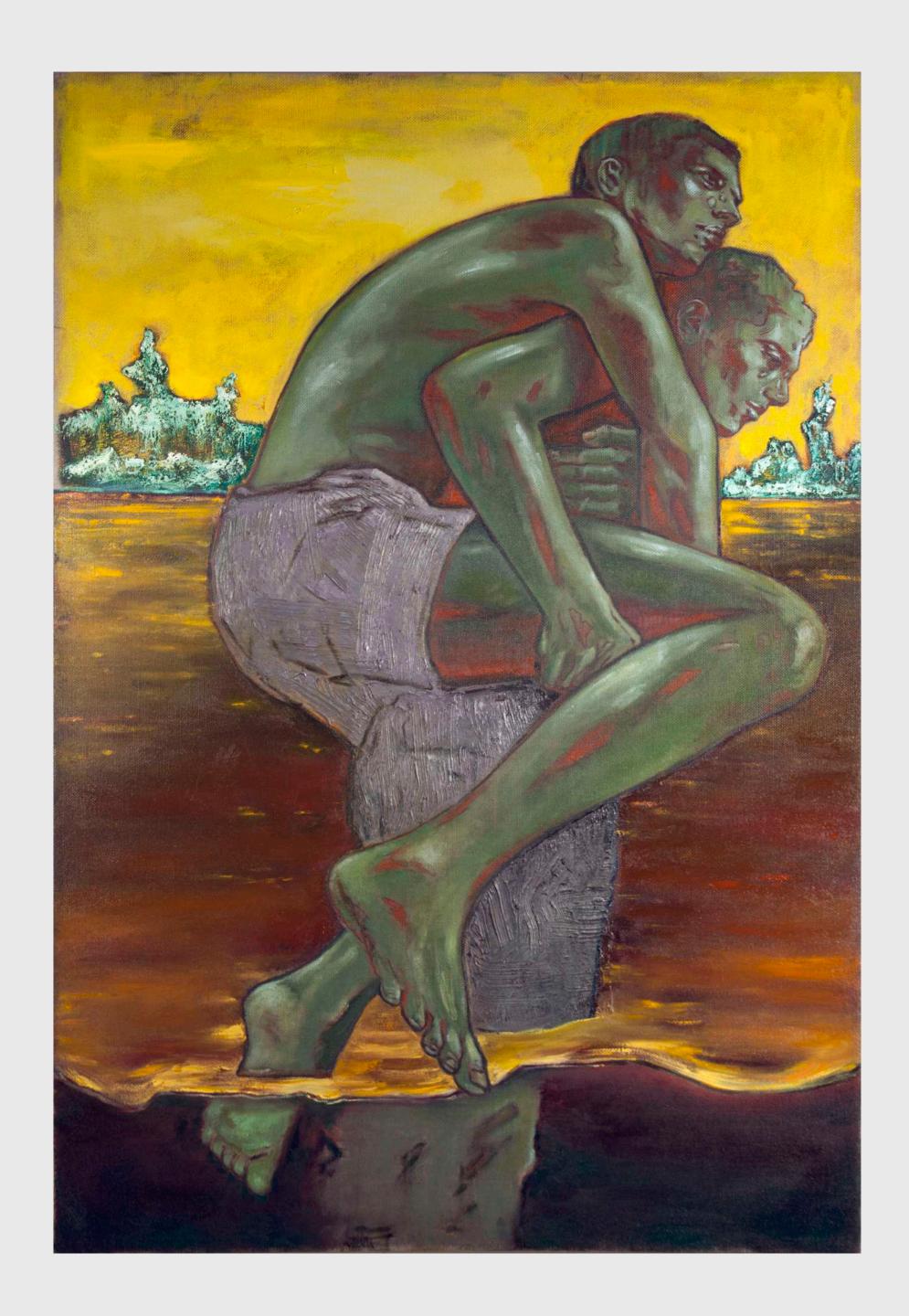
The narrator's veiled face resembles traditional African mask motifs, but also the patterned camouflage found throughout the natural world, a strategy employed by both plants and animals intended to disguise and evade danger.

Born in 1971 in Atlanta, Georgia, Anthony Goicolea is a first-generation Cuban American artist now living and working in Brooklyn, New York. Employing a variety of media, Goicolea explores themes ranging from personal history and identity, to cultural tradition and heritage, to alienation and displacement.

Whether in his photographs, for which he gained quick recognition in the 2000s, or his paintings, to which he has been fully dedicated since 2019, Anthony Goicolea's works bear witness to a slightly distorted and disturbing reality. Their strangeness, or even absurdity, and sometimes anachronism, are not necessarily revealed at first glance, giving them a dreamlike, even mythological dimension. Drawing from his personal history or that of his family who fled Cuba when Fidel Castro came to power, Goicolea depicts the fragility and resilience of characters who are often solitary, whom he represents in ambiguous situations that call into question their identity, their gender, or their social and cultural alienation.

Anthony Goicolea has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions in the United States, Canada, Europe and Asia, including the Museum of Contemporary Photography (Chicago, IL), the Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.), the International Center of Photography (New York City, NY), the Groningen Museum (Groningen, NL) and also the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia (Madrid, ESP), and the Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain de Strasbourg.

The works of Goicolea are part of many public collections, including those of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and the Museum of Modern Art (New York City, NY), as well as those of the Yale University Art Collection (New Haven, CT), the North Carolina Museum of Art (Raleigh, NC) and the Telfair Museums (Savannah, GA).



Anthony Goicolea Meridian, 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 86.4 x 127 cm



**Anthony Goicolea** First Blush, 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 182.9 x 165.1 cm



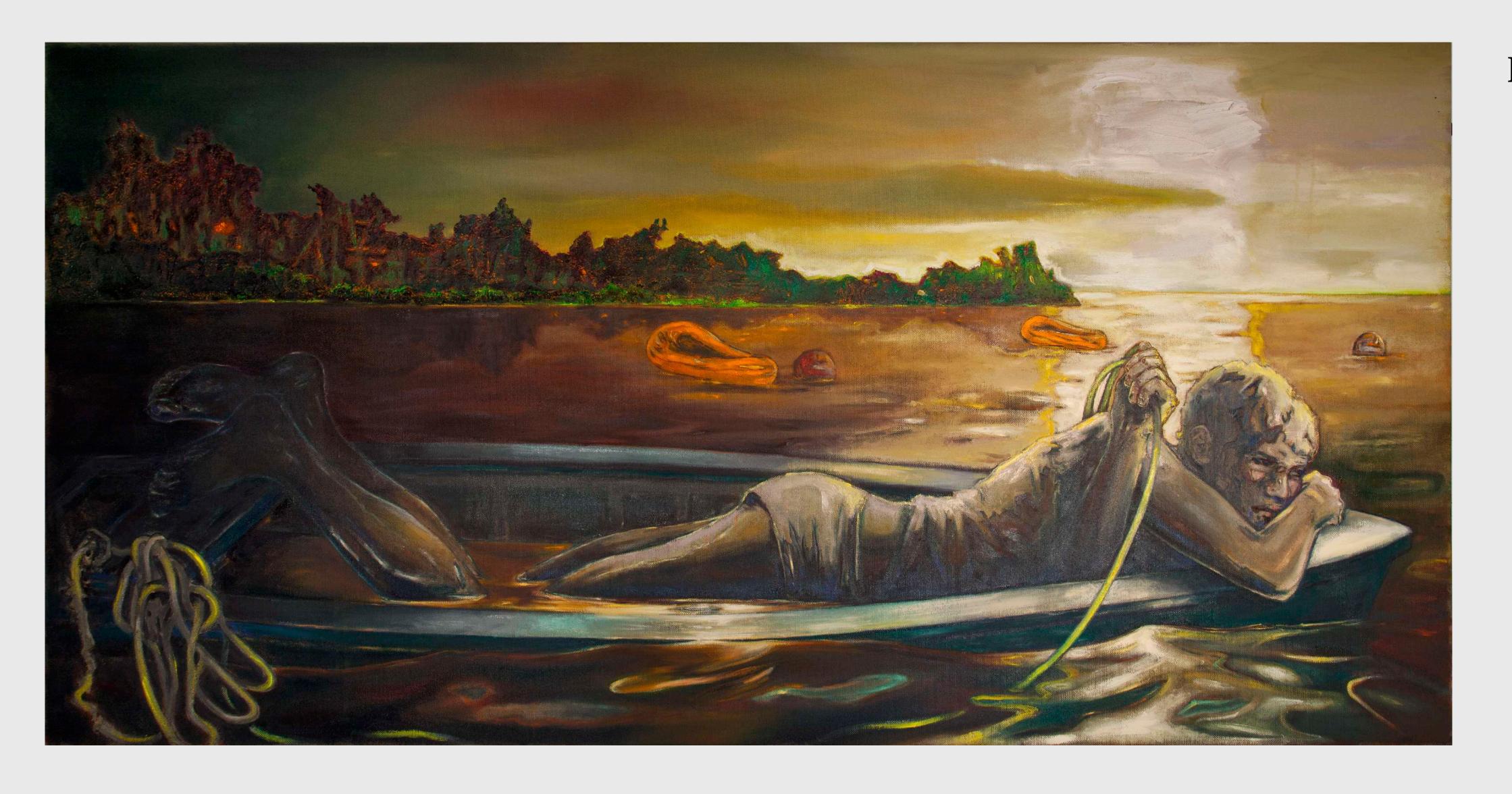
Anthony Goicolea The Mothers, 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 152.4 cm x 208.3 cm



**Anthony Goicolea** *Rusty Waters*, 2024

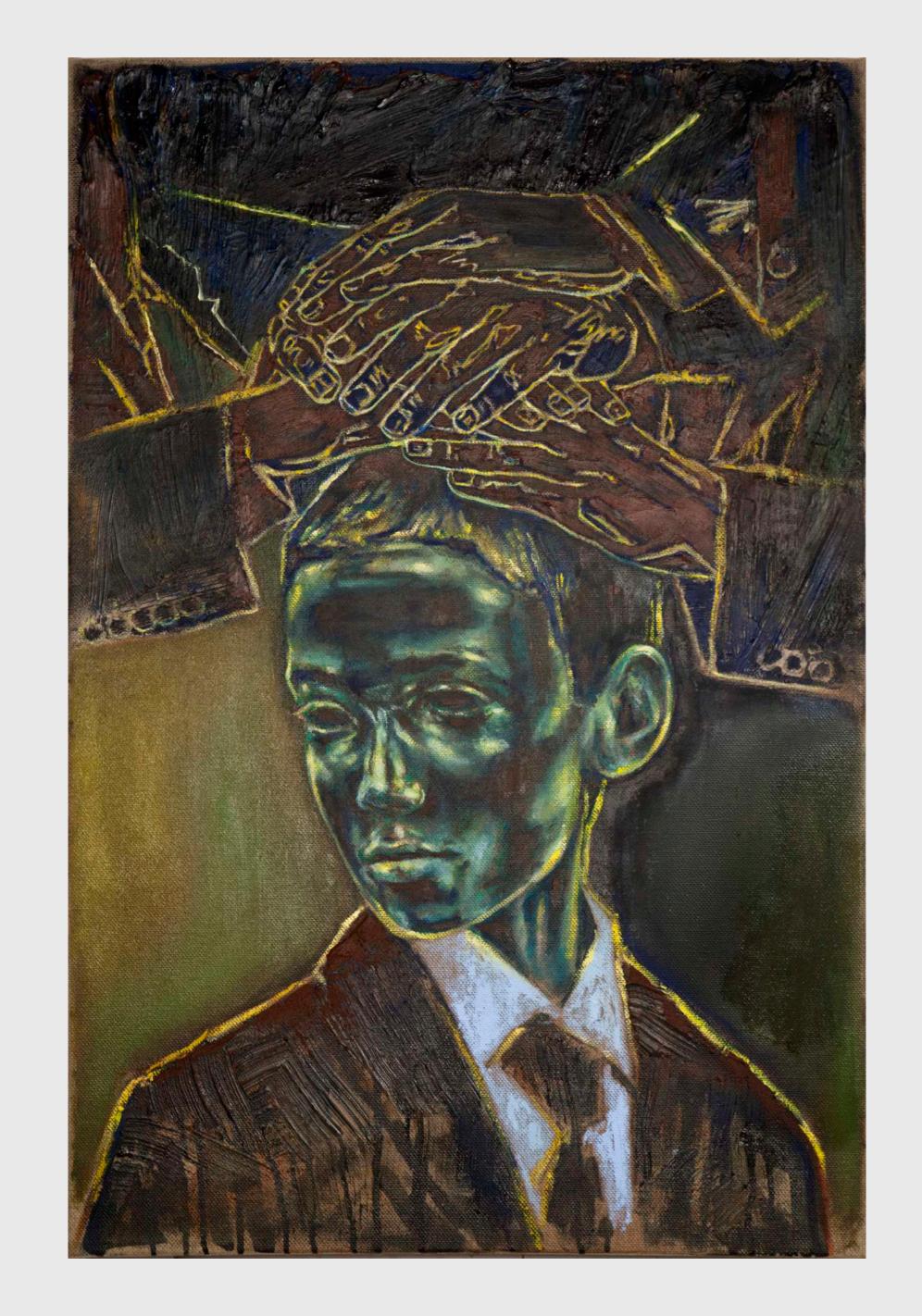
Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 152.4 x 203.2 cm



#### **Anthony Goicolea** *High Water,* 2024

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Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 101.6 x 203.2 cm



**Anthony Goicolea** *Idol*, 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 61 x 91.5 cm



**Anthony Goicolea** *Ritual,* 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 86 x 63 cm



**Anthony Goicolea** Foil Blanket with Fire, 2024

Oil on Raw Linen Canvas 45.7 x 152.4 cm

## Josèfa Ntjam

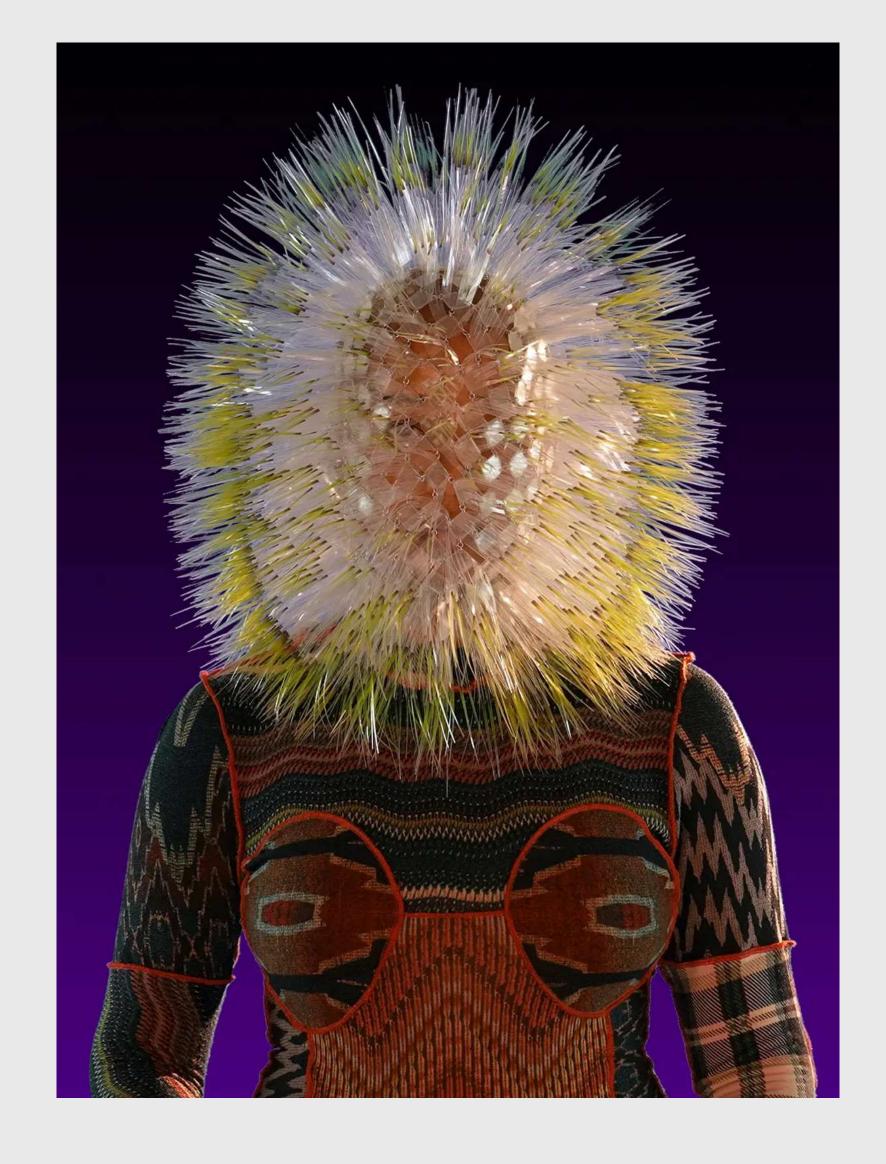
Josèfa Ntjam is an artist, performer and writer whose practice combines sculpture, photomontage, video and sound. Drawing analogies between cosmic, geological and mental processes, Ntjam draws raw material for her work from biology, mythology, science fiction and photographic archives, reworking history from personal and minoritarian narratives.

In particular, she uses assemblage – of images, words, sounds and stories – as a method for deconstructing the grand narratives that underpin hegemonic discourses on origin, identity and race.

Josèfa Ntjam was born in 1992 in Metz, France, and currently lives and works in Saint-Étienne, France. She studied in Amiens, France, and Dakar, Senegal (Université Cheikh Anta Diop), and is a graduate of the École nationale supérieure d'art de Bourges, France (2015), and the École nationale supérieure d'art de Paris-Cergy, France (2017).

Josèfa Ntjam has already benefited from numerous solo exhibitions in several institutions, including **Fotografiska New York**, USA (2024); the **60th Venice Biennale** (**collateral event with LAS Foundation**) (forthcoming), Venice, IT (2024); **LVMH Métiers d'Art**, FR (2024); **Fondation Pernod-Ricard, Paris**, FR (2023); **The Photographers' Gallery**, London, UK (2022); **FACT**, Liverpool, UK (2022); **CAC La Traverse**, Alfortville, FR (2022); **Hordaland Art Center**, Bergen, NO (2019).

Ntjam's work and performances have been presented in international museums and exhibitions, including **LUMA**, Arles, FR (performance, 2022); **Centre Pompidou Metz**, FR (2022); **Stedelijk Museum**, Amsterdam, NL (performance, 2022); **Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center**, USA (2022); **Mucem**, Marseille, FR (2021); **Palais de Tokyo**, Paris, FR (2020-21); **Centre Pompidou**, Paris, FR (2020); **WIELS**, Brussels, BE (2020), etc. In 2023, she was awarded the first **Fluxus - CPGA (Comité professionnel des galeries d'art) Prize.** 

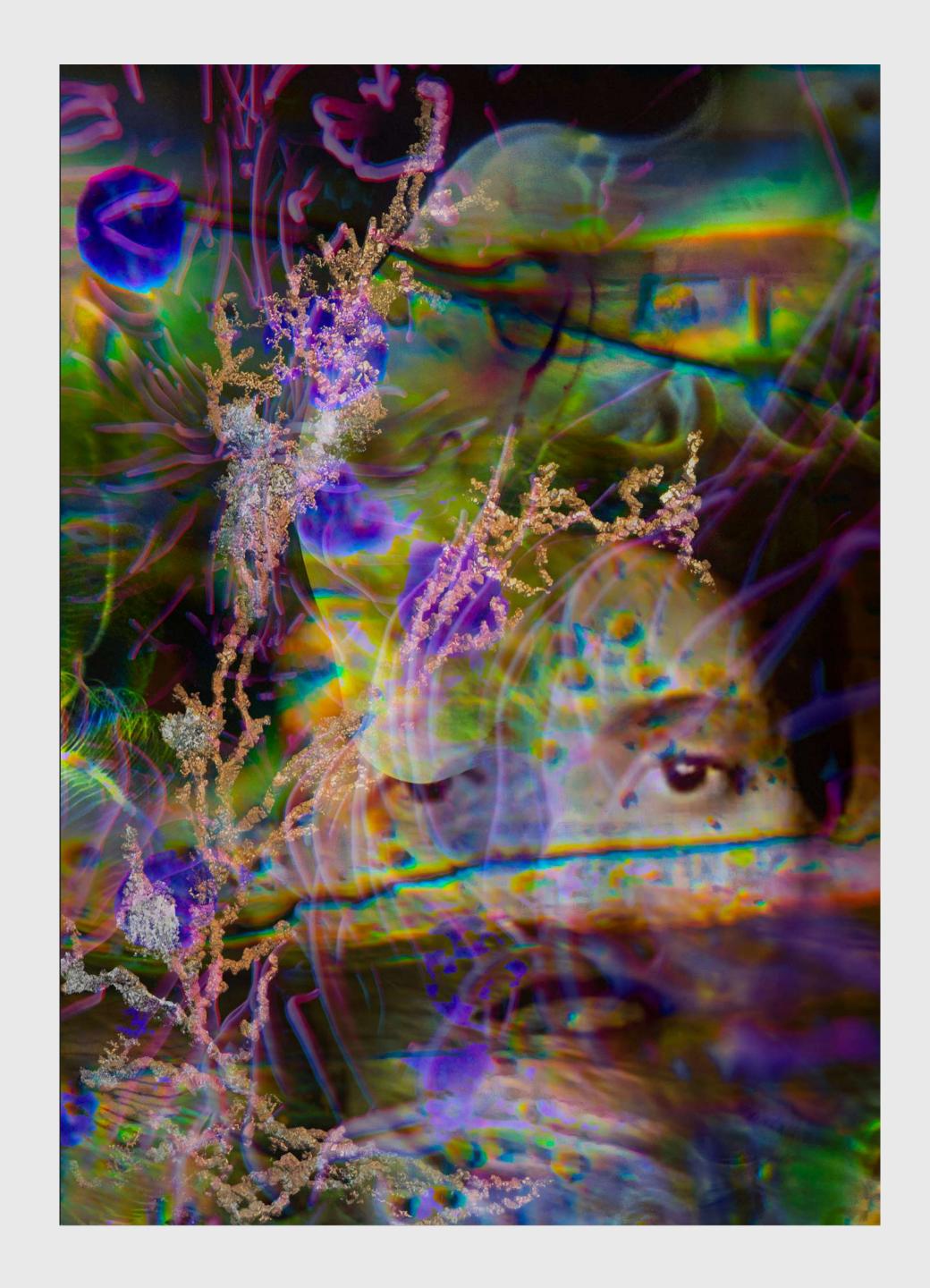




Titled after Paul Auster's 1987 dystopian novel, the 2024 IN/SITU section presents site-responsive and large-scale work in installation, painting, photography, sculpture, sound, and video by fifteen artists examining the precarious nature of contemporary life. The exhibition explores themes of systemic economic failure, ecological instability, and political dissolution. In this context, Josèfa Ntjam presents a site-specific, immersive installation, composed of a film that premiered in her solo show at Fondation Pernod Ricard (FR), which is centered around the figure of Marthe Moumié, a central, female, figure of Cameroon's independence.

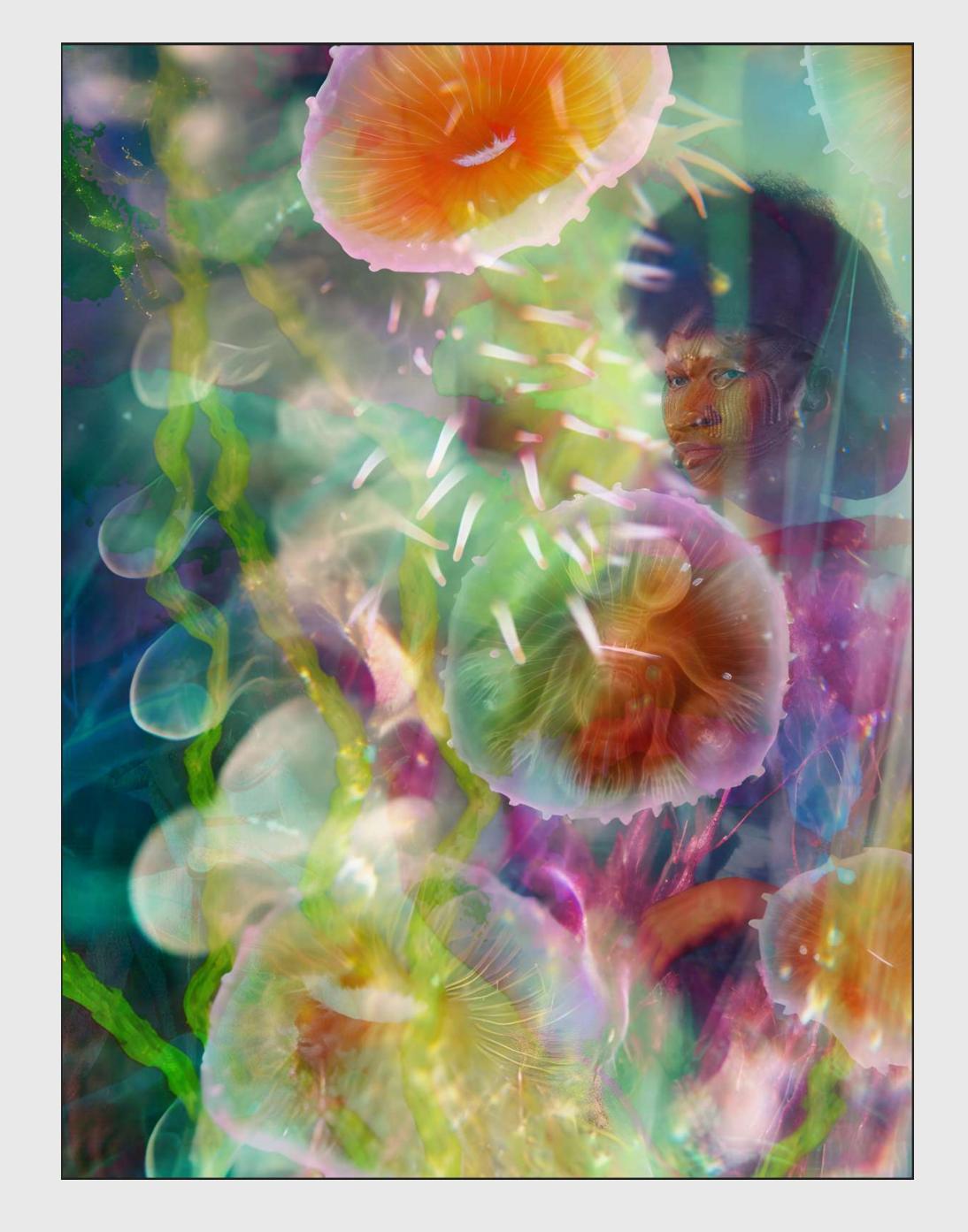
**Josèfa Ntjam** *Marthe, matter gone wild,* 2023

Color video, with sound 3'30 min



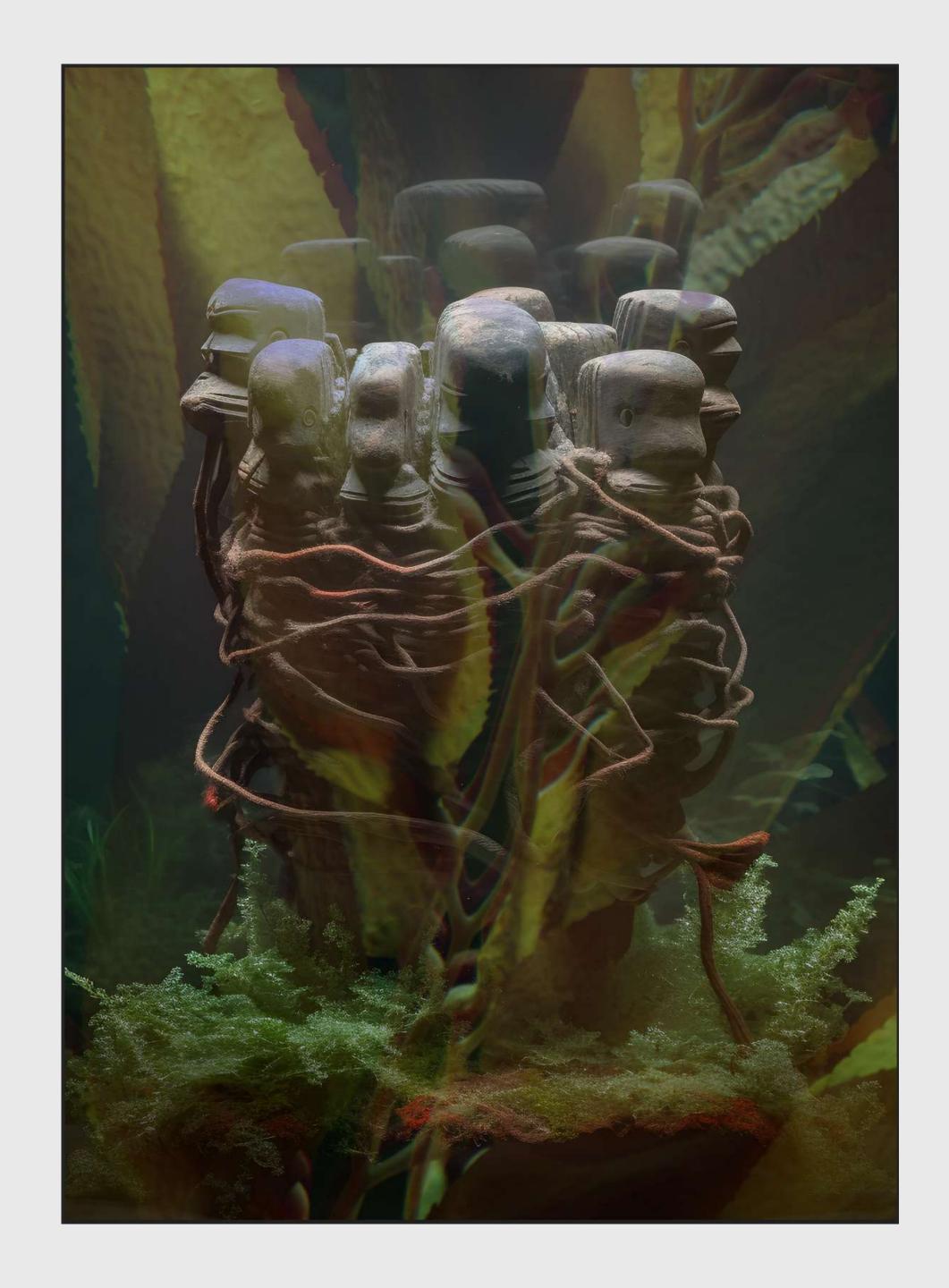
**Josèfa Ntjam** *Molecular Genealogies*, 2024

Print on paper, double plexiglass collage  $40 \times 30 \times 4$  cm



**Josèfa Ntjam** Fish Tank Family, 2024

Print on paper, double plexiglass collage 40 x 30 x 4 cm



**Josèfa Ntjam** *Drexciya*, 2024

Print on paper, double plexiglass collage  $40\,\mathrm{x}\,30\,\mathrm{x}\,4\,\mathrm{cm}$ 



Josèfa Ntjam Lily Pollen in Times of Independences #2, 2021

Photomontage printed on Lama Li paper with bark and resin  $42 \times 29 \text{ cm}$ 



**Josèfa Ntjam** *Lily Pollen in Times of Independences #3*, 2021

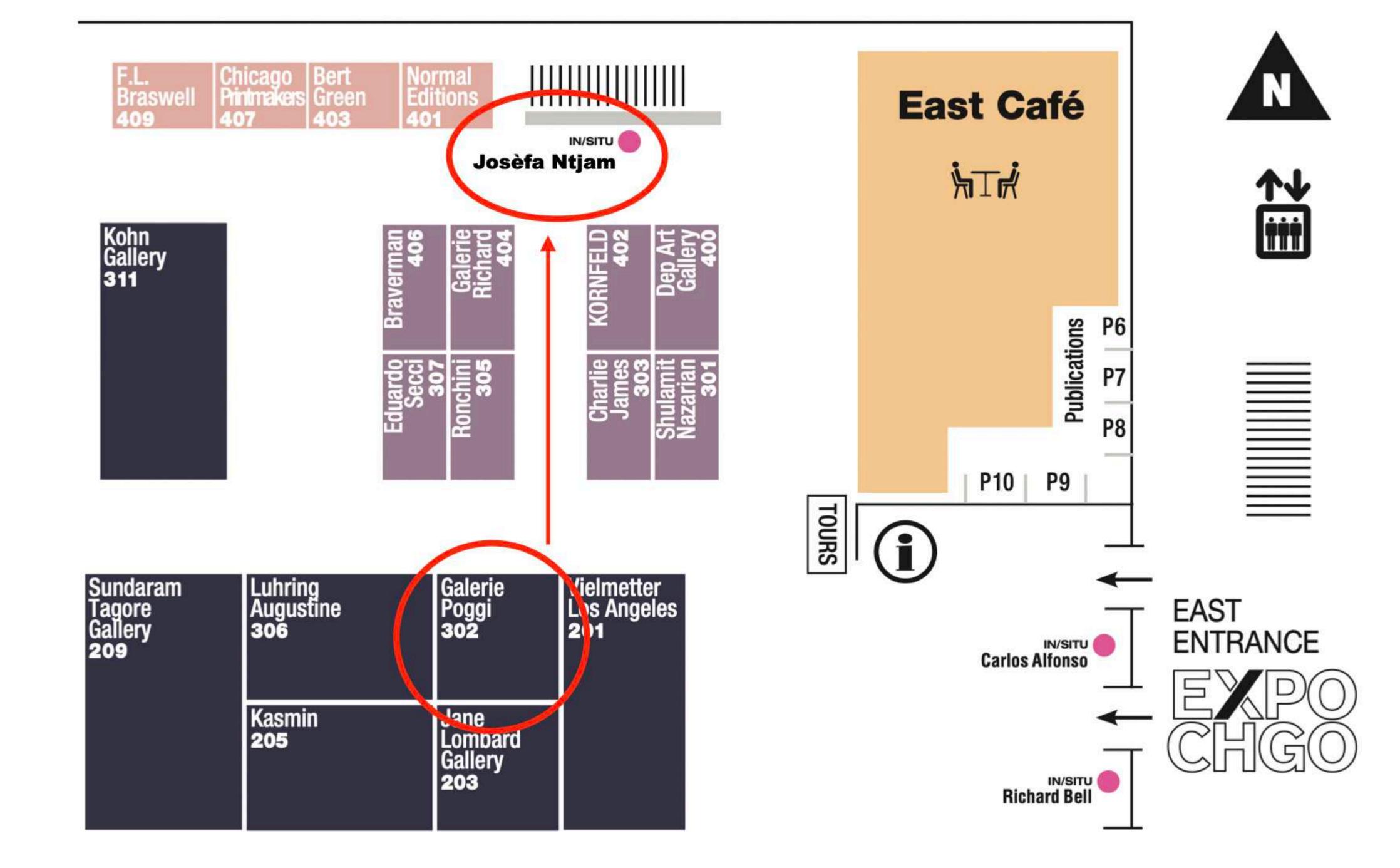
Photomontage printed on Lama Li paper with bark and resin  $42 \times 29 \, \text{cm}$ 



**Josèfa Ntjam**Lily Pollen in Times of Independences #15, 2021

Photomontage printed on Lama Li paper with bark and resin  $42 \times 29 \text{ cm}$ 

### **ACCESS**





#### **VIP PREVIEW (BY INVITATION ONLY)**

Thursday, April 11th, 2024 Noon - 9 pm

#### **PUBLIC OPENING**

Friday, April 12th, 2024 : 11 am – 7 pm Saturday, April 13th, 2024 : 11 am – 7 pm Sunday, April 14th, 2024 : 11 am – 6 pm

#### **VIEWING ROOM**

Click here

#### CONTACTS

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