Portfolio Maksim Klopfstein

2023

Thesis: Spells of Rebirth

Reference person for further information:

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Kinship,Cycles & Environmental bodies

Community to me means to acknowledge and establish kinship with each other which goes beyond human connection.
How can we use storytelling as a form of feminist practice to de-marginalize, de-colonize our collective, societal consciousness and construct new narratives of how we could live together in symbiotic relationship between human, more-than-human and the earth?

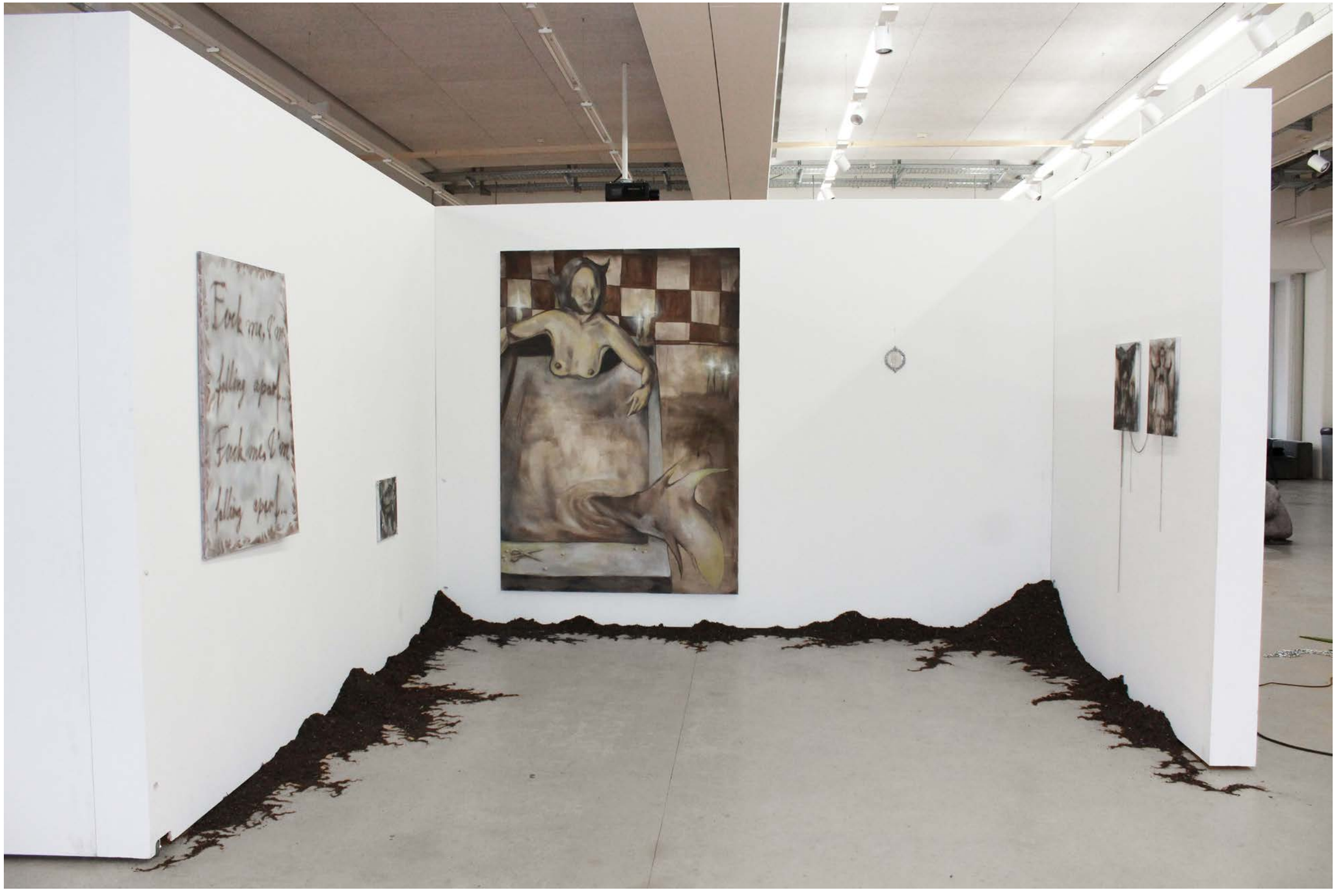
In the process of painting, I am driven by the ecofeminist use of the term “Ghost” as a queer, non-binary, non-societal conforming entity. Thus, moving beyond the structures that were shaped by the western Christian institutions, as they still exist today. I am exploring visual forms of storytelling as a tool to disrupt outdated binary systems and giving space to ideas which allow to form new relations.

Weaving a web, creating networks and connections between one and another, human or other entity, be it plants, animals or microbes. Especially in times like now, community is so important for survival. We need to learn how to communicate with each other, to understand ones perspective in order to create peace in a community. That process of communication, connection and repetition of cycles I explore in my work through researching terms like environmental bodies, portals or ecosystems.

I work with images and the emotional potential they hold through painting, drawing and 3D Renders, aiming to fuse the digital and analoge into a symbiotic, atmospheric system.
I use reference images from the vast dimensions of the internet, questioning our use of data & information, as well as the influence of images in on our collective consciousness. As a reference of the humanoid entities, I mostly use a 3D Asset which is meant to be used in video games. The asset of the female avatar is standardized by the societal beauty standards which are sexualizing the female body and propagate an unattainable body as the goal. I aimed to take this body and transform it into a more-than-human, androgynous fairy-like ghost.

Unsettling identities, Kunsthalle Luzern 2022

Triptych of a fly and radioactive ghost, 2022
3-pannel installation, oil on canvas
200 x 280 x 80 cm
Foto:Kilian Bannwart



Blessed Curse II(Hell Becomes Ether), 2023
Installation view, Viscosi,Lucerne,CH

Installation view

Widows and Windows, 2023
Oil on canvas
120 x 80 cm

Artifact of the last men, 2022
Oil on canvas,Metal
25 x 25 cm

Touching grass isn‘t enough, I need to sink into it and decompose, 2023
Oil on canvas
21 x 15 cm

Shedding Skin, 2023
Graphite, Fineliner on paper
21 x 15 cm

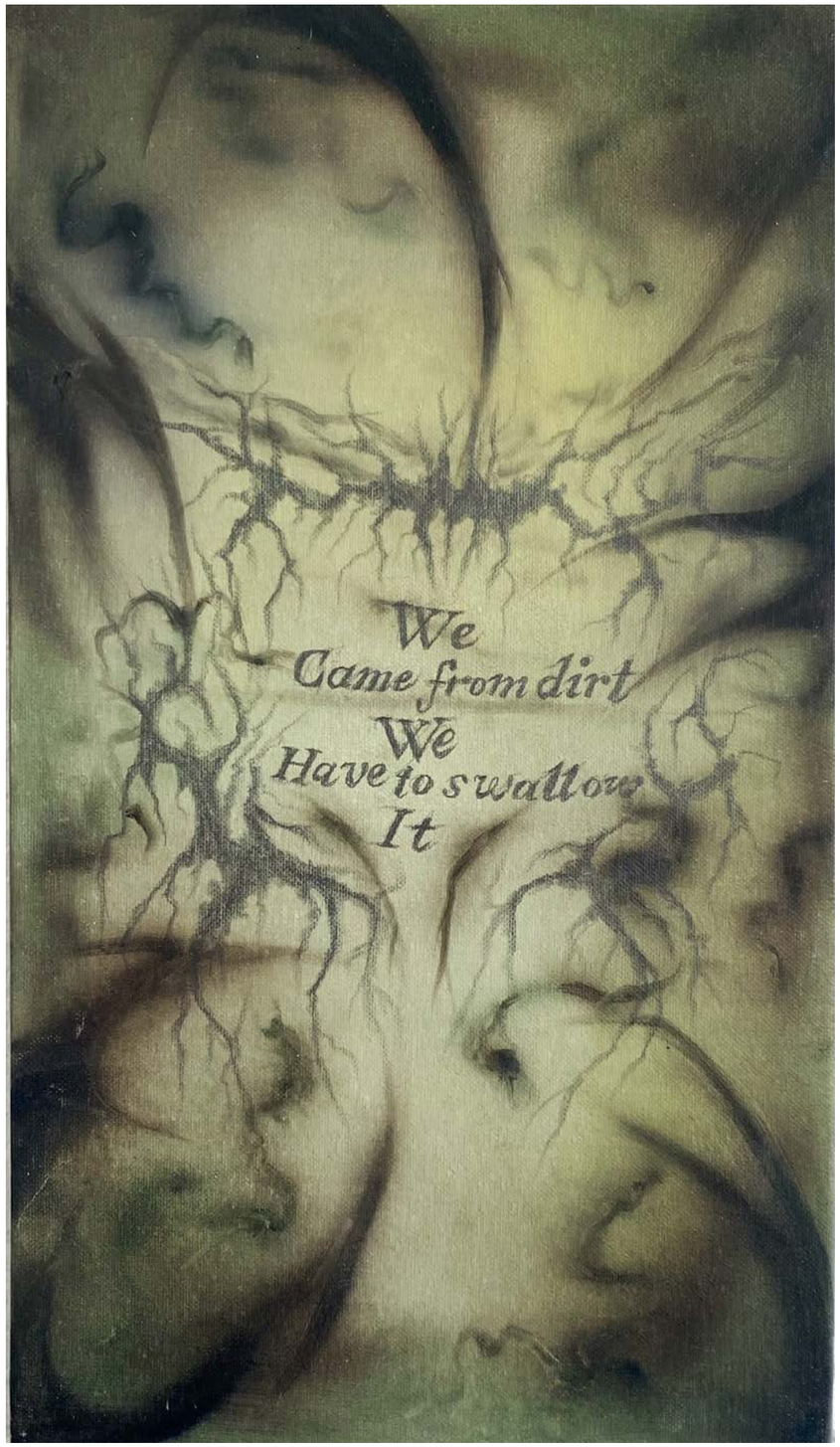
Yr, 2022
Oil on canvas
60 x 80 cm

Oh sweet release of pain, 2023
Acrylics on wooden panel
21 x 29 cm

Opening of the passage, 2023
Acrylics on wooden panel
21 x 29 cm

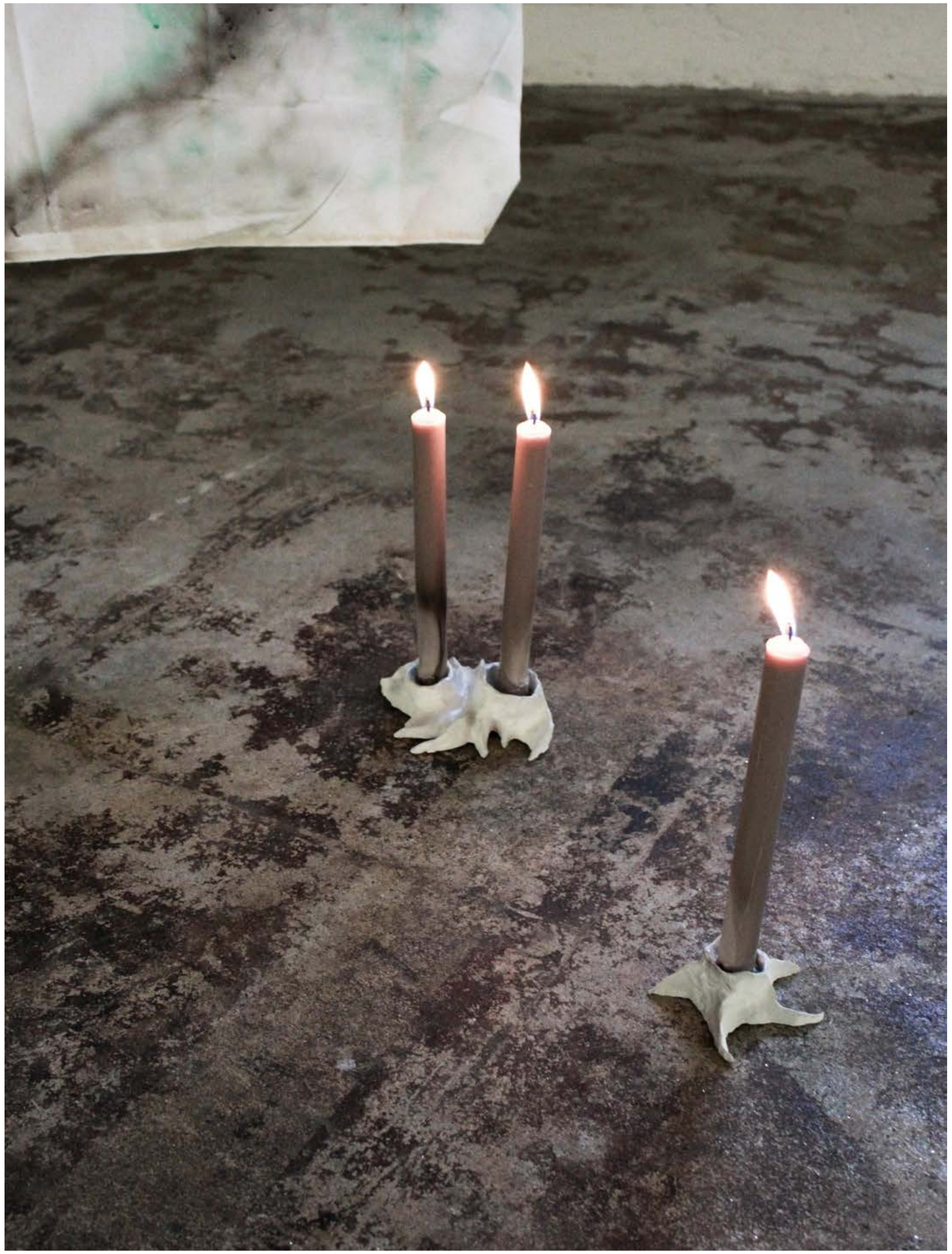
Inseparable from the thickening heaviness, 2023
Oil and acrylics on canvas
40x 50 cm

Manic Hunter, 2023
Oil on canvas
100 x 80 cm



Eartheater, 2023
Graphite, Oil on canvas
35 x 20 cm

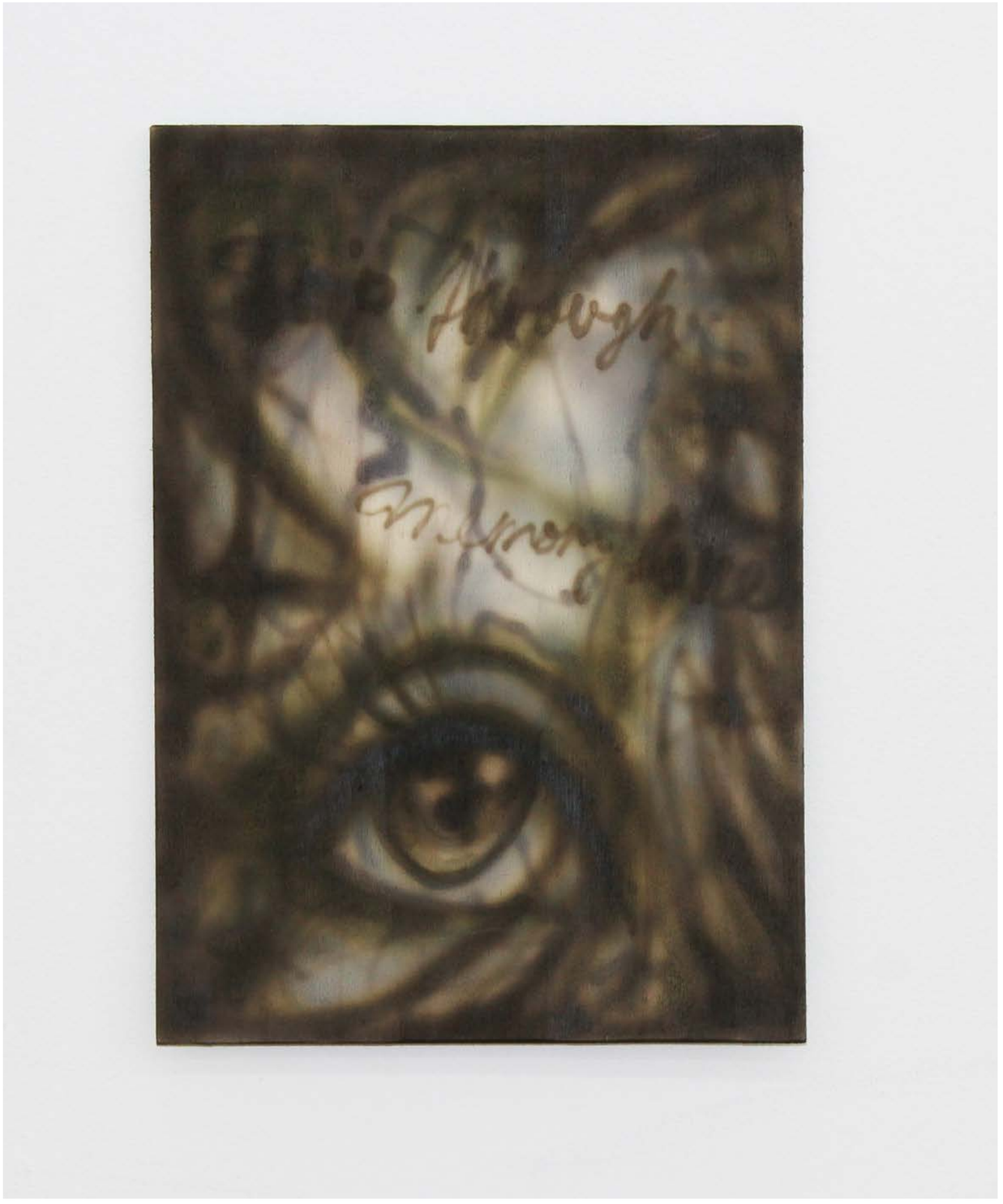
Blessed Curse(Heaven Becomes Hell)
Akku Kunstplattform (All Inclusive Festival),Emmenbrücke,CH,2023



Close to the Ground, 2022
Watercolour, Acrylic on plaster
30 x 20 cm

Lorn in the curse of isolation, 2023
Oil and acrylics on canvas
40 x 60 cm

Daggers cutting carving soil, 2022
Oil on canvas,ceramic chain
60 x 80 cm



Slings of Memory lane, 2023
Acrylics on wooden panel
21 x 29 cm

Promise me, 2023
Oil and acrylics on canvas
120 x 100 cm

Dirt and moist Soil beneath muddy Waters, 2022
Exhibition view in Luzern,CH

*They caught me on my way home,*2022
Oil on wood
50 x 50 cm

Valley of nonentities, 2023
Acrylics on wooden panel
21 x 29 cm

Bricks , 2023
Pencil and fineliner on wooden panel
21 x 29 cm

they sing the song of the soil, 2022
Oil on canvas, ceramic
30 x 70

Enclosed Encounters, 2022
Oil on canvas
140 x 180 cm (measures variable)

Some kind of peace, 2022
Oil on gesso plate
18 x 24 cm

Remembrance of the Past, 2022
Oil on canvas
30 x 40 cm

_utterfly spell, 2022
Exhibiton view Lucerne,CH
Metal chains, Earth, silicone,Iphones,Render,Drawing on wood panel, ceramics

*Metal soil,*2022
Oil on gesso plate
18 x 24 cm

A nourishing place I found in the forest, 2023
Snow, Acrylics on plaster
30x 40 cm

DETOXRETOX, Kali Galerie,Luzern, CH,2022/23

Foto:Kim da Mota

*They caught me on my way home II,*2022
Oil on canvas
40 x 40 cm

*Inhale Green, exhale Grey,*2022
Oil on canvas
120 x 100 cm

Foto:Kim da Mota

cutting time cutting memories, 2022
Oil on canvas
30 x 40 cm

Portal, 2022
Ceramics,Inkjet print, Metal chain
120 x 100 cm

The sound of the bells of the Ivory tower, 2023
Blood, Graphite, Fineliner on paper
15 x 21 cm

It‘s so cloudy I can barely see you , 2022
Kuratiert von Klodin Erb und Anina Schenker,Luzern.CH
Exhibition view

Portals, 2022
Oil on canvas
120 x 100 cm

*A Spell at Dawn,*2022
Oil on canvas
70 x 50 cm

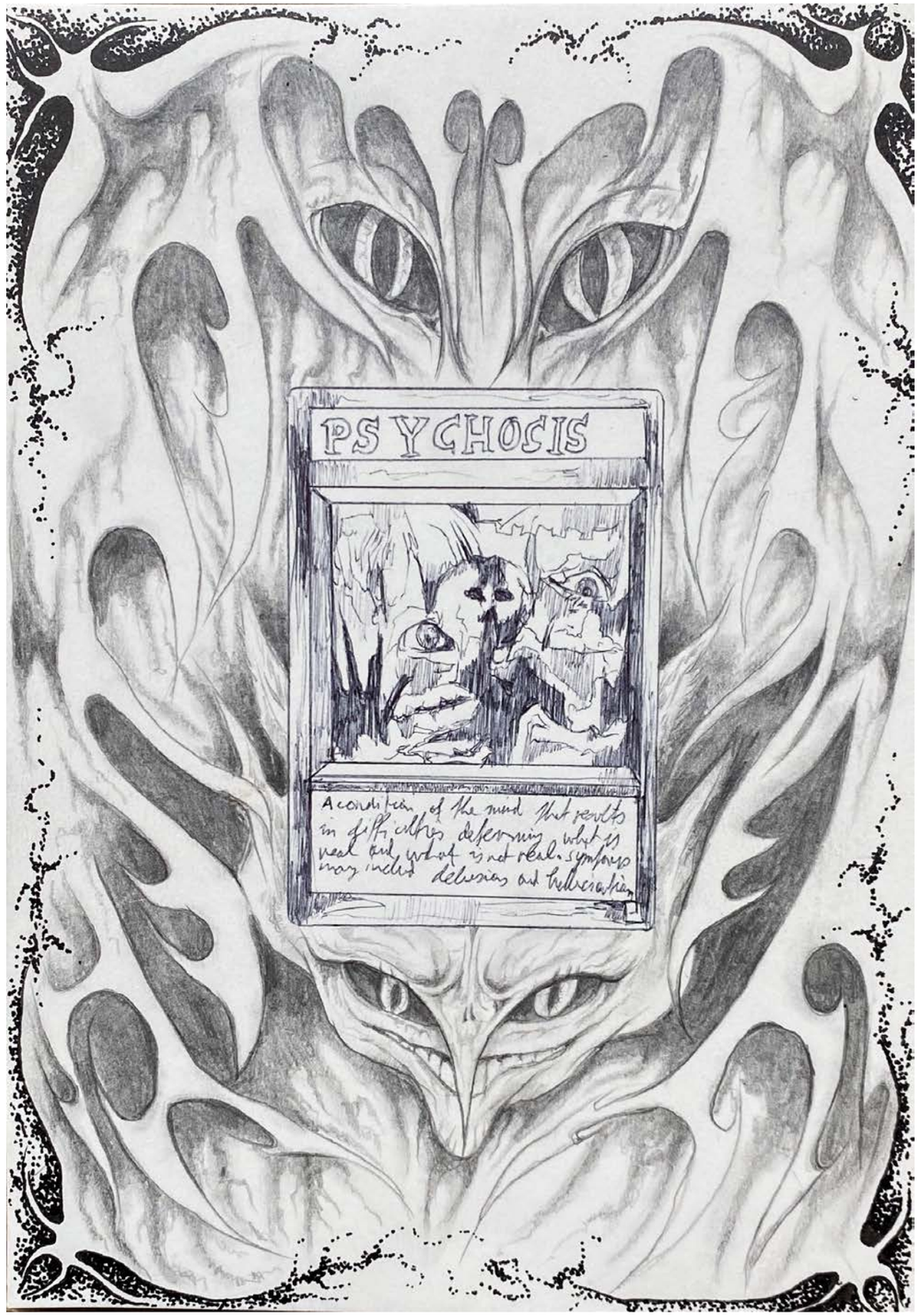
Portkey, 2022
Acrylics and spray on wood
25 x 25 cm

Demons 2, 2021
Oil and fineliner on canvas
40 x 30 cm

Chrysialis, 2022
Oil on canvas
30x 30 cm

Ebony heart, 2023
Oil on canvas
40 x 50 cm

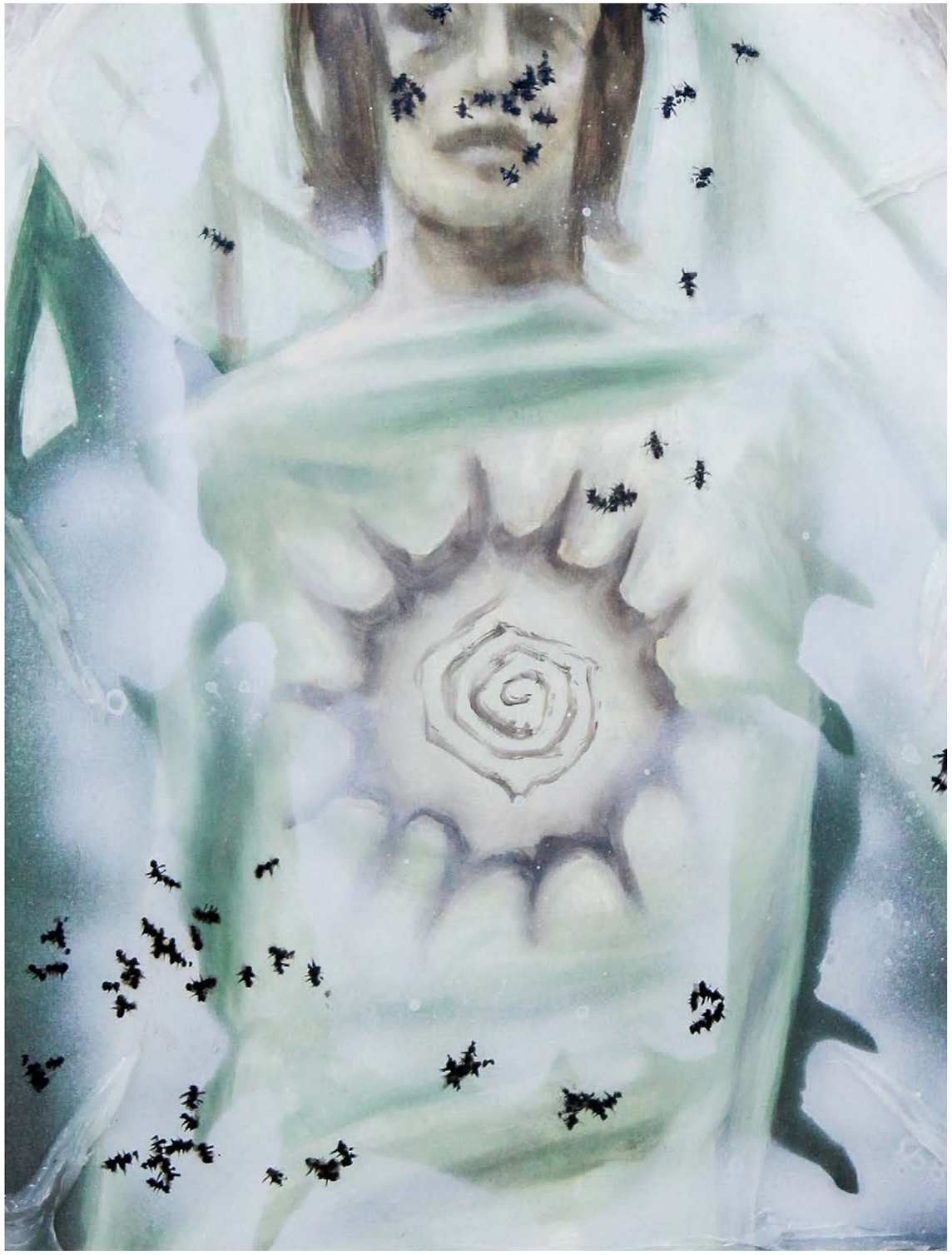
trapped satyr, 2022
Oil on canvas,foam
80 x 60 cm



My mind is a ticking time bomb, 2023
Graphite, Fineliner on paper
21 x 15 cm

Quellen, 2022
Exhibition view *Vom Baden lernen* in Baden,CH
Wood,Acrylic spray,Nails,concrete fountain,clay

carrying stones, 2022
Oil on canvas
18 x 29 cm



*Soft White Blessed Air,*2022
Oil on wood,silicone
40 x 30 cm

Maksim Hannah Klopfstein
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currently working and living in Bern

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Education
2023-2025 Master Contemporary Arts Practice, Fine Arts, Hochschule der Künste Bern
2020- 2023 Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, HSLU
2019-2020 Preliminary Course/Vorkurs Schule für Gestaltung Bern
2015-2019 Gymnasium Kirchenfeld,Bern

Solo Show
Sept 2017 mal:mal Galerie Bern,CH

Group Shows
2023 *Cyclic Sensations*, (mit Noah Wyss) marytwo, Luzern, CH ***upcoming***
2023 *Spells of Rebirth*,Galerie Kriens, Luzern,CH ***upcoming***
2023 *STRESSTEST I*, NewScenario Collective x Creamcake,Hebel am Ufer, Berlin, DE
2023 *Blessed Curse (Heaven Becomes Hell)*, Akku Kunstplattform, Emmenbrücke,CH

2022 *monkey on my back-pet project* , Viscosi, Lucerne,CH
2022 *Retox Detox* , Kali Galerie Lucerne,CH
2022 *Unsettling identities*, Kunsthalle Lucerne, CH
2022 V*om Baden Lernen*, mLab, curated by Mirko Winkel, Baden CH
2022 *It's so cloudy, I can barely see you*, Viscosi, curated by Klodin Erb and Annina Schenker,Lucerne, CH
2022 *New (a)Era* Berlin, DE

2021 *Dialogues*, with Tymoteusz Tryzno, CAI49, Lucerne
2021 *Paper View Poster Exhibition* Vevey and St.Gallen, CH
2021 Hermanas del arte, Bern,CH
2021 *Clear Channel Project*, Kunsthoch Festival, Luzern,CH
2021 Kunst Kola Langenthal,CH
2021 *Ctrl+n* Alte Schreinerei Bern,CH
2021 *All Inclusive,* HSLU Lucerne,CH

2020 *Werkschau*, SfG Bern,CH
2020 Klimahalle, Tour de Lorraine Bern,CH

2018 Frenchy Store Bern,CH
2018 *Fumetto Winner Exhibiton*, Kunsthalle Luzern,CH

Projects/Performance/Talks
2022 *Kader Crush*, Performance with 7 HSLU students for San Keller & Sebastian Utzni
2022 Mentoring student for Gymnasium Hofwil
2022 Participation as *somspirit* in Season 1 by the Fabricant
2021 Teaching Blender for Gymnasium Hofwil at HKB
2021 *End of The Fucking World,* collective project in collaboration with Anina Schenker & Klodin Erb
2021 Talk and Participation at Helsinki Week together with Giulio Gallana as *somspirit*

Publications
2023 mouluremagazine Issue Nr., Basel,CH
2023 Hochschule Luzern, Werkschau Ambassador, Luzern,CH

Awards
2018 2.Place in category 2 Fumetto International Comic Festival competition

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