

Bhavna Kakar presents

When is

Empathy^{too}



30.10.2020
to
30.12.2020

Curated by | Shubhani Sharma & Indira Prasad

Abhishek Narayan Verma | Al-Qawi Nanavati
Shalina Vichitra | Yogesh Ramkrishna

Curatorial Note

I fear that we are beginning to design ourselves to suit digital models of us, and I worry about a leaching of empathy and humanity in that process.

- Jaron Lanier, excerpted from *You Are Not a Gadget*, 2010

In this age of pandemic, as our physical engagement with the world has declined, we have increasingly relied on the unending media deluge of audio-visual information to connect with the outside world. Our window into the events and happenings of the outside world has become the screens of our devices. Our locus of understanding been shifting away from the physical world in steady increments over the two decades, and with the advent of lockdown this phenomenon has exponentially exacerbated.

'When is Empathy too much?' refers to the inevitable saturation point that we all know too well, as the virtual domain becomes another phantasmagoria of the modern age. This exhibition calls attention to the changing nature of our perception of the world, the changing perception of the self, the sensory shock of digital overload and how this affects our emotional engagement with works of art. All four artists address empathy, and by extension connection/disconnection, adaptation/maladaptation in various different ways; the personal, the social and the political.

Abhishek Narayan Verma

Abhishek Narayan Varma was born in 1990 in Bihar. After graduating in painting from the College of Art, New Delhi in 2012, he joined at the Faculty of Fine Arts, MS University, Baroda where he took his post-graduation in print making in 2015. Abhishek was a Gold medalist at MS University and also received a Scholarship from Ministry of Culture in 2014.

The imagery in his paintings, drawings and prints have continuously stemmed from his own history which is derivative of his physical and mental status in this constantly changing and demanding society. His works revolve around ideas of dysfunctionality, the strange logics of irrational behavior arising out of one's anxiety, which he injects in his characters. The familial, social and political collide in dramatic settings where the lighting also becomes hallucinatory. There is satirization of situations, of characters, of himself. The insecurities of one's existence morph into an ironical, laughable identity.



"An Act of Balance"

An Act of Balance

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Sowing a Cold Comfort"

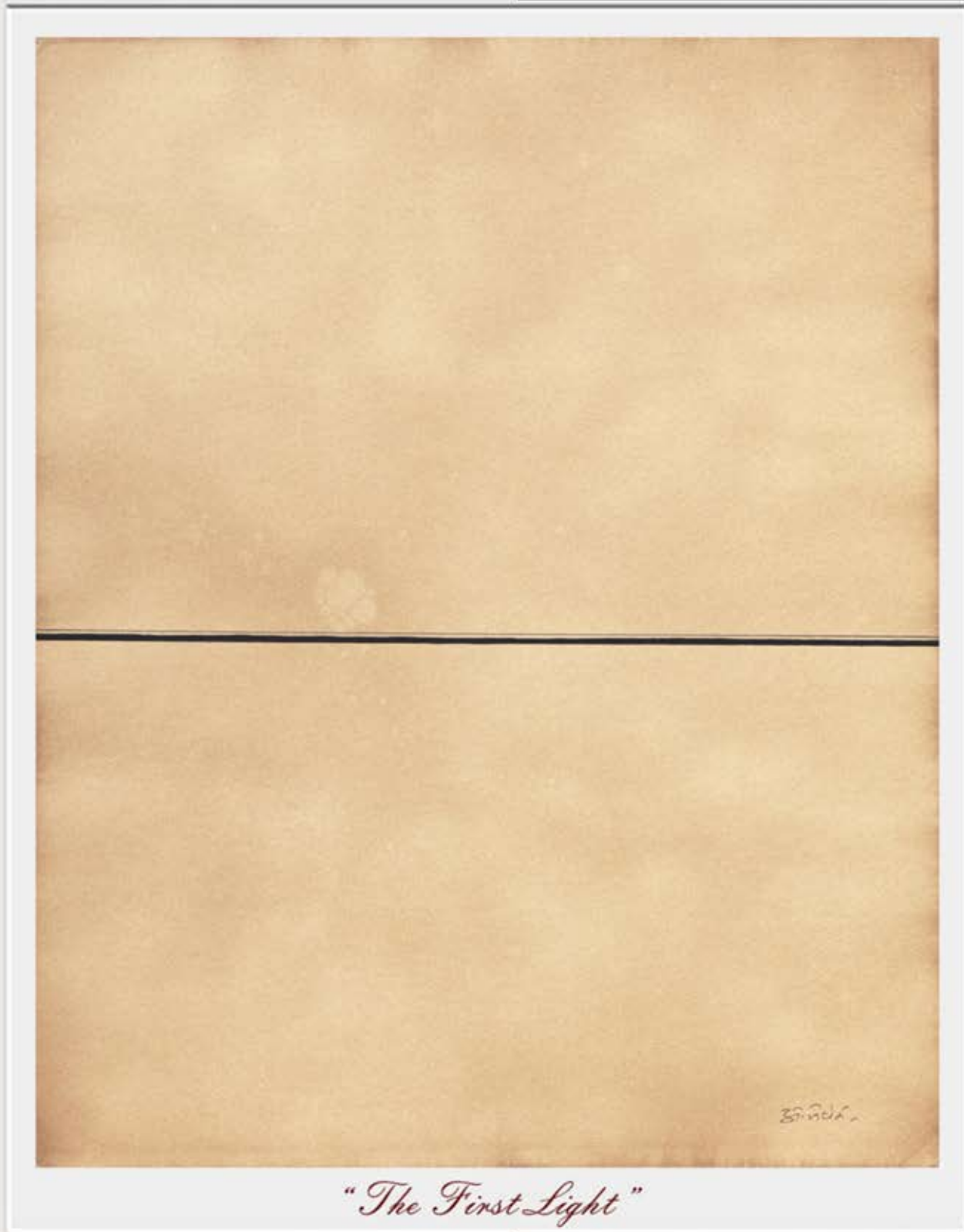
Sowing a Cold Comfort

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



The First Light

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"A Golden Harvest"

A Golden Harvest

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"A Golden Potato"

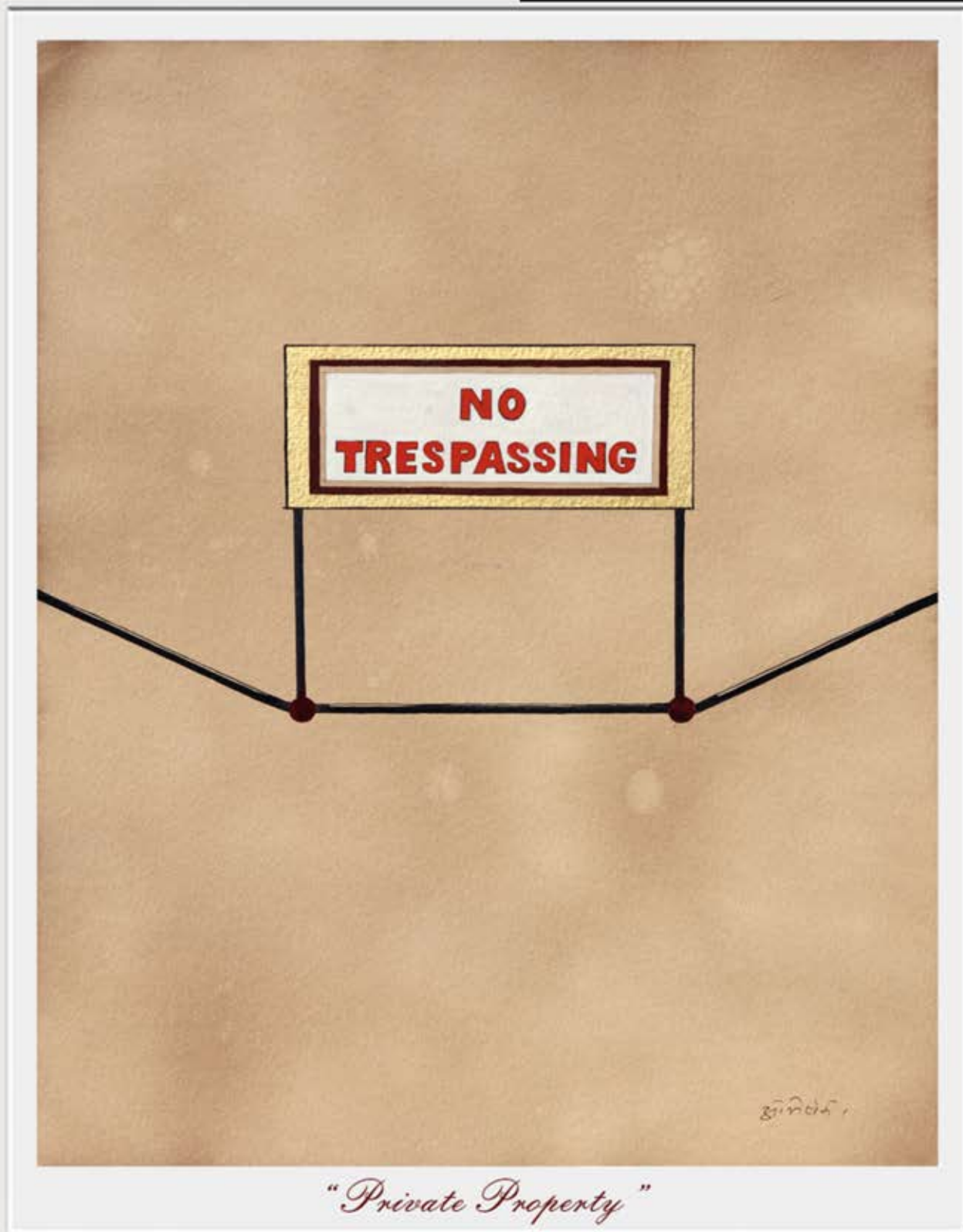
A Golden Potato

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Private Property"

Private Property

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"The Fountain Head"

The Fountain Head

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



A Sole Way

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"An Ordeal"

An Ordeal

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



“ On the Horn of a Dilemma ”

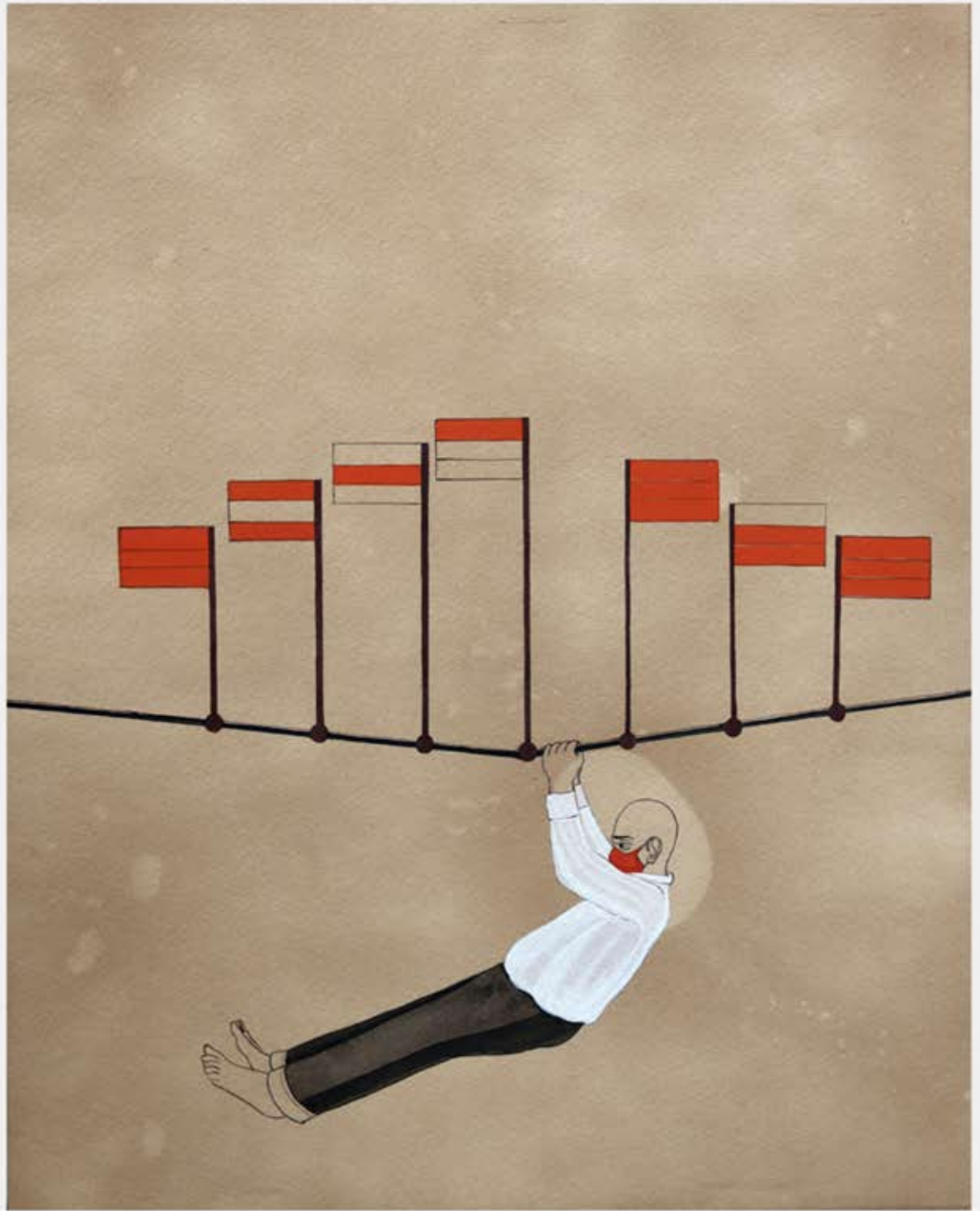
On the Horn of a Dilemma

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Happily Hanging"

Happily Hanging

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Just Chilling Out"

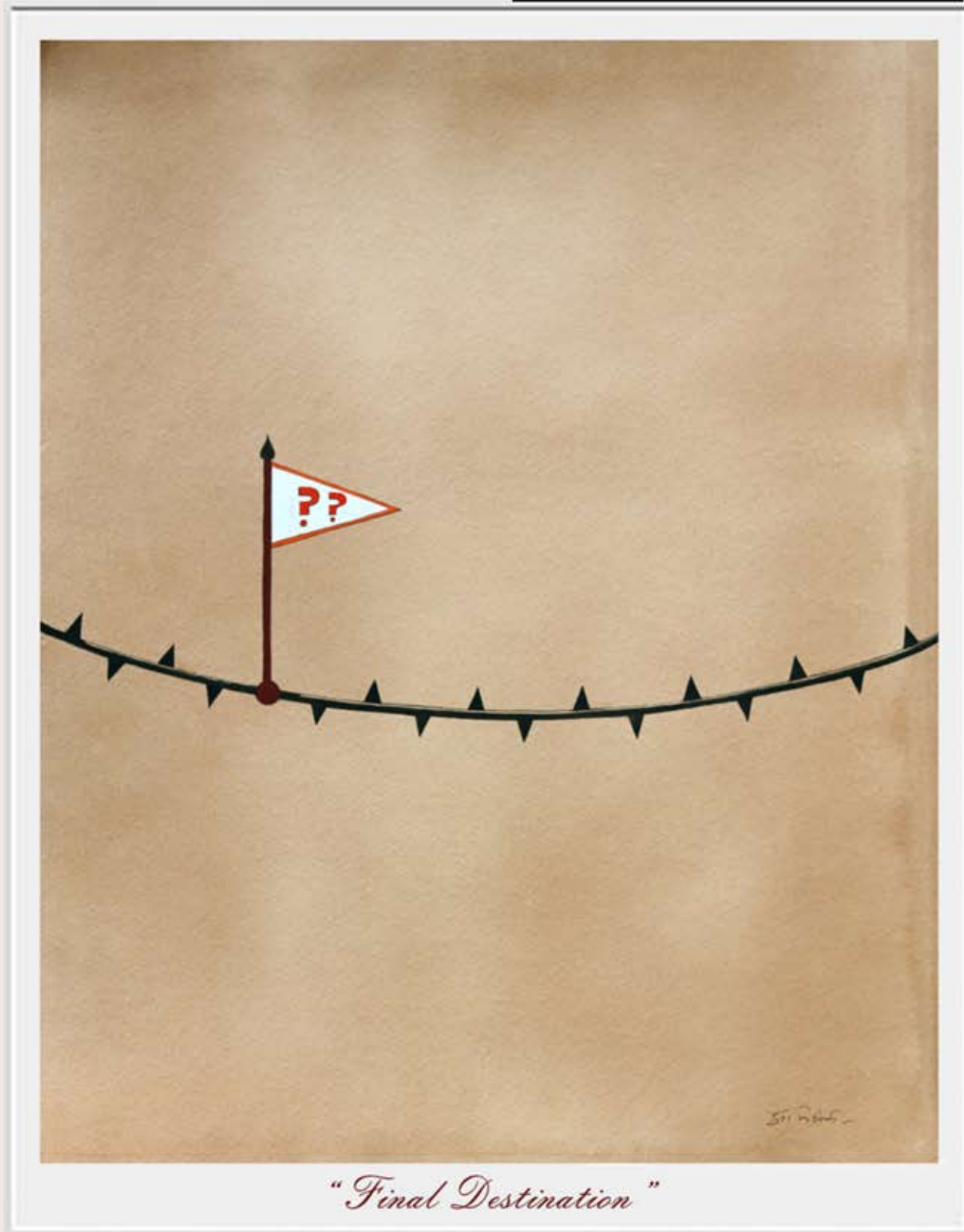
Just Chilling Out

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



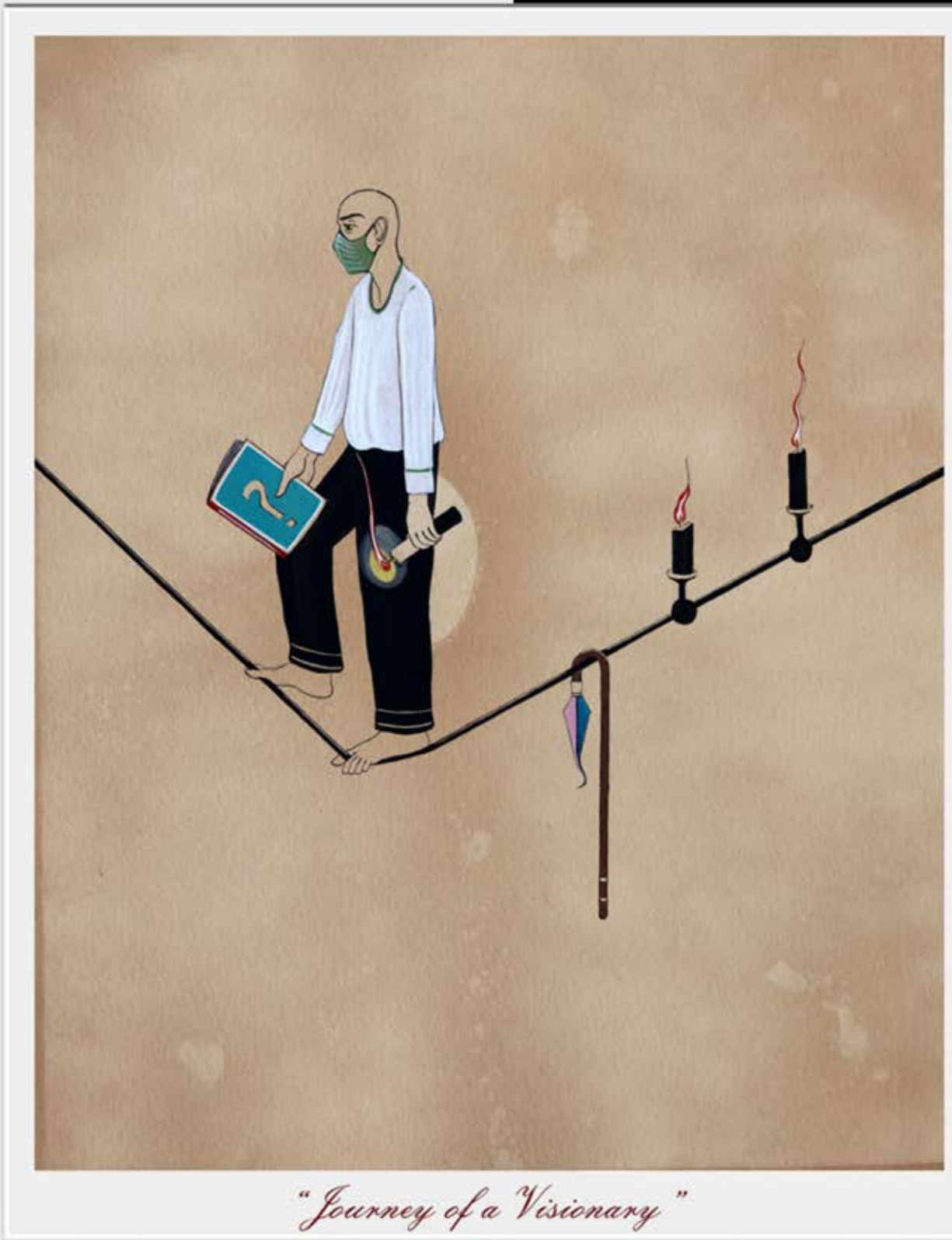
Final Destination

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Journey of a Visionary"

Journey of a Visionary

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



A Fate Maker

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



See-Saw

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"On the Lookout"

On the Lookout

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Phallus and the Dark Humour"

Phallus and the Dark Humour

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Mr. Blower and His Balloon"

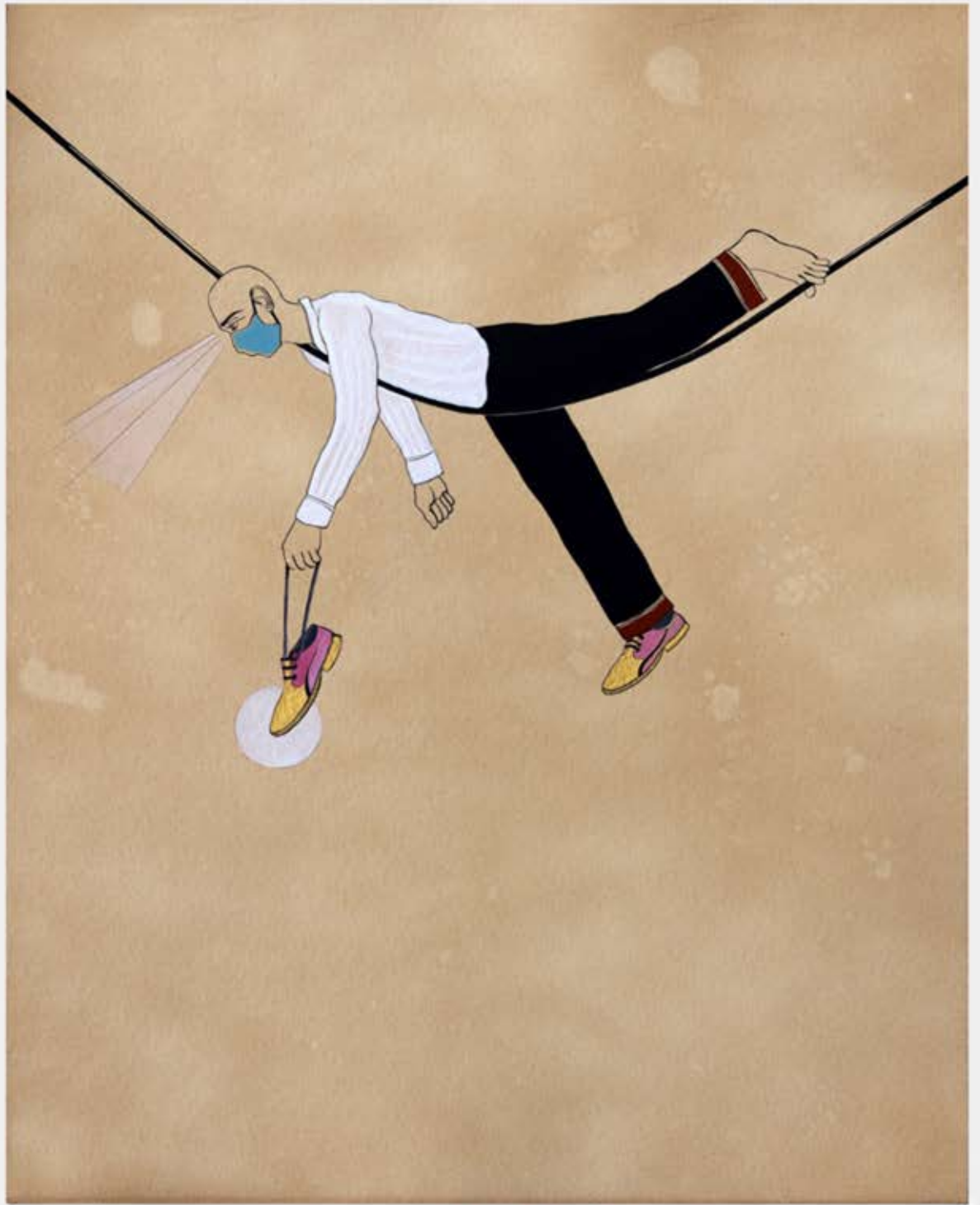
Mr. Blower and His Balloon

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Man and his Bet Boots"

Man and his Bet Boots

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



A Reaffirmation

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Oh-Aah !!"

Oh-Aah !!

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Man with a Golden Egg"

Man with a Golden Egg

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"Love at Distant Sight"

Love at Distant Sight

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020



"The End"

The End

from Funambulist : Story of A Dynamic Equilibrium Series

Gouache, Screenprint and Tea toning on paper

17 x 20 inches

2020

Al-Qawi Nanavati

Al-Qawi Nanavati was born in 1995, Mumbai, India and graduated with a BFA from the School of Art Institute of Chicago, USA, 2017. Her works have been exhibited in solo and group shows at the Peggy Notebaert Museum, Chicago, 2016, the Union Arts Club, Chicago, 2017, The Jubilee Arts Festival, Lisbon, Portugal 2018, The Arc Gallery, Chicago, USA 2018, Sakshi Art Gallery, Mumbai, India 2019/20. Additionally, she has taught at the Metropolitan Schoolhouse Chicago, Project Art teaching Artist Residency, Chicago, and has been a resident at Spacell8 Studios in Mumbai. Al-Qawi's work explores ideas of repetition in meditation and its effects on the mind along with loss and the huge pit it leaves behind. Her mother's passing has been at the center of her art practice since 2018 and it has resulted in her inventing a language to speak to her late mother. Her works that explore this in forms of letters and other objects made using her mother's possessions. The artist lives and works in Mumbai, India.

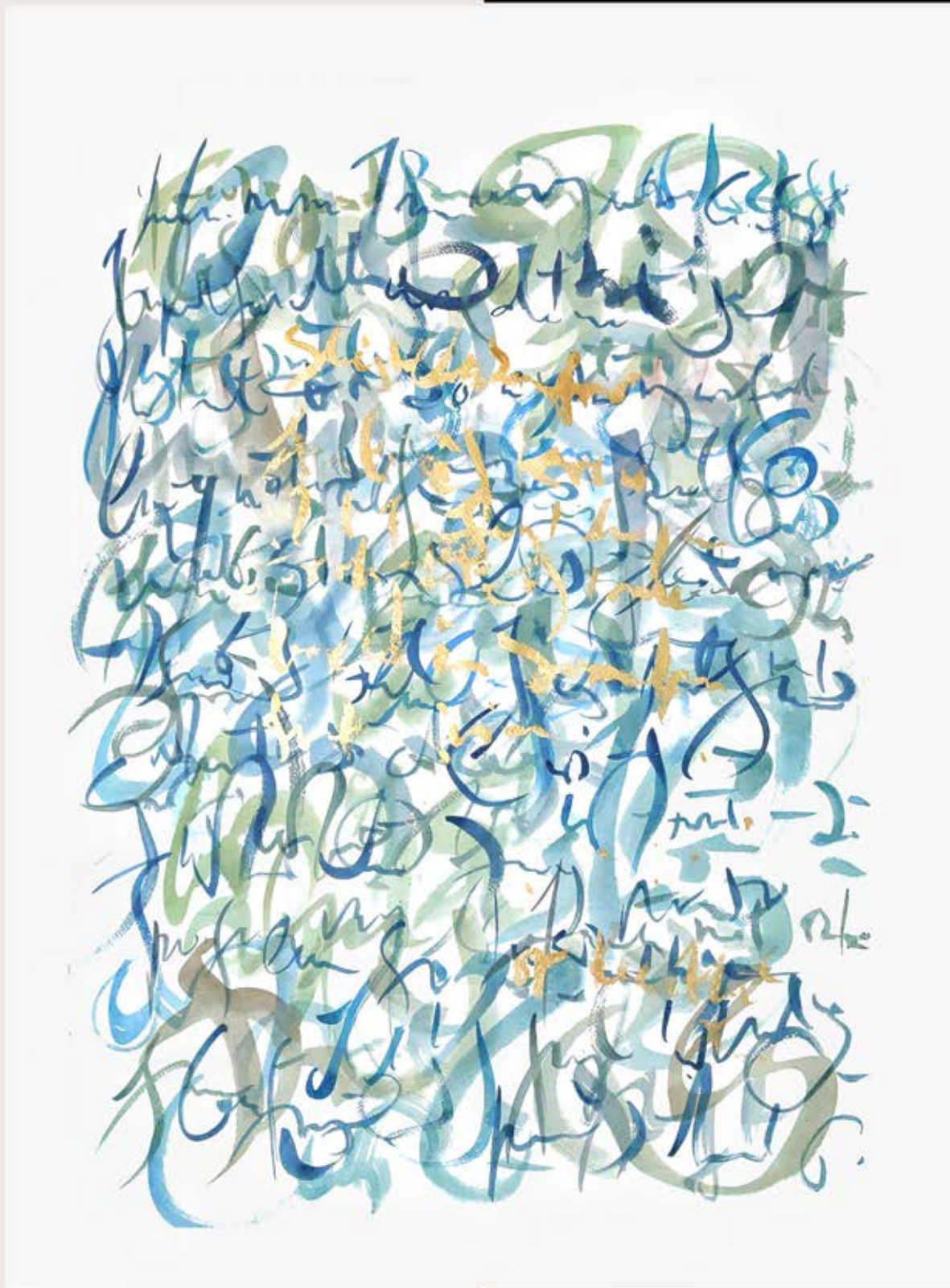


A Letter in a Secret Language

Watercolor, acrylic paint and artificial gold leaf on
fabriano paper

19.9 x 27.75 inches

2020



An English Translation

Watercolor, acrylic paint and artificial gold leaf on
fabriano paper

19.9 x 27.75 inches

2020



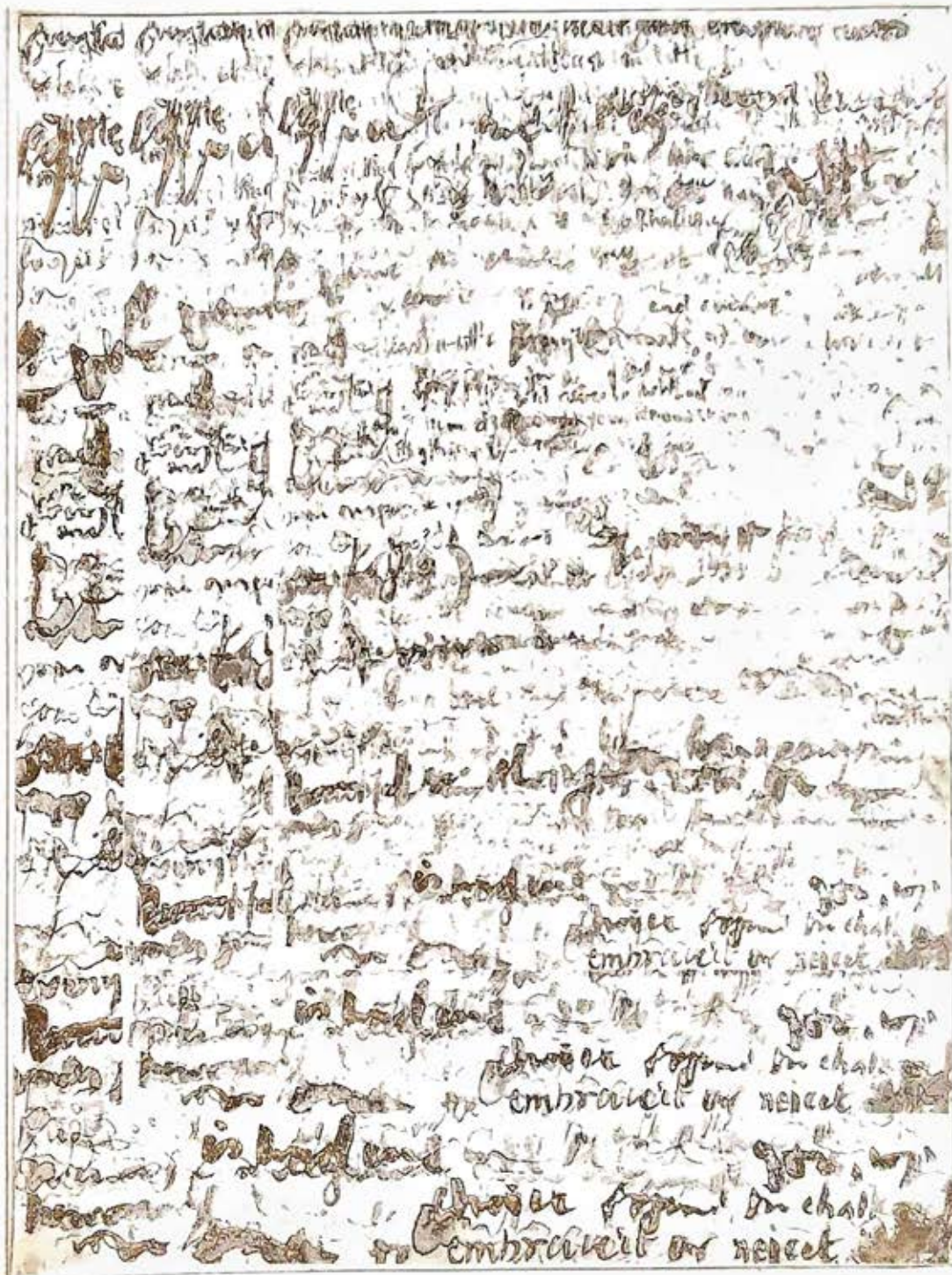
Bandagi, A Trance

Copper photo plate etching on fine art paper

13 x 19 inches

2017

Edition 3/3



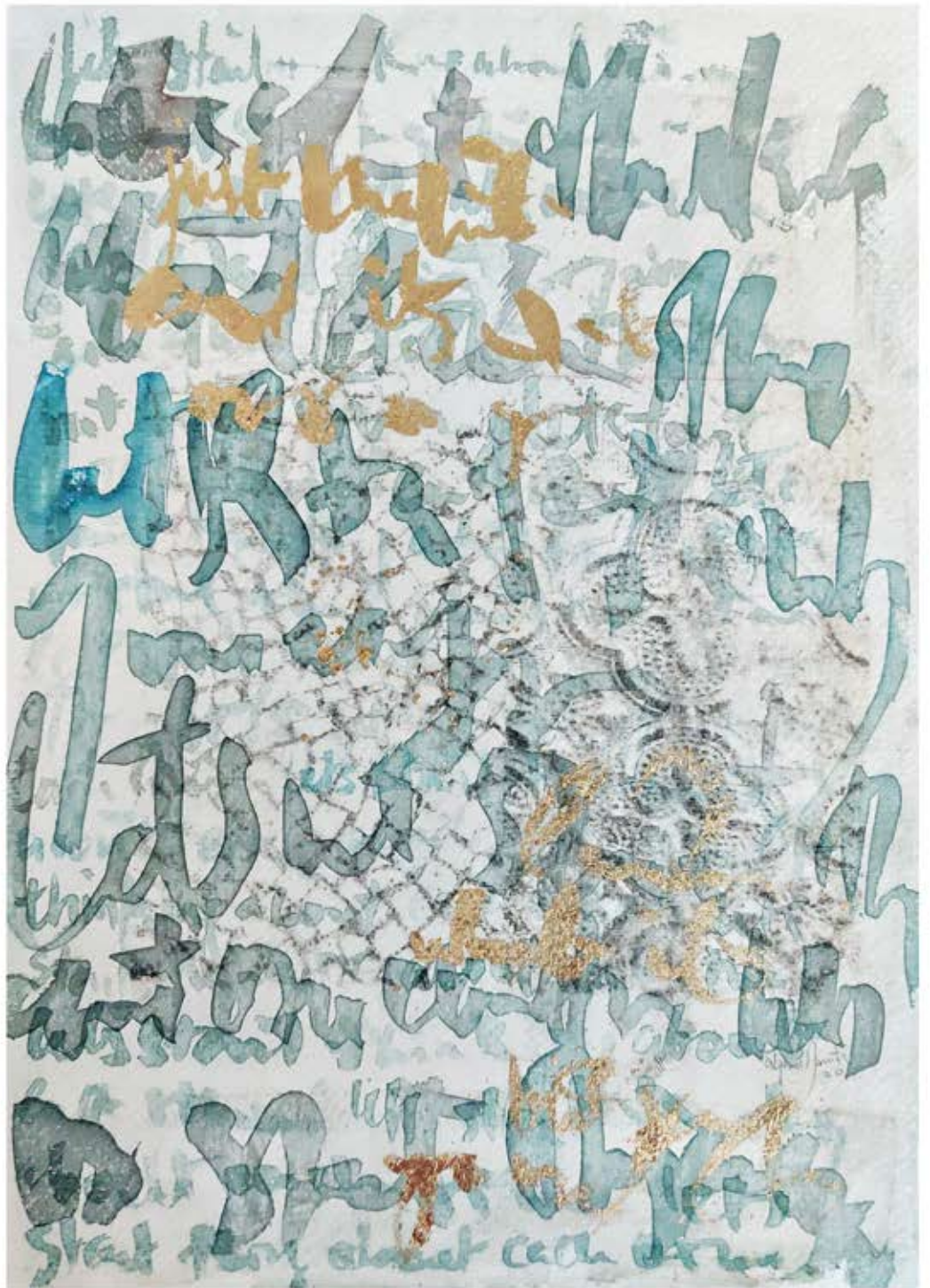
Bandagi, A Trance

Copper photo plate etching on fine art paper

13 x 19 inches

2017

Edition 3/3

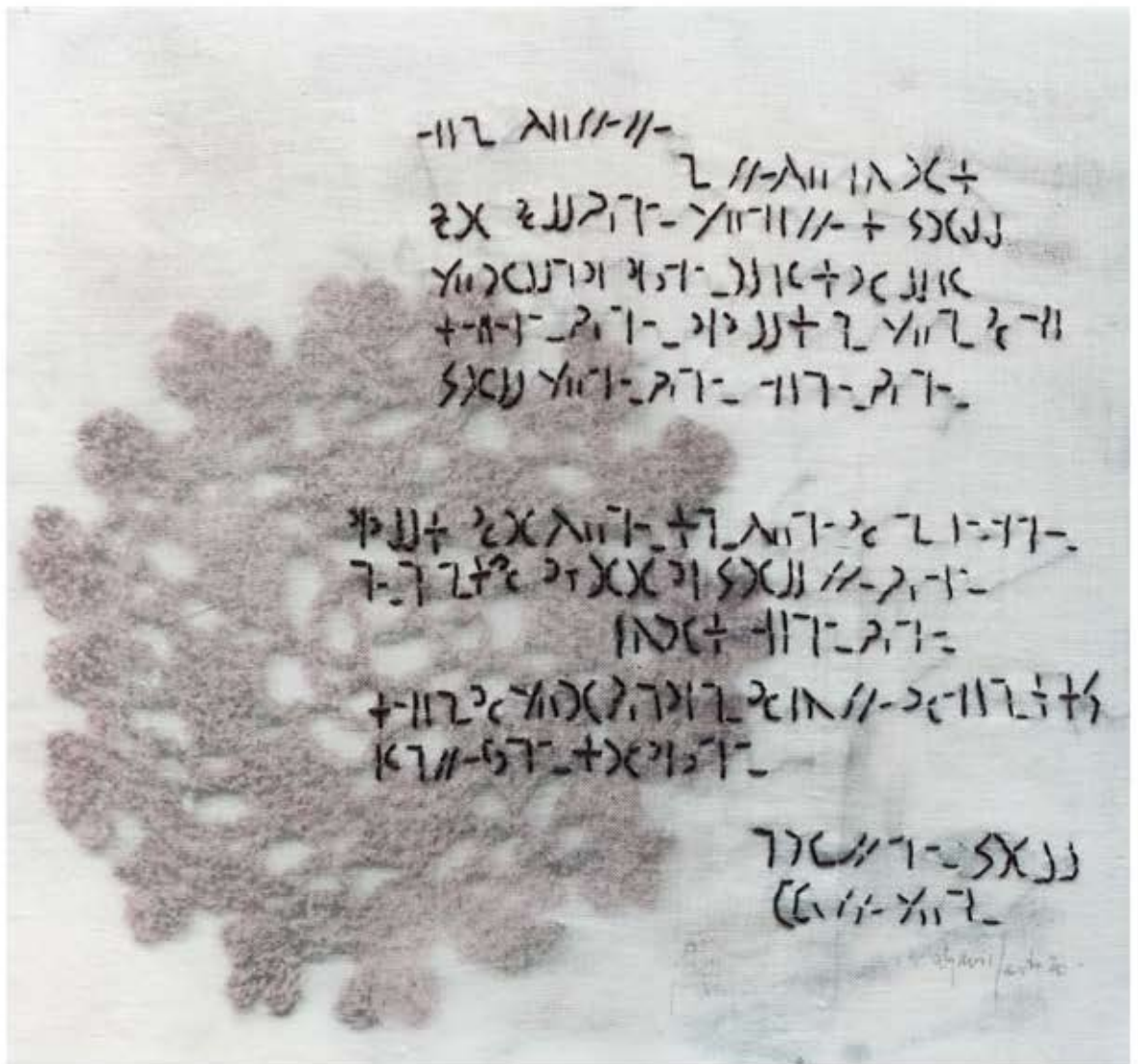


Untitled

Watercolor screen print monotype with gold leaf
and image transfer

8.25 x 11.9 inches

2020



A Collaboration with Mumtaz
Embroidery and image transfer on linen
10.2 x 11.1 inches
2020



Her Red Sari
Crocheted Fabric
10 x 12 inches
2020



Her Pink Shirt
Crocheted Fabric
7 x 11 inches
2020



Unfinished Conversations

Weaving from Watercolor Screen Printed and onion
skin dyed linen

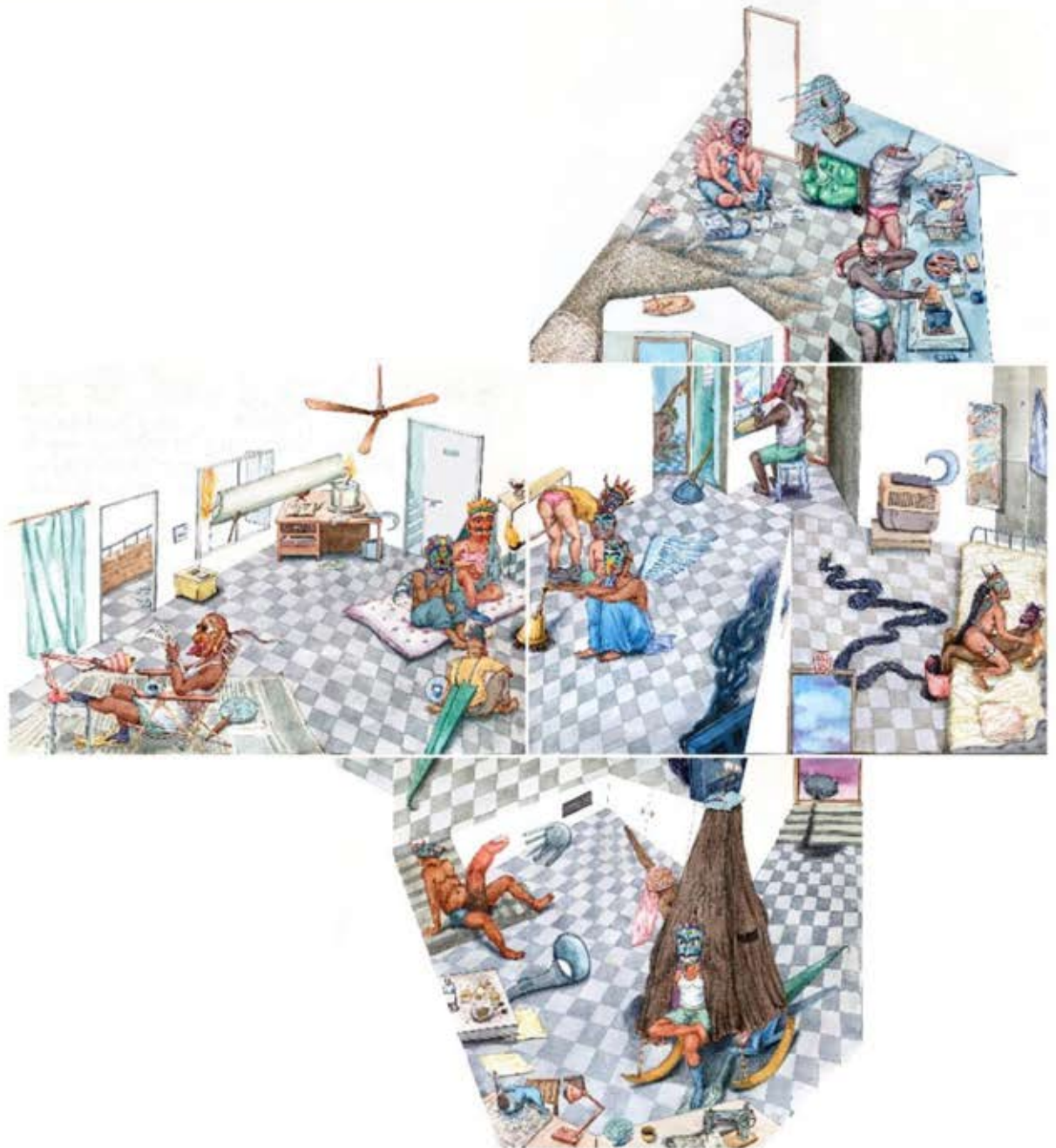
9 x 15 inches

2020

Yogesh Ramkrishna

Yogesh Ramkrishna is young practicing artist, printmaker from Vadodara, India. He received his bachelor's degree in from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai, 2014 followed by masters in Visual Art from M. S. University of Baroda, 2016, with specialization in printmaking techniques. Yogesh used printmaking as tool to explore his project based ideas through series of works and tries to experiment with traditional techniques of printmaking a newly conceptualized way. In his recent works he elaborates wide possibilities of etching process with experimentation and study. Along with printmaking, Yogesh's practice includes drawing, installation and different levels of interactivity. His works exhibits artists own perspective towards current socio-political conditions, cultural propagandas, post-truth era behaviors of the society. Visual content of his works become overdramatic, comic stylized, mythically charged and sometimes erotic at some extent.

Yogesh represented Indian Art in several residencies such as Kooshk-Cultural Exchange Program residency in Tehran, Iran, 2017. Black Church Print Studio residency in collaboration with Irish Museum of Modern Art Dublin, Ireland, 2019. He also had been part of Khoj Peers Share Program, Delhi- 2016. Space Studio Residency in Vadodara, 2019. PIRAMAL Artist Residency, Mumbai, Maharashtra-2019. His solo exhibition was named, Don't believe me! I am telling the Truth curated by Satyajit Dave at the Faculty of Fine Arts Gallery, M. S. U, Vadodara in 2017 which was supported by Purushottam Dhumal Trust. He has done several group shows in Delhi, Hyderabad and Ahmadabad and in Goa. His works are an amalgamation of sociopolitical situations, existing myths and behaviors with a touch of fantasy, which provides a



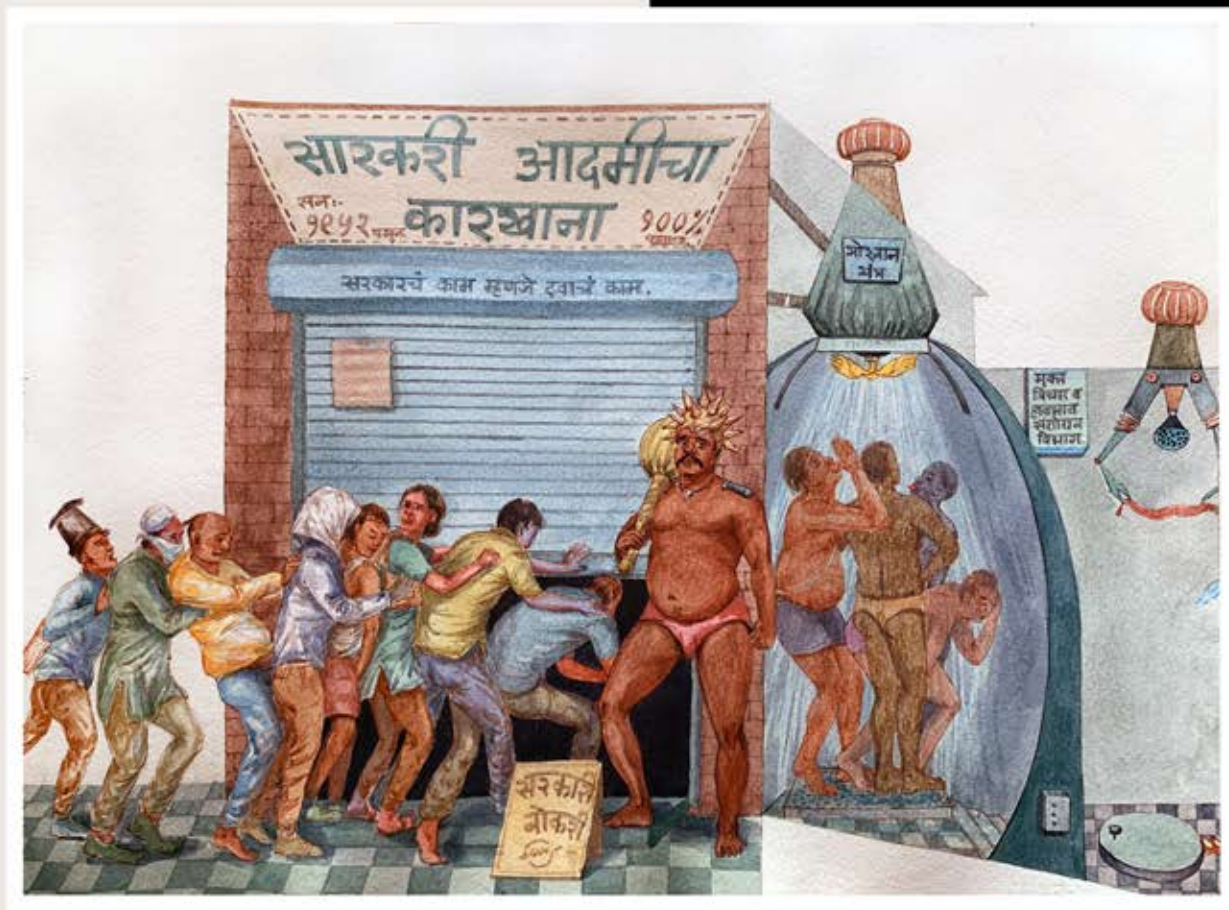
Kal hi Saval hai! Saval hai Kal ka yahi!
Wash and gouache on paper
33 x 32 inches
2020



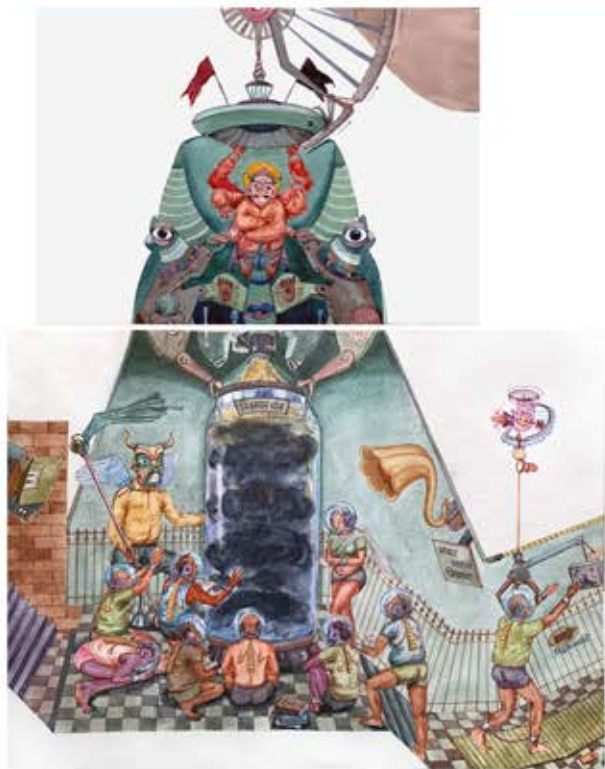
Kal hi Saval hai! Saval hai Kal ka yahi! (Details)
Wash and gouache on paper
33 x 32 inches
2020



The factory of Undefined Souls
Wash and gouache on paper
100 x 22 inches
2020



The factory of Undefined Souls (Details)
Wash and gouache on paper
100 x 22 inches
2020

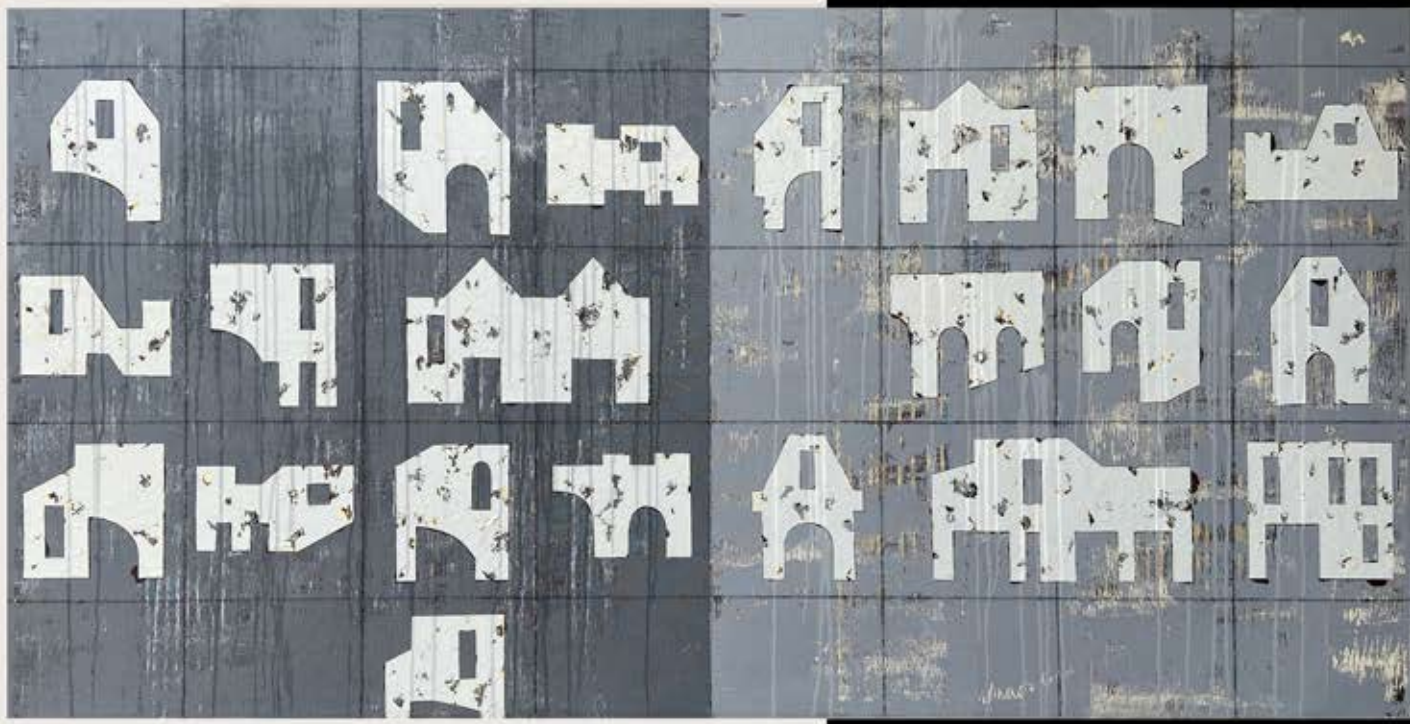


The factory of Undefined Souls (Details)
Wash and gouache on paper
100 x 22 inches
2020

Shalina Vichitra

Shalina Vichitra has been part of numerous national and international exhibitions including the reputed Fusing Barn Biennale, Taiwan. She has completed her BFA and MFA, with gold medal, from College of Art, Delhi. Shalina has been the recipient of Human Resource Development Scholarship (Govt. of India). In her works she combines philosophical and aesthetic insights to engage with the idea of cartography in contemporary times.

Her works draw references from aerial maps, urban sprawls, constructed spaces, topographic studies, symbols and architectural plans. It takes the shape of a labyrinth or sometimes a grid layered with colours, taking forms, sometimes highlighting the forms inside and elevating them to create imaginary world of maps and boundaries. had solo shows with Topographies of the self at Anant Art, Art Motif and several curated exhibitions in India and abroad. Grain at Gallery Espace, Negotiating Matters curated by Roobina Karode, Summer at Nature Morte curated by Peter Nagy, Emerging India at Royal college London, Who do you think I am in The Gallery at Cork Street London, Contemporary Indian Art at Muller and Plate Munich, Resonance at Lalit Kala Academy, Prayers for the Earth onsite project in Ladakh supported by Intach and others.



Shelters 2

Acrylic and charcoal on canvas

36 x 72 inches



In Search Of Home
Glaze on stoneware
96 x 72 inches
2020

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