

Massimiliano Rossetto

**Selected works
2025 – 2020**

Rossetto's artistic practice engages with the nuanced interplay between humanity and the environment, framing the notion of landscape as both a tangible reality and a vessel of memory. Through photography and sculpture, his work explores the layered histories of spaces shaped by human intervention and natural transformation. These landscapes, bearing traces of construction, decay, and renewal, serve as both subjects and symbols in his examination of belonging and identity.

At the heart of Rossetto's practice lies a keen sensitivity to the evolving relationships between humans and the environments they inhabit. His work contemplates the imprints left by human activity—whether deliberate or incidental—while also reflecting on the deep interconnectedness of natural systems. By recontextualizing these spaces and the objects within them, Rossetto invites viewers to reconsider their origins and engage with the cultural, ecological, and temporal forces that shape their existence.

Rossetto's approach balances abstraction with intimacy, intertwining personal narrative with broader societal themes. His work moves between preservation and transformation, memory and erasure, uncovering the fragile yet enduring ties that connect us to the landscapes we construct and inhabit. In doing so, he fosters a compelling dialogue on the interwoven forces of nature, history, and human agency, illuminating the complex and often paradoxical ways we engage with our surroundings.

Massimiliano Rossetto (b. 1993) is a Swiss–Italian artist. In 2024, Rossetto graduated from the Master of Fine Arts program at ZHdK – Zurich University of the Arts (Switzerland). He holds a BA in Fine Arts and Contemporary Photography from BLOO in Lyon (France). He is a recipient of the 2025 Focus Photo grant from Pro Helvetia and is part of What's next_Compass – Z Kubator at ZHdK (2024–2025). In 2020, he was awarded first prize in the 24th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography. His work has been exhibited internationally at institutions and festivals such as La Regionale (ACXSI), ETH (Klimarunde), Fabienne Levy Gallery, Huaguang Photography Art Museum, Oncurating Project Space, Tokyo University of the Arts, FOTO WIEN Festival, Noorderlicht International Fotofestival, m.a.x. museo (Spazio Officina), Mois Européen de la Photographie Luxembourg, IPFO Haus der Fotografie, Imago Lisboa, photoSCHWEIZ, and Verzasca Foto Festival. His works are held in public and private collections. He lives and works in Zurich.



Installation view of "Cascade" (2025) – Inkjet paper, Canvas, 190 × 145 cm



Details of "Cascade" (2025) – Inkjet paper, Canvas, 190 × 145 cm

Tra le rocce (2025)
Inkjet paper, Canvas, Cardboard, Acrylic, Wood
25 x 20 x 5 cm

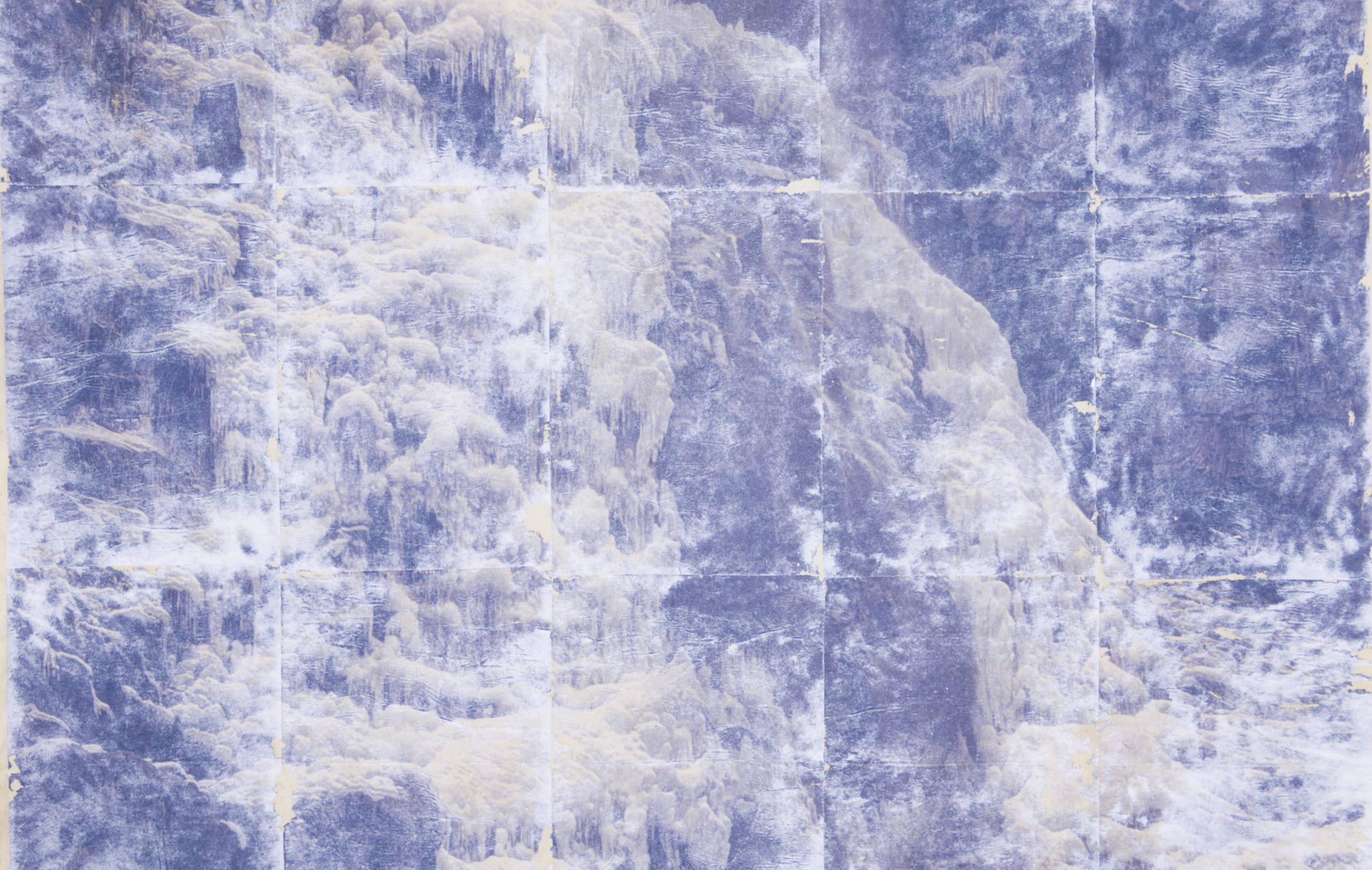




Marea (2025)
Inkjet paper, Canvas, Nails
80 × 56 cm



Installation view of "Brut" (2025) – Inkjet paper, Canvas, 190 × 145 cm



Details of "Brut" (2025) – Inkjet paper, Canvas, 190 × 145 cm



Installation view of "We used to be a river" (2024) – Inkjet print, Charred wood, Concrete, Soil, Cardboard, Metal, Coal, 180 × 230 × 10 cm



Details of "We used to be a river" (2024) – Inkjet print, Charred wood, Concrete, Soil, Cardboard, Metal, Coal, 180 × 230 × 10 cm



Installation view of "after fuzz fuzz" (2024) in collaboration with Francisca Patrocínio – Stoneware, Variable dimensions



Details of “after fuzz fuzz” (2024) in collaboration with Francisca Patrocínio – Stoneware, Variable dimensions



Artificio (2024)
Bronze
34.5 × 4.5 × 5 cm



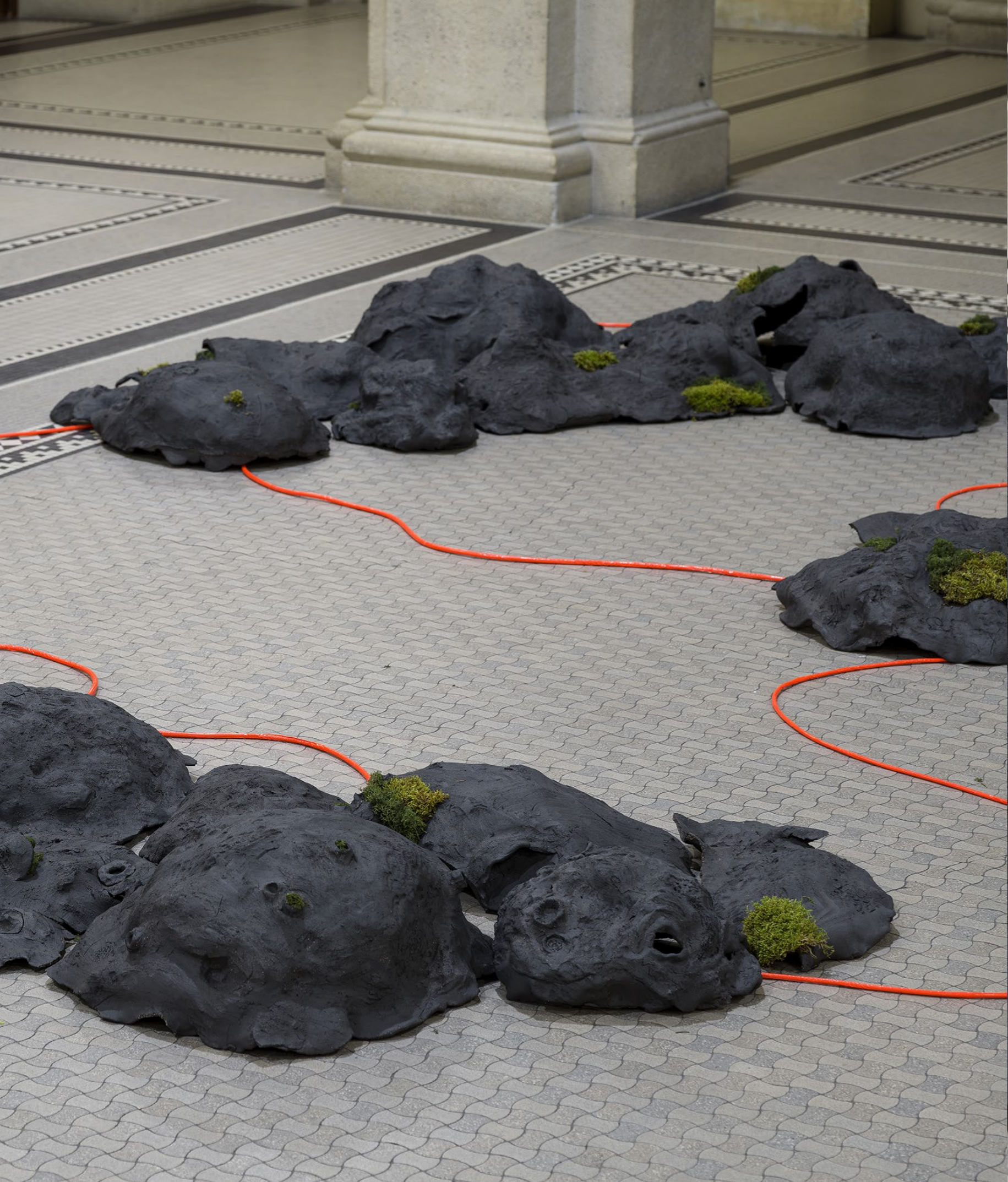
Installation view of "Jannis' river" (2023) – Inkjet print, Lavender paper mounted on canvas, Wood, Staples, 180 x 250 x 5 cm



Details of "Jannis' river" (2023) – Inkjet print, Lavender paper mounted on canvas, Wood, Staples, 180 × 250 × 5 cm



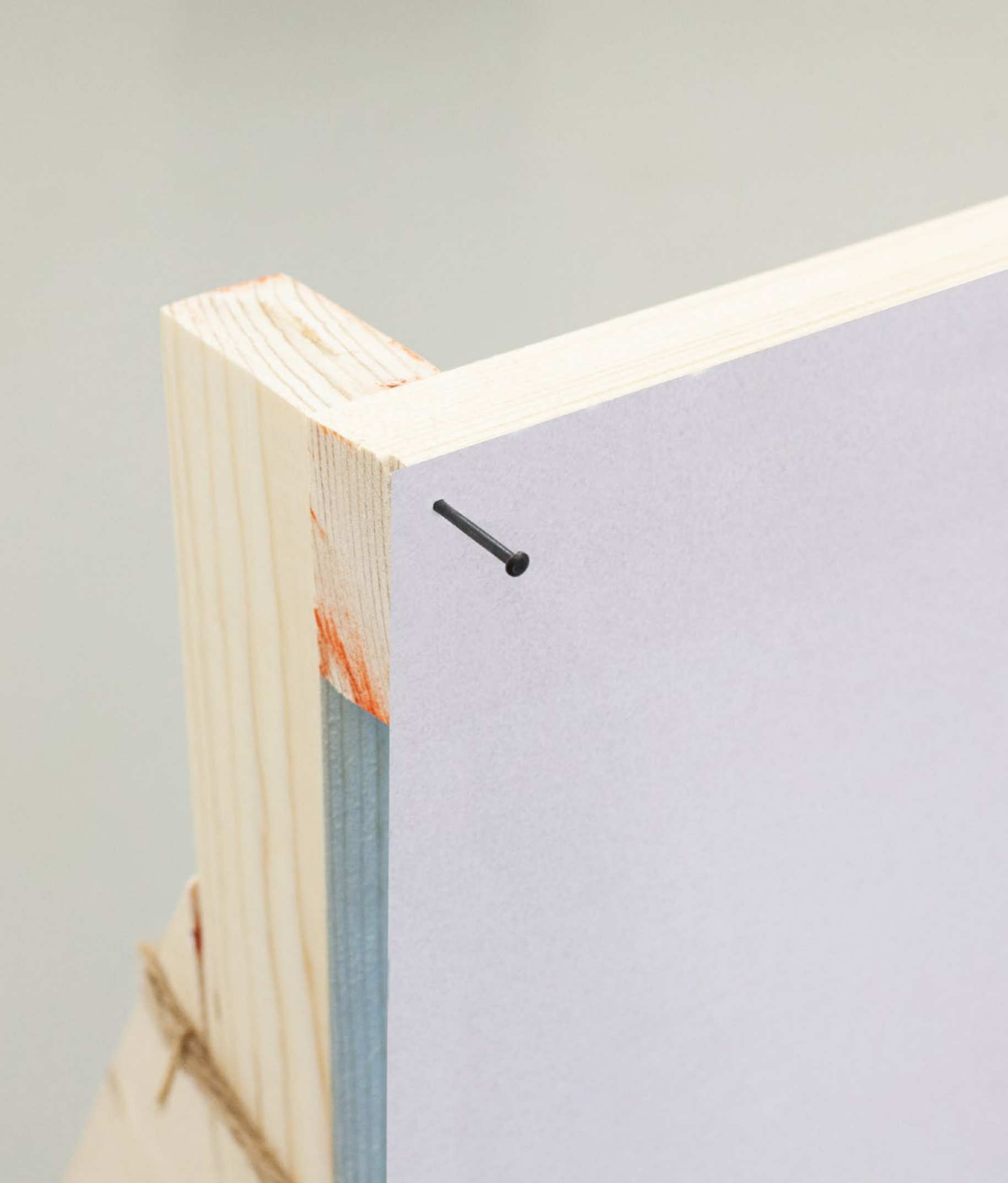
Installation view of "fuzz fuzz" (2023) in collaboration with Francisca Patrocínio – Stoneware, Moss, Tape, Audio system, 2-channel audio, looped, Dimensions variable



Details of "fuzz fuzz" (2023) in collaboration with Francisca Patrocínio – Stoneware, Moss, Tape, Audio system, 2-channel audio, looped, Dimensions variable

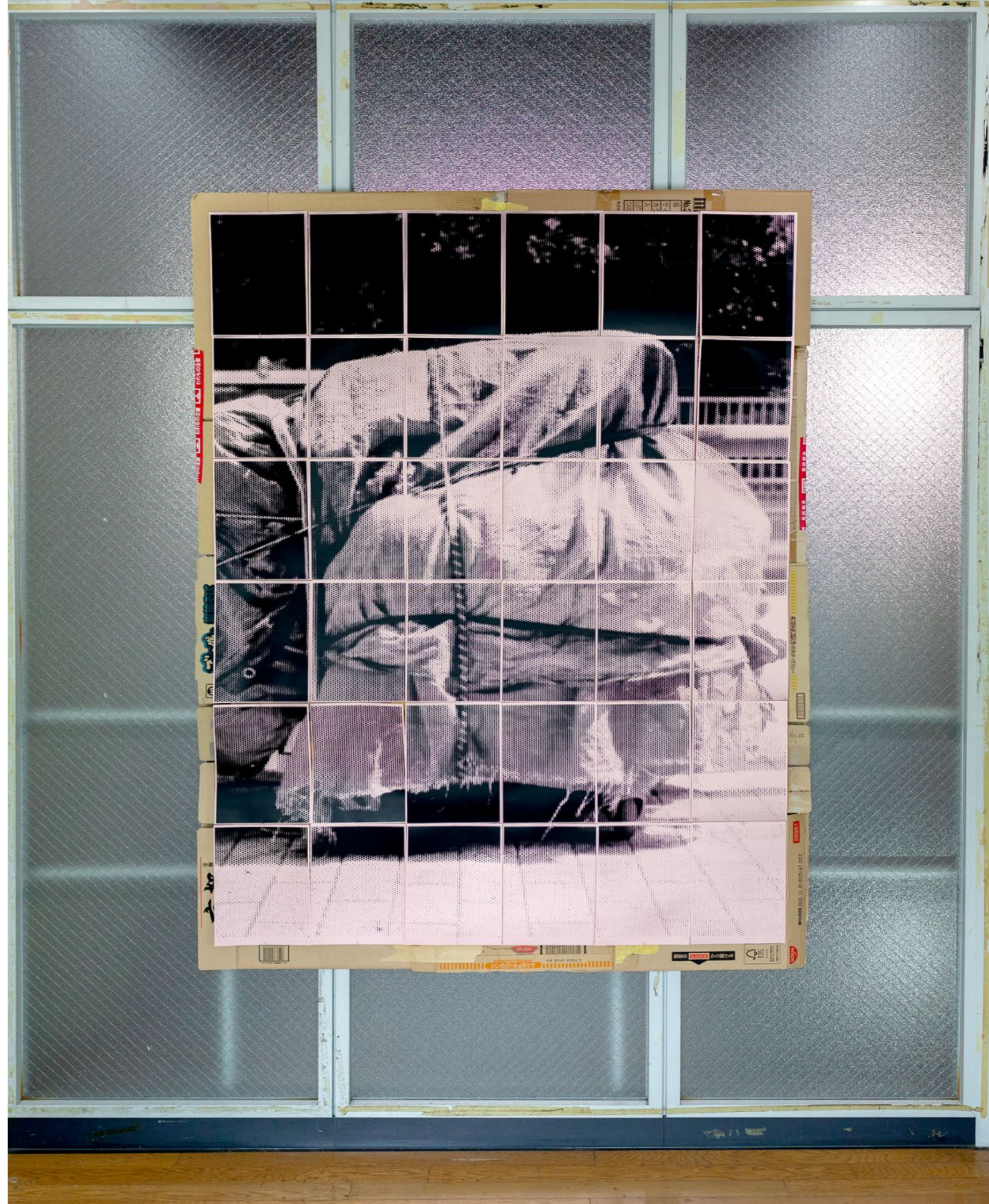


Installation view of "Mousetrap" (2023) – Inkjet Paper, Wood, Rope, Nails, 110 × 138 × 50 cm



Details of "Mousetrap" (2023) – Inkjet Paper, Wood, Rope, Nails, 110 × 138 × 50 cm

Installation view of "UENO PARK" (2023)
Paper, Cardboard, Tape, Nails
191 x 135 x 5 cm





Installation view of "Crepacci" (2023) – Clay, Paper, Dimensions variable



Details of "Crepacci" (2023) – Clay, Paper, Dimensions variable



Installation view of "I was floating on the surface, looking between spaces" (2023)
Glazed Stoneware, Water
Dimensions variable
In collaboration with Francisca Patrocínio



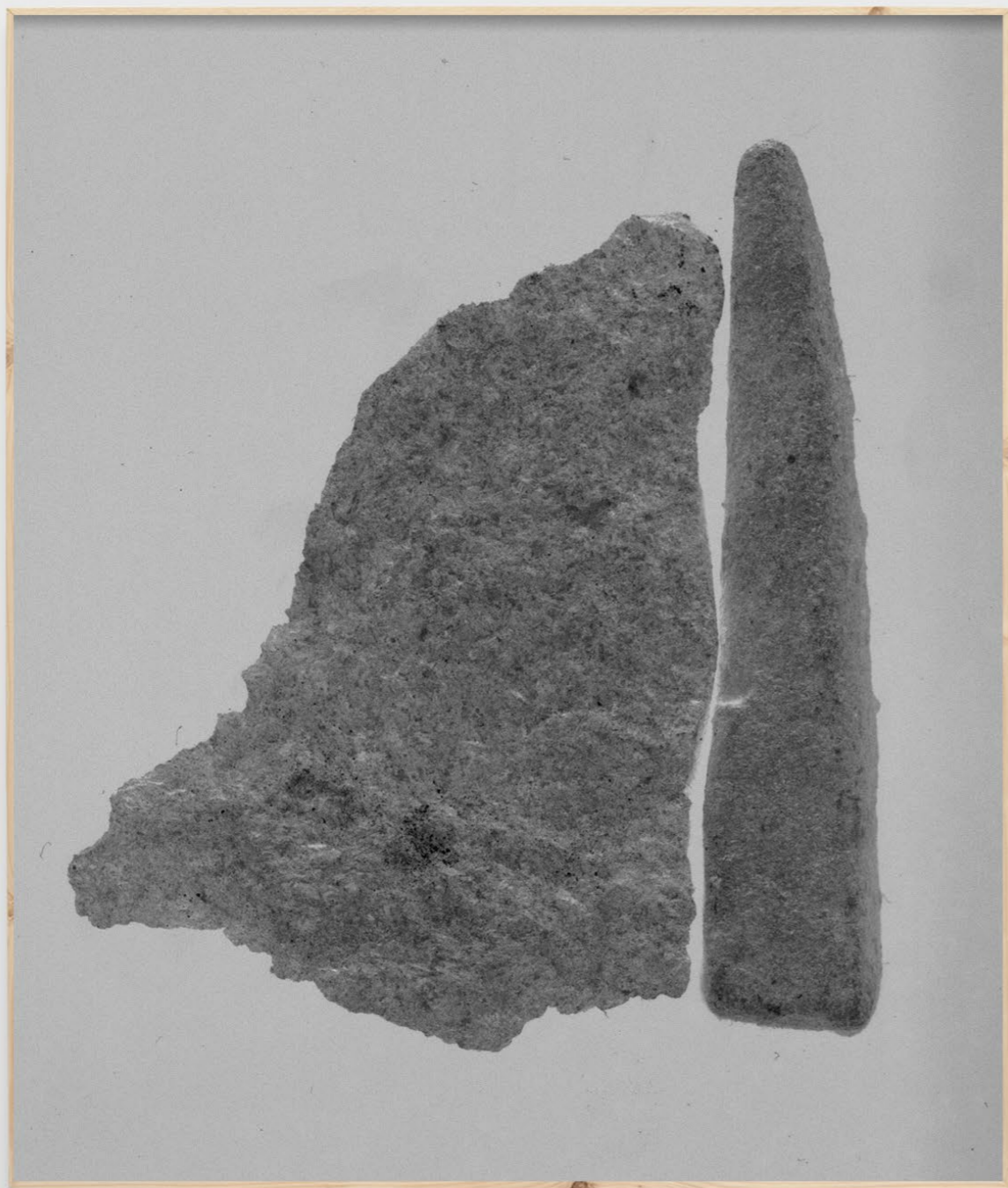
Installation view of "Rock studies" VII (2022) – Inkjet Print, Baryté Paper, Wood, 162 × 130 cm



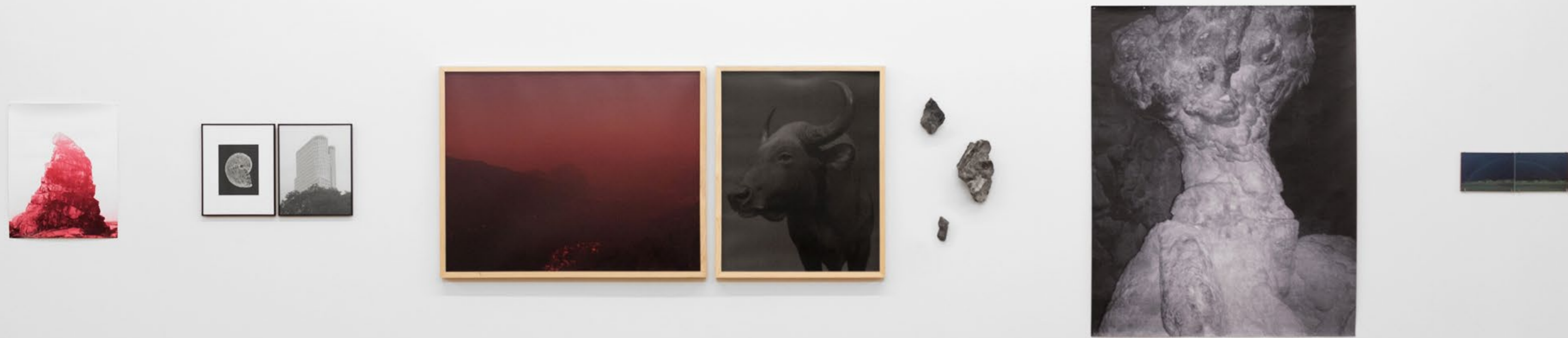
Two mountains (2022)
Inkjet Print, Baryté Paper, Wood, Glass
100 × 75 cm



Alba (2021)
Print Inkjet, Paper Baryta, Wood frame
130 × 162 cm



Untitled (2021)
Print Inkjet, Paper Baryta, Wood
130 × 162 cm



Installation view of "Naturalia" (2020) – Inkjet Print, Baryta Paper, Wood, Glass, Rocks, Dimensions variable

Massimiliano Rossetto (b.1993) is a Swiss–Italian artist.
He lives and works in Zurich.

Information

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Education

2022–2024 ZHdK Zurich University of the Arts – MA in Fine Arts (Zurich, Switzerland)
2014–2016 BLOO – BA in Fine Arts & Contemporary Photography (Lyon, France)

Solo exhibitions

2025 Standard/deluxe (Lausanne, Switzerland)
2025 Tra le rocce – Amiamo Caffè (Zurich, Switzerland)
2024 Artificio – Micromacro, Atelier Viandanti (Lugano, Switzerland)

Selected exhibitions

2025 The Grand Tiger Hotel – Offspace Hotel Tiger (Zurich, Switzerland)
2024 È Fuoco Nell'Iridescenza – Spazio Fervida (Lugano, Switzerland)
Matazz – Unternehmen Mitte (Basel, Switzerland)
Artificio – Micromacro Atelier Viandanti (Lugano, Switzerland)
Space Invasion III – Fabienne Levy Gallery (Lausanne, Switzerland)
Making space, finding forms (Diploma Exhibition MFA) – Toni Areal ZHdK (Zurich, Switzerland)
2023 La Regionale (ACXSI) – Villa Ciani (Lugano, Switzerland)
Of Each Absence – Klimarunde, ETH curated by Judith Welter (Zurich, Switzerland)
GIFT, Toni Areal (Zurich, Switzerland)
Restless in the 1960s – Tokyo University of the Arts (Tokyo, Japan)
BreggiArte – Associazione Percorsi Culturali (Bruzella, Switzerland)
Playing with the trouble – [SIC] Space for International Cooperation (Athens, Greece)
2nd Quanzhou International Image Biannual – Huaguang Photography Art Museum (Quanzhou, China)
Playing with the trouble – Shared Campus Summer School (Aspropyrgos, Greece)
Off grid – Material (Zurich, Switzerland)
Stories of water, Chapter IV – Oncurating project space (Zurich, Switzerland)
10th edition – La nuit de la photo, Musée des beaux-arts (La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland)
OFF GRID – Material, curated by Elisa Pezza (Zurich, Switzerland)
Chapter II: shapes of water – Oncurating project space (Zurich, Switzerland)
2022 Winter Auction Fine Arts – Fondation ZHdK (Zurich, Switzerland)
Rethinking Nature – Festival Center FOTO WIEN, European Month of Photography (Vienna, Austria)
Genesi creativa – m.a.x. museo, Spazio Officina (Chiasso, Switzerland)
.YOUNG – Kromya Art Gallery (Lugano, Switzerland)
Le stanze dell'arte – Palazzo Civico (Bellinzona, Switzerland)
2021 Wunderkummer – Atelier Viandanti curated by Maria Ares, Francesco Maria Gamba (Lugano, Switzerland)
25th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography – IPFO Haus der Fotografie (Olten, Switzerland)
Rethinking Nature – Imago Lisboa, European Month of Photography (Lisbon, Portugal)
C'era una volta la Pangea – Offspace +41, curated by Nicolò Latini, Chiara Ottavi (La Saceba, Switzerland)
HOT MESS II – Neuzzeit Ost, curated by Yolandé Gouws (Berlin, Germany)
Rethinking Nature – Mois européen de la photographie Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
photoSCHWEIZ – Halle 550, curated by Daniel Bollinger (Zurich, Switzerland)
24th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography – Kammgarn West (Schaffhausen, Switzerland)
S(P)LACES – Centrale Festival, curated by Laura Davi (Fano, Italy)
2020 HOT MESS – Prince Charles, curated by Yolandé Gouws (Berlin, Germany)
24th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography – Oslo 8 (Basel, Switzerland)
24th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography – Photobastei (Zurich, Switzerland)
Generation Z – Noorderlicht International Fotofestival, curated by Robert Jan Verhagen (Groningen, Netherlands)
SPC Photo Awards – Photobastei (Zurich, Switzerland)
2019 Environment Documenta – LoosenArt gallery (Rome, Italy)
Rala: Feast of the Peasant – RETA (Zurich, Switzerland)
2018 Les nouveaux sauvages – Le Faubourg (Lyon, France)
The inner forest – Verzasca Foto Festival (Sonogno, Switzerland)
2017 Vicini di casa – Spazio 1b (Lugano, Switzerland)
2016 Sê plural como universo! – LaRada, curated by Carolina Sanchez, Riccardo Lisi (Locarno, Switzerland)
Exhibition École BLOO – Loft 4–40 (Lyon, France)
Vita di lago – Brissago Islands (Locarno, Switzerland)

2016 Low Cost – BLOO gallery (Lyon, France)
2015 Art Tonic – Port Tonic Art Center (St. Tropez, France)
2012 Identità – Ego gallery (Lugano, Switzerland)

Public collections

2024 City of Zurich – Kunstsammlung Stadt Zürich (Switzerland)

Awards & Nominations

2024 Special mention, Premio Fondazione Verzasca (Vogorno, Switzerland)
Finalist, KSW Kantonsspital Winterthur Kunstpreis (Winterthur, Switzerland)
2023 Finalist, H&B Real Estate AG Kunstpreis (Zurich, Switzerland)
2020 Winner, 24th vfg Swiss Young Talent Award for Photography (Zurich, Switzerland)
2016 3rd price, Vita di lago – Verzasca Foto Festival (Brissago, Switzerland)

Residencies

2023 Shared Campus Summer School (Tokyo, Japan)
Shared Campus Summer School (Athens, Greece)

Publications (selection)

2024 Review Magazine, Issue 1° (London, UK)
LOVE Book, ZHdK Editions (Zurich, Switzerland)
FEROCE – Respiro Cosmico, Self-published (Zurich, Switzerland)
Voci d'Artista – Orizzonti, Cooperazione, Issue 24° (Basel, Switzerland)
Mineralien und Gesteine, Self-published (Zurich, Switzerland)
Naturalia, photo-letter (Berlin, Switzerland)
2023 A Hybrid Transmedia Storytelling, HGK Basel FHNW Editions (Basel, Switzerland)
2022 Fisheye Photo Review 2021.22, Fisheye Éditions (Paris, France)
2020 ENTKUNSTUNG III (Berlin, Germany)
L'appel d'une forêt perdue, Fisheye Magazine (Paris, France)
PF – Fotografie Magazine, Issue 4° (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Grants

2025 Focus Photo – Pro Helvetia, Swiss Arts Council
2024–25 What's next_Compass – Z-Kubator at Zurich University of the Arts (Zurich, Switzerland)
2023–24 Fondation Felix Leemann (Lugano, Switzerland)
2022–23 Fondation Zangger Weber (Zurich, Switzerland)

Other projects

2024 LOVE Book – Supported by ZHdK MA Fine Arts Department
2018 Member of near. – Swiss association for contemporary photography
2018 Photobook: RESET by “Self Publish, Be Happy”, EMOP Opening Days, hosted by C/O Berlin
2012 Reflexions Masterclass founded by Giorgia Fiorio and Gabriel Bauret
2012 Co-founder of YET MAGAZINE