

SIMON THIOU
www.simonthiou.com

PORTFOLIO 2023
SELECTION OF WORKS

Simon Thiou displaces the uses of materials, he gives them another form of life, often cold and almost clinical. Flawless but fundamentally deviant, his cuts, hindrances, outgrowths, grafts, destructions would almost assimilate him to a Doctor Robert Ledgard¹ of sculpture. However, if these unnatural crossings induce dramatic developments that (de)generate forms, giving birth to things that exist right next to us, behind a transparent curtain, the artist first creates fictions. Moreover, by questioning the history of objects as much as their forms and their material, by feeding on science fiction cinema as much as on sculpture, Simon Thiou invents complex and referenced narratives, of which his sculptures would only be the exploded resurgences, the puzzle pieces of a parallel world.

Camille de Singly

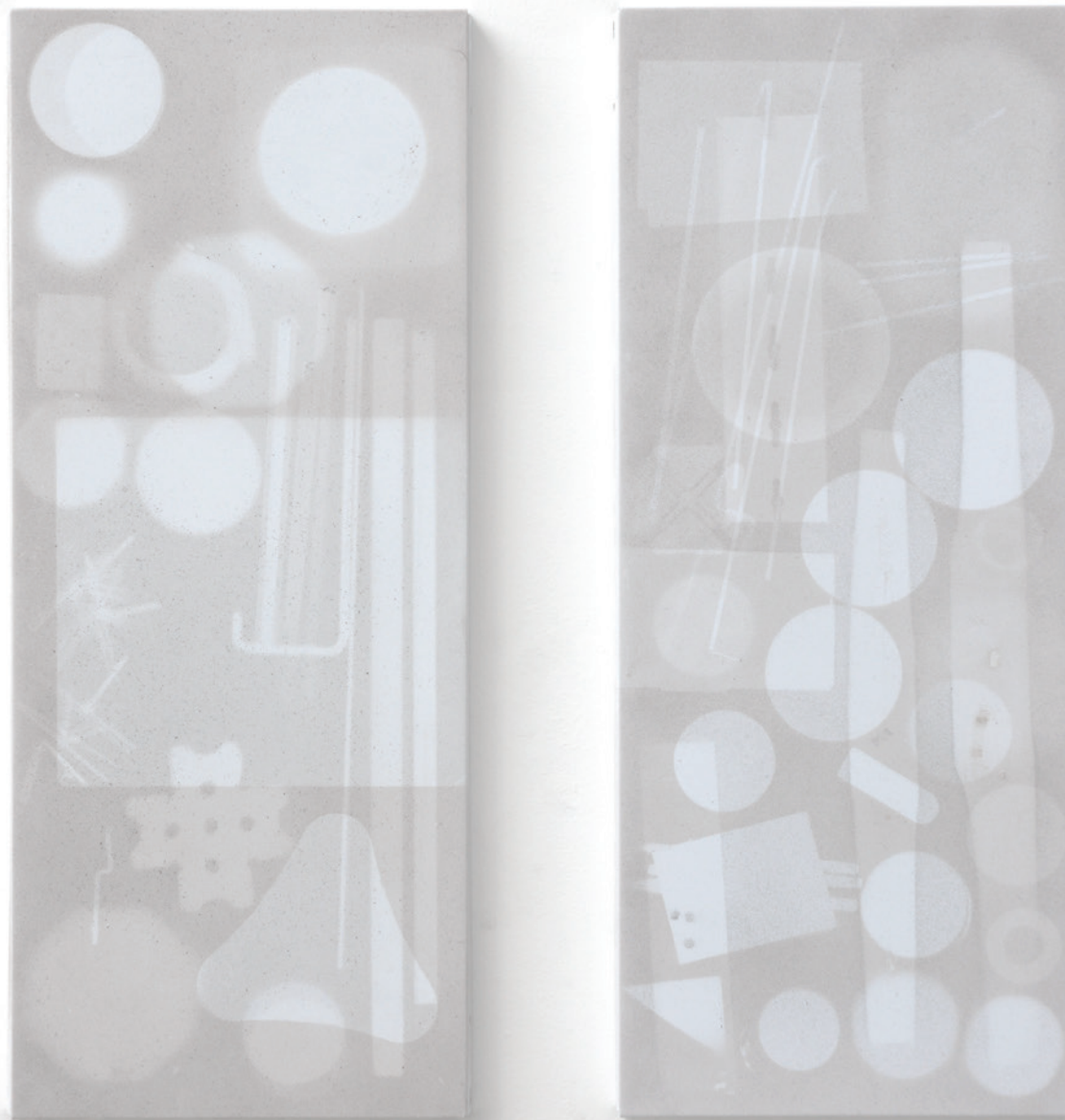
1. Hero of the film *La piel que habito* (The Skin I Live In) by Almodovar (2011)



Untitled, 2022
cadastral map on tracing paper, coal, laminated steel
110 x 18 x 9 cm







series **Untitled**, 2022
painted metal shelves, workshop dust - variable dimensions





82612331, 2022

Open end wrenge 20-22, stainless steel, painted steel

109 x 34 x 15 cm

This tool is a standard size 20-22 open-end wrench from a hardware store. The object, made of chrome vanadium, has been artificially oxidized in an electrolysis bath, then restored as faithfully as possible. Presented on a base, in the manner of an ethnographic object, this tool, never having been used, seems to bear the traces of a previous life.



Rechercher

82612331, 2022

video, 17'18''

The transformation steps of this wrench were compiled in a video of the same name.

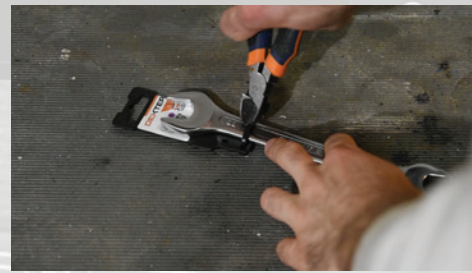
Like the practices of restoring old objects, increasingly popular on YouTube, this video has prompted the creation of a channel on the same site, generating its own space of diffusion.

As for the object, it has become a sculpture and now has its place in the exhibition space.

Link to the video :

<https://youtu.be/5BQsqe4LBjk>

https://simonthiou.com/82612331_eng.html

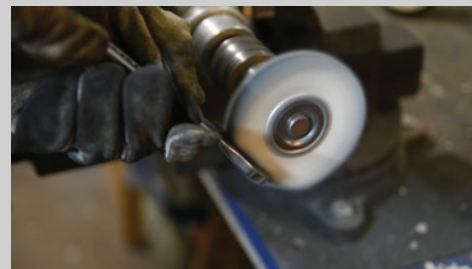


sculpture 82612331

207 vues • il y a 8 mois

Sous-titres

17:16



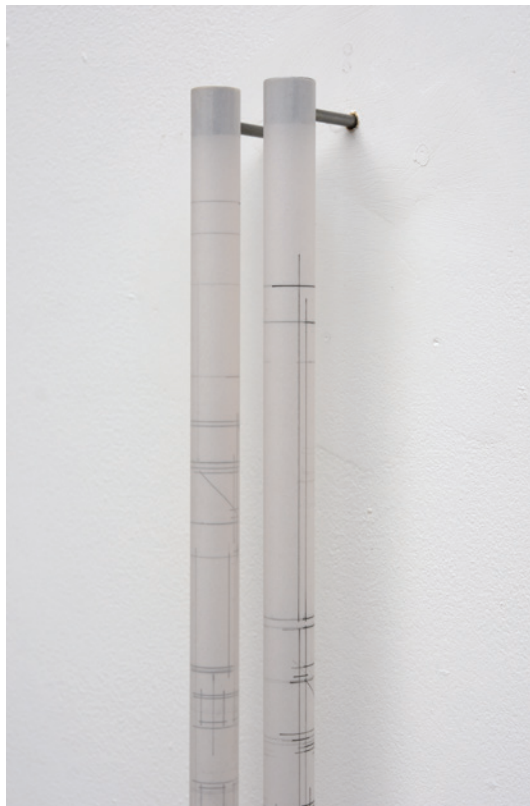
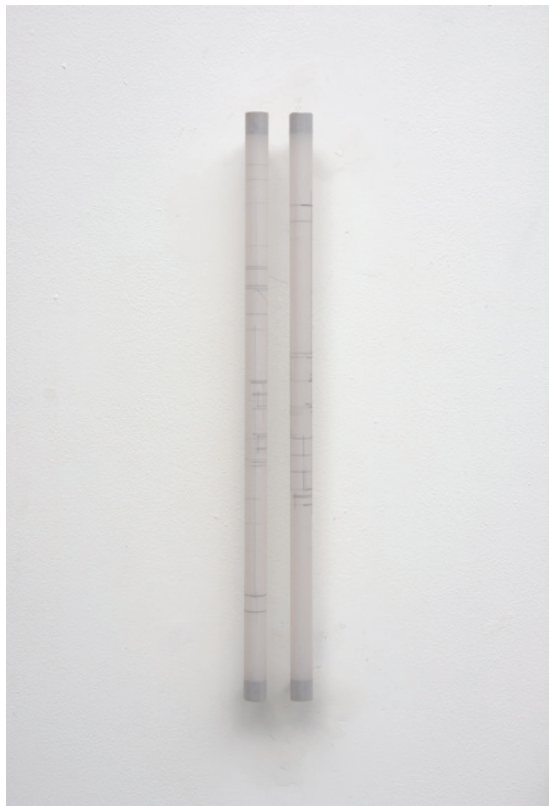
Screenshots of the video 82612331



series **Untitled**, 2021
architecture plans on tracing paper, laminated steel, screws
6 sculptures - 49 x 8,5 x 4 cm each







series **Untitled**, 2021 - architecture plans on tracing paper, steel - 42 x 5 x 4 cm

This selection of works, of the same nature, was realized during the year 2021. Each sculpture is built with an architectural plan on tracing paper, rolled and glued on itself, in A4 or A3 format. These plans were recovered from a discarded stock, from an architect.

Each format is the subject of a series composed of elements of the same size. Each element is unique because it is made from an original plan, drawn by hand.

Using the potential of the transparency of the tracing paper, these cylindrical forms are similar to collages. Each tube is assembled to round metallic sections (steel, copper) allowing the paper to be held and hung on the wall.

These forms give to see an abstract graphic composition, whose function remains to be defined.

series **Untitled**, 2021 - architecture plan on tracing paper, copper - 32 x 1,2 x 3 cm



Parasite, 2020
urban intervention

Link to the video of the intervention : https://simonthiou.com/parasite_eng.html

The project "Parasite" is an urban intervention realized at rue Grécourt in Tours, in October 2020.

At that time, France is lock down and art places are closed. Back from Germany and having no studio, the urban space becomes a place to invest.

The intervention consists in feeding a set of mailboxes of an uninhabited address.

Made in the format of paper advertisements, blank booklets are deposited each week at this address, giving life to a place, like a parallel activity.

The intervention ended after a resident emptied each mailbox mysteriously.





47°23'10.1''N 0°41'24.3''E from the series **Coordinates**, 2020
plaster, bitumen
90 x 90 x 10 cm

The coordinates is an urban molding project that consists in taking plaster prints on road repair sites. These casts are made after the passage of a planer with spikes, a civil engineering machine that scrapes the upper part of the road, using a drum equipped with tungsten carbide spikes. These wild imprints constitute an urban archaeology which reveals, in negative, the state of a road, invisible after the end of the building site.





47°23'10.1 N 0°41'24.3 E



47°23'09.3 N 0°41'10.4 E



47°23'11.2 N 0°41'02.5 E



47°23'09.4 N 0°41'11.5 E



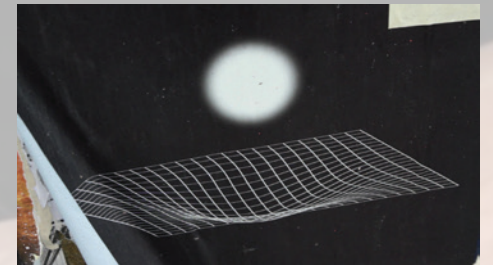
Der Kaugummiautomat, 2019
video 5'46''

Video made during a workshop in September 2019 in Leipzig, Germany.

Link to the video : https://simonthiou.com/kaugummiautomat_eng.html

Starting from an urban object, the Kaugummiautomat, in english the chewing-gum dispenser, which has been scattered around the streets of German cities since the post-war period, this video, made in the Eisenbahnstraße in Leipzig, is inspired by the method invented by Jean Rouch and Edgar Morin in the documentary "Chronique d'un été", made in 1961 in Paris.

The color of a chewing gum ball, randomly delivered by a mechanism activated by a 20 cent coin, becomes the pretext for a visual investigation which, through encounters and interviews, mixes different subjects and contexts, creating an aesthetic stroll ruled by coincidence.





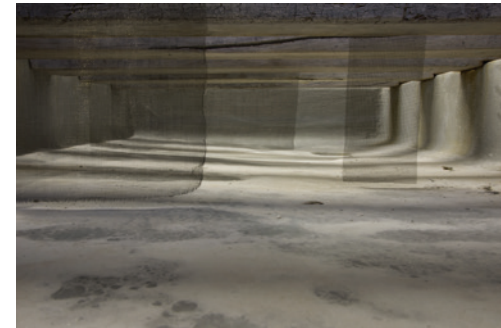
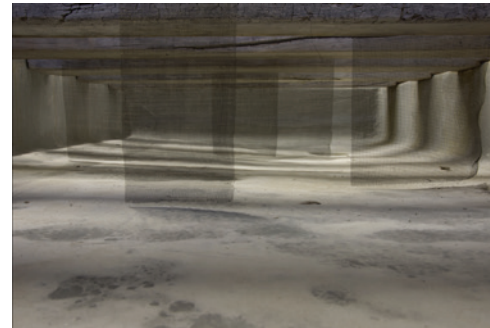
Zone (extended), 2019 - video installation - video projectors, media players, extension cables, plaster - variable dimensions

link to the video of the installation : https://simonthiou.com/zoneetendue_eng.html

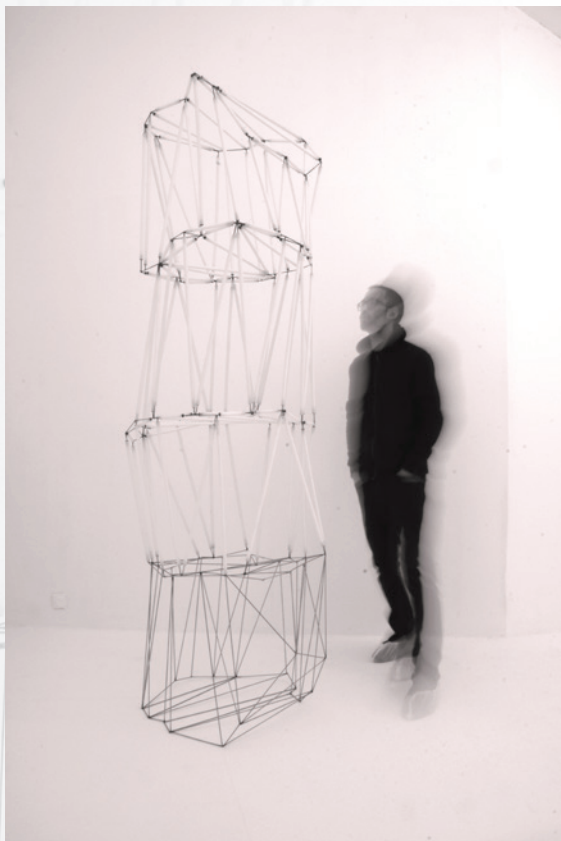
The installation "Zone" is a video triptych. Each projection shows a space whose nature remains unknown, within which different materials are arranged. The place of the action is a grain tank of a lithographic workshop, the place where images are erased. The point of view transforms this tank into a real architecture, giving the materials that inhabit it a monumental character.



Installation view of **Zone (extended)** - exhibition Host Call1), Open School Gallery - Nantes



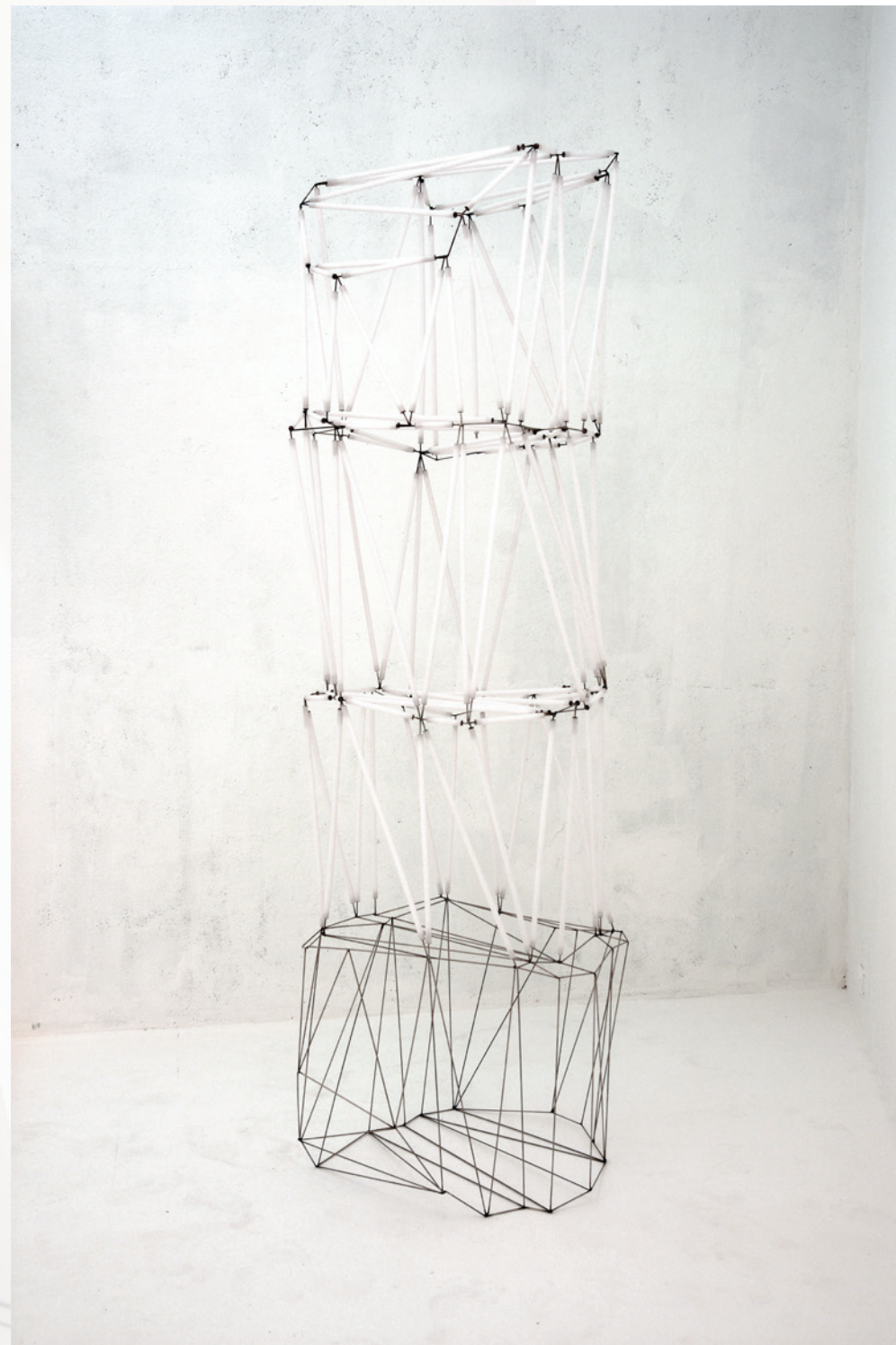
Screenshots of the different videos making up the "Zone (extended)" installation



Views of **Géométries cristallines**, solo show / Mutatio, 2018
Work realized thanks to l'Aide Individuelle à la Création DRAC Pays de la Loire

link to the video of the installation : https://simonthiou.com/mutatio_eng.html

Élévation, 2018 - tracing paper, coppered steel, stainless steel - 70 x 85 x 250 cm
solo show, Mutatio, Nantes





series **Foyers**, 2017 - black smoke on architecture plans - 40 x 50 cm each



Untitled, 2016

tile adhesive on wood, black smoke (lighter drawing)

320 x 220 cm

Untitled is a drawing made in smoke black, recalling the ancestral technique of the first drawings. The hexagonal shape of the supports evokes, in a more contemporary way, the mirrors of giant telescopes.

The nature of the image oscillates between a microscopic and a macroscopic view. Both in the material that represents it and in the form of the support, this image, fragile and distant, seems to belong to the past.

View from *Lauréats 2014 du Prix des Arts Visuels de La Ville de Nantes* exhibition, L'Atelier, Nantes, France - 2015





6rBHd-1021, 2015 - solo show / HAUS - Blockhaus DY.10, Nantes

(foreground : **6R-1021.B32**, 2015 - Plate tile, tile adhesive, concrete, béton - 75 x 180 x 220 cm)



1021M, 2010 - mini DV transfered on HD card, 1'24'' loop
6rBHd-1021 show, second room

link to the video : https://simonthiou.com/veilleuse_eng.html





6R-1021.TIE, 2015
plate tile, tile adhesive, cement-wood - 180 x 85 x 220 cm

6R-1021.1415926535, 2015
plate tile, tile adhesive, concrete - 205 x 80 x 180 cm



Figures spatiales, 2015 - wood-cement, black smoke (lighter drawing) - 800 x 400 cm, in situ installation



(details) **Figures spatiales**, 2015 - wood-cement, black smoke (lighter drawing)
800 x 400 cm, in situ installation





Untitled, 2013 - shelf painted galvanized steel, iron
ore - 580 x 240 x 230 cm
*Work produced during a residency at POLLEN,
Monflanquin*

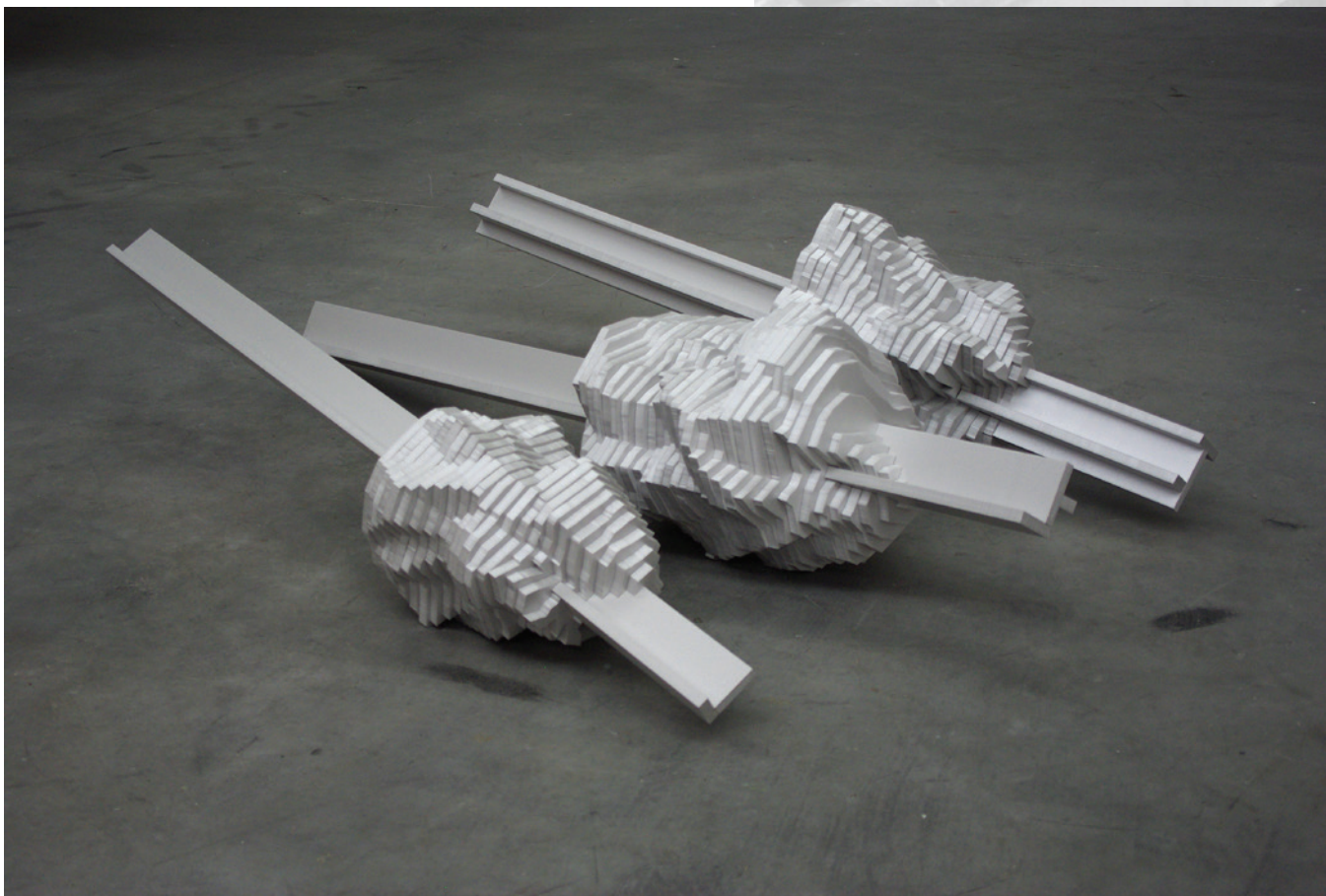
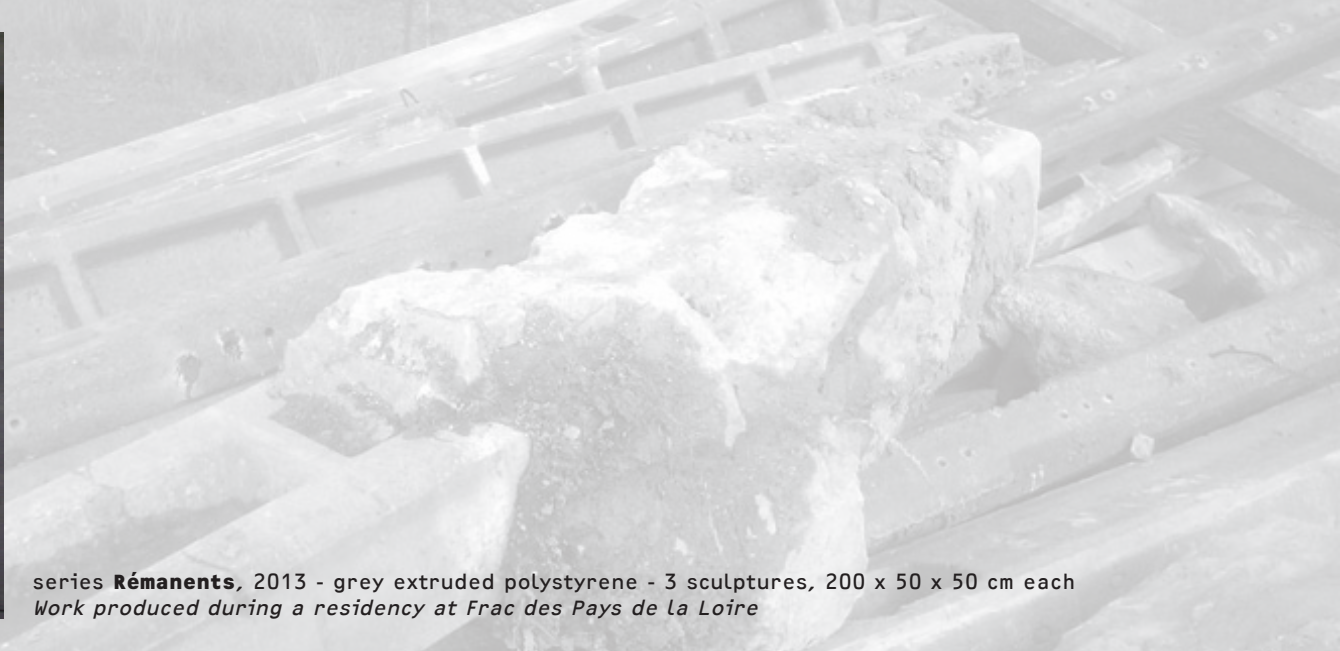








series **Rémanents**, 2013 - grey extruded polystyrene - 3 sculptures, 200 x 50 x 50 cm each
Work produced during a residency at Frac des Pays de la Loire



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Training

2011/2012 : Master CCEP (DNSEP) option Art, esba Angers
2010 : Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design - Dundee, Ecosse
2009/2010 : DNAP option Design, esba Angers

Lives and works in Tours

Solo shows

2018 : *Géométries cristallines*, Mutatio - Nantes
2015 : *6rBHD-1021*, Blockhaus DY.10 - Nantes

Group shows

2022 : *Archive # 6*, Galerie Paradise - Nantes
2021 : *Avalanches*, Galerie PAL Project - Paris
2019 : *Host Call1*), Open School Galerie - Nantes
Nouvelles acquisitions Artothèque, Artothèque d'Angers
2018 : *Genèse de oeuvre*, Ateliers Bonus - Nantes
Exposition inaugurale, Ateliers Bonus - Nantes
2017 : *Zones*, Galerie 5 - Angers
CLOU 11, L'Atelier - Nantes
Le Voyage à Nantes 2017 - Nantes
Ou0ù0uh - Ingrandes
Welcome Home, 10 ans de la galerie RDV - Nantes
2016 : *[...] 6b* - Saint-Denis
Archipel - Episode III, IPN - Toulouse
Archipel - Episode II, Praticable - Rennes
Et si le début du crépuscule... Galerie du 48 - Rennes
Archipel - Episode I, Temple du Goût - Nantes
2015 : *Resto/verso*, Fondation Louis Vuitton - Paris
Lauréats 2014 du prix des Arts visuels de la Ville de Nantes, L'Atelier - Nantes
At Work, Ecomusée de L'Avesnois - Fourmies
L'Orange, l'huître ou les plaisirs de la porte, Atelier Alain Le Bras - Nantes
2014 : *L'Art prend l'air*, carte blanche Galerie RDV - Nantes
2013 : *Artiste en résidence à Monflanquin*, POLLEN - Monflanquin
hluku kefy, kladiya ticho, atelier 1000 feuilles - Nantes
Ateliers Portes Ouvertes Rennes 2013 (invited by Julie Fortier) - Rennes

Curating

2017 : *Exposition Zones*, Galerie 5 - Angers. Invité par Le Frac des Pays de la Loire

Residencies / Prices

2021 : Aide à la création DRAC Centre Val de Loire
2019 : Laureate prix KATAPULT, exposition *Host Call1*)
2018 : Bourse d'Aide au Projet de Création, Région des Pays de la Loire
2017 : Residence à la Galerie 5 - Université d'Angers
Bourse d'Aide Individuelle à la Création, Drac Pays de la Loire
2015 : Bourse d'Aide à la Création, Région Pays de la Loire
2014 : Laureate du Prix de la Ville de Nantes 2014
2013 : Residence au Frac des Pays de la Loire - Carquefou
Nominated for the Prix Maïf pour la Sculpture 2013
Residence à Artiste en résidence - Monflanquin, POLLEN

Lecture - Workshop - Jury

2018 : *Dès-limiter, une extension du réel*, direction of a workshop at
l'École des Beaux-arts de Nantes Métropole
Lecture at l'école des Beaux-arts de Nantes Métropole
2017 : Jury DNAP Blanc, Esba TALM - site Angers