

a solo exhibition by

Hasanul Tsyraf Idris

05.09–08.11.2026



Supported by

UOB



Blank Canvas is proud to present *Fruiting Bodies*, a new solo exhibition by Penang-based artist Hasanul Isyraf Idris. The exhibition takes its title from the mycological term for the reproductive structures of fungi, a.k.a. mushrooms: the visible “fruit” of a larger fungal organism, emerging aboveground to spread its spores while a hidden network of mycelium extends in dense webs below the surface.

In recent years, Hasanul’s painting practice has revolved around the biodiversity of a plot of land that he and his family acquired in Selama, a rural district of Perak located about two hours’ drive from the artist’s George Town residence. Hasanul has been slowly developing the land, erecting a small vacation home for his family and, more recently, beginning construction on a studio for himself. Parts of the land have been cleared to make way for these two new human habitations, while much of its natural environment

continues to proliferate in clusters of brambles and bushes around the edges. Within this small patch of privately owned wilderness, an astonishing variety of local flora and fauna can still be encountered. Several of these specimens have appeared in previous painting series, together forming an evolving artistic index of the biodiversity found on Hasanul's land.

The present exhibition consists of small paintings on paper depicting fruiting bodies, mycelium, and other small forest friends. The fruiting bodies (a.k.a. mushrooms) are depicted in all their glorious variety: some fuzzy and white, resembling tiny parasols; others brown and oyster-like. They are the faceless extras of the forest ensemble, so humble, small, and chameleon-like as to be easily overlooked, while belonging to vast subterranean fungal networks. Through their mycelium, fungi form intricate relationships with the wider forest structure in an ecological exchange popularly known as the "wood wide web". On the symbolic plane, Hasanul, being an artist somewhat on the fringes of the scene's urban centre, is also interested in how life mimics the natural world, how ideas and influences are transmitted and propagated beyond what we see on the surface, beyond even the cycle of life and death.

Accompanying the paintings is an installation of tactile mycelium experimentation that the artist has developed in close collaboration with Dr Rosnida Tajuddin, a mycologist at the School of Biological Sciences in Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Public Programme

Opening

5 September 2026 (Sat)
6pm–8pm
7pm / Introduction
Blank Canvas
(85, Lorong Soo Hong)

Everyone is welcome to join this opening evening of the exhibition, *Fruiting Bodies*, by Hasanul Isyraf Idris.

Guided Tour

13 September 2026 (Sun)
10 October 2026 (Sat)
2.30pm – 3.30pm
Conduct in English

Join artist Hasanul Isyraf Idris and Dr Rosnida Tajuddin, mycologist at the School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, for a guided tour of *Fruiting Bodies*.

The tour offers an opportunity to explore the ideas and processes behind the exhibition, from Hasanul's paintings of fruiting bodies and mycelium to the tactile mycelium experimentation developed in collaboration with Dr Rosnida. Together, they will share how art and science meet through their exploration of fungi, mycelium and the natural world.

Installation View











Artwork



USMPNG(1)20251021

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(2)20251025

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(3)20250915

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



USMPNG(4)20250829

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(5)20260617

29.6 x 21.2cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(6)20250201
23 x 31cm
Ink & gouache on cotton paper
2026



SGSPTHKBH(7)20250915

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(8)20260701

23 x 31 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(9)20260702

29.5 x 21 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(10)20260415

31 x 22.8 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(11)20260415

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(12)20251021

29.5 x 21 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(13)20260603

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPT HKBH(14)20250915

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(15)20260716

23 x 31 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(16)20251026

31 x 23cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(17)20250824

23 x 31 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(18)20250824

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(19)20260607

29.5 x 21 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(20)20250129

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026

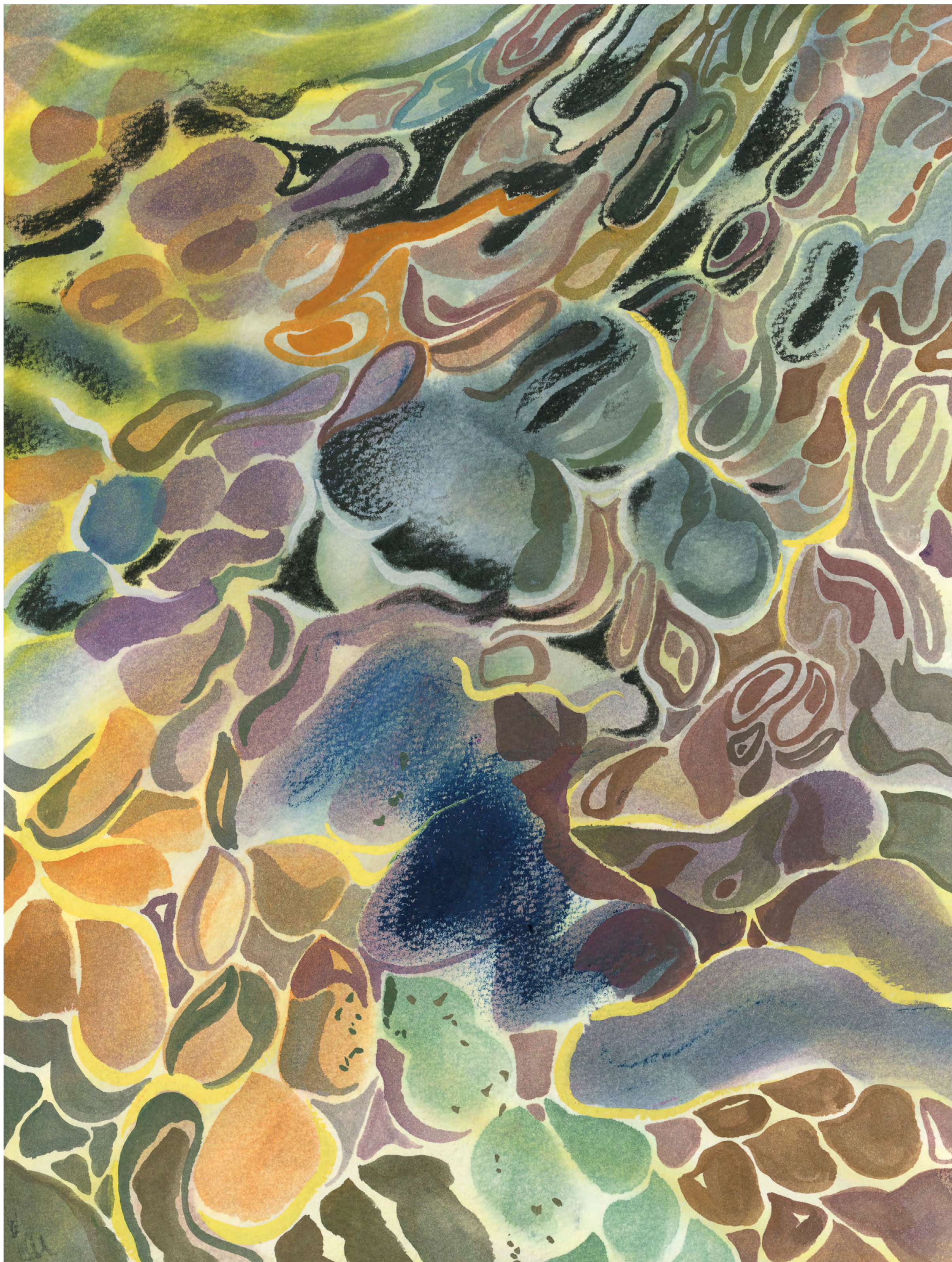


SGSPTHKBH(21)20260110

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(22)20260519

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic, charcoal & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(23)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026

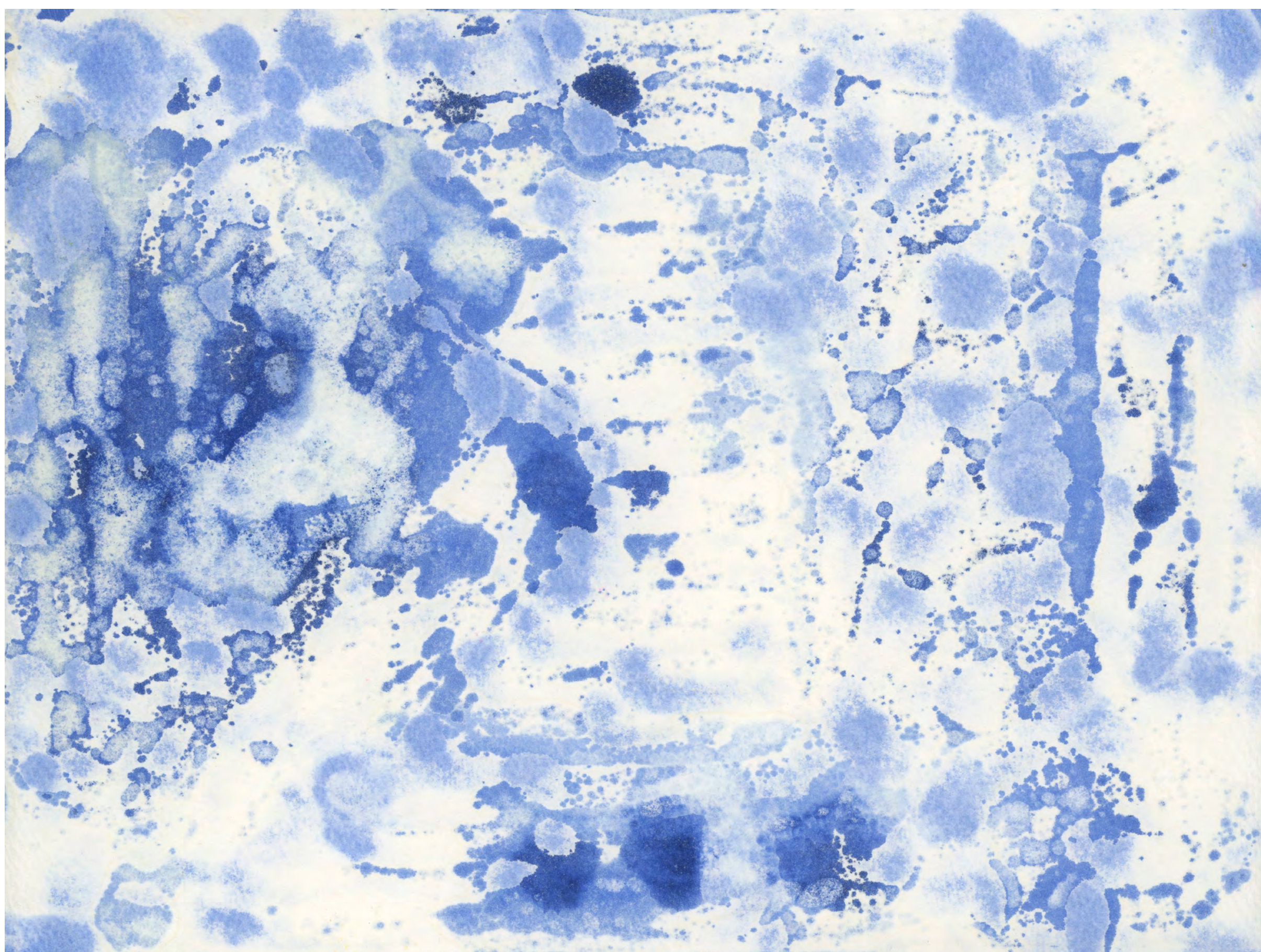


SGSPTHKBH(24)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026

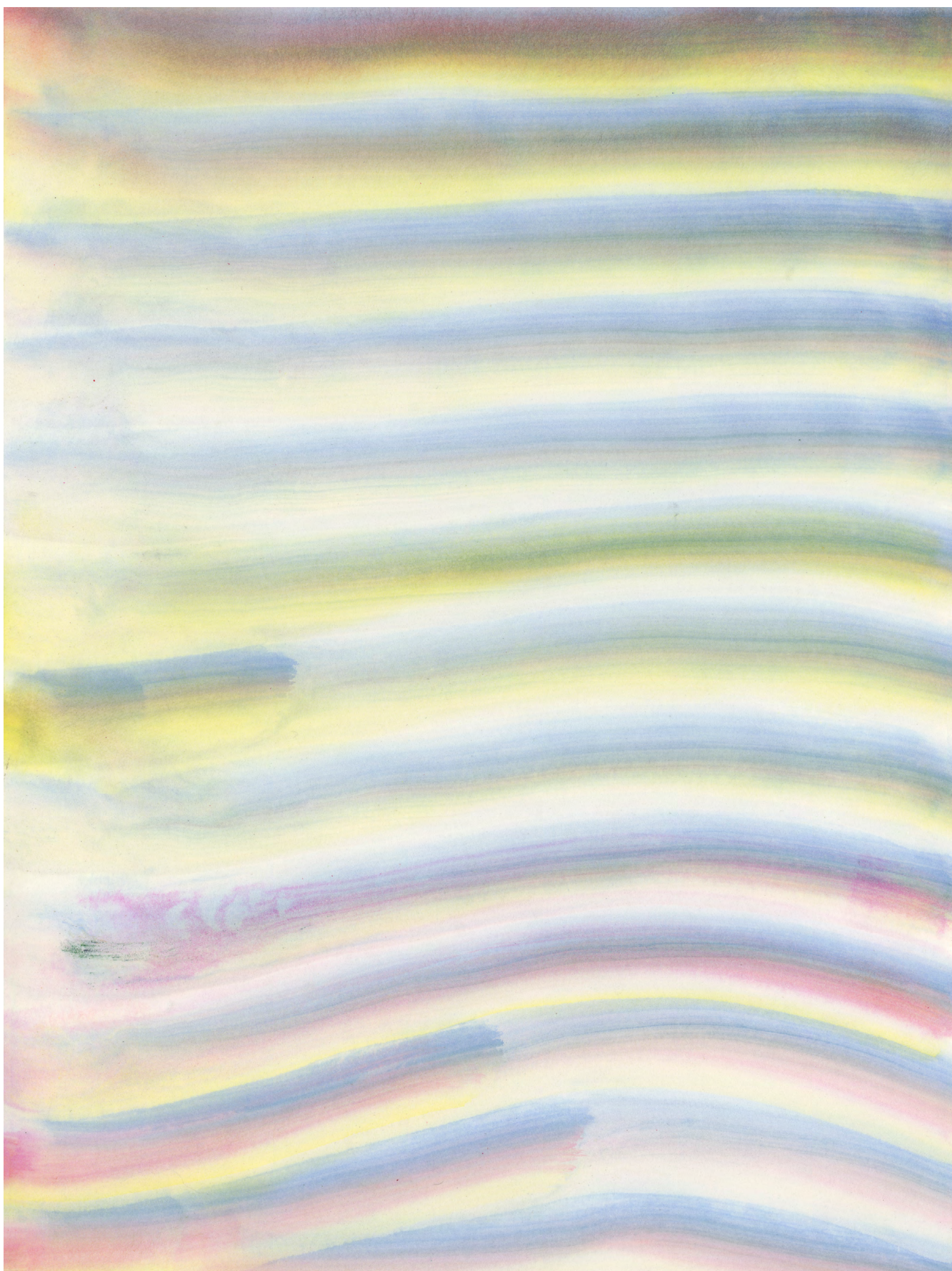


SGSPTHKBH(25)20251028

23 x 31 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026

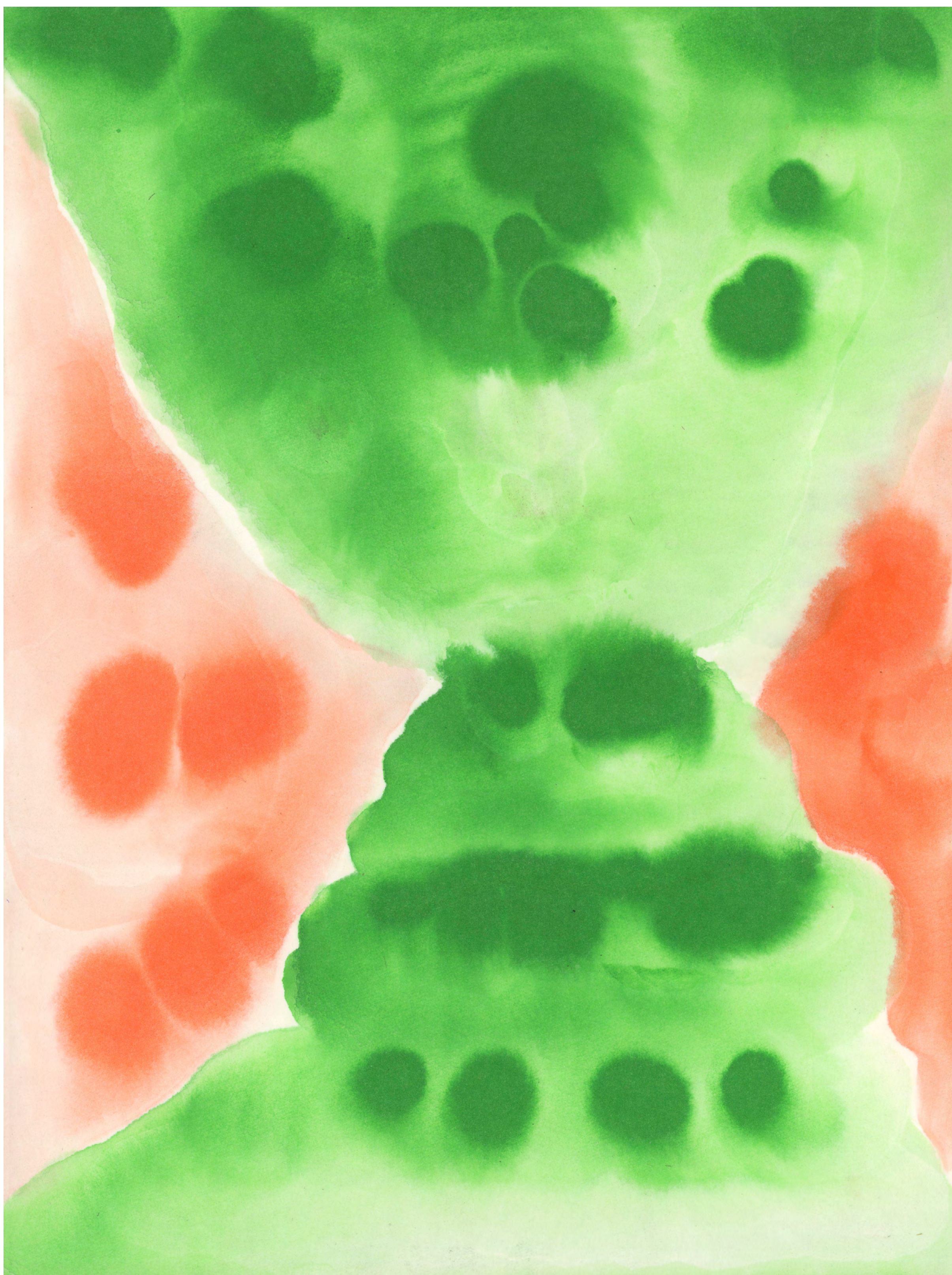


SGSPTHKBH(26)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026

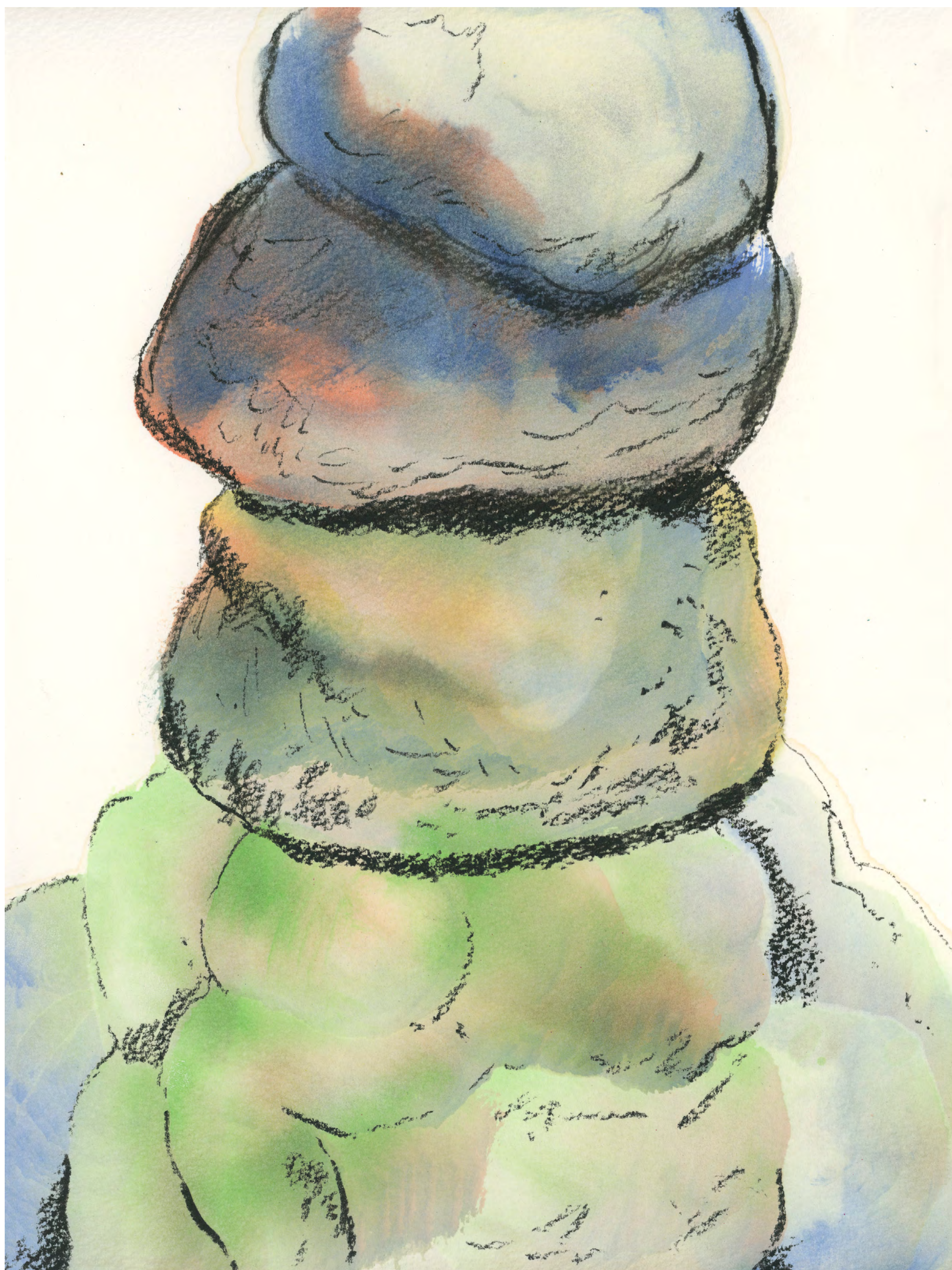


SGSPTHKBH(27)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026



SGSPT HKBH(28)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & charcoal on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(29)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(30)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(31)20251028

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(32)20251026

21 x 29.5 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(33)20250914

23 x 31 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(34)20250824

31 x 22.8 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(35)20250201

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(36)20250201

31 x 23 cm

Gouache on cotton paper

2026

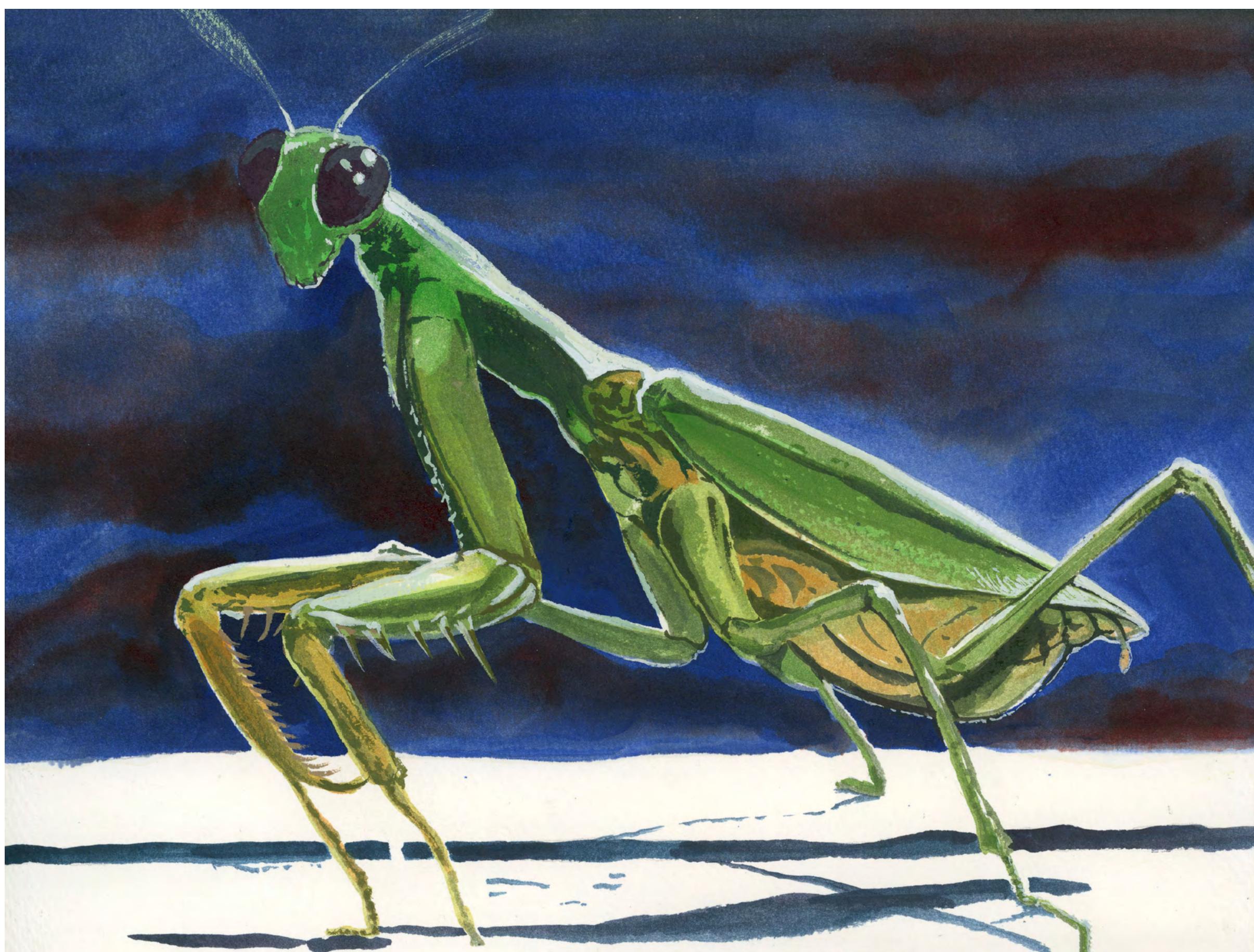


SGSPTHKBH(37)20250915

29.6 x 20.8 cm

Gouache on paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(38)20251220

23 x 31 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026



SGSPTHKBH(39)20250323

31 x 23 cm

Acrylic & gouache on cotton paper

2026

The title is inspired by the way scientists label and catalogue samples collected from research sites. Each part of the title refers to specific information about the sample:

- SG SPTH — Sungai Seputeh, the location of the artist's studio
- KBH — Kebun Bintang Hijau, the name of the artist's studio, situated near the Bintang Hijau Forest Reserve
- (35) — Sample number 35
- 20250201 — The date the artist found the sample: 1 February 2025



Breakdown 1

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, sodium hypochlorite

2025 - ongoing



Breakdown 2

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, ethyl alcohol

2026 - ongoing



Breakdown 3

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, ethyl alcohol

2026 - ongoing



Breakdown 4

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, ethyl alcohol

2026 - ongoing



Breakdown 5

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, ethyl alcohol

2026 - ongoing



Breakdown 6

60 x 40 x 10 cm

Paper, mushroom spawn, plastic bag, sodium hypochlorite

2025 - ongoing



White Fuzzy Colonies 1

Dimensions variable

Potato dextrose agar, petri dish, absolute alcohol, parafilm
2026



White Fuzzy Colonies 2

Dimensions variable

Potato dextrose agar, petri dish, absolute alcohol, parafilm
2026



White Fuzzy Colonies 3

Dimensions variable

Potato dextrose agar, petri dish, absolute alcohol, parafilm

2026



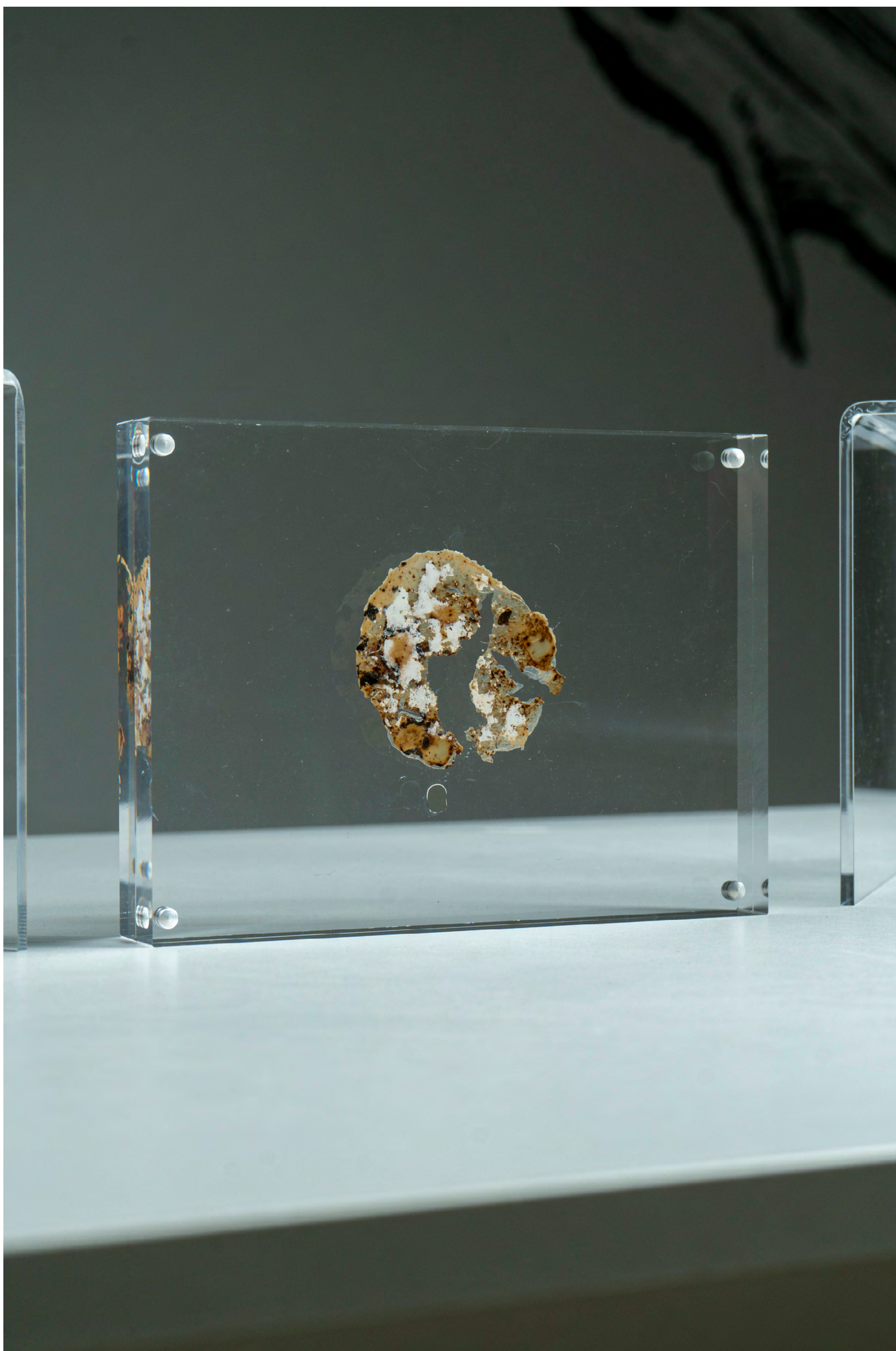
White Fuzzy Colonies 4

Dimensions variable

Potato dextrose broth, conical flask, aluminium foil, glycerol
2026



The Skin 1
20 x 15 x 3cm (each frame)
Acrylic, mycelium skin, glycerol
2026

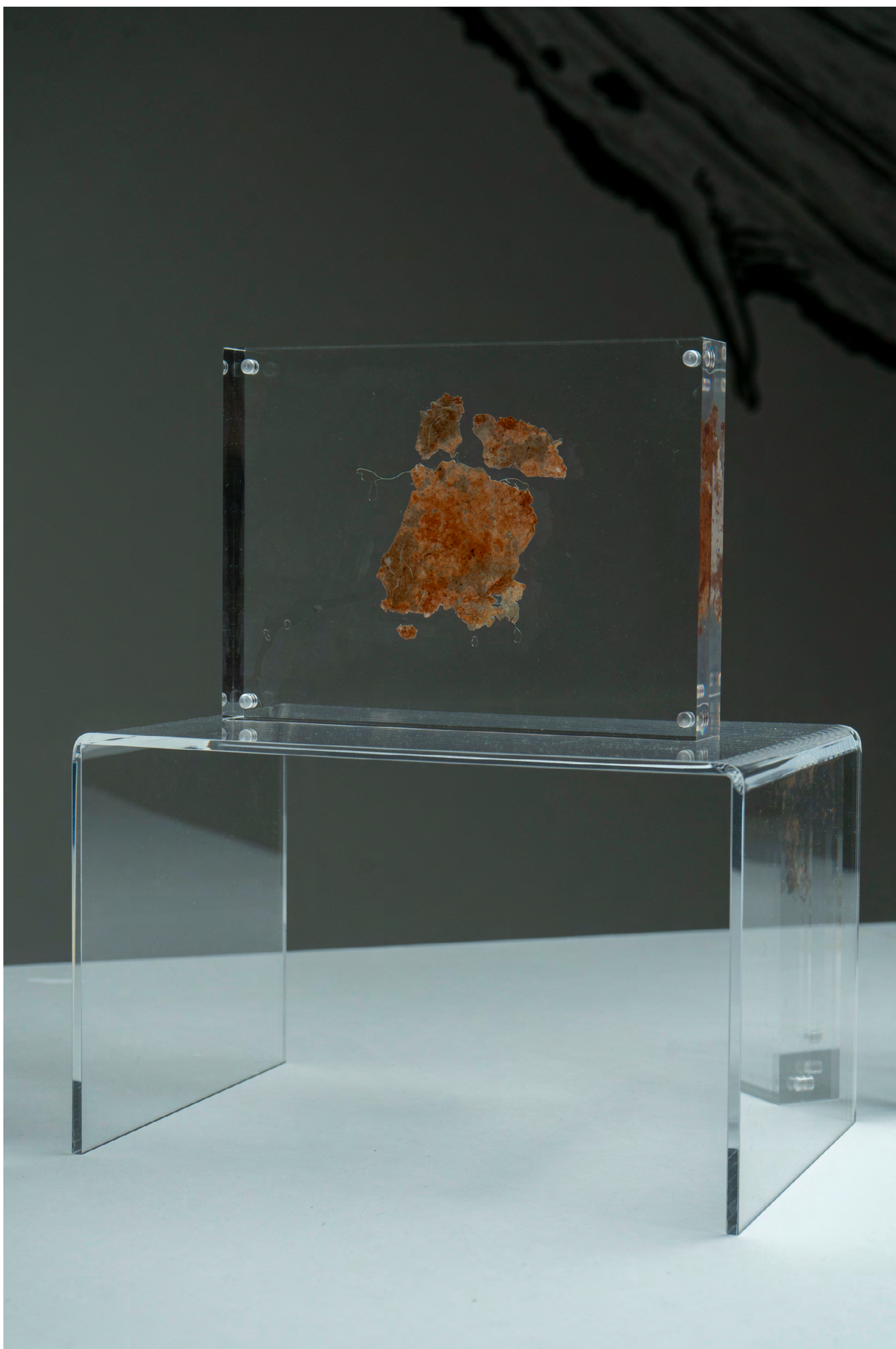


The Skin 2

20 x 15 x 3cm (each frame)

Acrylic, mycelium skin, glycerol

2026



The Skin 3

20 x 15 x 3cm (each frame)

Acrylic, mycelium skin, glycerol

2026



The Skin 4
20 x 15 x 3cm (each frame)
Acrylic, mycelium skin, glycerol
2026



Underground Networks 1

4.4 x 10.5 meter

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 2

192 x 265 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 3

133 x 157cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 4

134 x 109 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 5

177 x 102 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 6

128 x 76cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 7

11 x 15 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 8

102 x 98 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 9

14 x 14 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026

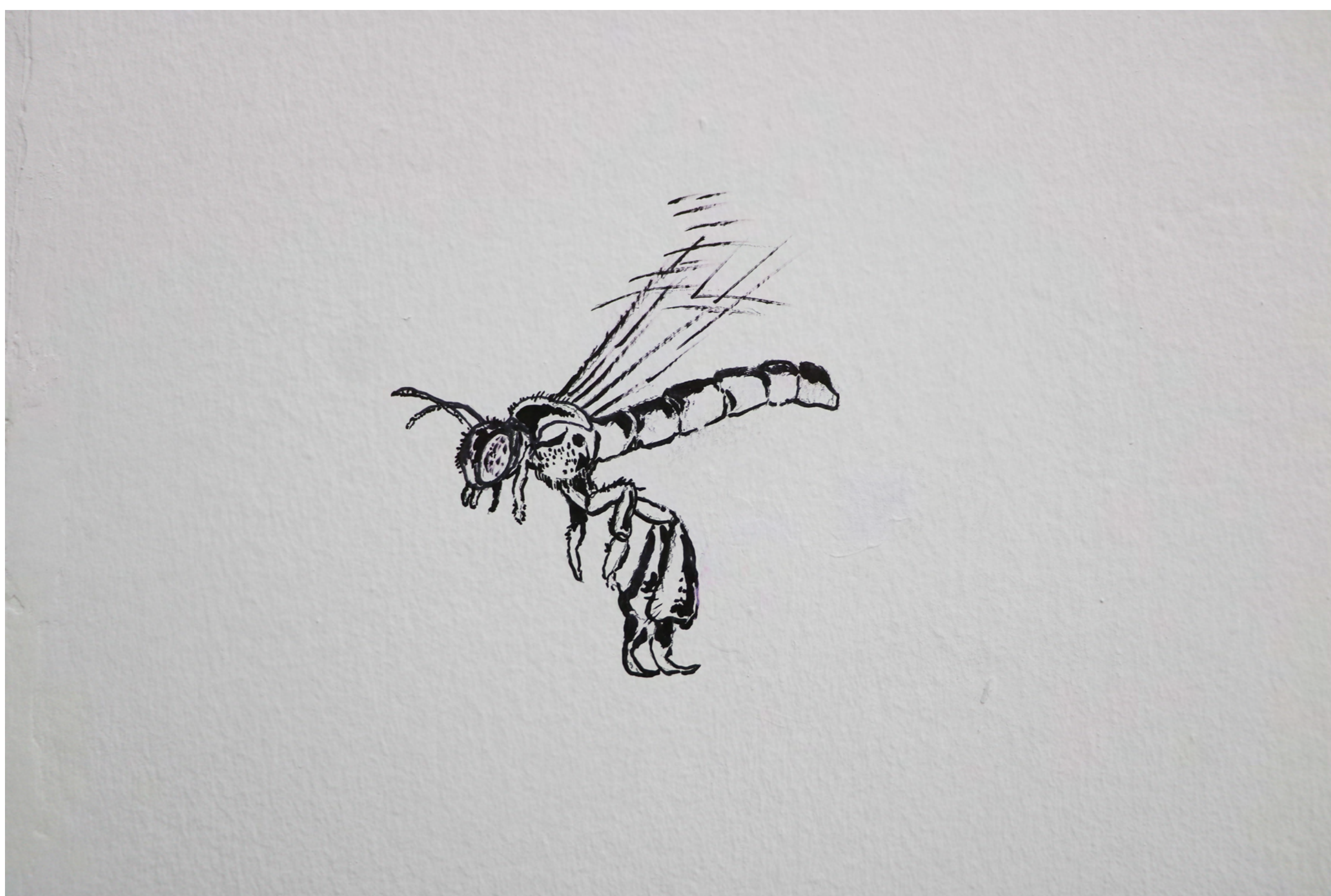


Underground Networks 10

18 x 14 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 11

17 x 15 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026



Underground Networks 12

28 x 25 cm

Acrylic copolymer emulsion paint

2026

Artíst

Hasanul Isyraf Idris



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Hasanul Isyraf Idris (b. 1978, Perak) is a Malaysian contemporary artist based in Penang. Trained at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), his multidisciplinary practice encompasses painting, intricate works on paper, sculpture, installation and video. His visually dense and surreal compositions combine personal memories with imagery drawn from local mythology, science fiction, comics, street culture and the natural world.

Among his most significant bodies of work are the ongoing *Higher Order Love (HOL)* series and *Spiritual Zoo*, which explore mortality, grief, spirituality, healing and the complexities of human existence through strange hybrid creatures and imagined ecosystems.

His most recent exhibition was *Bintang Hijau* (2026, Richard Koh Fine Art, Singapore), which marked a development towards an ecologically grounded and

research-oriented approach. Inspired by the Bintang Hijau forest reserve in Selama, Perak, the works combine meticulous observation, collected natural specimens and scientific inquiry with his distinctive surreal visual language. Presented during Singapore Art Week 2026, the series reflected on environmental change, fragility and the memory of the landscape.

Recent accolades include winning the 2024 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia) Award in the Established Artist Category with his work *Durio*.

Website : <https://rkfineart.com/artist/hasanul-isyraf-idris/>

IG : @hasanulisyrafidris

Behind the Exhibition

Exhibition Team

Project Advisor

Leong Kwong Yee
Alfred Cheong

Project Manager

Koe Gaik Cheng

Project Assistant

Lee Shin Uei

Academic & Research Collaborator

Dr Rosnida Tajuddin
Nur Afrina Amirah binti Ahmad Khairul Anuar (Fina)

Mural Production

bibichun
Chelsea Ling Ming

Exhibition Production

Lim Wei Ming
Nurizma Aleesha

Lighting

Muhammad Husni Abd. Latiff

Graphic Designer

Jwohan Lim

Writer

Ellen Lee

Photographer

Antoine Loncle

Special thanks to

Tet

Doa

Camelia Yasmin

School of Biological Science, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)

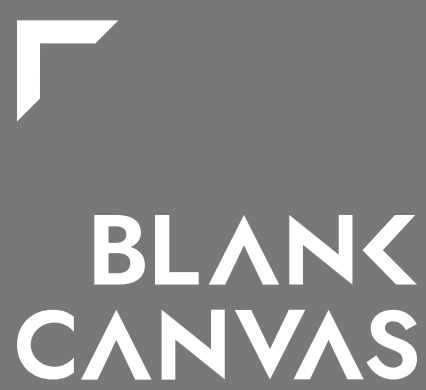
Richard Koh Fine Art

GILDA

Rana Masud

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Thursday–Monday | 12pm–7pm

Free Admission

85, Lorong Soo Hong, 10200 George Town, Penang, Malaysia

WhatsApp +6016 246 6814
Website *blankcanvas.my*

Instagram @*blankcanvas.penang*
Email *info@blankcanvas.my*