

Statement

**Reality of the hand that weaves
Relationship between space and scattered matter
Between North and South
Opening a track in a maze of directions**

**The time of ritual gestures of struggle and accompaniment
Inside this soft thickness
Horizontality and longitudinal tensioning of the weaving
An infinite weave that spans past, present and future
Time for a haptic encounter, an apprehension, a digestion of ductile materials
Who become Beings**

**From their roots come natural, living, deep filiations
Here on the horizon, read by the eye, is a zone of high intensity where our usual
optics can be altered
Opaque fibrous mirror**

I am developing a ritual practice around materials with which I begin a quest for gestures. I explore the structure of weaving in relation to sculpture through natural and man-made materials. This correspondence takes the form of mutual breathing between body movements and the materials encountered, used as tools.

In constructing my ritual, I shape my plural identity by questioning the know-how and epistemic resources at my disposal to create new imaginaries, new vestiges of a time that does not exist. I seek to give substance to these fertile projects, an anchor, roots.

From fibre to stoneware, from mental projection to material object, textiles become subjects. Porous, it evokes identities that don't merge, but articulate themselves.
Between constituted reality and fictional world.

Biography

Maria E André (Bolivia, 1996) is a Franco-Bolivian artist based in Brussels. Her work takes the form of installations combining textiles and sculpture. More recently, she has begun working with movement through performative installations in which the public is invited to take part in the creation of the work.

Maria E André graduated in 2020 from the Académie Royale des Beaux-arts in Brussels. She has had the opportunity to present her work at various exhibitions in Belgium, including The Constant Now x S.M.A.K (Antwerp) in 2022, as part of POCPOC, a mentoring programme linking artists from diverse backgrounds with professionals from the Belgian art world. At C-mine (Genk) in 2022, in collaboration with Stormopkomst and Please Add Color for the creation of several performative works. At BOZAR (Brussels), at the invitation of «Les Vieux en Colère» as part of Next Generation Please. At Transplantation Gallery (Paris), a curatorial project proposed by Amandine Nana. At the Musée de la Manufacture (Roubaix), invited by Japanese textile artist Akane Yorita. And at the Wild Gallery (Brussels). She has taken part in international residencies at the Espronceda Institute x Art Nou (Barcelona) after winning the Espronceda-ARBA-ESA prize, and more recently at the Brakke Grond theater (Amsterdam) in collaboration with Sandra Delgado, a Belgian-Bolivian choreographer.

In 2023, she was awarded the SOFAM prize to continue her research into textile and ceramic techniques in her native Bolivia.

She has also been selected for the Advanced Textile Program mentored by Otobong Nkanga at the Textiel Museum in Tilburg, Netherlands, to further her theoretical and practical research into textiles in November 2023.

Committed to creating social links, she has also been involved in a number of artistic and socio-cultural projects, such as the ASBL L'Accroche (Forest and Ixelles, 2021-2023), a social and cultural centre run on a voluntary basis and hosting a range of cultural events, workshops and free know-how-sharing activities. She also took part in the 'Bodies of knowledge' semi-nomadic class project devised by Sarah Vanhee (Brussels, 2022), which invited a diverse group of people to share their knowledge of their life experiences. More recently, she has been involved in the 'Plein tompête' project, a space for exhibitions and neighbourhood workshops in Saint-Gilles (2024). She has also run workshops on her artistic practice in various cultural centres, including C-mine (Genk), Warande (Turnhout) and CC Factorij (Zaventem).

Maria E. André

Born in 1996, Sucre, Bolivia.

Lives and works at Brussels, Belgium.

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Education

- Royal Academy of Fine Arts / BA & MA in Textile art - Tapestry & Sculpture, 2017/2020,

Brussels, BE : Laureate

- Atelier Chardon Savard / Fashion Stylist lev.VIII, 2014/2016, Paris, FR

- ESAAT / Baccalauréat Sciences and Technology of Design and Applied Art, 2012/2014, Roubaix, FR

Awards

2023

SOFAM Prize - Laureate - Sofam, Brussels, BE (**publication**)

2021

Minister of Higher Education Prize - Laureate - Becraft, Mons, BE

Espronceda Prize - Laureate - Espronceda residency, Barcelona, ES

2020

Laurent Moonens Prize - Selection - Moonens Foundation, Brussels, BE

Talks & publications

« Mujeres de trenzas: ropa e identidades de las cholas paceñas » / Discussion

Juin 2024, Centro Cultural de España en La Paz, BO (**upcoming**)

« SOFAM prize » / Publication, jan. 2024

« Bodies of knowledge » / Discussion à l'initiative de Sarah Vanhee, déc. & Jan. 2022, Bruxelles

Collective exhibitions

« Guild » / Curated by Andia Coral, August 2024, Filet Gallery, London, UK (**upcoming**)

« Welcome to the Age of Chaos, Welcome to Entrotopia » / May 2024, LaVallée, Brussels, BE

« Maison de fumée » / Curated by Ximena Maldonado, April 2024, Moonens Fondation, Brussels, BE

« A matter of life » / March 2024, Textiel Museum, Tilburg, NL

« No images » / Curated by Magali Elali, december 2022, The Constant Now, Antwerp, BE

« FREETOWN » / Curated by Magali Elali, at the initiative of S.M.A.K Museum, Gent, BE
October 2022, The Constant Now, Antwerp, BE
September 2022, Fire is Gold x S.M.A.K Museum, Antwerp, BE

« Archaic map » / March 22, Le Lac, Brussels, BE

« Dirty games » / Curated by Kevin Kotahunyi, Stormopkomst
March 2022, C-mine, Genk, BE
April 1 2022, De Warande, Turnout, BE
May 2022, cc Westrand, Dilbeek, BE

« Archeology of the futur » / Curatée par Kevin Kotahunyi, novembre 2021, CC de Factorij, Zaventem, BE

« Conversation » / Dans le cadre de Art Nou Contemporary Circuit of Emerging Artist
Août 2021, Espronceda Institute of Art & Culture, Barcelone, ES

« L.Y.F.E » / Juin 2021, Espace Vanderborght, Bruxelles, BE

« The mirror and the lamp » / Curatée par Pauline Hatzigeorgiou
Janvier - Février 2021, Espace Privé, Ixelles, BE

« Tremplin » / Février 2021, Abbatoirs de Mons, Mons, BE

« Next Generation Please » / Septembre 2020, BOZAR, Bruxelles, BE

« Hot Spots » / Septembre 2020, Autonomie Art Centre, Bruxelles, BE

« (In-) process » / Curatée par Margaux Minodier, octobre 2020, Abbaye de Forest, Forest, BE

« Ecole Paris-BXL » / Curatée par Amandine Nana, septembre 2020, Transplantation Gallery, Paris, FR

« Correspondance textile » / Mars 2020, La Tour à Plomb, Bruxelles, BE

« Pointe, papier, fuseau » / Février 2020, MAAC, Bruxelles, BE

« Programme Délicat » / 2019, LaVallée, Bruxelles, BE

« Lignes » / 2019, La Manufacture - Musée de la Mémoire et de la Création Textile, Roubaix, FR

« Plutôt la vie » / 2018, LaMab, Bruxelles, BE

« Carte de Visite » / 2017, Espace Vanderborght, Bruxelles, BE

Individual exhibition

« Atrapando el agua » / Novembre 2022, Wild Gallery, Bruxelles, BE

Residencies

- Textile & ceramic research in Chuquisaca's & Chochabambas communities, supported by Sofam, jan. - feb. 2024, Potolo & Huayculi, BO

« ATP advanced program » / Textile research program, nov. - dec. 2023, Tilburg, NL

« ASBL L'Accroche » / Artistic residency, september 2022 - april 2023, Brussels, BE

« Brakke Grond » / Movement research residency with S.Delgadillo Porcel / December 2023, Amsterdam, NL

« Espronceda Institute of Art & Culture » / Artistic residency, july - august 2021, Barcelone, ES

« Knust Festival » / Artistic residency, april - may 2019, Brussels, BE



**Adornos (ornaments),
2024**

In-situ installation, handshaped clay beads, dyed knotted cotton yarn
Variable dimensions, 650 x 120 x 350 cm at Lavallée, Brussels



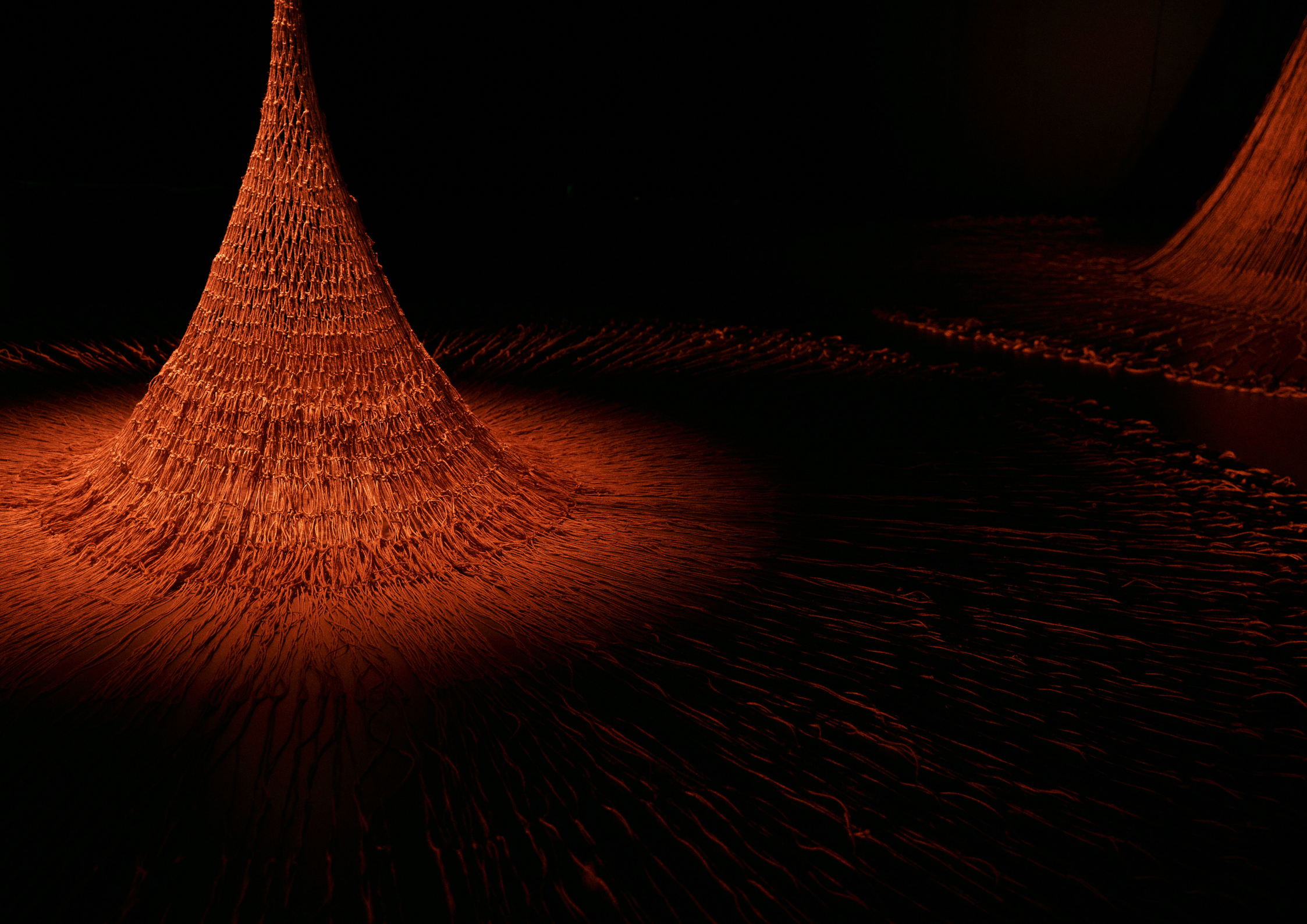




**Grounding of gestures I, II,
2021**

900 cm x variable diameter, 1000 cm x variable
diameter, knotted net, linen, jute







Gestures of roams,
2020
Tapestry,
360 x 130 x 50 cm, sisal, cotton





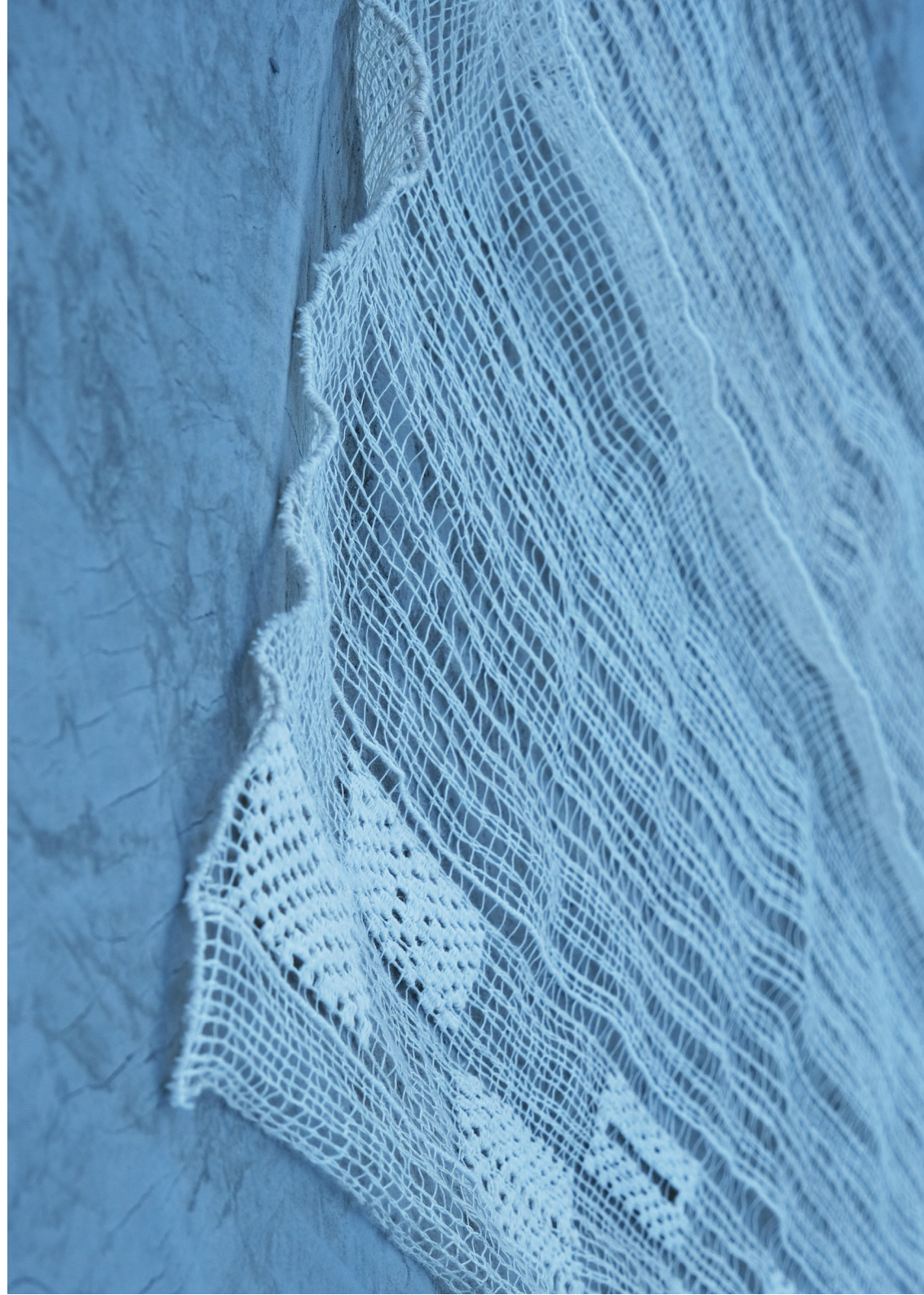
Maintain / Bury the fire, 2022

Installation

Woven gauze, linen, 104 x 74 cm

Ash Discs de cendres sculptées (33pieces), 10cm diameter, x 0,8cm

Structure, ash and ciment 147 x 115 x 45 cm





**Ashes walks,
2022**

Performing installation, multiples of charcoal spheres,
8 x 8 cm, wood charcoal, ash, cley, 15 mm, video recording





**The bowl,
2021**

Metal disc and wooden structure
14 x 14 x 1 cm, carved steel
45 x 20 x 20 cm, burnt wood







**Atrapando el agua (catch the water),
2021**

Various dimensions, mixed technics
 380 x 220 x 230 cm, filet, linen, silk, paper yarn
 150 x 45 x 20 cm, sculpture, salt, water
 14 x 14 x 1 cm, sculpture, steel
 3'15 mn, video recording





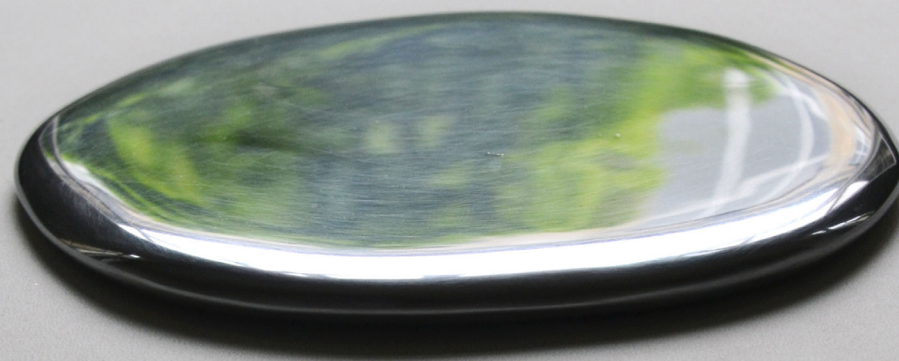
**Blow,
2020**

40 x 18 x 10 cm

9 x 9 cm, beech wood carving, charcoal carving



**Disc I,
2020**
16 x 16 x 1 cm, carved steel





Negative I,
2019
18 x 13 x 13 cm, beech wood carving



**Objet of reflection,
2020**
17 x 5 x 4 cm, carved cast iron





**Negative II,
2020**

30 x 28 x 13 cm, Carved beech wood





**Red,
2019**

Tapestry on a steel structure
305 x 170 x 30 cm, cotton, polish, steel





**Autonomous volume I,
2018**

30 x 17 x 15 cm, Split woven sculpture, front
Tapestry, cotton





**The door,
2018**

215 x 100 x 2 cm, tapestry, cotton, wool



