

An abstract painting featuring a dark, textured background of deep blues and purples. A bright, glowing yellow-green area is visible on the right side, suggesting a light source or a burst of energy. The overall mood is mysterious and ethereal.

# LEIKO IKEMURA

ART BASEL 2023  
CONTEMPORARY FINE ARTS  
BOOTH N11







# LEIKO IKEMURA

For this year's edition of Art Basel, Contemporary Fine Arts is excited to show a presentation with a main focus on works by Leiko Ikemura. The presentation will also include a section curated by the artist with positions from the gallery's program, announcing the gallery's very own space in Basel opening in August 2023.

Leiko Ikemura is an internationally renowned artist who has exhibited worldwide. After a celebrated solo exhibition *Towards New Seas* at Kunstmuseum Basel in 2019, this presentation is her first larger appearance in the city. In her paintings, drawings and sculptures, Ikemura explores contradictions that constitute our perceptions of the world and our very identities; presence and absence, vulnerability and empowerment; light and shadow; nature and culture. Her hybrid beings across mediums blur such boundaries as they draw from traditions of both Western and Eastern art, making even those discernments obsolete in the face of creative freedom.

In the words of Josef Helfenstein, director of Kunstmuseum Basel, Ikemura's career is a "unique synthesis of Japanese and Western culture." Her paintings and sculptures of hybrids between humans and animals, as well as paintings of Girls fixed between childhood and adulthood, equally transcend any specifications and definitions. Fascination with creatures that exist on the threshold between the real and the mythological awards Ikemura's works almost an otherworldly atmosphere, drawing from her very own specific background and experience. As the artist herself has said, "Our imagination is rich enough to guide us to other worlds."

Born in Japan, Ikemura has lived in Spain, Switzerland and Germany. 2019 marked the year of her triumphant artistic return to Japan with a solo exhibition *Our Planet Earth & Stars* at The National Art Center in Tokyo, a group exhibition at The National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo, and the honor of the prestigious 70th Art Encouragement Prize of the Ministry of Education of Japan.

Ikemura's works are included in distinguished collections across the world, such as Centre Pompidou in Paris, Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo, National Museum of Art in Osaka, Kunstmuseum Basel, Kunstmuseum Bern, Kunsthaus Zürich, Albertina Wien, Mumok in Vienna, among many others.

Selected solo museum exhibitions include *Year of the Usagi* at Museo de Arte Zapopan, Guadalajara, Mexico (2023); *Witty Witches* at Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin (2023); *Mehr Licht!* at Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (2022); *Here We Are* at CAC La Ciutat de les Arts i les Ciències Valencia (2022); *Usagi in Wonderland* at Sainsbury Center for Visual Arts, Norwich (2021); *Even More Tomorrows* at CAB, Burgos, Spain (2021); *Our Planet. Earth & Stars* at the National Art Center, Tokyo (2019); *Nach neuen Meeren* at Kunstmuseum Basel (2019); *Poetics of Form* at the Nevada Museum of Art, Reno (2016); *All about girls and tigers* at Museum of East Asian Art, Cologne (2015); *Korekara oder die Heiterkeit des fragilen Seins* at the Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (2012); *Transfiguration* at The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (2011).



**Blue Magic 2022**

Tempera & oil on nettle, 210 x 100 cm / 82  $\frac{5}{8}$  x 39  $\frac{3}{8}$  in  
120.000,00 €

*LI/M 30*









**Blue Mom 2023**

Tempera & oil on nettle, 180 x 110 cm / 70  $\frac{7}{8}$  x 43  $\frac{1}{4}$  in  
110.000,00 €

LI/M 31

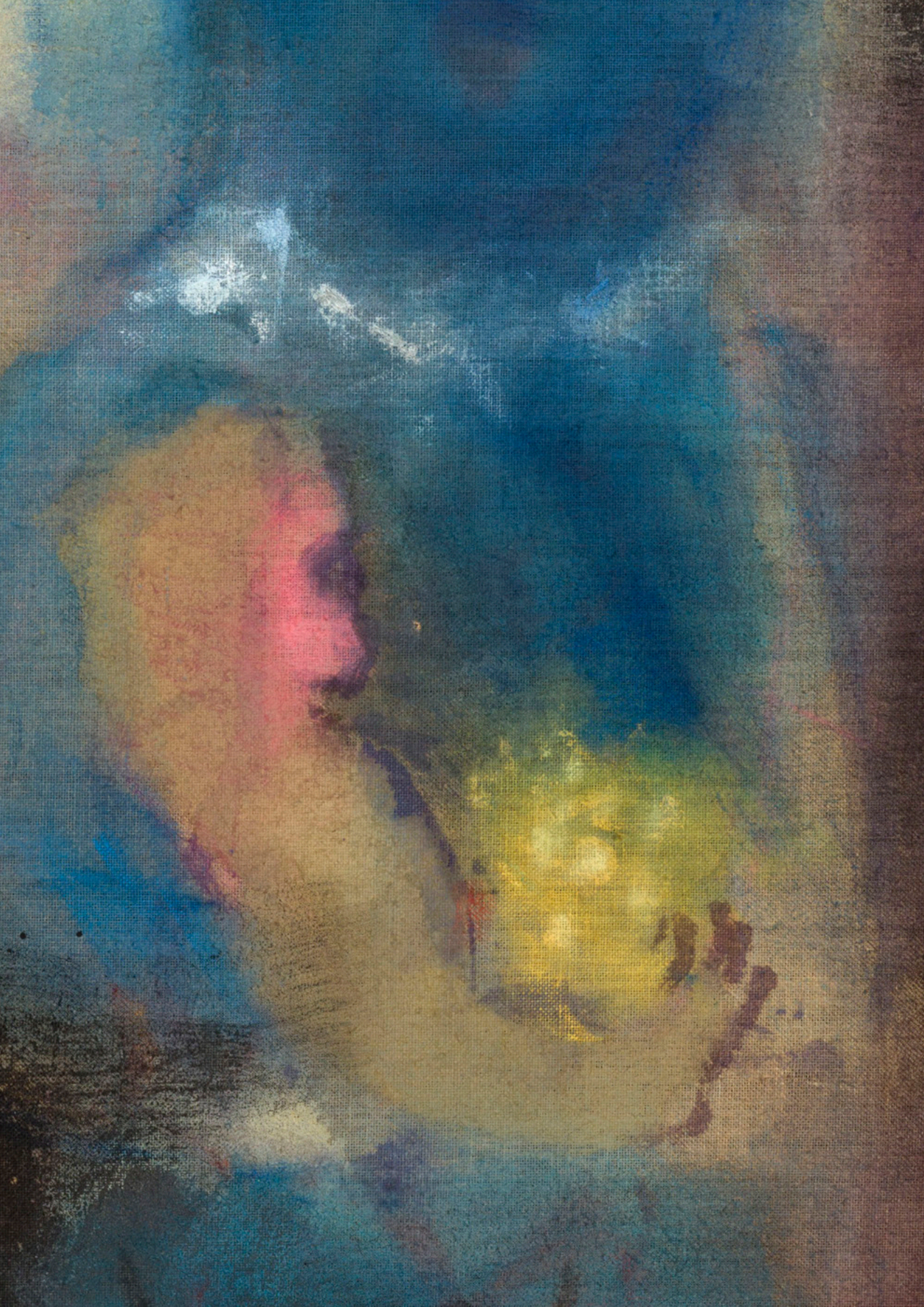




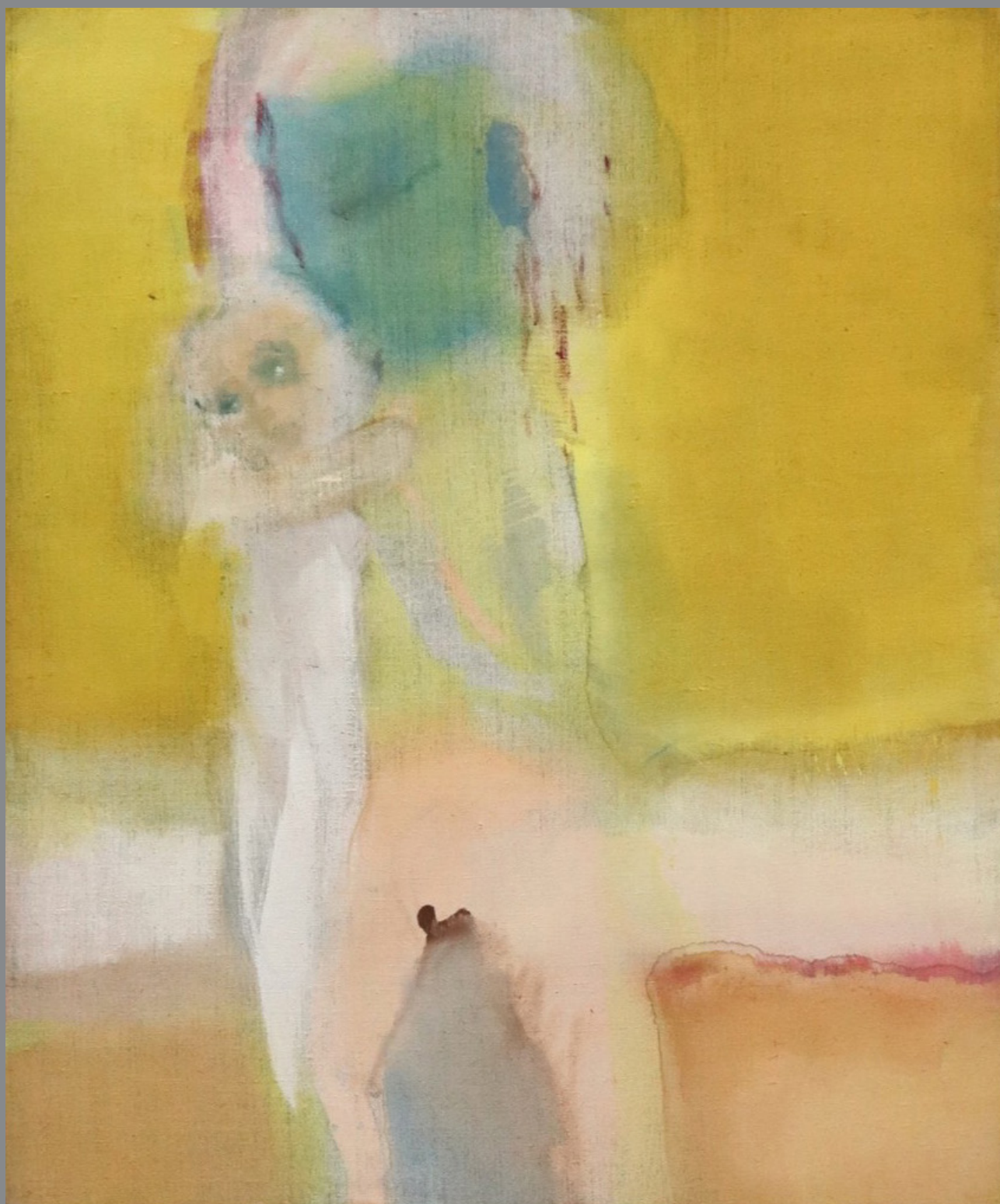
**Blue Bride 2022/23**  
Tempera & oil on nettle, 180 x 110 cm / 70 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 43 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in  
110.000,00 €

*LI/M 32*









**Girl with a Baby 2021**  
Tempera & oil on jute, 120 x 100 cm / 47 ¼ x 39 ¾ in  
90.000,00 €

LI/M 26





**Cats Mom 2022**

Tempera & oil on nettle, 80 x 90 cm / 31 ½ x 35 ⅜ in  
70.000,00 €

LI/M 27













**Catgirl with Usagi 2022**

Patinated bronze, 68 x 74 x 160 cm / 26 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 29 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 63 in, ed. 2/5

150.000,00 €

LI/S 6





**Amazona 2022**

Tempera & oil on nettle, 90 x 90 cm / 35 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 35 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in  
70.000,00 €

LI/M 28









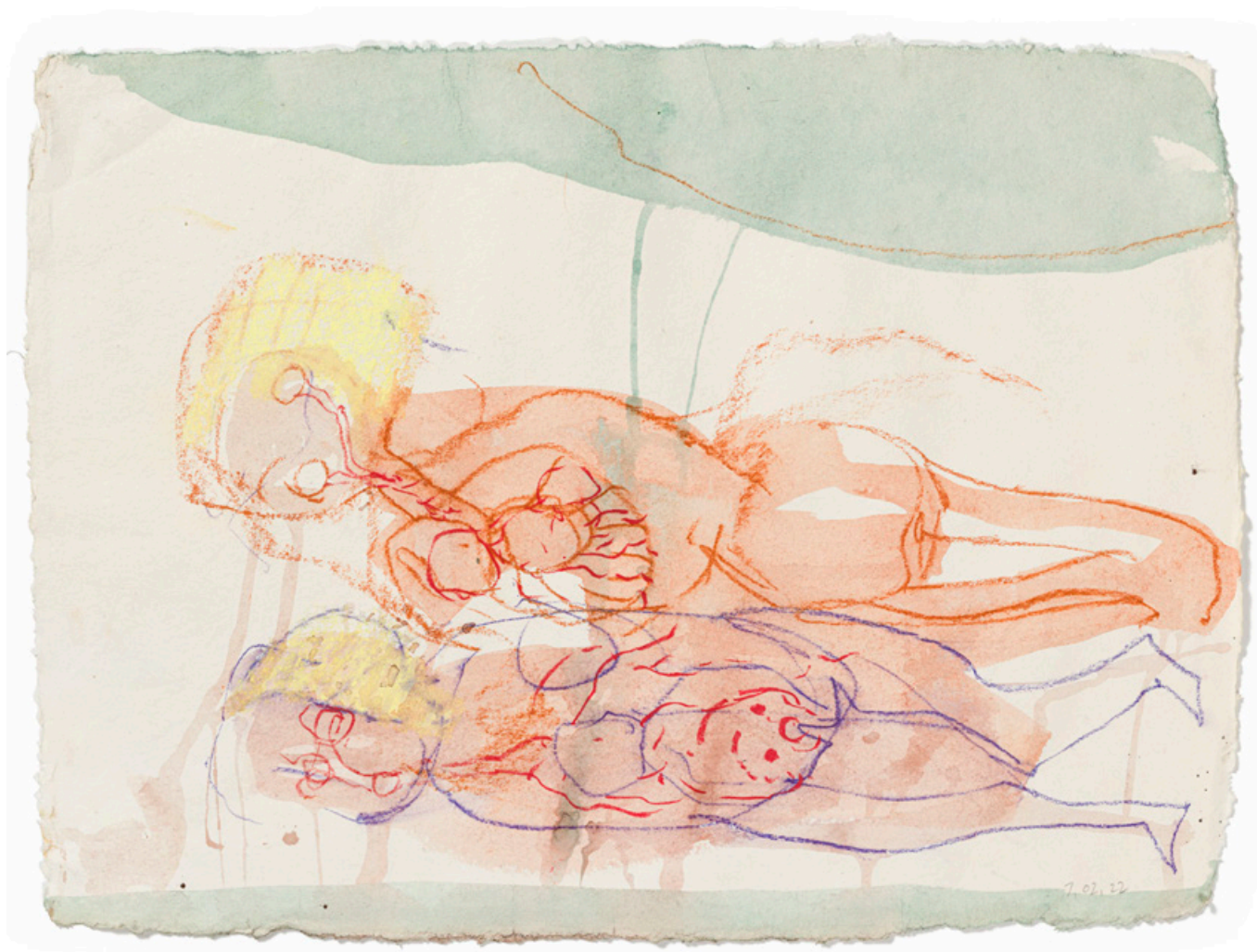




**flee free 2022**  
Tempera & oil on nettle, 90 x 80 cm / 35  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 31  $\frac{1}{2}$  in  
70.000,00 €

LI/M 29



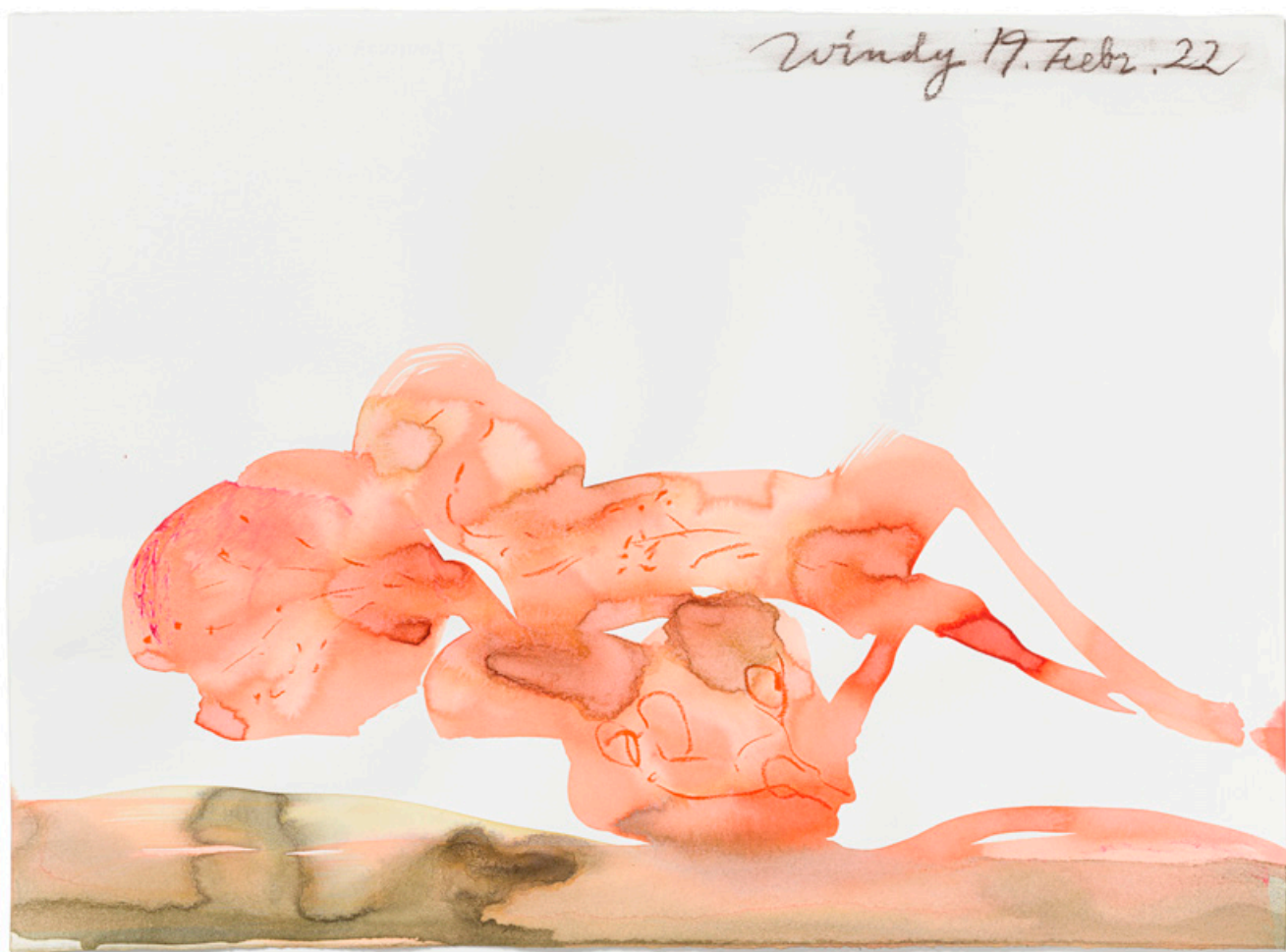


**windy 22 2022**

Watercolor & pastel on paper on paper, 58 x 78 cm / 22 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 30 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in  
25.000,00 €

LI/Z 2





**windy 2022**  
Watercolor & pastel on paper on paper, 55 x 74.5 cm / 21 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 29 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in  
25.000,00 €

LI/Z 1





**Pink Cat 2023**  
Patinated bronze, 65 x 41 x 33 cm / 25 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 16 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 13 in, ed. 1/5  
80.000,00 €

*LI/S 7*