

HANI KIM

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Artist Statement

Hani Kim is a visual and sound artist from South Korea, currently based in Berlin. Over the past 12 years, she has lived in Seoul, Bern, Milan, and London. These diverse experiences have broadened her perspective while also creating a sense of cultural dissonance, shaped by the contrasts between Eastern and Western influences. This inner dialogue unfolds in her art through themes of introspection and psychological depth. She explores identity, displacement, and the emotional states that come with existing between cultures. Primarily working with oil painting, she also integrates sound and digital media to expand the sensory depth of her work.

At the core of her practice is the balance between instinct and structure. Her paintings begin with spontaneous, raw gestures—intuitive marks that translate fleeting emotions, sensations, and subconscious impressions onto the canvas. Once the initial forms emerge, she steps back to refine the composition, allowing a balance between spontaneity and control to unfold. This layered process mirrors the complexities of perception and transformation, where emotions and identity continuously shift.

Innerscape

“Innerscape” is a series of imagined emotional landscapes accompanied by soundtracks composed and performed by the artist. Each painting reflects her experiences as an outsider, shaped by cultural and social differences over time.

It captures the moments of feeling herself change, the overwhelming influence of her surroundings, the confusion that comes with constantly adapting, the growing distance she feels from her home country, and the realization that she doesn't fully belong to either place. At the same time, she keeps wondering—what is the truest version of herself? These shifts, memories, and emotions all merge into the *“Innerscape”*.

Through this series, she invites us to step into an otherworldly space, where the interplay of colors, shapes, and sound creates an immersive atmosphere. Each painting, accompanied by its own composition, serves as a passage into inner worlds formed by personal memories and emotions. What memories or emotions does *“Innerscape”* awaken in us? Let's immerse ourselves in the experience, listen deeply, and follow where our emotions lead.



Observer
42 x 62 cm
Oil on canvas
2025



Innerscape - Observer HD

Hani Kim

↑ Click to the soundtrack.

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Silent Witnesses
95 x 140 cm
Oil on canvas
2025



Innerscape - Silent Witnesses HD

Hani Kim

↑ Click to the soundtrack.

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The Passage of Time
70 x 46 cm
Oil on canvas
2025



Innerscape - The Passage of Time **HD**

Hani Kim

↑ [Click to the soundtrack.](#)

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The Hole
95 x 140 cm
Oil on canvas
2025



Innerscape - The Hole HD

Hani Kim

↑ Click to the soundtrack.

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More works...

The Misty Heaven

"*The Misty Heaven*" is the opening series of her ongoing exploration into the dynamic interplay of spontaneity and control, which she has adopted as her primary methodology. This series shows objects floating in foggy, dreamy spaces, reminiscent of saints ascending in the works of old masters. Their works, with their dynamic compositions, fantastical moods, elegant styles, and balanced relationships among figures, served as the foundation for this project.

Although she longs for spontaneity, she has an instinctive tendency to control, often finding herself drawn to structure and balance. This internal dichotomy is reflected in her process: the lines formed by unintentional brushstrokes gradually take shape, converging towards consciously pursued figures. Floating objects in the paintings are expressed using dark or vivid colours, dynamic brushstrokes, and flowing movement, creating a sense of motion and liveliness. In contrast, brighter, tranquil colours or soft textures create a static, misty impression that balances the dynamism.

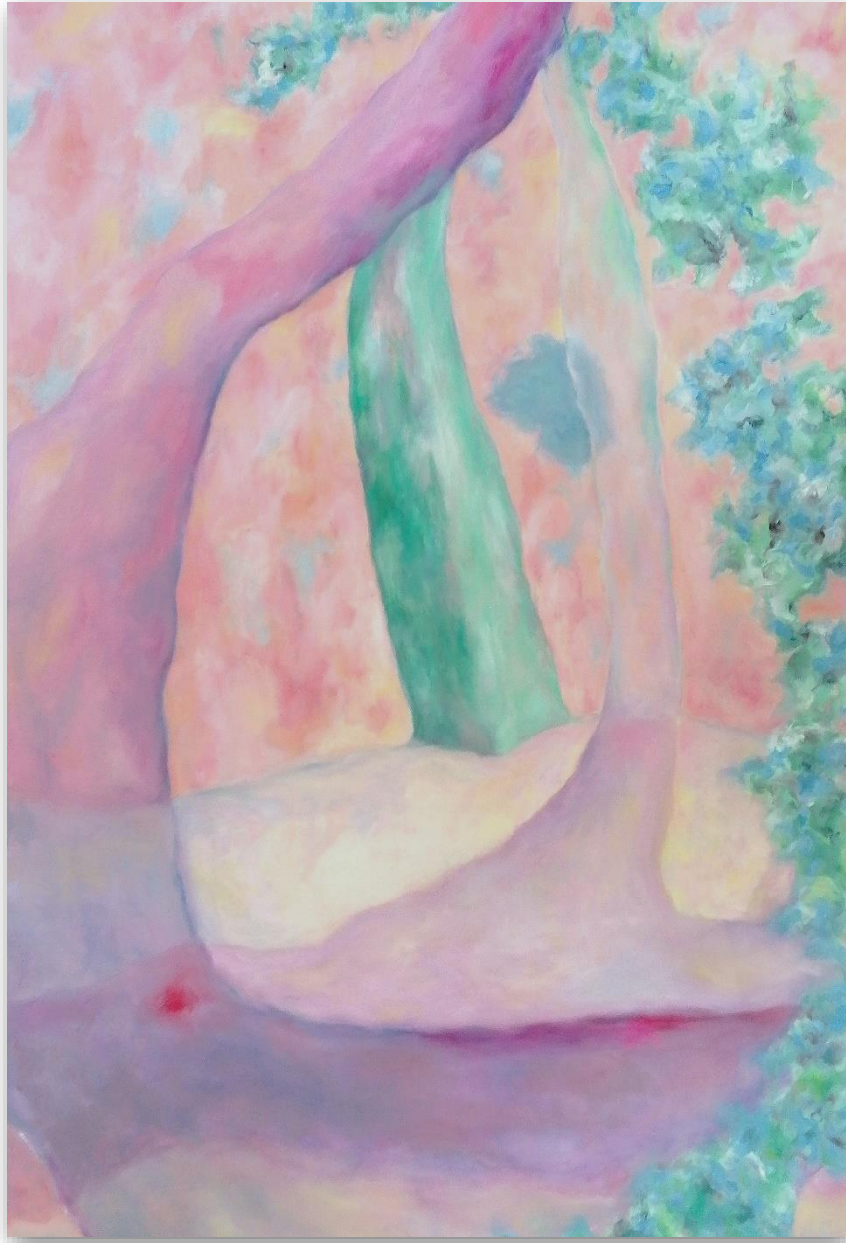
Through this juxtaposition of instinct and deliberate control, this series evokes a sense of transcendence and introspection. The floating objects reflect a connection to raw, instinctive energy, while the serene atmosphere invites viewers to reflect deeply, exploring their own emotions and the interplay of chaos and control depicted in the work.



The Misty Heaven 6
120 x 80 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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The Misty Heaven 5
120 x 80 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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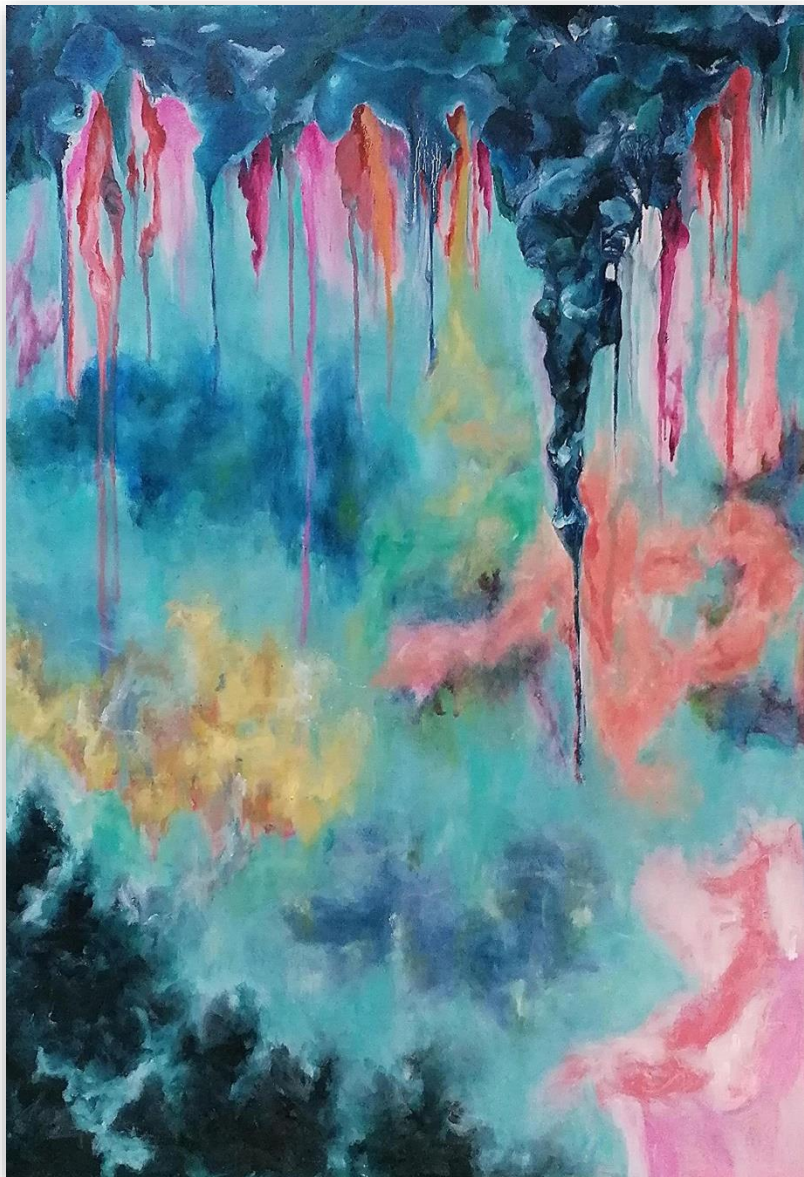
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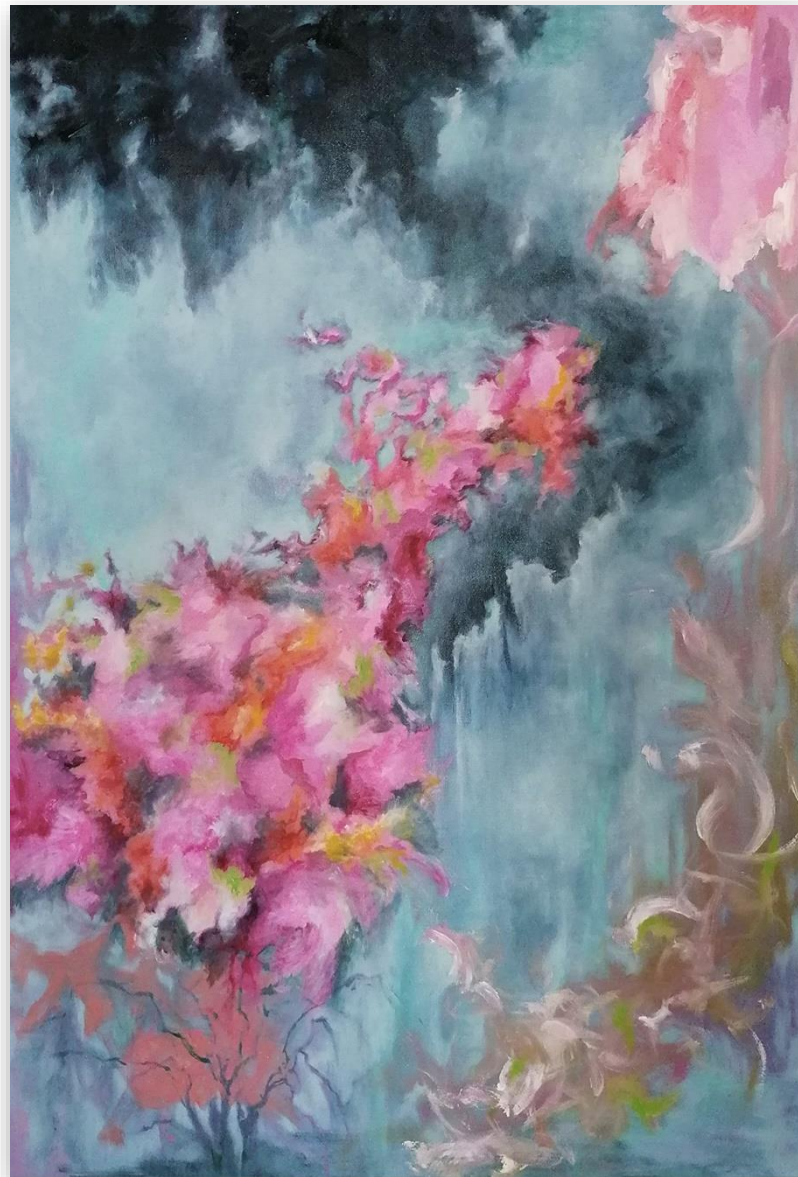
The Misty Heaven 4
200 x 70 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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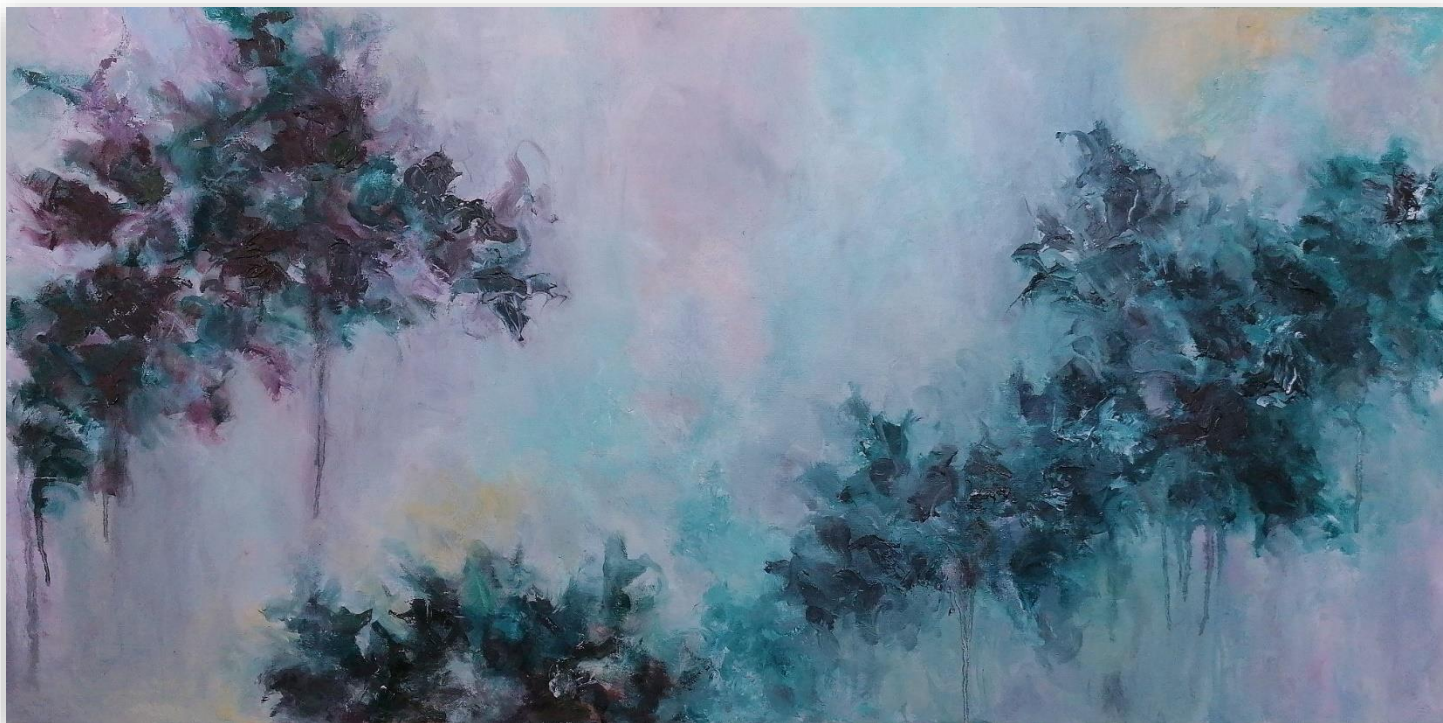
The Misty Heaven 4-(1) | 100 x 70 cm | Oil on canvas | 2024



The Misty Heaven 4-(2) | 100 x 70 cm | Oil on canvas | 2024

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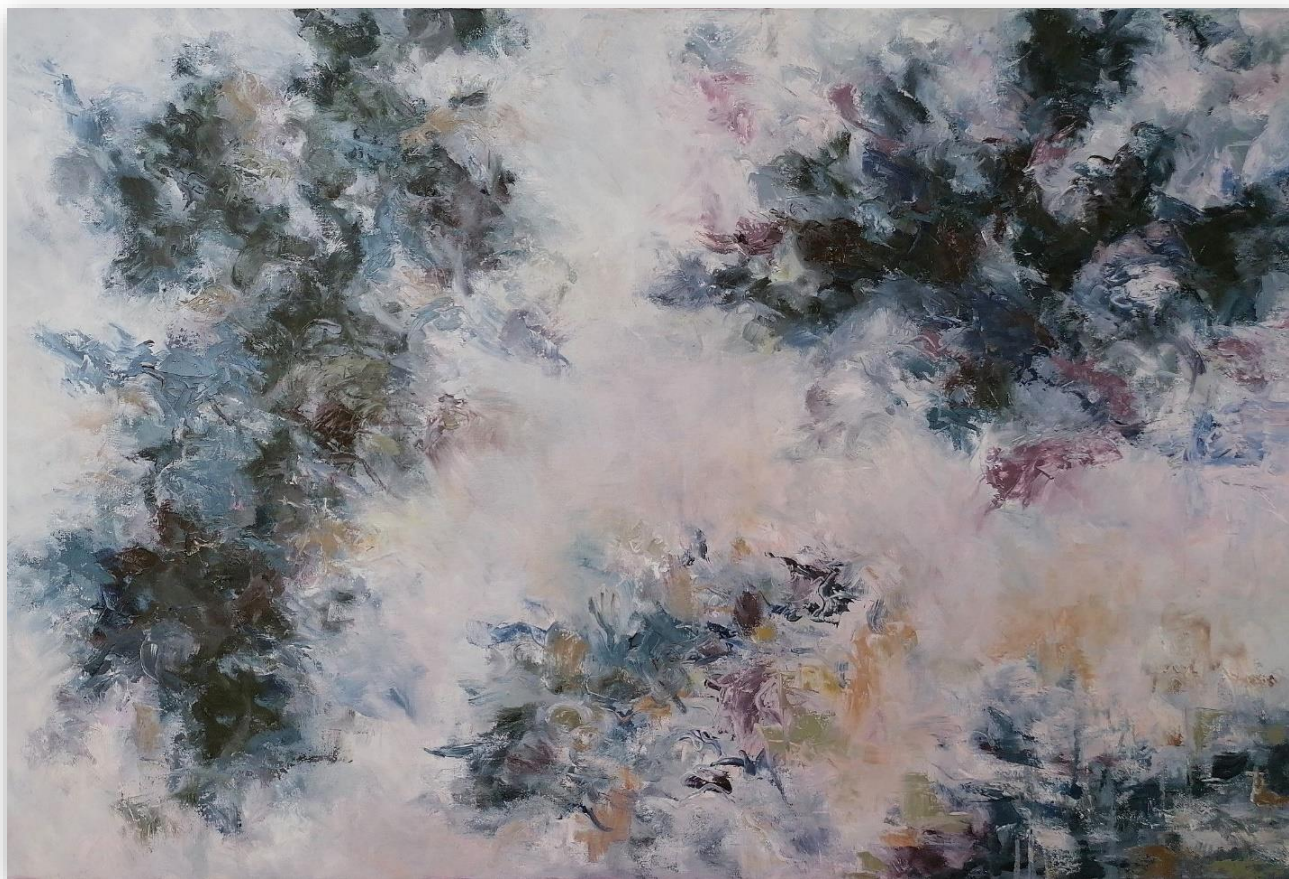
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The Misty Heaven 3
50 x 100 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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The Misty Heaven 2
60 x 90 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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The Misty Heaven 1
50 x 100 cm
Oil on canvas
2024

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Dance (Hani-mation)

This self-portrait series, "*Dance (Hani-mation)*", captures the raw emotional expression of the artist through movement. Originating from spontaneous dance sessions in her Berlin studio, the series uses music as a means of emotional release and self-liberation.

In these moments, the artist, stripped of external facades, presents a raw, unguarded version of herself, embodying both strength and fragility. The use of nudity is a powerful symbol of vulnerability, especially in the context of the artist's Korean background, where nudity is not a mainstream expression of freedom as it is in Germany. It emphasizes emotional openness, while also confronting the discomfort and tension that comes from such vulnerability.

Using a remote-controlled camera, she immersed herself in movement, with each photograph offering an intimate glimpse into the dialogue between body and emotion. The process of creating this series involves a dynamic interplay between movement and introspection. Over 400 photographs were taken using a remote-controlled camera during these spontaneous dance sessions so that she could have liberty on capturing the moment she wanted.

Berlin's energy of freedom and creative expression, juxtaposed with moments of greyness and alienation, is reflected in this series. The dance becomes both a means of self-expression and a way to engage with Berlin's emotional landscape—its freedom, solitude, vulnerability, feelings of being lost, and the self-struggle to find one's place in a constantly shifting environment.



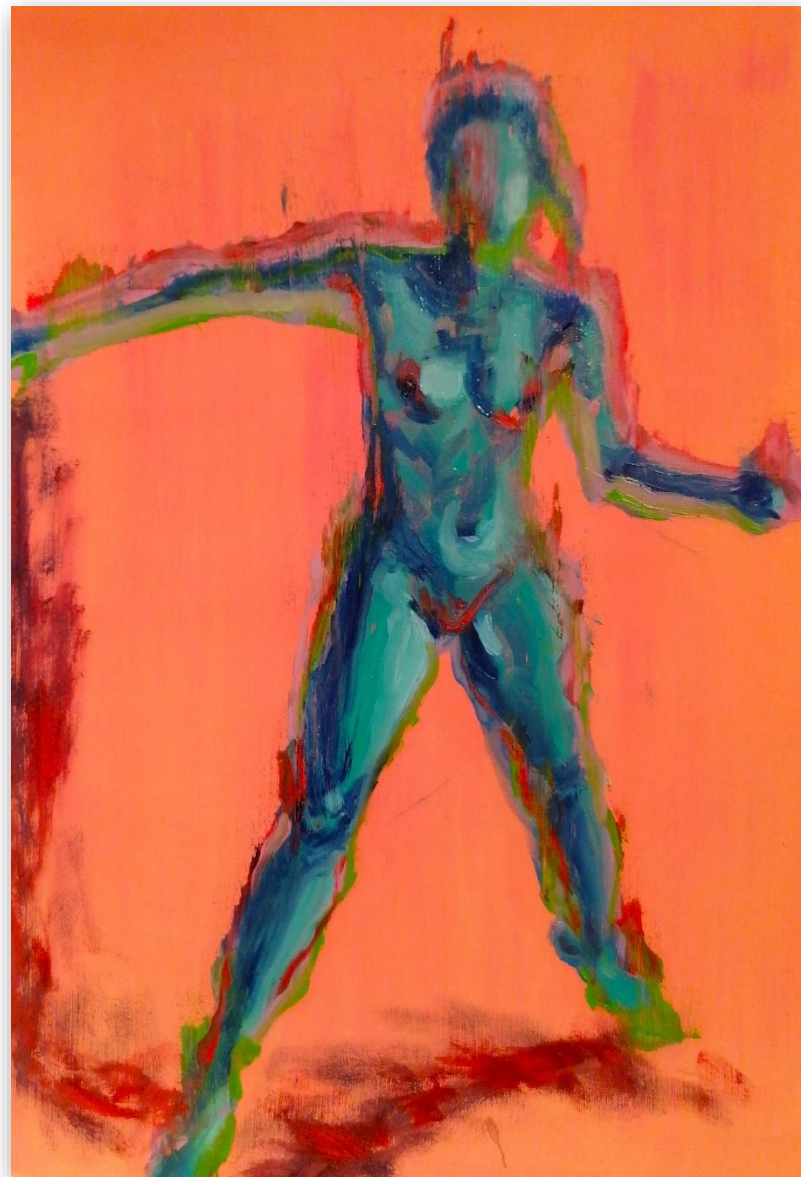
Collage I of 9 dances
80 x 57 cm
Oil and Acrylic on paper
2024

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Untitled | 27 x 19 cm | Oil & Acrylic on canvas | 2024



Untitled | 27 x 19 cm | Oil & Acrylic on canvas | 2024

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Education

2022 - 2023 *Drawing & painting courses, Kunst Schule Berlin, Germany*

2009 - 2014 *BA Communication Art, University of Sejong, Seoul, South Korea*

Residency

2025 *GlogauAIR On-line Residency Program, Berlin, Germany*

Exhibition / Open Studio

2025 *GlogauAIR Virtual Open Studio (14/03 - 31/03)*

2025 *48 Stunden Neukölln Art Festival (27/06 - 29/06), Berlin, Germany*



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