

The background of the image is a dynamic, abstract composition. It features several large, translucent, light-colored triangles pointing towards the top right. These triangles overlap and are set against a backdrop of darker, more solid shapes in shades of blue, green, and orange. The overall effect is one of motion and depth, resembling a complex fractal or a microscopic view of a celestial body.

ASTRONOMICAL SEEING

LYNDI SALES

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November, 11th - December, 23rd, 2010

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CONTEMPORARY ART

ASTRONOMICAL SEEING

Innerhalb der Arbeiten, die Lyndi Sales derzeit unter dem Titel *Astronomisches Sehen* präsentiert, herrschen graphisch-geometrische Formen vor: Sechsecke und Rauten, Spiralen, Netze, satellitenartige und sternförmige Gebilde oder Waben. Sie wurden aus verschiedensten Papierarten ausgeschnitten, ausgebrannt, aus bedruckten Papen etwa, aus mit Aquarell, Acryl und Filzstiften bemalten Papieren, aus holographischem Papier oder auch aus Zeitungen. Die Figuren sind, wenngleich sie von Sales wieder auf eine zweidimensionale Fläche gebannt werden, eher dem Bereich der Plastik als dem der Graphik zuzuordnen. Denn Sales vermag durch Stecknadeln, mit denen ihre Gebilde auf den Papierhintergrund aufgesteckt werden, unterschiedliche Höhen und Tiefen herauszuarbeiten, die ihre Arbeiten sehr plastisch wirken lassen [MULTIPLE REALM].

Und doch ist es der Bereich der Graphik, dem sich Sales eigentlich verpflichtet fühlt. Von den gegenständlichen, nach der Natur gearbeiteten Kupferstichen aus früheren Schaffensjahren ist kaum noch etwas zu spüren. Schon seit einiger Zeit macht sich eine platonische Abstraktion in ihrem Werk breit, die nur vereinzelt von Objekten abgelöst wird, die den Begriff des *Ready-Mades* einlösen, wie etwa die 2008 entstandenen Schwimmwesten im Zuge ihrer Aufarbeitung des sog. *Helderberg-Crashes*. Eines Flugzeugunglücks, das sich am 28.11.1987 auf dem Flug 295 der südafrikanischen Fluglinie SAA bei Mauritius ereignete und 159 Passagiere in den Tod riss.

Wenngleich abstrakt, sind die Arbeiten von Sales konkret. Sie bewegen sich zwischen de- bzw. konstruktivistischen Tendenzen und vermögen mikro- sowie makrokosmische Inhalte zu transportieren.

Auch die Arbeiten, die Sales unter dem Titel ASTRONOMISCHES SEHEN präsentiert, sind – wie für ihr Werk typisch – subjektiven und objektiven Standpunkten zugleich verpflichtet. Sie sind biographisch-psychologisch-persönlich ebenso wie globalpolitisch und universell, je nachdem wie, von wem und mit welchen Hintergrundinformationen sie wahrgenommen werden. Ebenso wie die Arbeiten, die im Zuge der Aufarbeitung des sog. *Helderberg-Crashes* entstanden, nur Eingeweihten Einblicke in das persönliche Drama von Sales' Biographie gewähren, erkennt der Außenstehende in den Arbeiten, die unter dem Titel ASTRONOMISCHES SEHEN präsentiert werden, zunächst ebenso nur allgemeingültige Formen wie Sechsecke, utopische Landschaften, Netze oder Satelliten, die visionär anmuten. Ausgangspunkt für die neuen Arbeiten

von Sales war jedoch ein Astigmatismus in ihrem rechten Auge, ein temporärer Abbildungsfehler, eine optische Punktlosigkeit, der in seinem Effekt *Astronomischem Sehen*, der Bildunschärfe bei der Betrachtung von Objekten des Alls, gleichkommt. Ein Astigmatismus ruft ein unscharfes oder verzerrtes Bild hervor, so wie das Licht eines Sterns oder Planeten beim Eintreten in die Erdatmosphäre gebrochen wird und bei der Betrachtung mit bloßem Auge punktlos, unscharf, verschwommen wirkt. Bei Sales entspindt sich ein aus holographischem Papier herausgearbeitetes Netz mehrdimensional, dessen Konturen sich je nach Lichteinfall sogar gänzlich auflösen: ASTRONOMICAL SEEING. Im Unterschied dazu sind DISTORTED VIEW oder TEMPORARY BLINDNESS ganz auf den temporären Astigmatismus von Sales gemünzt, doch wirken auch diese Arbeiten illusionistisch-visionär. Ihre Gebilde führen von einem nicht definierten Zentrum weg und strahlen unregelmäßig in den Raum aus. SATELLITE TELESCOPE, der aus Zeitungspapier satellitenförmig herausgearbeiteten Arbeit MOER DRONK oder UTOPIAN LANDSCAPE haften im Gegensatz dazu makrokosmische Ebenen an, indem sie auf kontroverse und sich bedingende Inhalte wie *Unberechenbarkeit* und *Schicksalhaftigkeit*, *Ewigkeit*, *Zeitlosigkeit* und *Vergänglichkeit* abzielen. Doch spielen Arbeiten wie diese auch ganz allgemein auf jene ungewisse Zukunft an, der die Spezies *homo sapiens sapiens* im 21. Jahrhundert bedingt durch seine technologischen Möglichkeiten ausgesetzt ist.

Sales halt fest:

„Microcosms and macrocosms become sites of unease but also act as locations where projections of Utopian notions are imagined. [...] Stargazing and the belief in other dimensions become a form of escape where looking out into the vastness of the universe acts as a license for the imaginary, deeming the here and now minuscule and insignificant.“

Nur noch selten bearbeitet Sales ihre Papiere von Hand. Sie arbeitet überwiegend mit einer Lasertechnik, mit der sie vor 6 Jahren auf einer Chinareise vertraut gemacht wurde. Dieser Technik ist inhärent, dass das bearbeitete Papier von dem Feuer nicht immer berechenbar verbrannt wird. Sales bemerkt:

“The laser burns a cut line into the paper or rubber. [...] The technique is unpredictable and involves cutting paper, rubber, material without burning it too much, but often the paper goes up inflames. This can sometimes work to my advantage as I like the aspect of chance that plays out in some of the works. [...] I am intrigued at how the majority of the initially work is cut away as negative space but what remains is often just a fine filigree of the initial artwork. I like the mystery in what is randomly selected to remain.”

Technik, Materialien und Themen bilden in dem Werk von Lyndi Sales eine Einheit. Sie veranschaulichen nicht nur wegen der teilweise alltäglichen, auch gefundenen Medien, weshalb die Arbeiten von Sales konzentriert mit dem 21. Jahrhundert sind, im Einklang mit unserer Zeit stehen.

Sarah Khan

ASTRONOMICAL SEEING

Within the works currently presented by Lyndi Sales under the title *Astronomical Seeing* graphical-geometrical forms prevail: hexagons and diamonds, spirals, nets, satellite-like and star-shaped figures as well as combs. They were cut out, burned, from various types of paper, printed cartons, papers additionally painted with water color, acrylic or markers, from holographic papers or even from newspapers. These figures, although they are banned from Sales on a two-dimensional surface, can rather be attributed to the genre of sculpture than graphics. They appear three-dimensional due to the different heights erected from Sales when attaching these figures to their paper-background with pins [e.g., MULTIPLE REALM].

And yet, it is the genre of graphics to which Sales actually is attached to. Still, not much remained from her representational, worked according-to-nature engravings of previous years. For some time now, a platonic abstraction determines her work only occasionally replaced by objects that redeem the concept of *Ready-Mades* such as the about 2008 established life jackets to be considered as results of her questioning of the so-called *Helderberg-Crash*. A plane crash that happened at 11/28/1987 on flight 295 of South African Airline close by Mauritius and killed 159 passengers.

Although abstract, Sales's works are concrete. They move between de- and constructivist tendencies and are able to transport micro- and macrocosmic contents.

The works which Sales presents under the title ASTRONOMICAL SEEING can – as typical for her work – be read objectively and subjectively at the same time. They contain biographic-psychological-personal elements as well as global-political and universal ones depending on how they are perceived, by whom and with which kind of background information. Just like the works which Lyndi created during her questioning of the so-called *Helderberg-Crash* only revealed intimate details of her biographical drama to insiders, nescient viewers of the works presented under the title ASTRONOMICAL SEEING will just be able to perceive general figures such as hexagons, utopian landscapes, nets or satellites that appear visionary. The starting point for her new works anyhow, was an astigmatism in her right eye, a temporary aberration, an optical fuzziness equivalent in its effect to ASTRONOMICAL SEEING, to an image unsharpness that occurs when looking at objects of the universe. An astigmatism causes a blurred or distorted picture just like the light of a star or planet when entering earth's atmosphere is broken and

appears fuzzy, blurred, smeared when observing it with the naked eye. In Sales' works a net cut out of holographic paper spreads three-dimensional whose outlines even completely seem to resolve depending on the lighting conditions: ASTRONOMICAL SEEING. In contrast to this work DISTORTED VIEW or TEMPORARY BLINDNESS relate to Sales's astigmatism, but also these works appear illusionistic respectively visionary. The figures of these works lead away from undefined centers and radiate irregular into the room. As opposed to these SATELLITE TELESCOPE, the satellite-shaped work MOER DRONK, cut out of newspaper, or UTOPIAN LANDSCAPE contain macrocosmic contents by alluding to controversial, yet conditional notions such as *unpredictability* and *fortune, eternity, timelessness* and *transience*. But works like these also in general advert to the uncertain future of the species *homo sapiens sapiens* in the 21st century due to its technological capabilities.

Sales remarks:

"Microcosms and macrocosms become sites of unease but also act as locations where projections of Utopian notions are imagined. [...] Stargazing and the belief in other dimensions become a form of escape where looking out into the vastness of the universe acts as a license for the imaginary, deeming the here and now minuscule and insignificant."

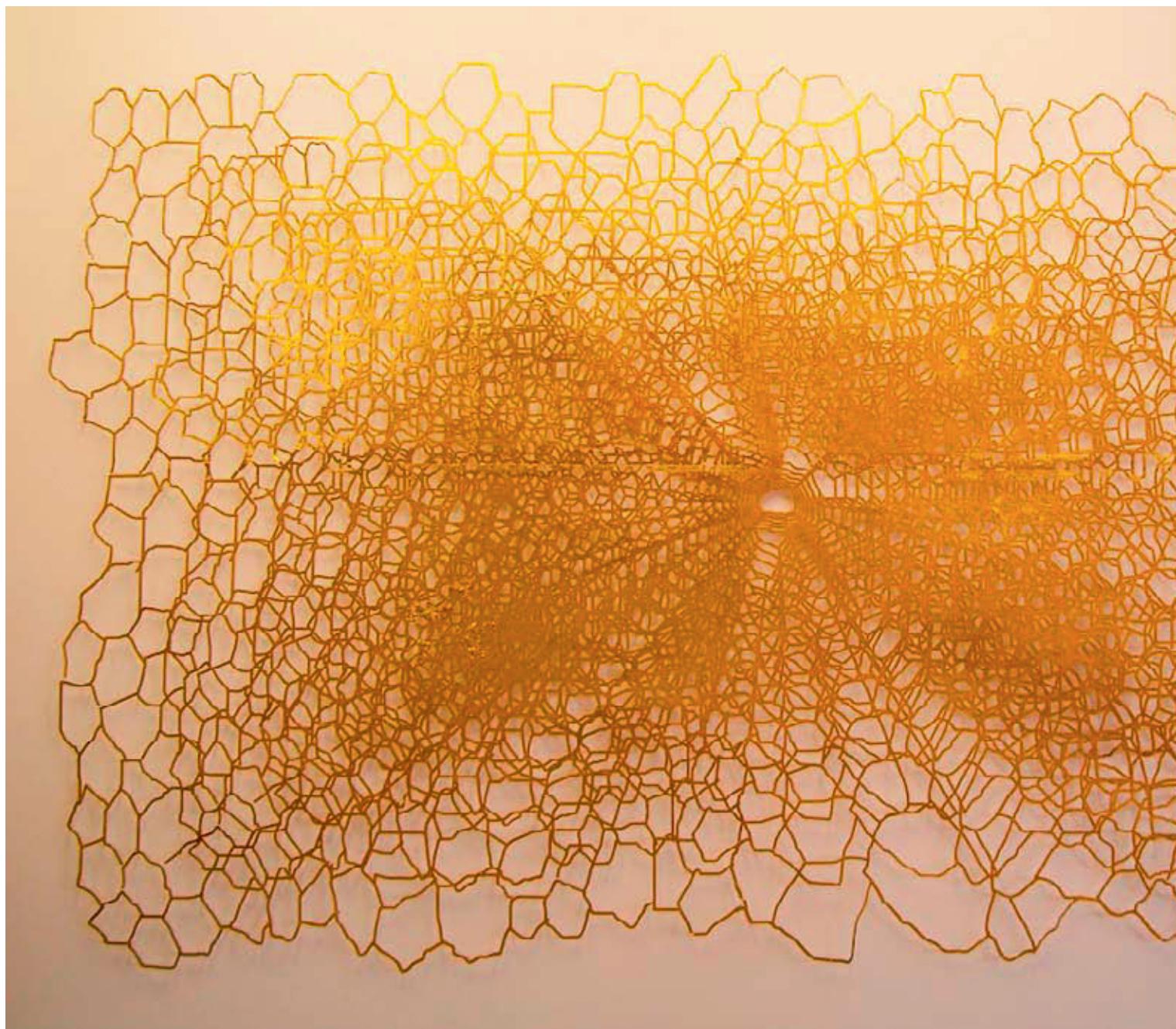
Only rarely Sales cuts her papers manually nowadays. Instead, she uses some laser technique to which she was introduced 6 years ago while travelling through China. It is peculiar to this technique that the paper not always burns in calculable manner.

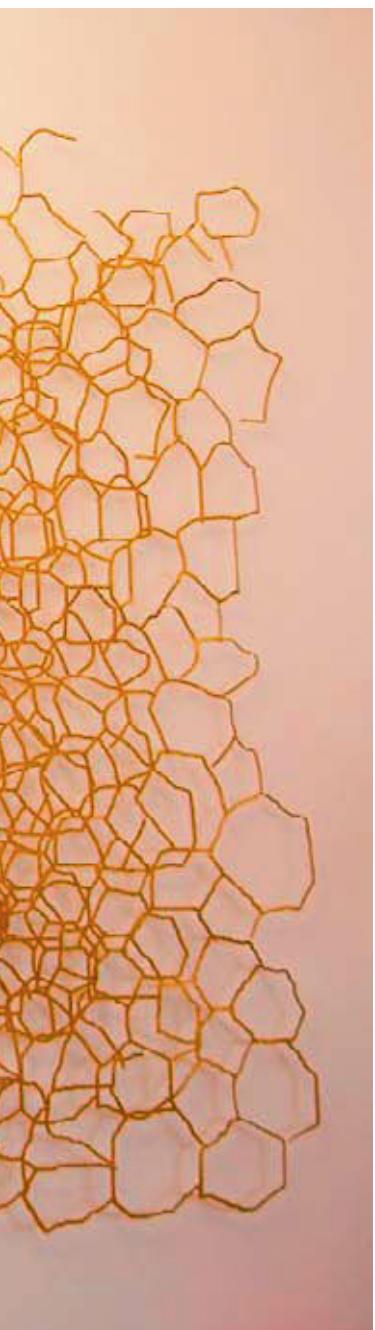
Sales notes:

"The laser burns a cut line into the paper or rubber. [...] The technique is unpredictable and involves cutting paper, rubber, material without burning it too much, but often the paper goes up in flames. This can sometimes work to my advantage as I like the aspect of chance that plays out in some of the works. [...] I am intrigued at how the majority of the initially work is cut away as negative space but what remains is often just a fine filigree of the initial artwork. I like the mystery in what is randomly selected to remain."

Techniques, media and topics build up an entity in Sales's works. They demonstrate not only for reasons of the everyday, sometimes found objects used why Sales's works are congenial with the 21st century, why they are in accordance with our time.

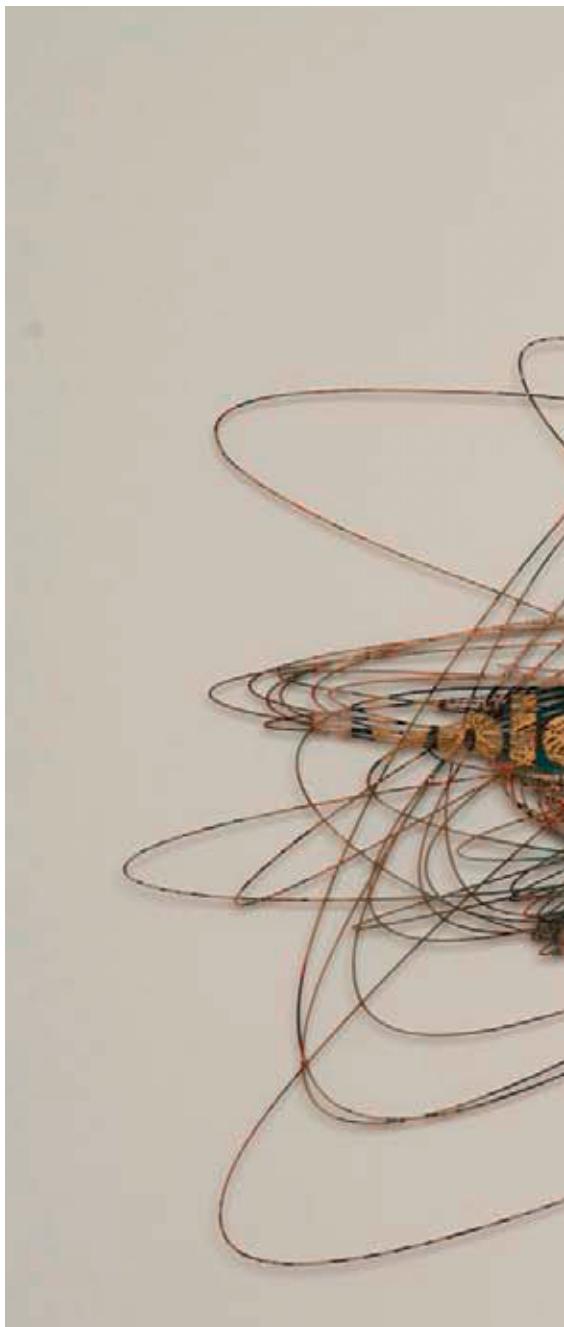
Sarah Khan

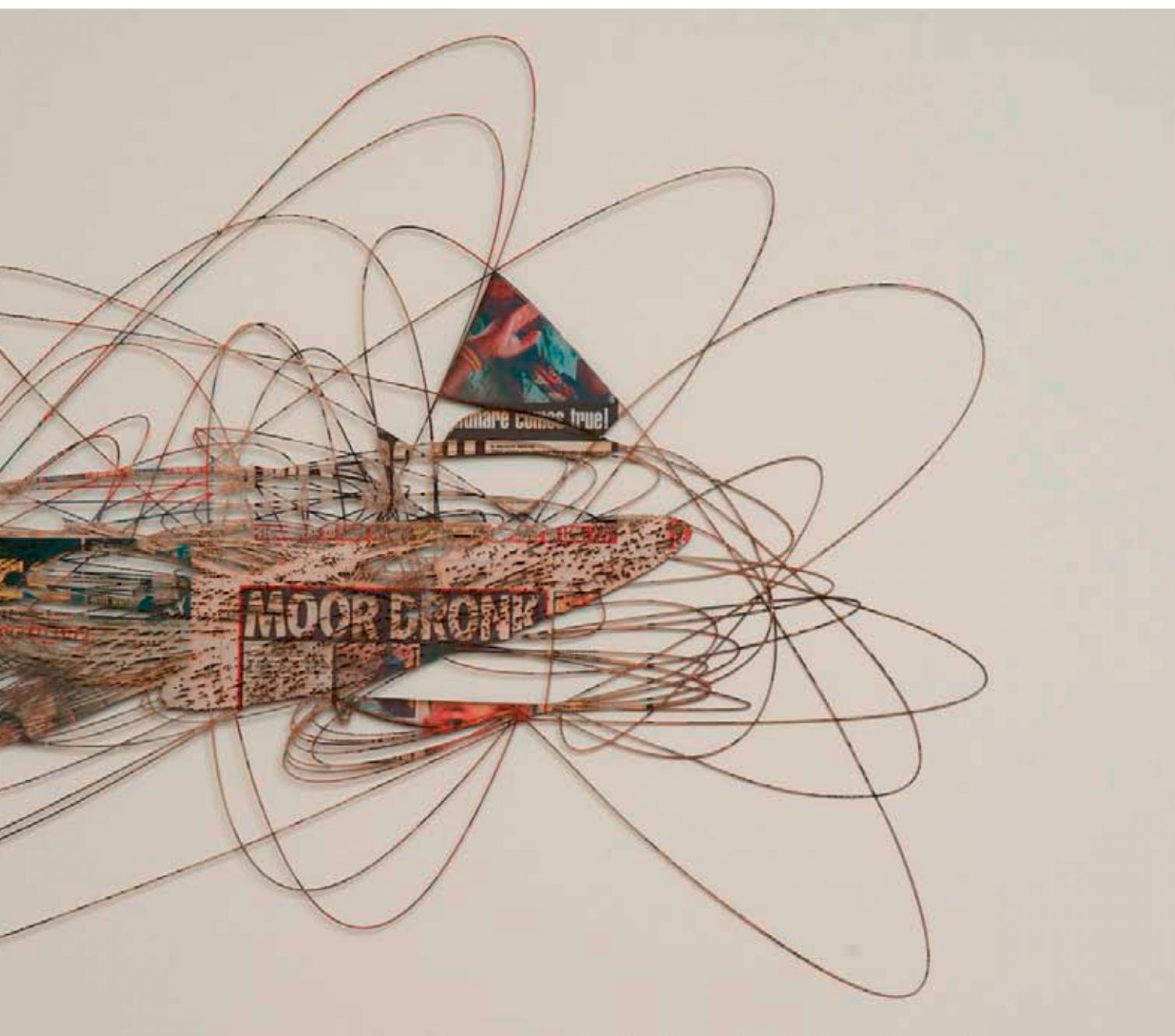




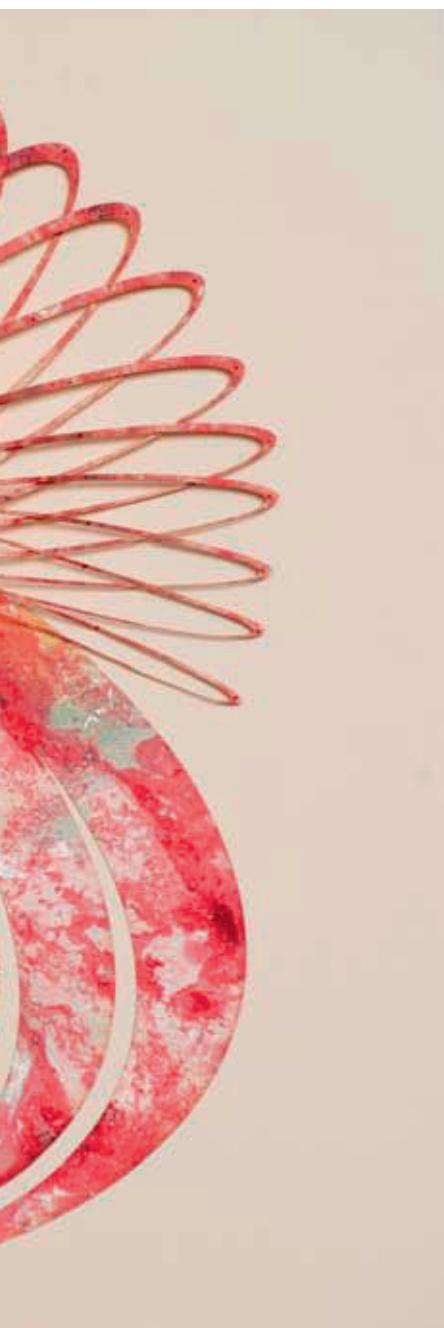
astronomical seeing. cut out of holographic paper, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 140 x 200 x 6 cm 2010

moer dronk. cut out of newspaper, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 90 x 120 x 6 cm 2010





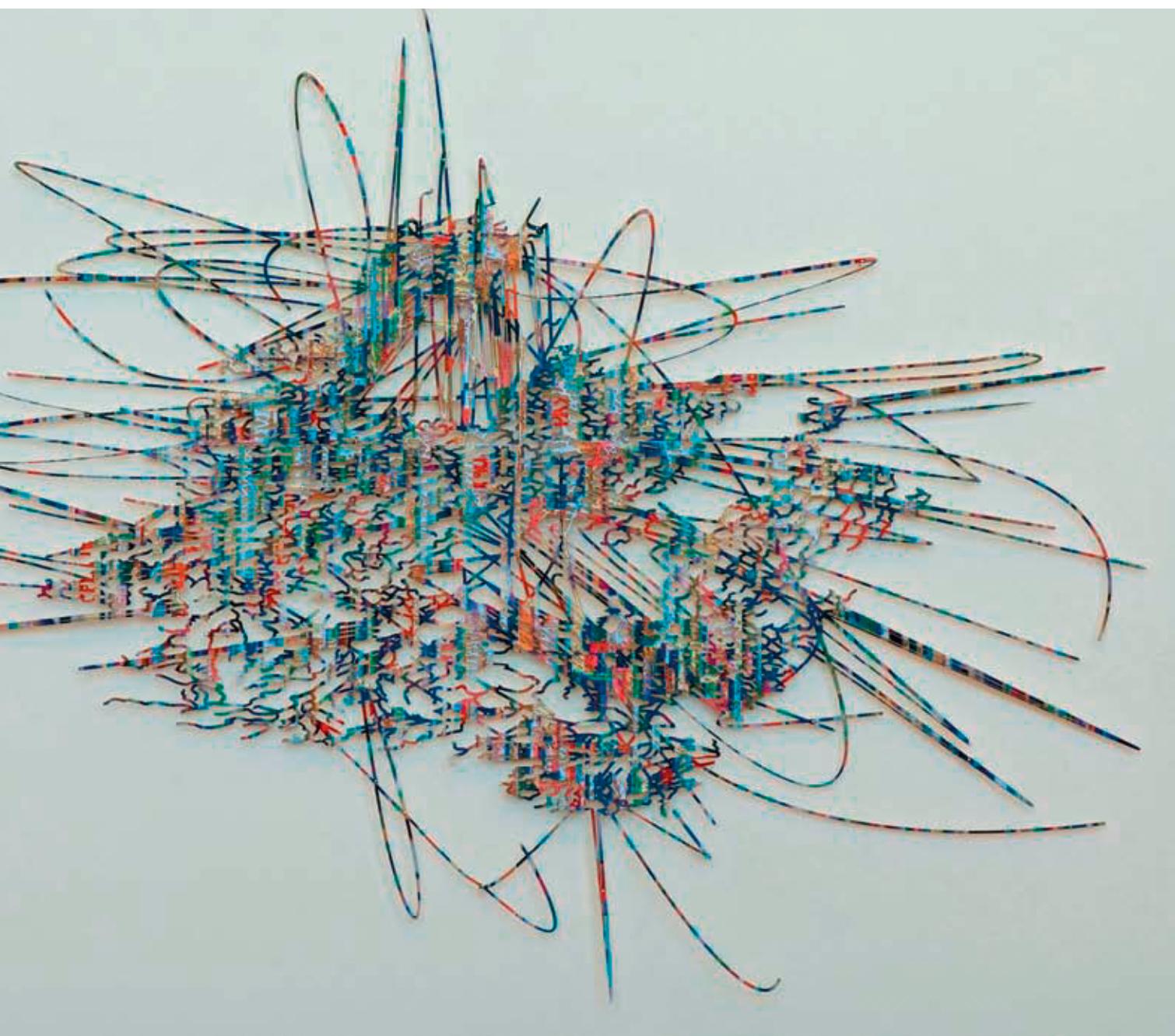


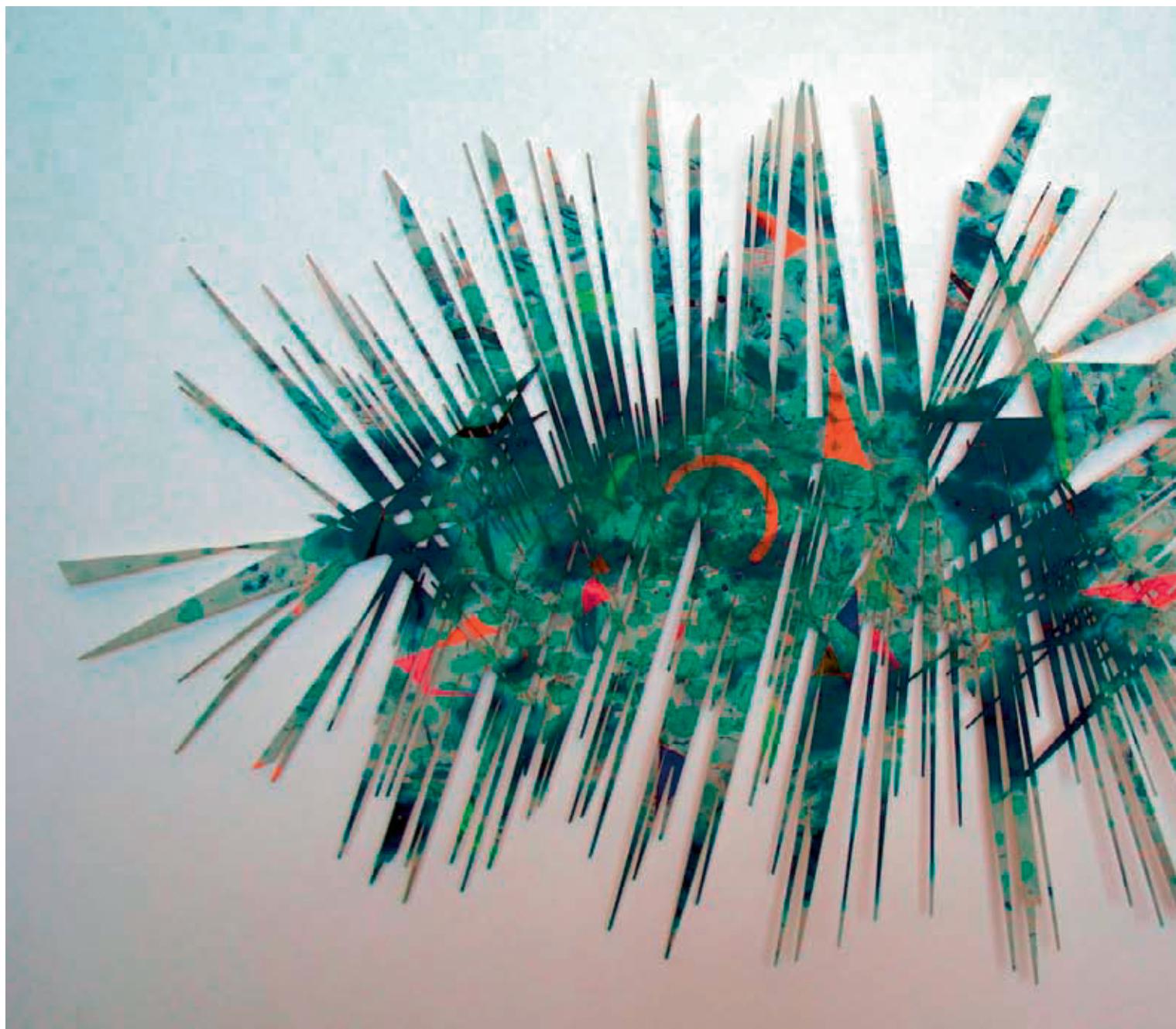


multiple realm pink. cut out of carton, water color, Indian ink, pins
on fabriano paper, 90 x 120 x 6 cm 2010

distorted view. cut out of color paint swatches paper, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 85 x 106 x 6 cm 2010



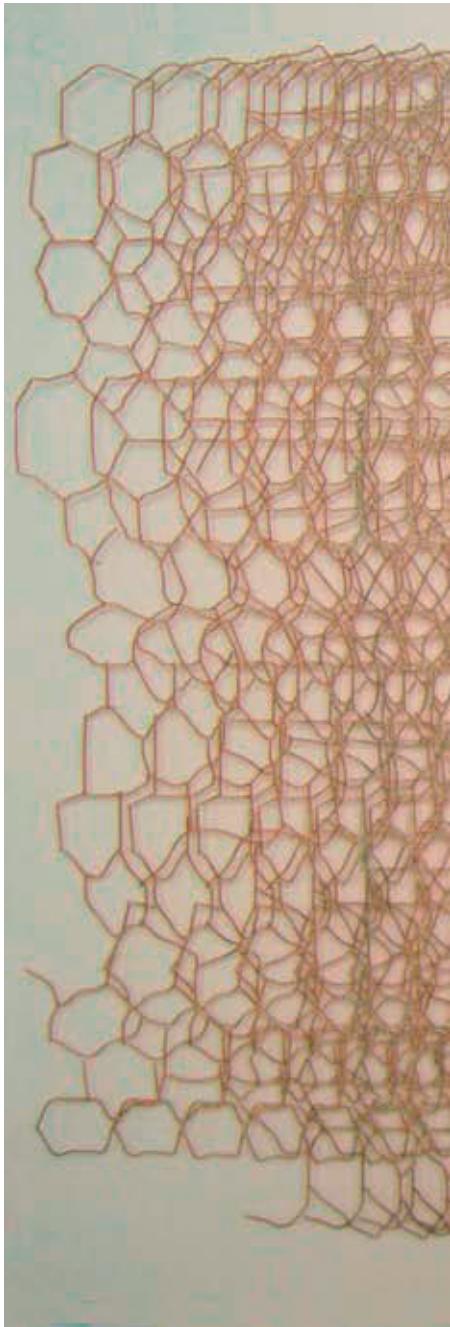


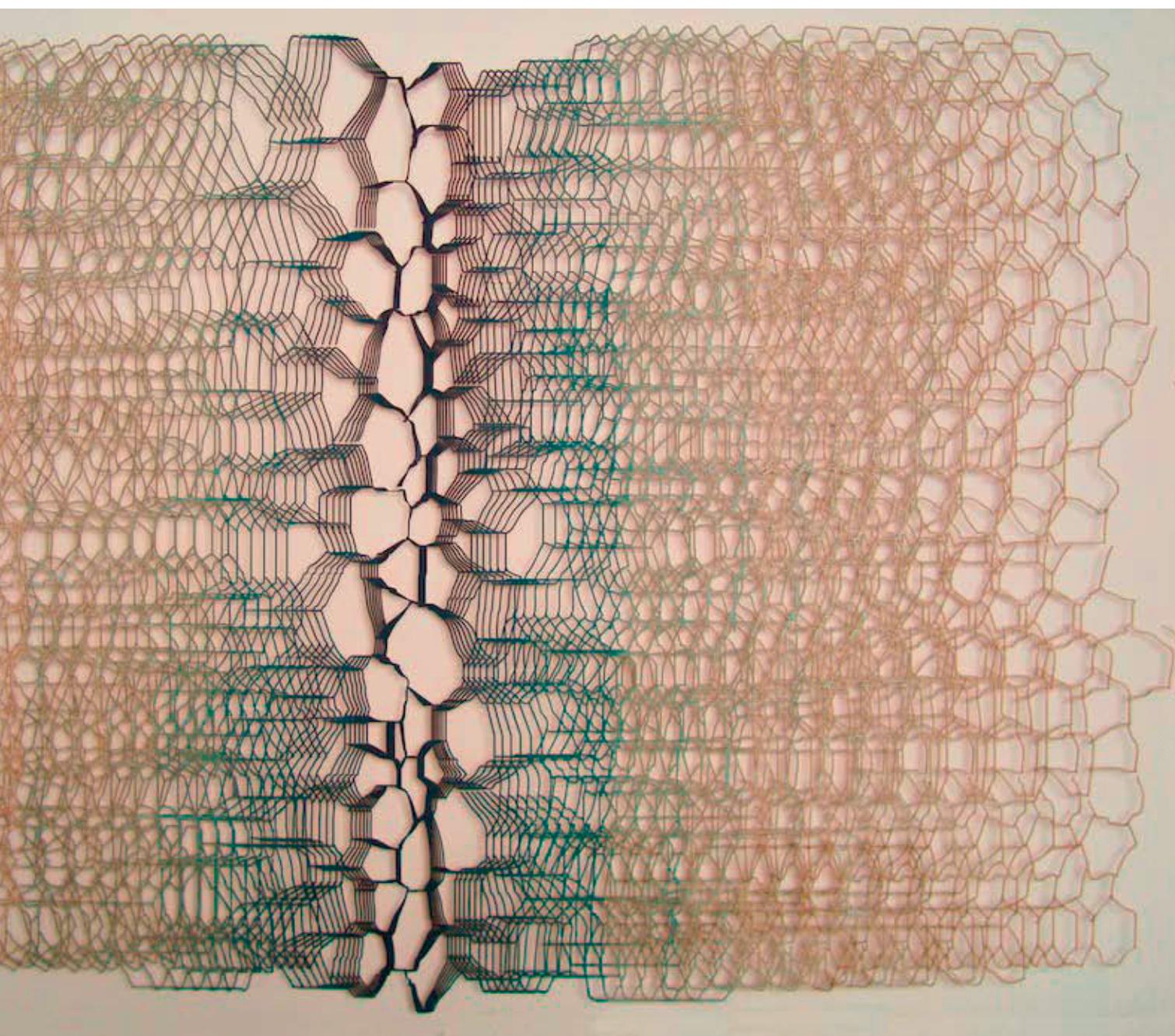


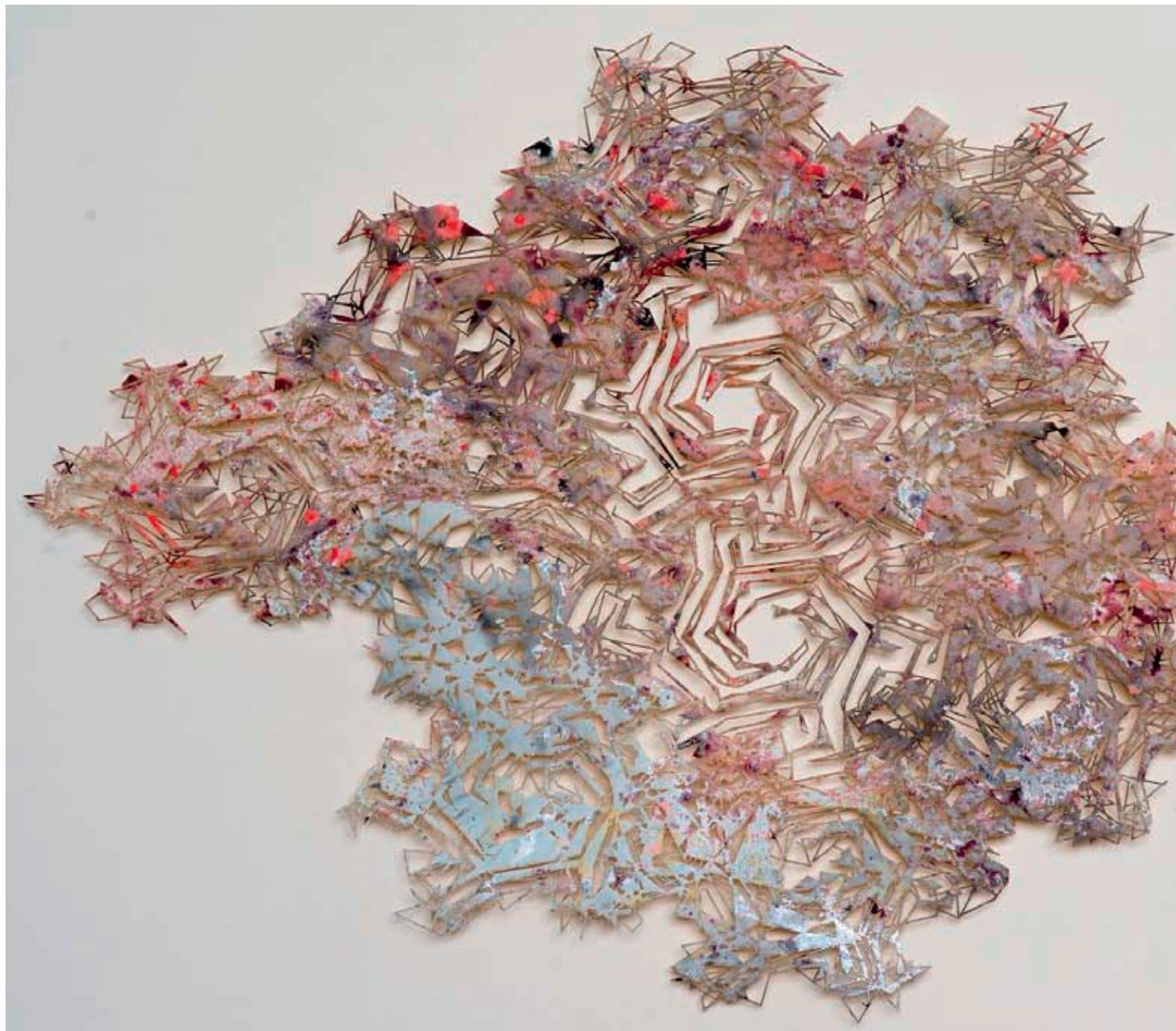


temporary blindness. cut out of paper, water color, spray paint, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 64 x 92 x 6 cm 2010

double vision_parallel universe. cut out of paper, water color, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 107 x 158 x 6 cm 2010





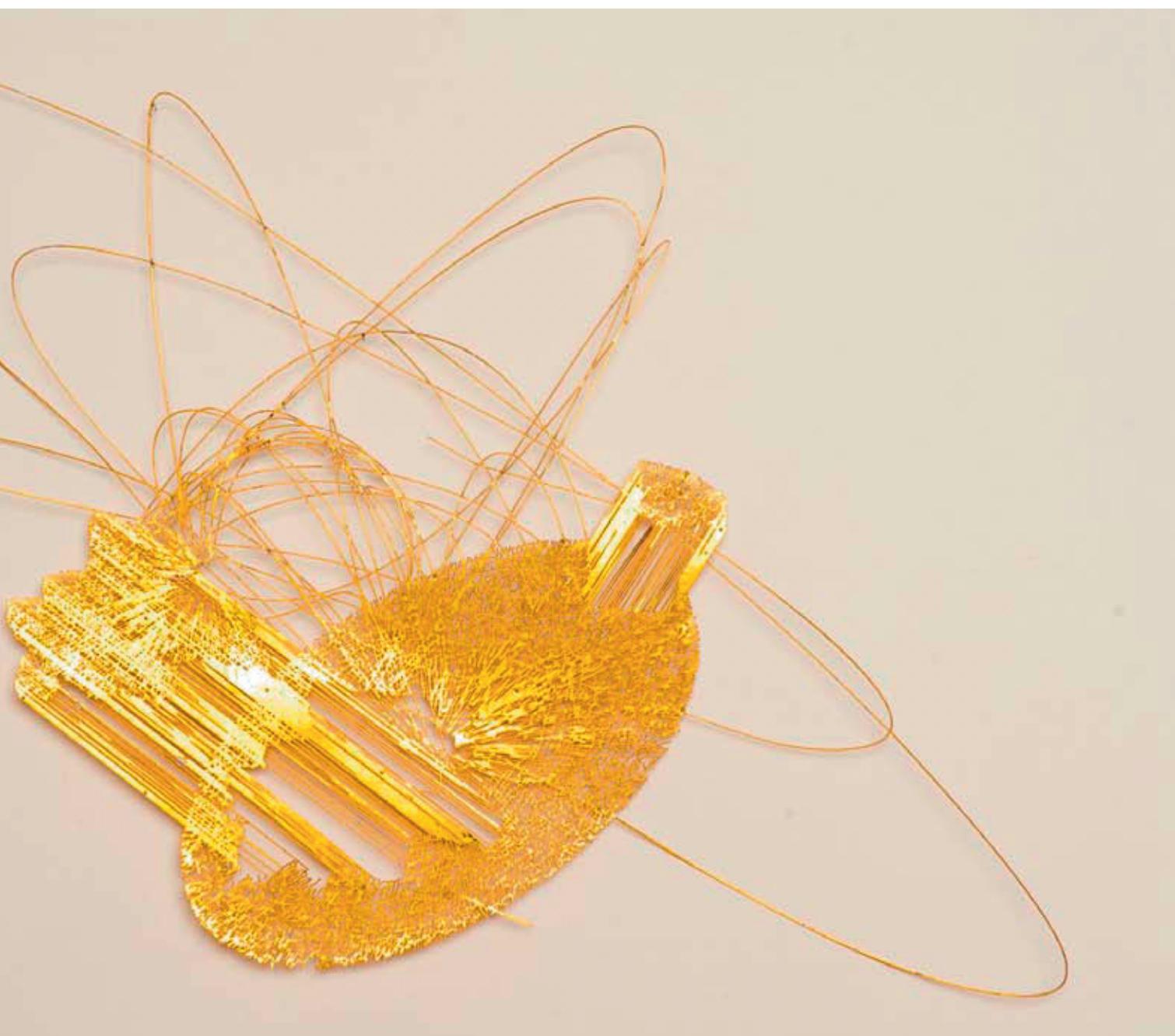




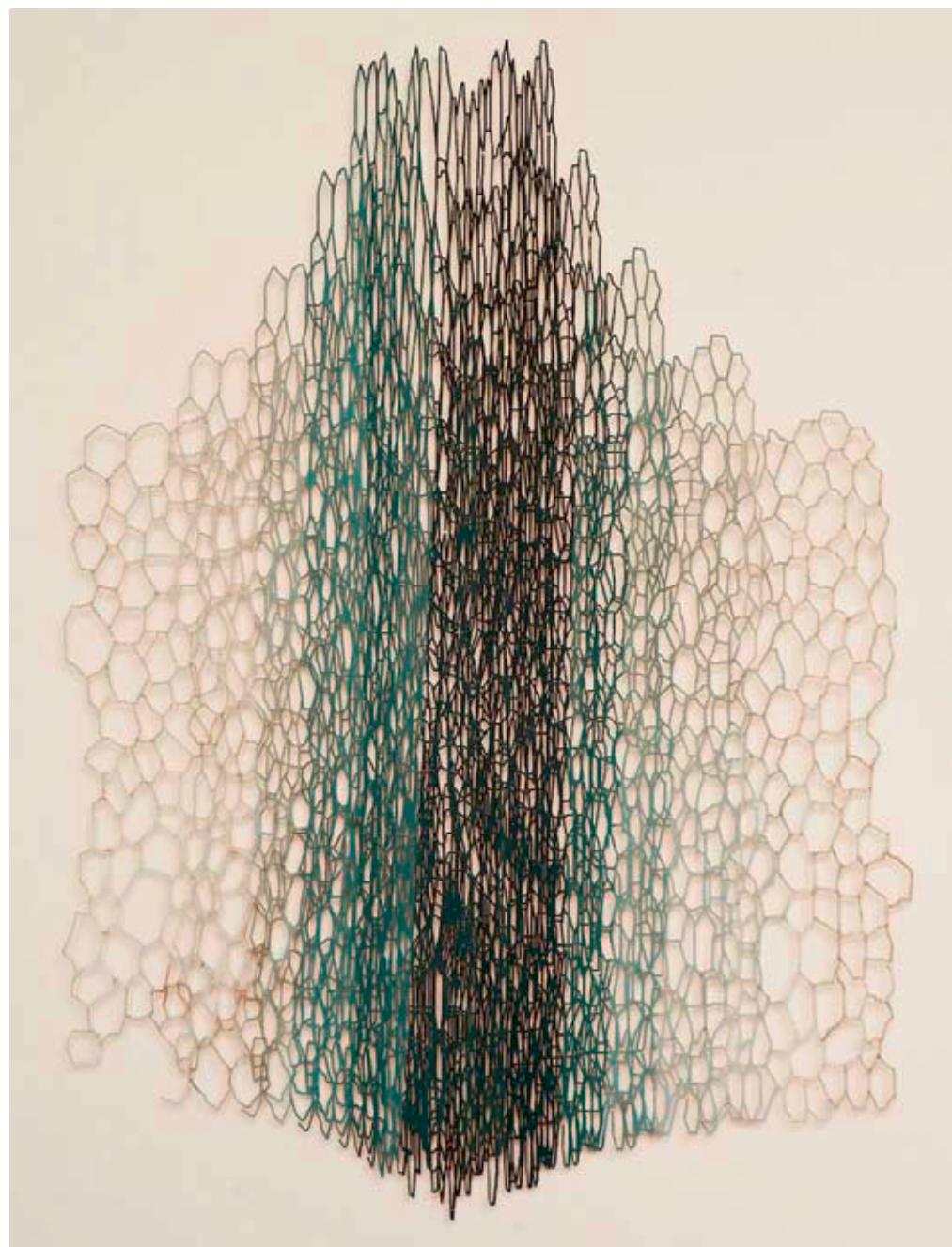
hexagon. cut out of paper, water color, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 85 x 197 x 6 cm 2010

satellite telescope. cut out of holographic paper
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 78 x 100 x 6 cm 2010





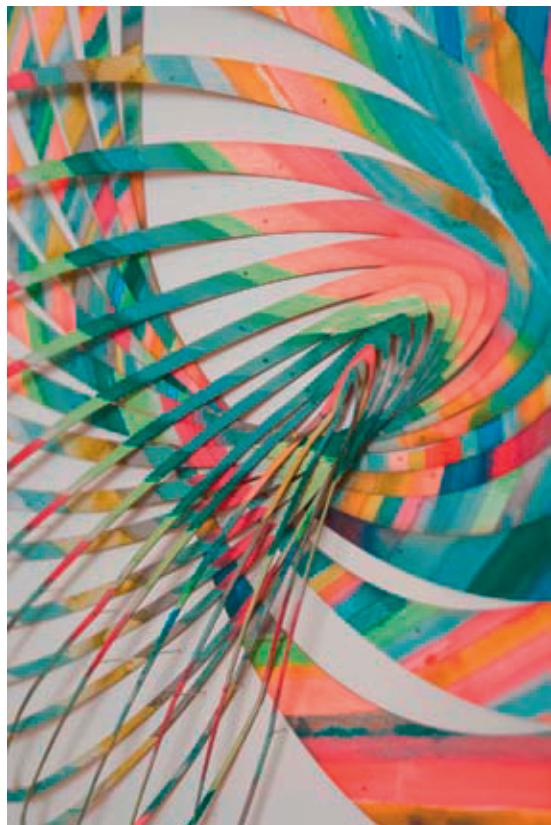
mirage. cut out of paper, water color, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 106 x 83 x 6 cm 2010







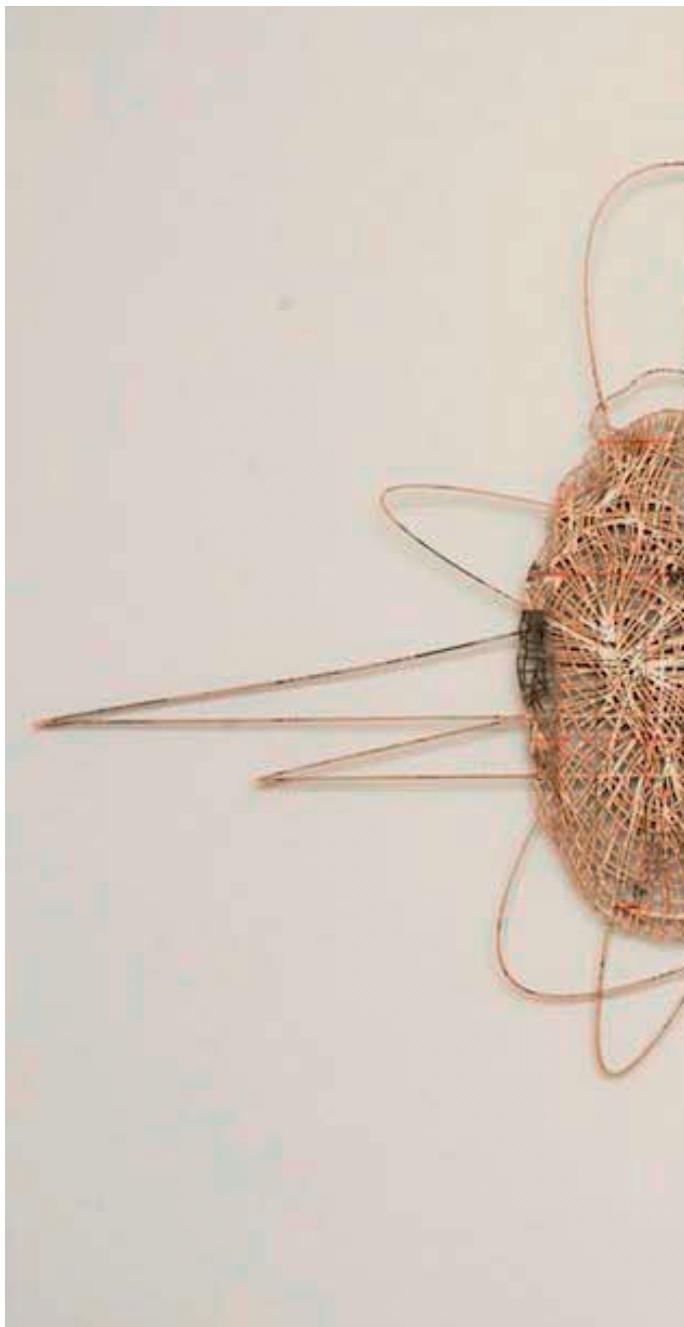
blue zone_khayelitsha. cut out of paper, water color, pins
on fabriano paper, 87 x 116 x 6 cm, diptych, right side 2010

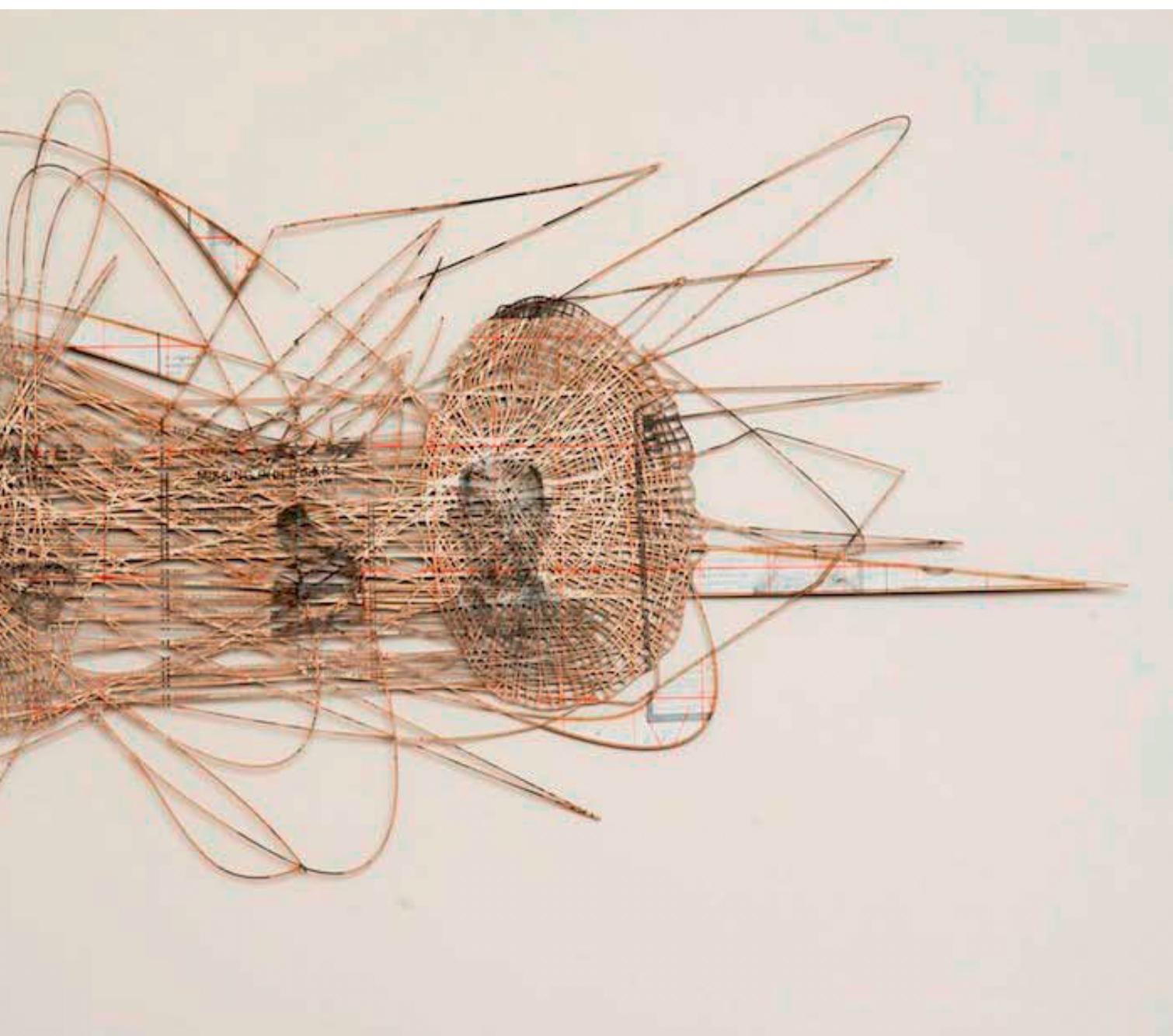


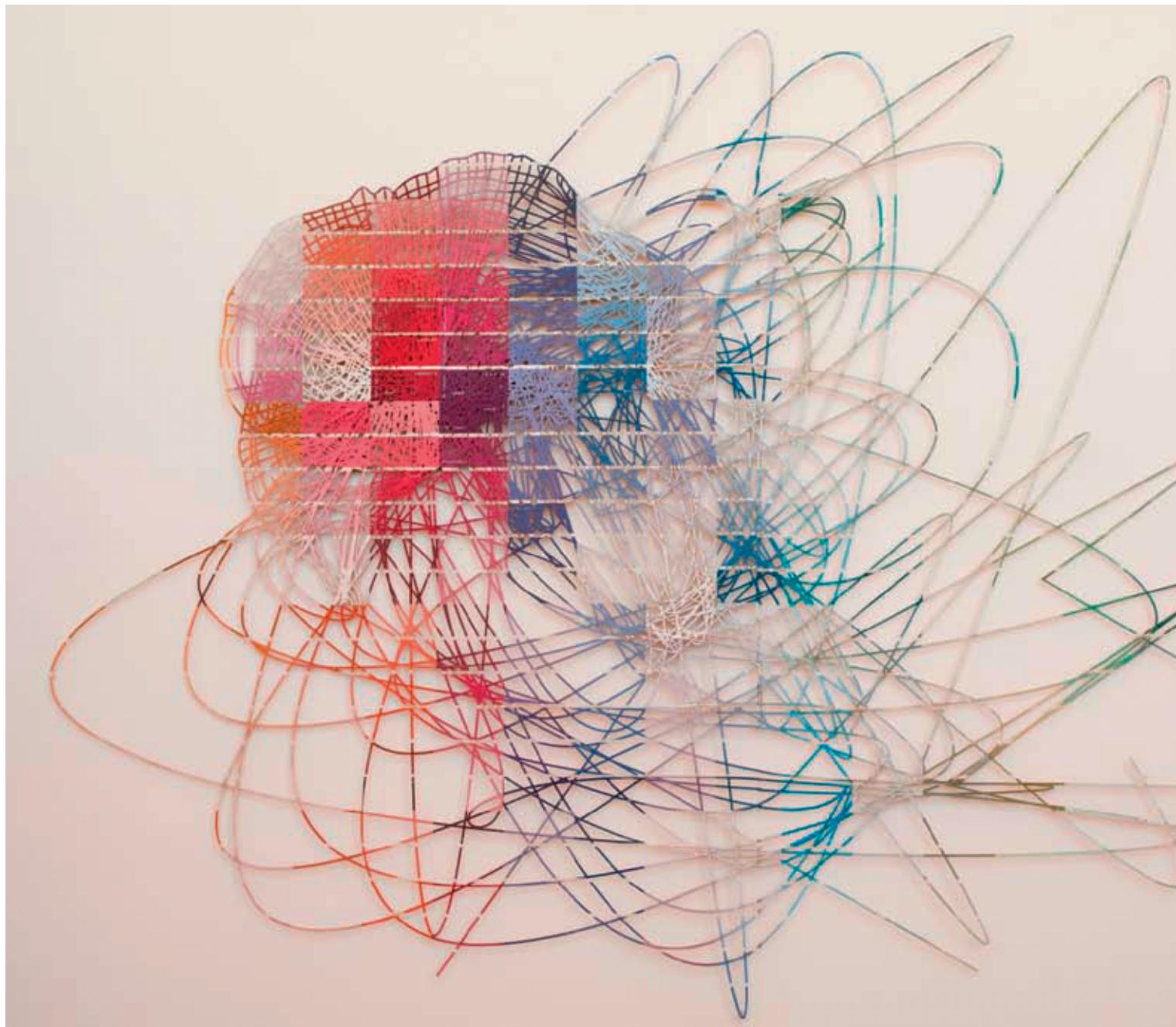
multiple realm colored. cut out of carton, water color, Indian ink, pins on fabriano paper, 90 x 120 x 6 cm + detail 2010
blue zone_khayelitsha. cut out of paper, water color, pins on fabriano paper, 87 x 116 x 6 cm (each), diptych, left side + detail 2010



filter out. cut out of missing children poster's paper, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 104 x 157 x 6 cm 2010









velvet-blue satellite. cut out of paint color swatches paper, pins
on fabriano paper, 2/3, 104 x 140 x 6 cm 2010

utopian landscape. cut outs of paper, water color, pen, ink, pins
on archer's paper, 94 x 140 x 6 cm 2010





LYNDI SALES

(b.1973) lives and works in Cape Town. For the past couple of years Sales preferably works on series of installations and artworks made of intricately cut pinned paper and rubber and thereby creates notions that shed light on the fragile nature of our existence in which chance might play a role. She has held solo and group shows internationally and nationally in the USA; France; Austria; Germany; UK; the Netherlands and South Africa and is the holder of numerous awards. Solo shows include 2010 Astronomical Seeing, Sarah Khan Contemporary Art, Schaan, FL; Blind Spot, Gallery Momo, Johannesburg; Distort, Galerie Junges Forum, Frankfurt 2009 In Transit, Toomey Tourell Fine Art, San Francisco and Galerie Maria Lund, Paris 2008 Transient, Bell Roberts Gallery, Cape Town. Group shows include 2010 Accrochage, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris 2009 At the end of the rainbow, Bie & Vadstrup, Copenhagen; Print, The South African Print Gallery, Cape Town 2008 Holland Paper Biennale, Museum Rijswijk, Holland 2007 Turbulance, Hangar-7 Gallery, Salzburg, Austria.





ASTRONOMICAL SEEING

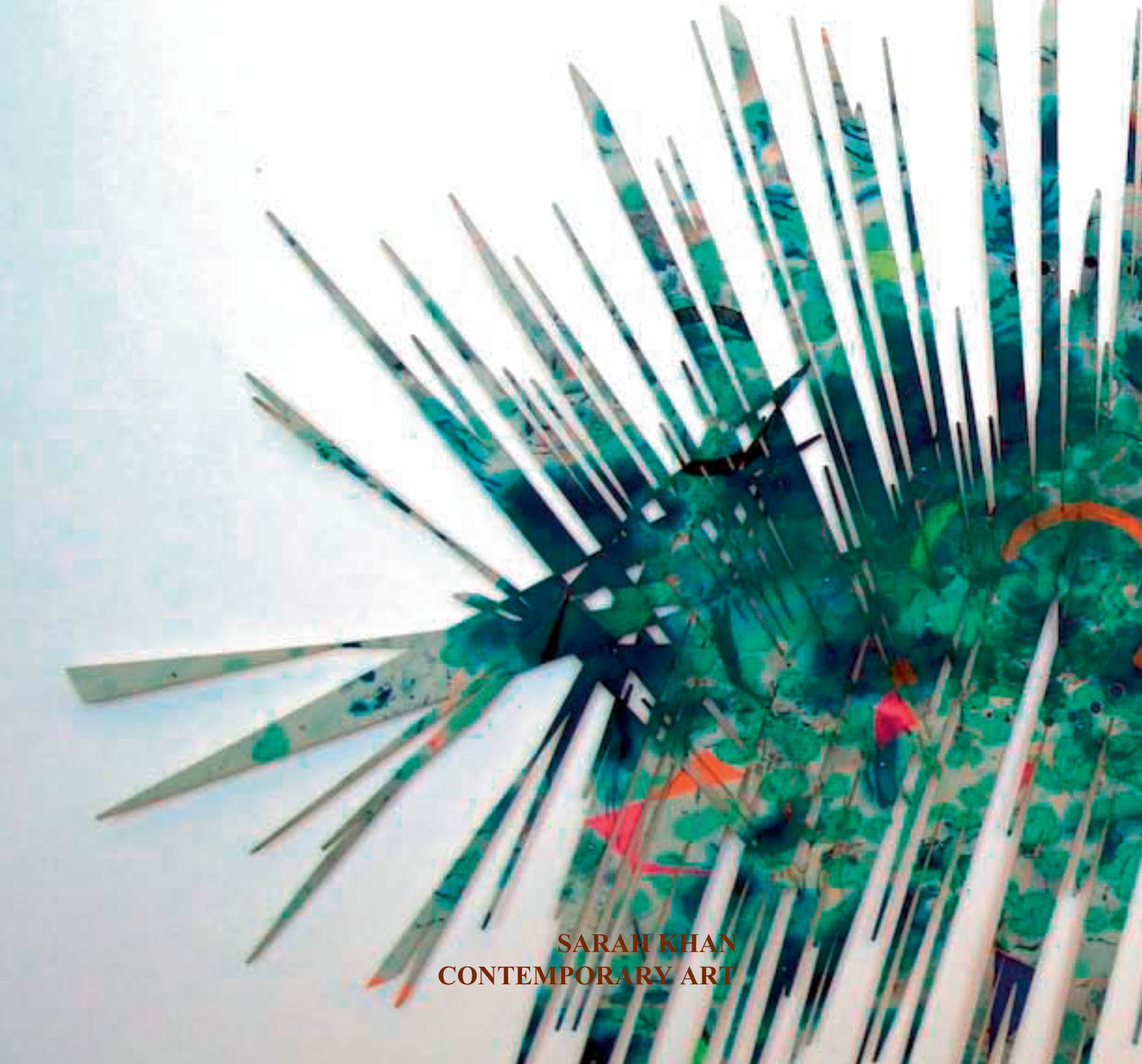
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Credit

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An abstract painting featuring a dense cluster of long, thin, light-colored brushstrokes radiating from the center towards the edges. These strokes are heavily impasto, creating a textured surface. Interspersed among them are vertical and horizontal strokes in shades of teal, green, and blue, some with visible brushwork and others more blended. A small, distinct red shape is visible near the bottom left. The overall effect is dynamic and explosive.

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CONTEMPORARY ART