





EL TURISTA | COCO GONZÁLEZ LOHSE 29 APRIL - 20 MAY | 2020 ISABEL CROXATTO GALERIA | ONLINE



## **POST CARD**

Viajar es estar al fin legitimamente perdido y confundido Rebecca Solnit

ISABEL CROXATTO GALERIA

## JORGE GONZÁLEZ LOHSE | BIO





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COCO GONZÁLEZ LOHSE Santiago, 1965

Jorge "Coco" González Lohse is a visual artist, curator, editor and cultural manager, Bachelor of Arts with a mention in Painting by the Universidad de Chile.

His work has been exhibited since 1988 in 14 individual or bi-personal exhibitions and more than 170 group exhibitions, including envoys, biennials and competitions in Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, the United States and Spain.

Mainly dedicated to painting and sculpture, his work has been influenced by Neopop, German Expressionism, Metaphysical Painting, Conceptual Art, Surrealism, and Popular Graphics. His work deals with the issues of sublimation of the skin, revolving around the notions of "collective body" and "belonging", inquiring into the relationships between everyday life and vernacular images. In it, the absurd, the contradiction and the dreamlike are amalgamated in the search for a visual language connected to social criticism and humour.

The artist's work can be identified with the Revuelta Vitalista, Chilean movement comprised of a group of artists in the return to democracy in Chile in the early 1990s, who were linked in specific instances, but later left this scene to set their own narrative linked to heterogeneous aesthetic expressions that draw their inspiration from punk and rock, comics, fashion, new wave and neo-hippie.

In parallel to his artistic work, González Lohse has taught at various art faculties in Chile, in addition to his labour as a curator and editor of the artistic research books *Cambio de Aceite* (2003), *Revisión Técnica* (2010), *Sub30* (2014) and *Los Dominios Perdidos* (2019), among others.

In 2014 he was co-founder of the SXC Cooperativa de Artistas, an artists' association, and between 2015 and 2018 he was coordinator of the contemporary art platform Espacio O in Santiago.

His work is in public and private collections in Chile, Argentina, Peru, Mexico, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Spain, France and Germany.

Coco González Lohse lives and works in Santiago.

## CAROLINA CASTRO JORQUERA | BIO





CAROLINA CASTRO JORQUERA San Felipe, Chile, 1982

Carolina Castro Jorquera is a curator and researcher, PhD in Art History from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. She has completed the Master in Contemporary Art and Visual Culture of the Reina Sofía National Museum Art Centre in Spain (2010), and participated in the 4th International Curators Course of the Gwangju Biennial (GBICC), South Korea (2012). Ms Castro is currently a professor of the Magister in Photographic Creation at Universidad Finis Terrae in Santiago. Her writings have been published in magazines such as Artishock, Latinxspaces, The Miami Rail, Terremoto, and the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection online platform.

Among her most recent projects as an independent curator are the Planta section at the Ch.ACO contemporary art fair (Santiago, 2016-2018); *Zombi Mall* by Ignacio Gatica at Die Ecke gallery (Santiago, 2017); *Distaff* by Juana Gómez at Michael Hoppen Gallery (London, 2017); curatorial selection for Yoko Ono's *Water Event* in the *Yoko Ono: Dream Come True* exhibition, including works by Cecilia Vicuña and Enrique Ramírez, at CorpArtes (Santiago, 2017); the group exhibition *Grupo <11>* at the Instituto Cervantes in New York (2017); and *Contact* by Francois Bucher at Galería Patricia Ready (Santiago, 2019).

Carolina Castro Jorquera lives and works in Santiago.

## EL TURISTA | COCO GONZÁLEZ LOHSE Curatorial Text | Carolina Castro Jorquera

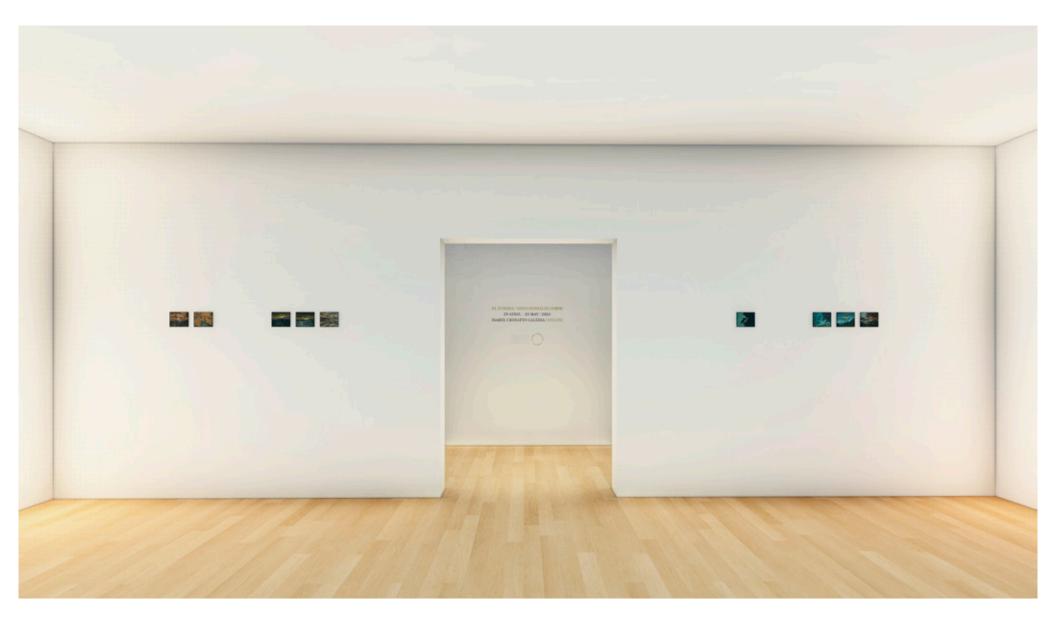


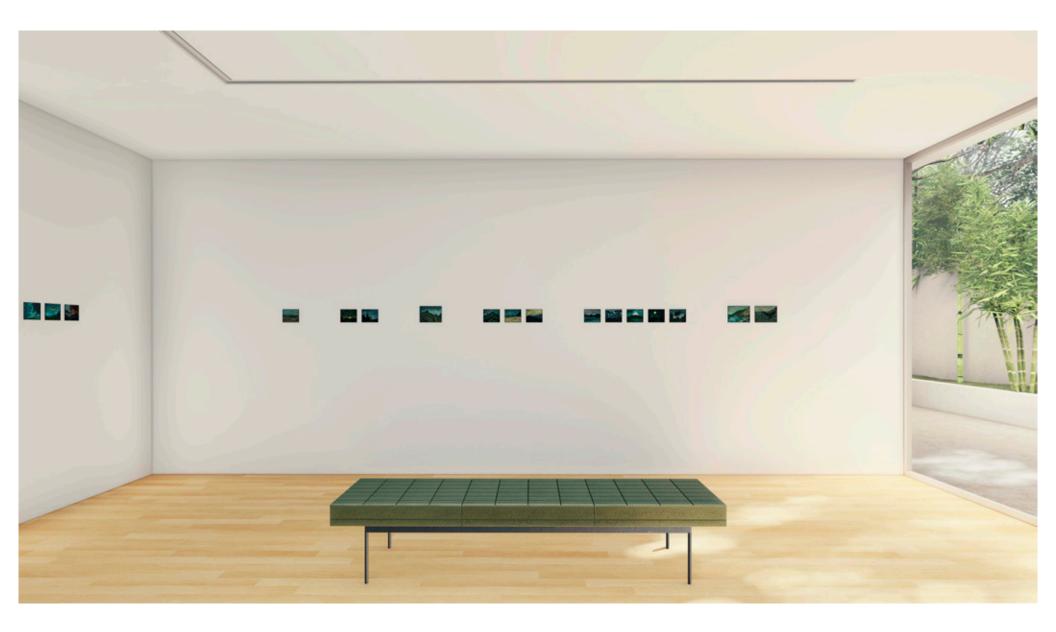
With an always playful and passionate aesthetic, even in moments of hopelessness, the work of Coco González witnesses a deeply personal relationship with painting as a possibility of existence, as a way of dealing with day-to-day tensions and the moving strength of reality. His latest paintings have a travel format: they do not have the ambition of a great work, rather they look like the letters of an oracle, containing an unsuspected destination. They are like postcards of a melancholic tourist who longs for the energy of voyage, not the hustle and bustle of airports or the Caribbean paradise, but the romanticism and mysticism of an explorer in search of distant lands who, without knowing it, goes on to meet himself. Through them, we are invited to make an imaginary and mystical journey, where painting acts as a bridge between different moments in the same story.

It's not by chance that there are thirty-three works, a Kabbalistic number that symbolises love for all that exists, and represents the destiny of humanity. Fire is an important part of this imaginary world, having the *frate focu* (Father Fire) as a symbol of home. The alchemists interpreted fire as the cycle of encounter and disagreement, the awakening of the soul that accompanies us along the path of consciousness, transmuter of the journey from life to death as an eternal return. With fire as a companion, 'The Tourist', the main character in these paintings, stands at magnitude, patiently preparing for the start of something new. Another interesting symbolic aspect, and that González began to include in his work several years ago, are these very distinctive characters who, in some way, embody their own experiences, and that throughout these paintings appear nude, with pointed black masks, or hooded; sometimes alone, other times gathered in a clan or tribe.

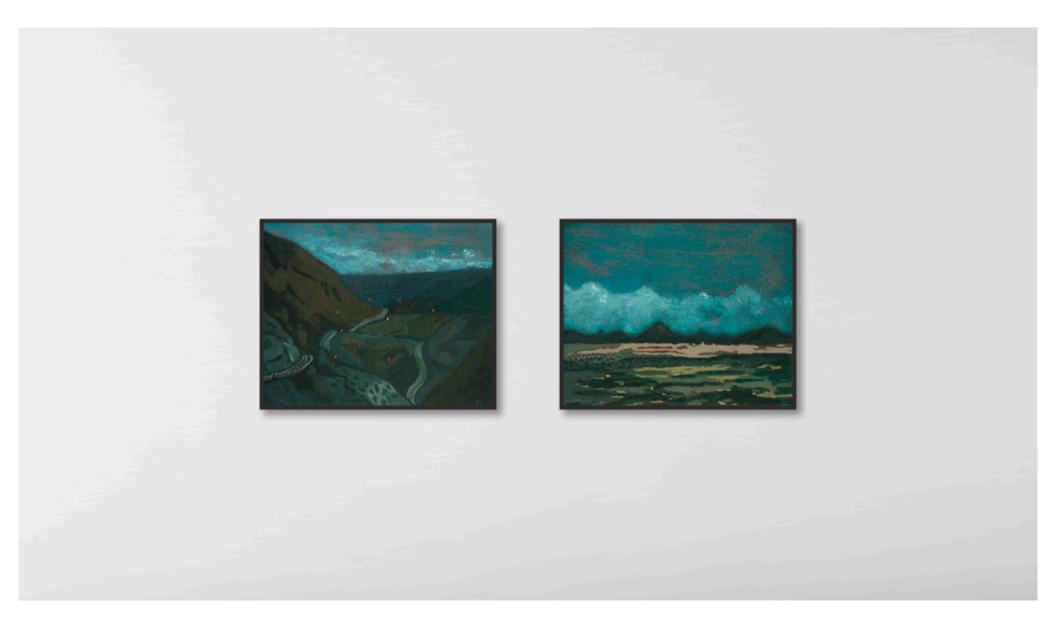
The titles of the paintings are essential to lead this journey. There's a group of them under the label of 'Neo' (the new), which manifests itself in the possibility of a 'Neo Reality' (*Neo Realidad*), accompanied by a 'Neo Ecology' (*Neo Ecología*) and the myth of a 'Neo Medusa' that emerge in the light of a penumbra that floods the landscape awaiting the arrival of the Aurora. For its part, The Sign (*La Señal*) is not a divine call but an encounter in the depths of the inner landscape with the light that lives in darkness, the *lumen-naturae*, the spark that ignites the primordial fire and that makes the darkness itself not be absolutely black. Hence, Destiny (*El Destino*) is presented as a raft that floats adrift in the current, in a sea that rests from a recent storm that finally carries this naked character towards the shore, where he will meet The Caravan (*La Caravana*), and where, along with his peers, he will dream of the possibility of a new home. Farewells, escapes, arrivals, agreements, oblivion, waiting follow; each one is a possibility in this travel oracle loaded with clues, archetypes, and visions.

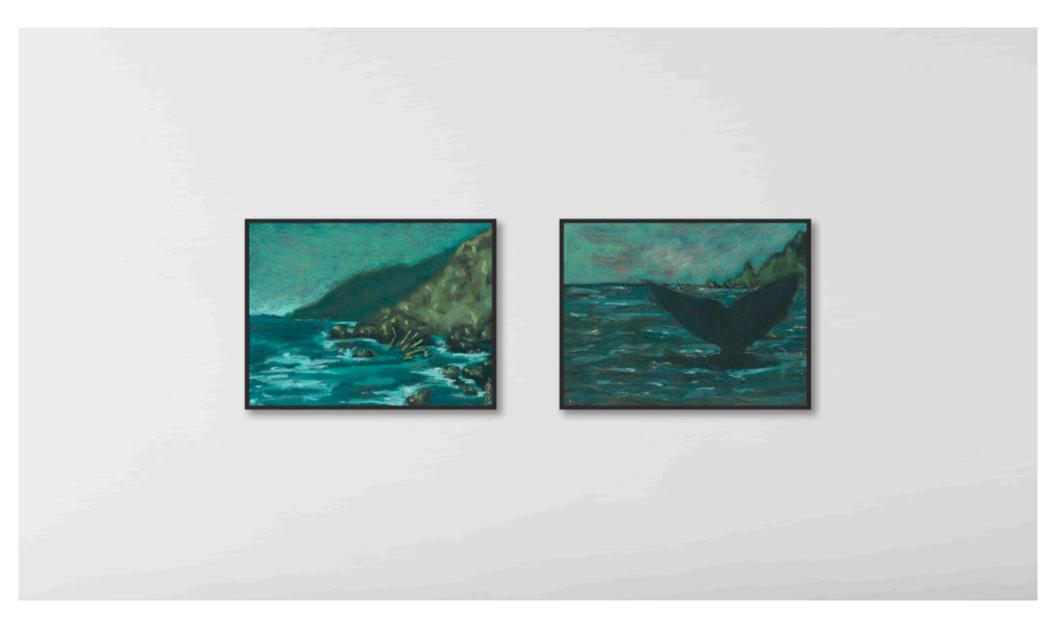
Carolina Castro Jorquera April 2020

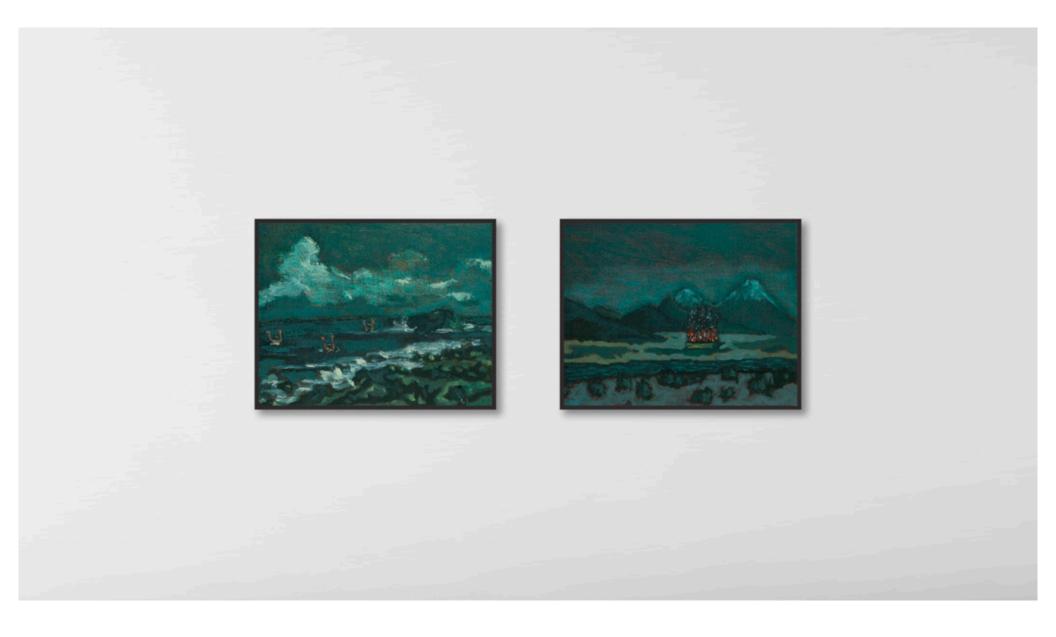


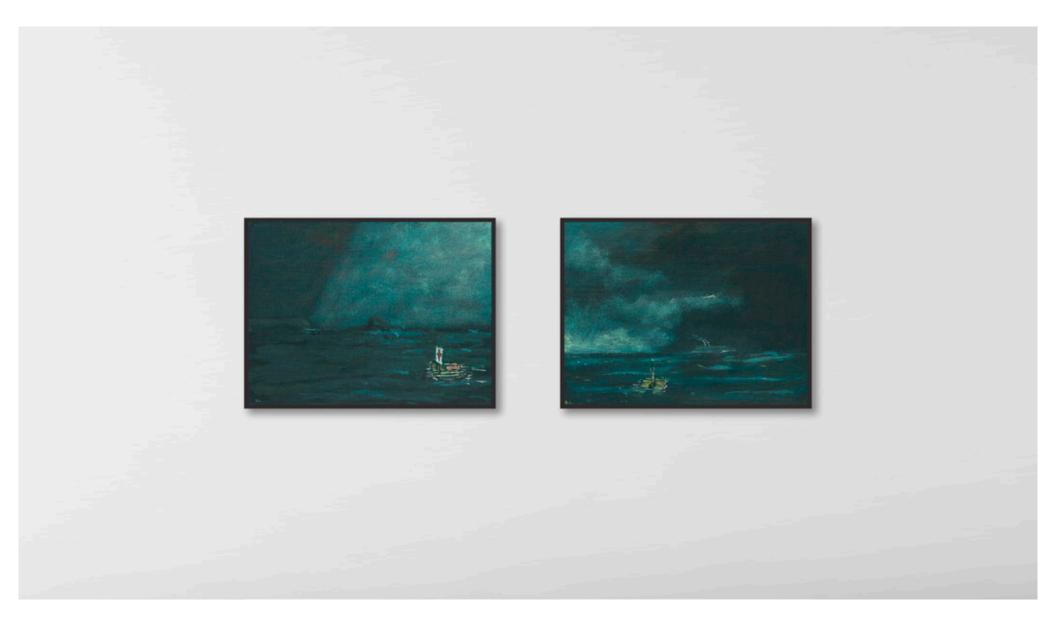


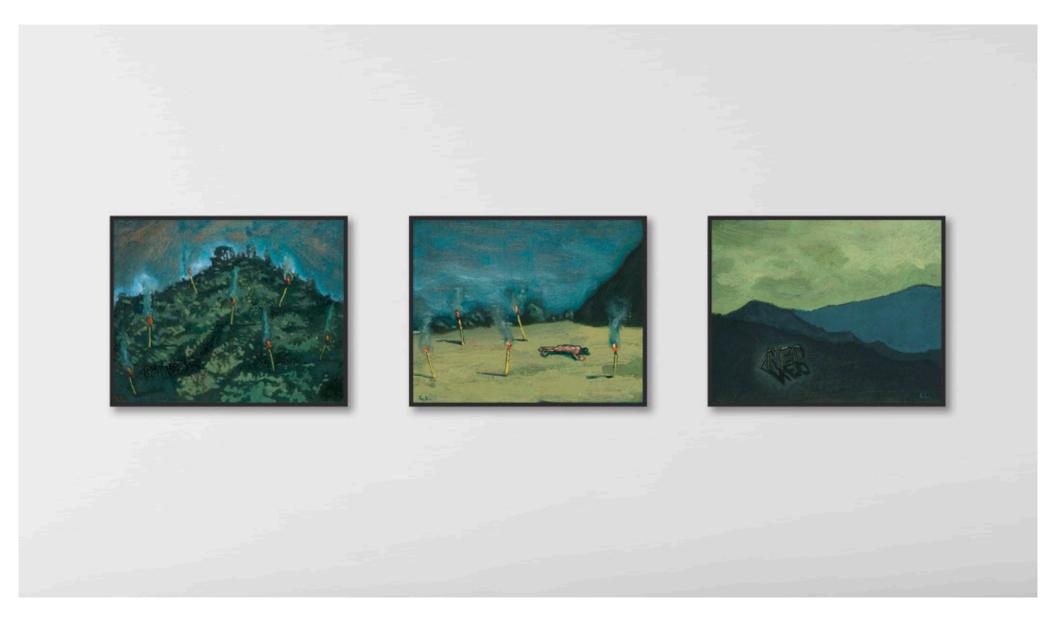


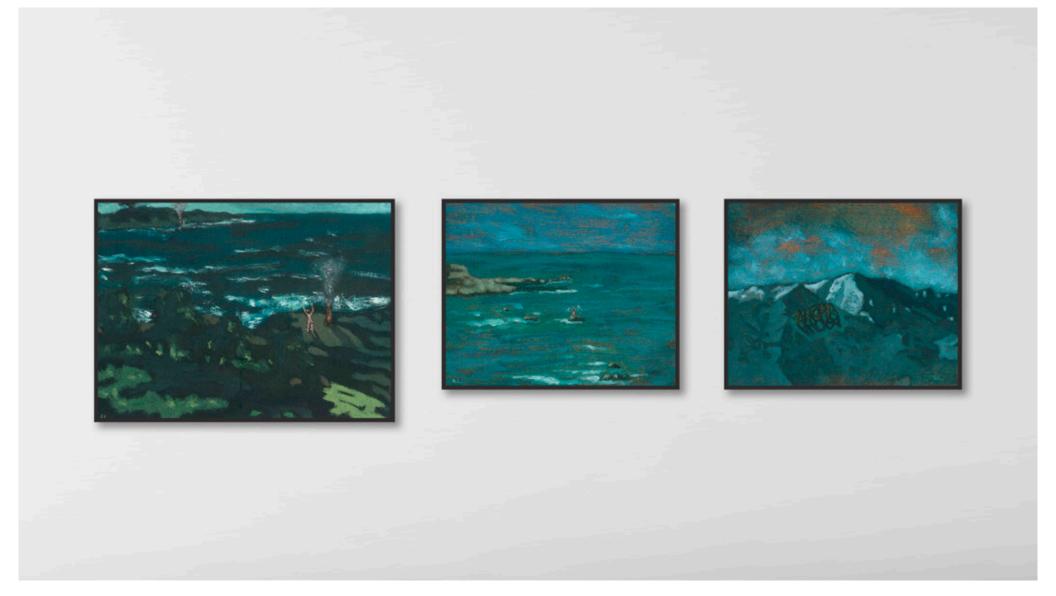


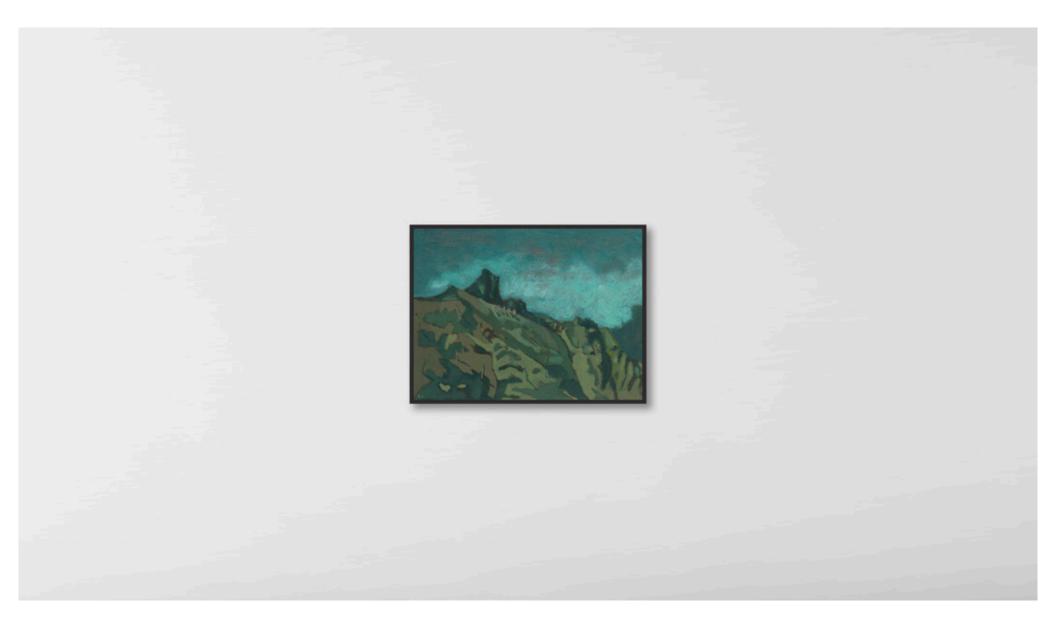


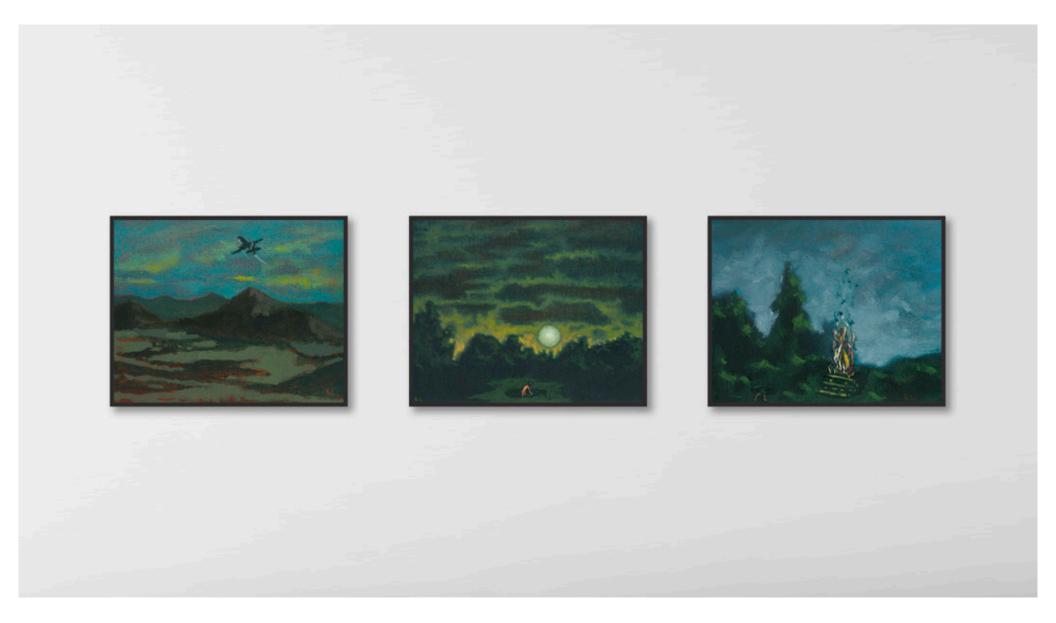


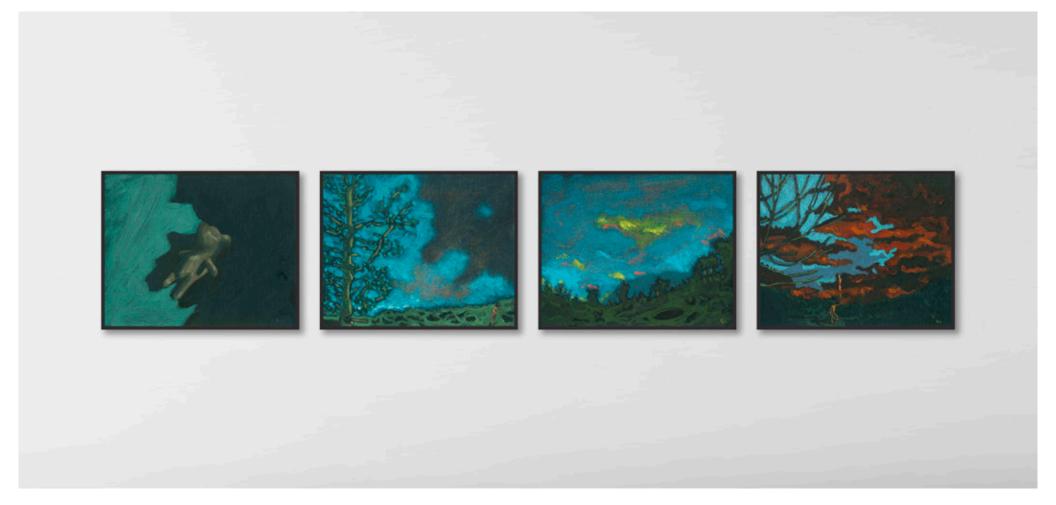


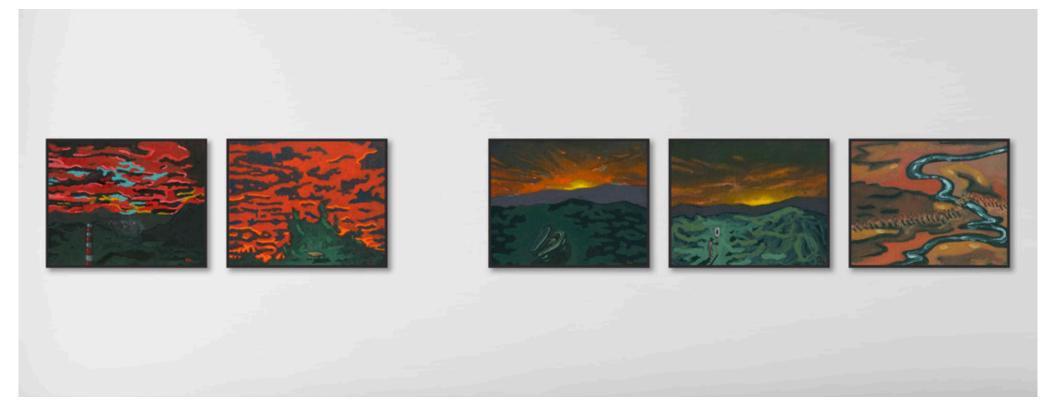


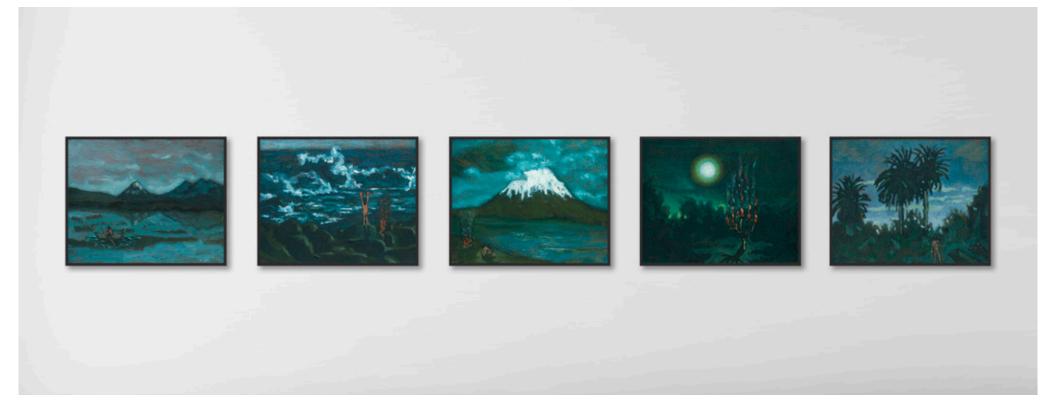










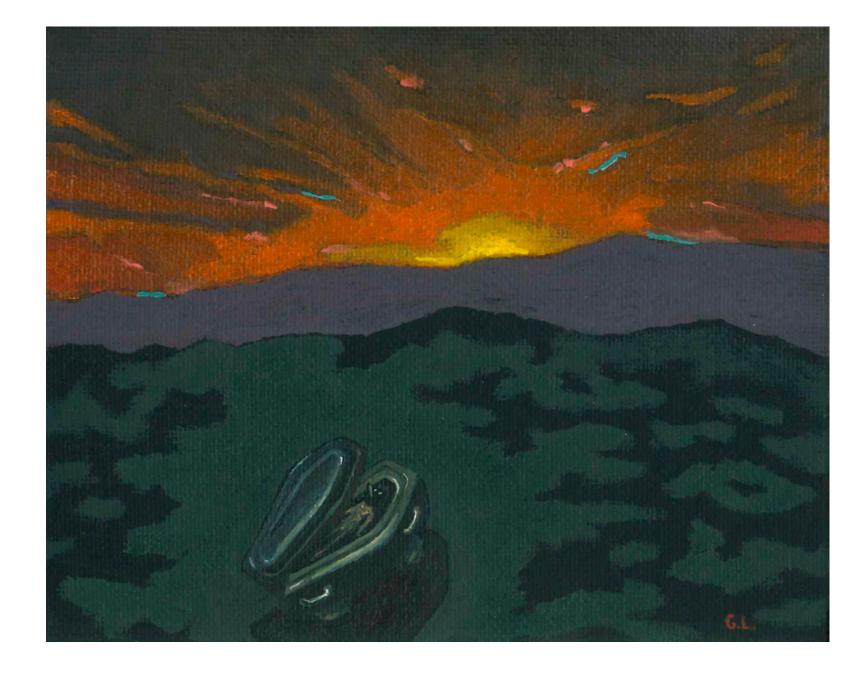




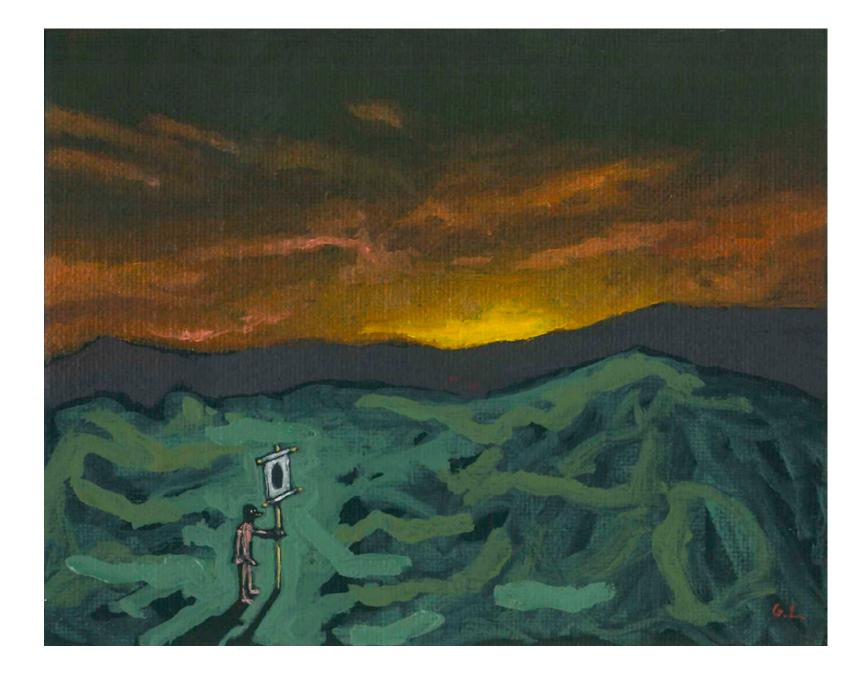
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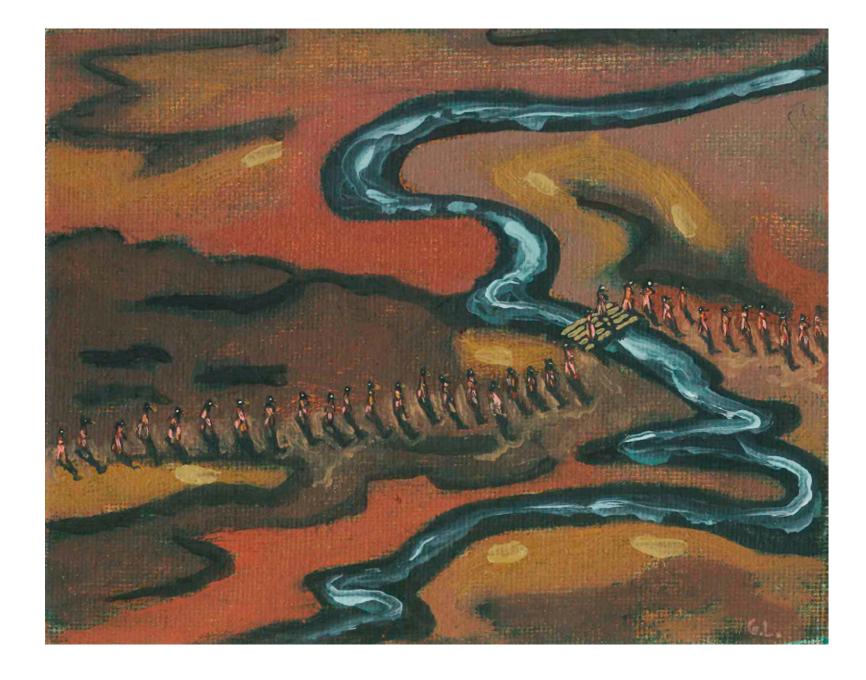


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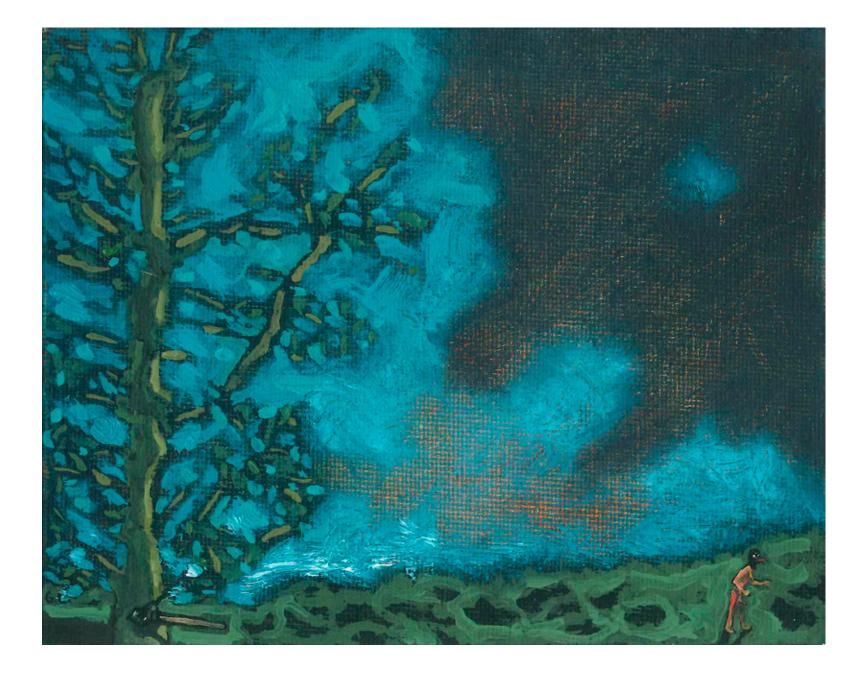
Coco González Lohse, *El Estandarte*, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm







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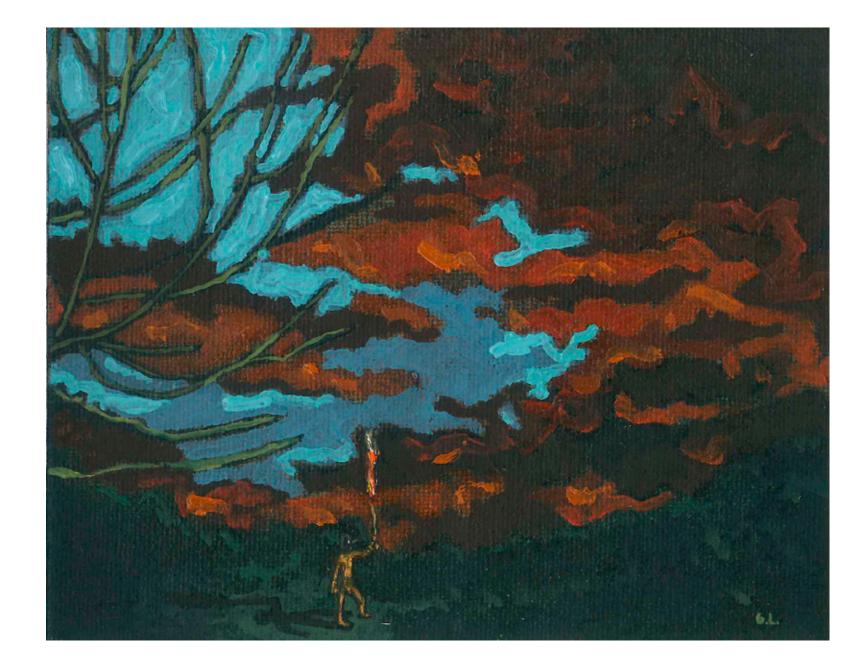


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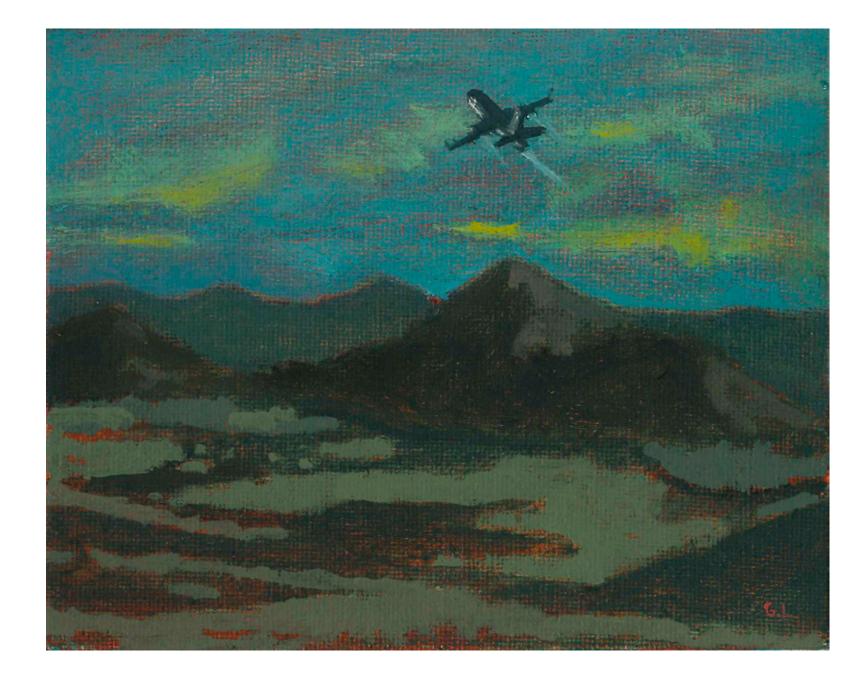


Coco González Lohse, El Símbolo, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm



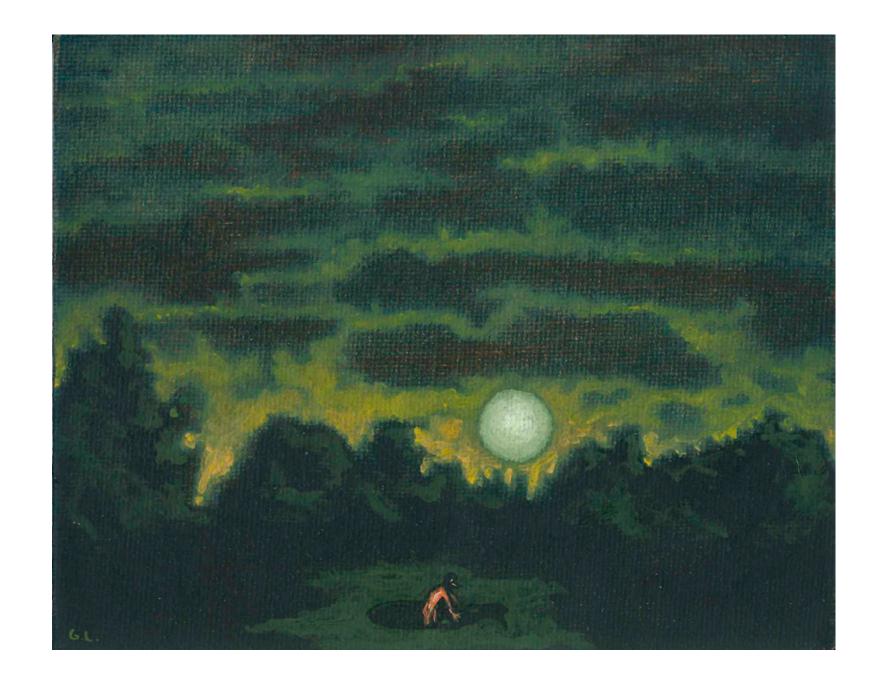
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Coco González Lohse, El Norte es el Sur, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm



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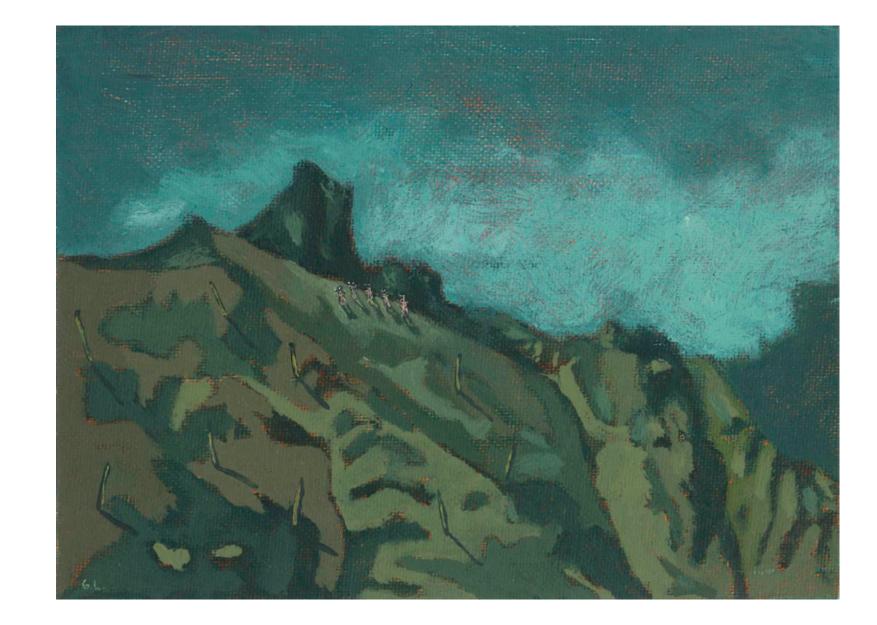






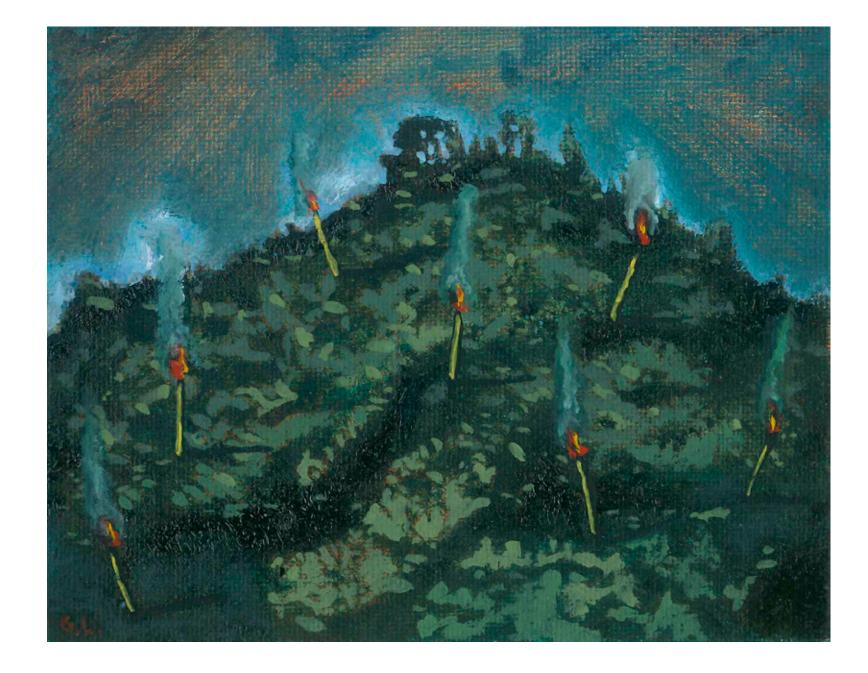
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Coco González Lohse, La Pira, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm



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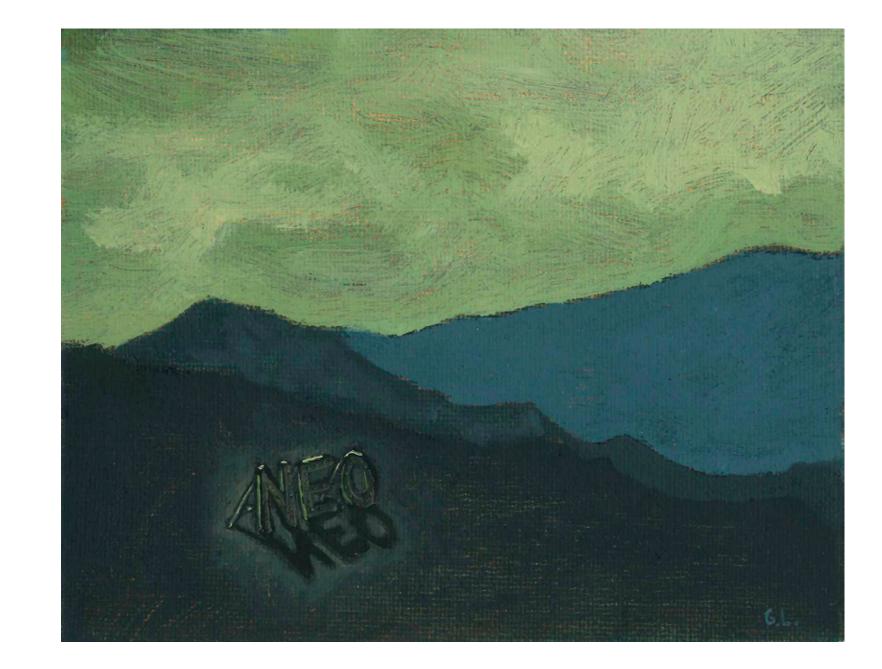
Coco González Lohse, La Huida, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 15 x 20 cm



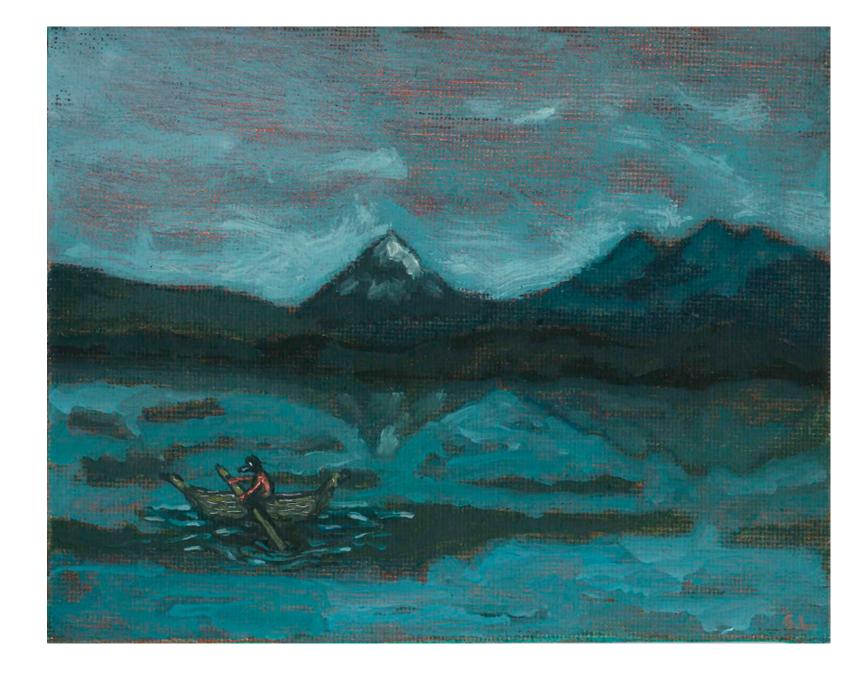
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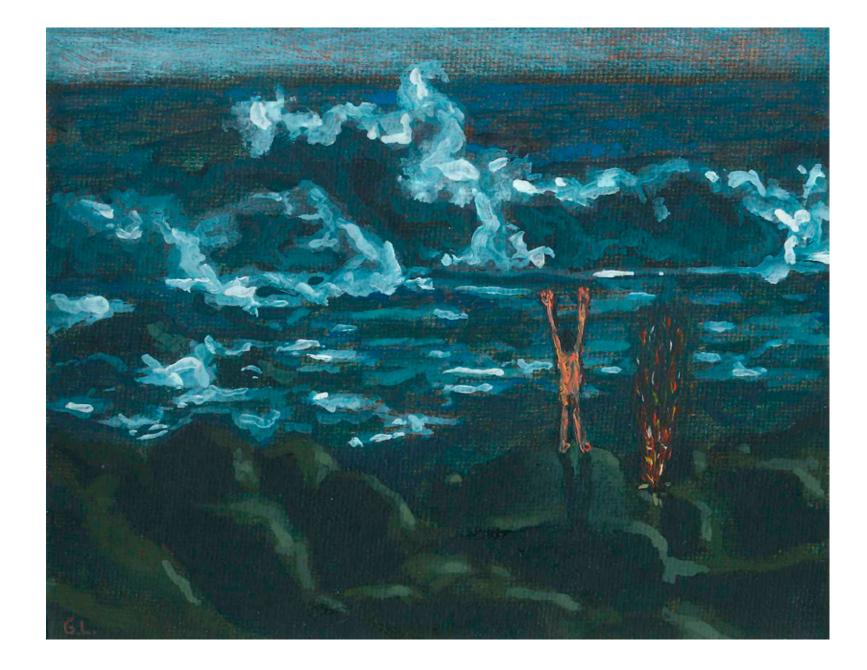




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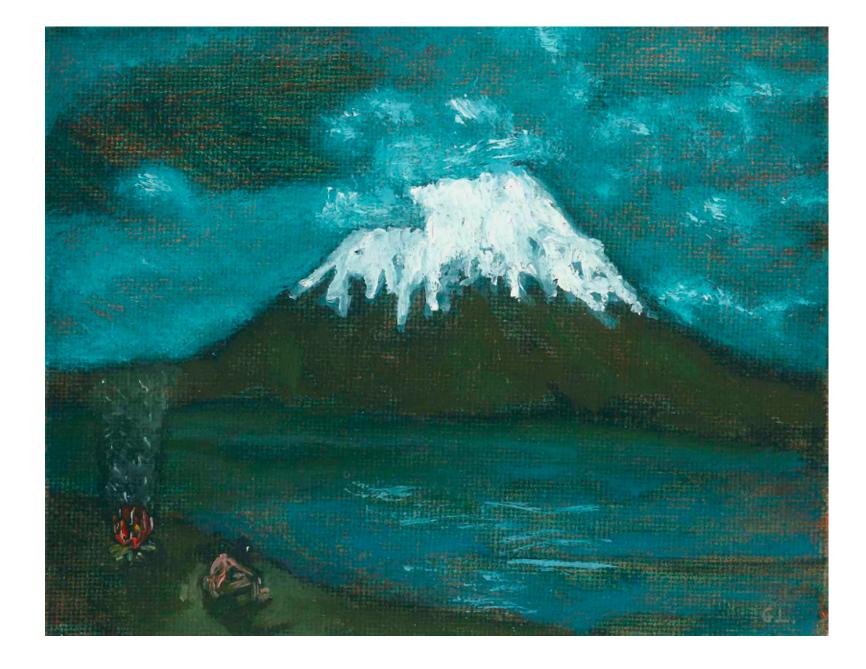


Coco González Lohse, Rumbo a Casa, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm



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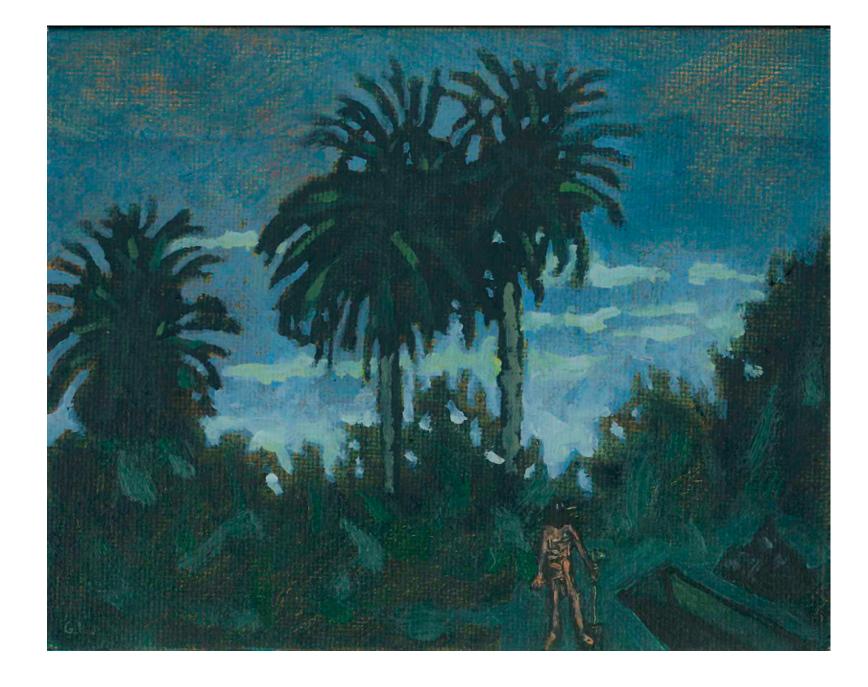
Coco González Lohse, Neorealidad, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm



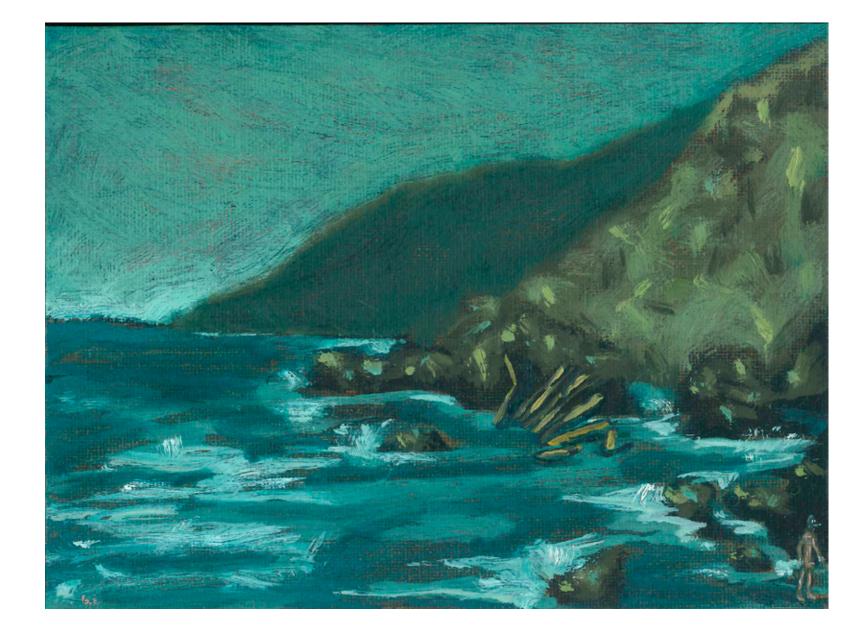
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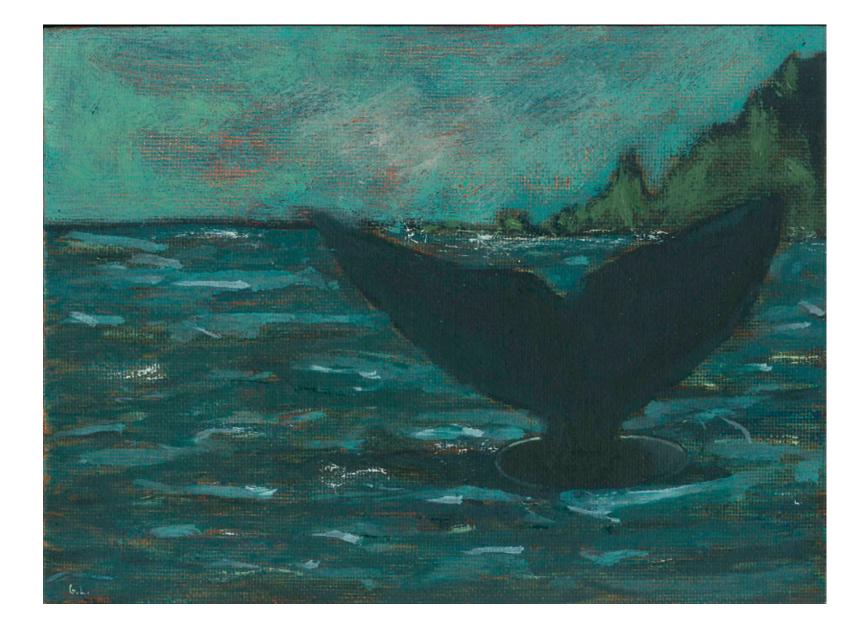
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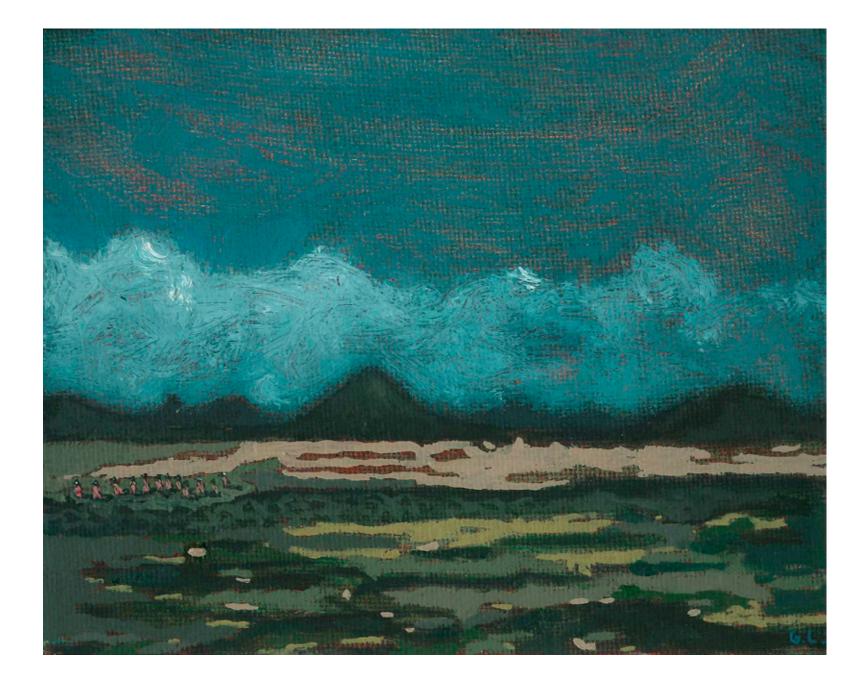
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Coco González Lohse, Heterotopia, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 15 x 20 cm



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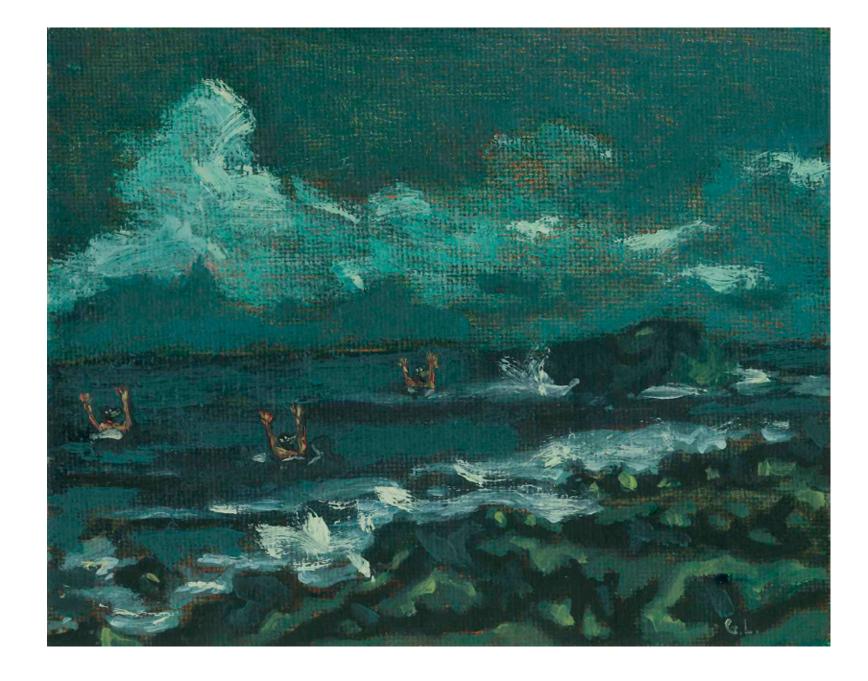


Coco González Lohse, Caravana, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 12 x 15 cm

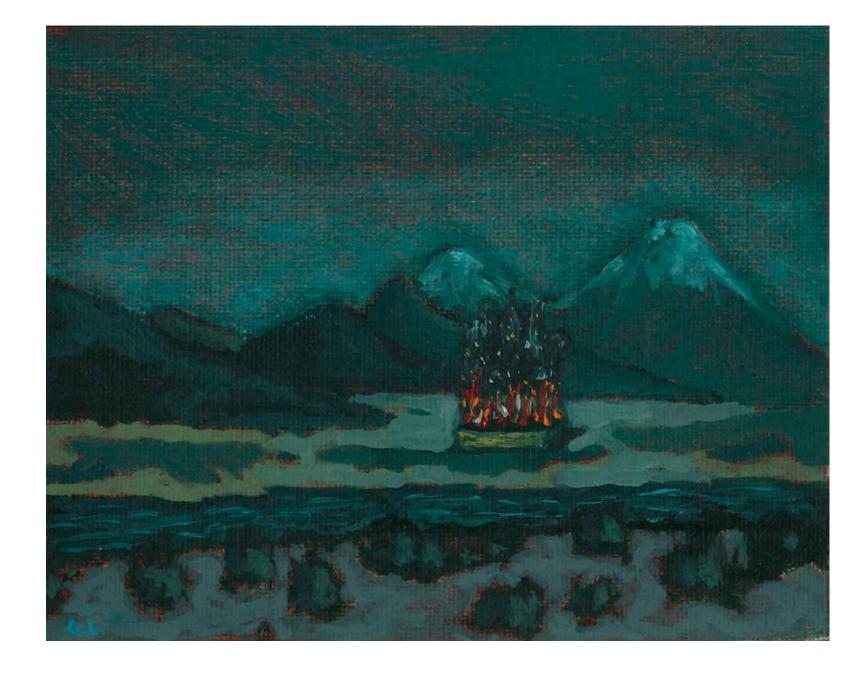


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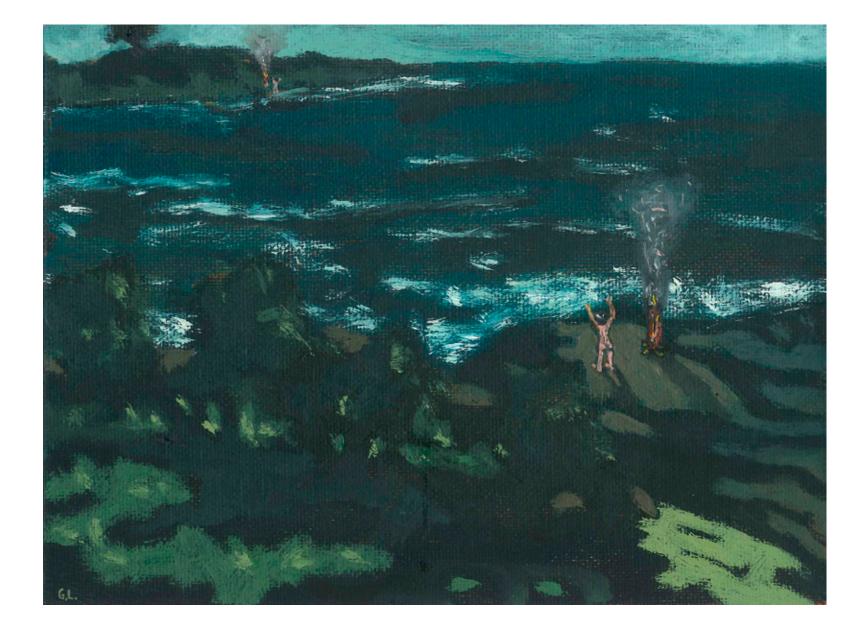
Coco González Lohse, Reología, 2020, Oil on canvas board, 15 x 20 cm



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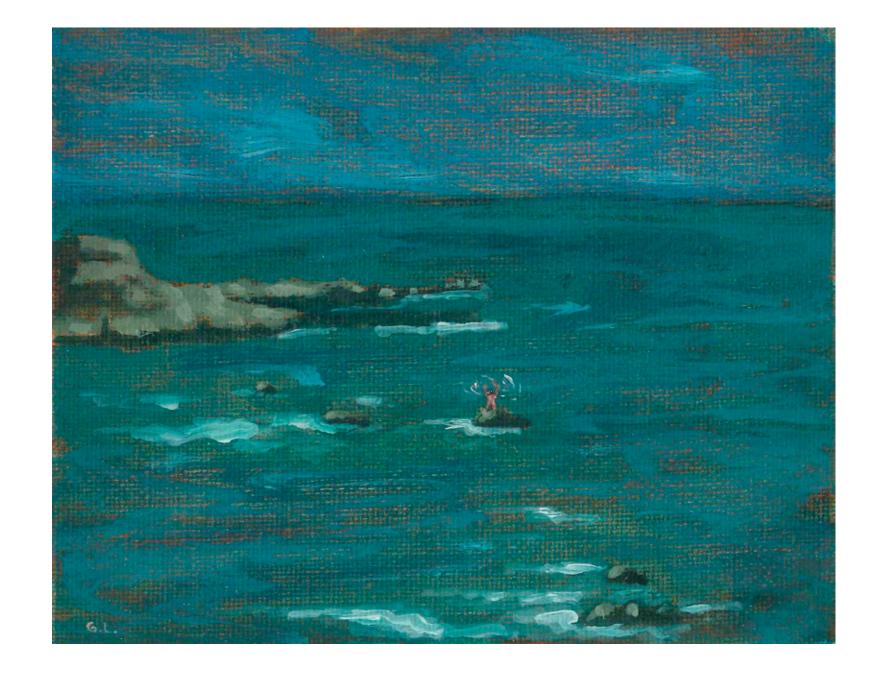
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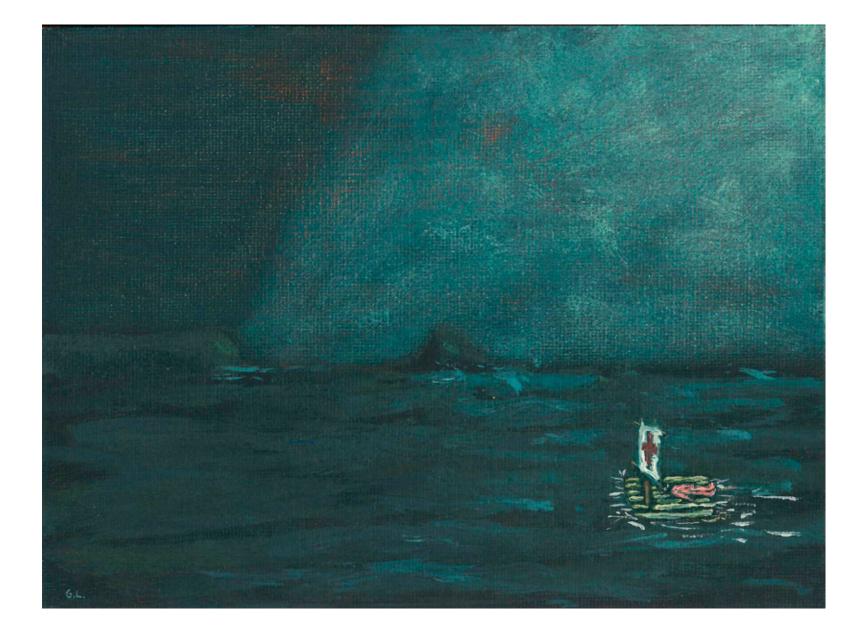








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**Isabel Croxatto Galería** is an international contemporary art platform based in Santiago, Chile, founded in 2012 as a space focused on emerging and established artists with national and international recognition, promoting and opening new markets for contemporary art from the south of the world.

Its labour is centred in supporting and boosting the career of artists through the international circulation of their artworks, solo and group exhibitions, participation in fairs, biennials, and collaborations with curators and private and public platforms locally and abroad, creating new audiences and encouraging new ways of collecting.

Together with its annual programme of solo exhibitions, Isabel Croxatto Galería develops its new series of group shows, El Mundo Al Instante [The World in an Instant], which, upon open calls and collaborative curatorship, builds a visual dialogue on Chilean and world current affairs. In addition, the gallery constantly takes part in renowned international contemporary art fairs, such as Art Central (Hong Kong) and Contemporary Istanbul (Turkey).

The work of the artists gathered in Isabel Croxatto Galería's curatorial project revolves around contemporary issues of 'the human', from intimate and social bodies, from memory and archive, from the analogue and the digital. Inspired by figurative art, each one of them, through their own different media, aesthetically proposes unique and disturbing questions and solutions that invite us to reflect on the times we live in.

Awarded with the Best Exhibition Prize | Gallery Weekend Santiago 2018

Isabel Croxatto Galería is a member of AGAC, Association of Contemporary Art Galleries of Chile, and is sponsored by SISMICA, sector brand for Chilean visual arts, and ProChile, agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Chile for the promotion of Chilean industries abroad.



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