


galerie dohyanglee

ARTWORKS LIST //  
LA FORÊT PENSANTE

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# LA FORÊT PENSANTE

An exhibition of the artworks by **LAURENT MARESCHAL**

With the support for the galleries / exhibition of  Centre national des arts plastiques  
(National Centre for Visual Arts).

12.10 – 16.11.2024

## ARTWORKS LIST



### 1. BUREAU D'ÉCHANGE

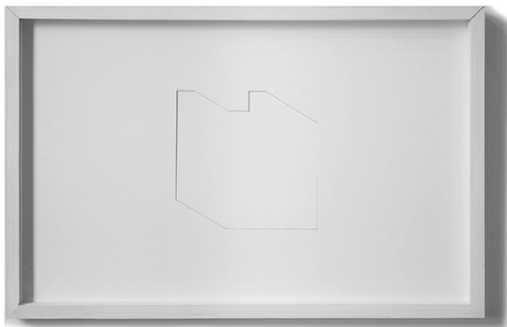
2012

Green neon, plexiglas, 150 x 58 x 10 cm, unique piece

Thanks to Alexis Dandreis from Alexisnéons for his beautiful neon.

... At the entrance to the gallery, behind a window, like an acronym announcing what is to come, hangs an eponymous work made of green neon letters : **Bureau d'Échange**. We are invited to share our ideas and understand what's going on within these walls...

Léo Marin (text extract for the exhibition *La Forêt Pensante*,  
Dohyang Lee Gallery, Paris, 2024)



### 2. BLIND TEST

2008

Cuts on foamcore board, 27 cuts, frame, glass, 35 x 52 cm each, unique pieces



### 3. UNITED AI

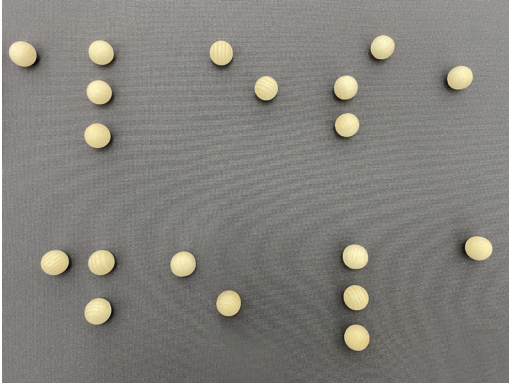
2023-2024

4K video, 16 : 9 format, color, stereo sound in English subtitled in French, 2'18", edition of 3 + 1 AP

...It is hard not to draw a parallel between monarchical France, overthrown by revolution, and an authoritarian government that has no regard for the results of the ballot box, as if, like Fénelon's letter to the king, popular demands that go unheeded by the government can only end up in revolution. All the more so when the video piece in the same room, **United AI**, mounted as a communication object, urges the publishers of artificial intelligence to take responsibility for and stop systematically exploiting the sentimental misery of their customers...

Léo Marin (text extract for the exhibition *La Forêt Pensante*,  
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## 4. LETTER TO THE BLIND

2021, 2024 pocket reedition  
Installation, 402 wood marbles, acrylic sheet, 190 x 140 cm, edition of 3 + 1 AP

*Letter to the blind* deals with the installation of marbles on the floor forming a text in Braille alphabet. It translates an extract of a letter that royal court theologian Fénelon (1651-1715) wrote to Louis the Fourteenth in 1692. He severely criticized the King and absolute monarchy a hundred years before the French Revolution : *This glory that swells your heart is dearer to you than justice, than your own tranquility, than the preservation of your peoples constantly dying from diseases caused by famine.*

This glory that  
swells your heart  
is dearer to you  
than justice, than  
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constantly dying from  
diseases caused by famine.



## 5. LA FORÊT PENSANTE

2024  
Digital photo, black and white, bright oak frame, anti UV and anti reflect glass, 31 x 41 cm with frame, 29 x 39 cm without frame, edition of 5 + 1 AP

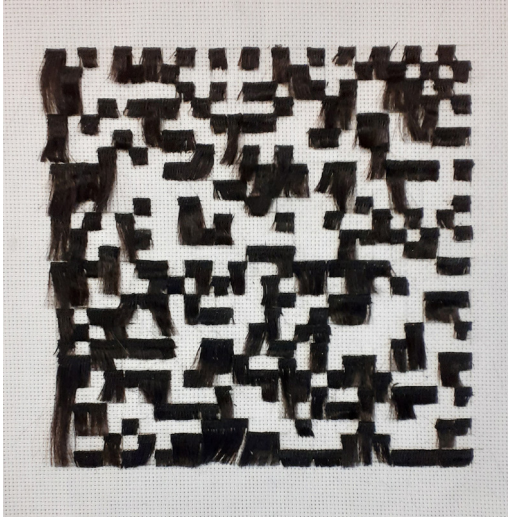
Thanks to Pascal Chour for his photo of the Université de Vincennes, Marta Skoczen for her thoughtfulness.

*La Forêt Pensante* (The Thinking Forest) was the nickname given to the University of Vincennes, located in the heart of the wood of the same name in eastern Paris, from 1968 to 1980. In the aftermath of May 68, in order to keep the revolutionaries away from the historic centre of Paris and the Sorbonne, the De Gaulle government decided to build a new university that was both experimental and revolutionary in its operation, but also in its aims...

Just before descending the stairs to the rest of the exhibition, a black-and-white photographic montage appears. A large, walled university building, with a sheet hanging from one of the windows, tagged 'No to closure.' While this is of course a view of the University of Vincennes, we see it here as if it had survived and we were observing it through the prism of our times, when France is led, as it was then, by a particularly right-wing and conservative, not to say refractory, government...

Léo Marin (text extract for the exhibition *La Forêt Pensante*,  
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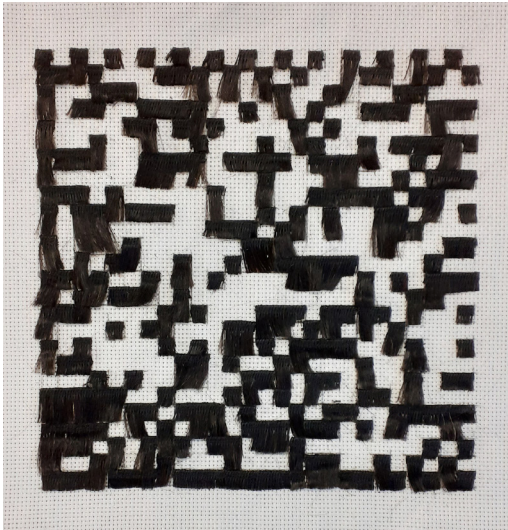
## 6. DE MÈCHE

2023

Two pieces composed of glued natural hairs on framed embroidered fabrics, bright oak frame, anti UV and anti reflect glass, 31,5 x 31,5 cm with frame, 29,5 x 29,5 cm without frame each piece, unique pieces

Thanks to Sabine Guédamour for her beautiful frames.

Two sentences translated into QR Code : « *Even if a lock of hair could cost me my life I will never cut it out.* » « *Even if a lock of hair could cost me my life I cut it for my freedom.* ». Each sentence composes a code and a unique piece. Those texts evoke the situation of Iranian women and the movement « Woman, life, freedom ».



## 7. PARLER AUX MURS

2013

Wall hanged megaphone, recorded messages, 25 cm x 16 cm diameter, unique piece

...However, the least ambiguous piece of work in this entire Thinking Forest will surely remain the megaphone turned against the wall. A vehicle for inaudible and incomprehensible demands, it lives up to its name: **Parler aux murs** (Talking to Walls)...

Léo Marin (text extract for the exhibition *La Forêt Pensante*, Dohyang Lee Gallery, Paris, 2024)

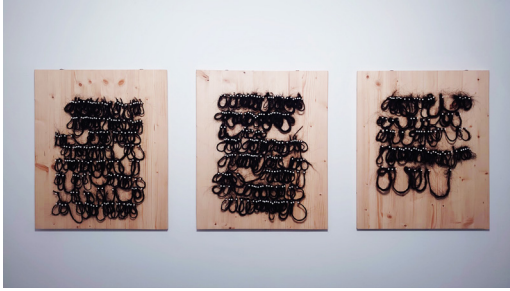
*Macron you are damned, the youth is in the streets.*

*Macron if only you knew, your policy, your policy, Macron if only you knew, your politics, we put in, our arse, our arse, with no hesitation.*

*One step forward, one step backwards, this is our government policy.*

*Macron step down, Macron step down.*

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## 8. ALABAMA

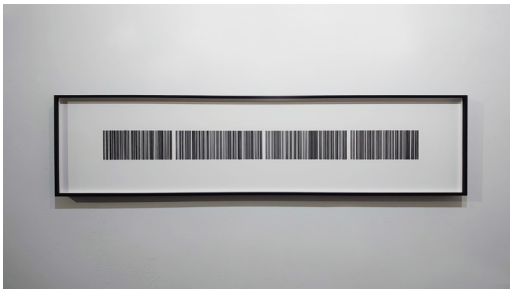
2022

Installation, triptych, 3 pinewood pannels 60 x 50 cm each, white painted nails, hairs, unique pieces

Thanks to Violette Palasi for her art of dread.

... **Alabama**, based on John Coltrane's piece of the same name, composed in 1963 after a racist attack by the Ku Klux Klan on a church in Alabama, which killed four girls, as a work made of hair. This piece uses the score of the song that served the cause and the conquest of African-American civil rights in the United States. White nails act as notes on the score, and the braided strands of hair link them together as if the piece were being played by an instrument of silent memory, in which the melancholy and the pent-up anger that preside over it are particularly moving...

Léo Marin (text extract for the exhibition *La Forêt Pensante*, Dohyang Lee Gallery, Paris, 2024)



## 9. MINE DE RIEN

2023 - 2024

Graphite mines glued on Arches 250 gr paper, black painted aluminium frame, anti UV and anti reflect glass, 20,5 x 83,5 cm with frame, 19,5 x 82,5 cm without frame, unique piece

Thanks to Sabine Guédamour for her beautiful frames.

Quote from Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862) issued from *Civil Disobedience*, philosophic essay published in 1849 : « *Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also a prison* ». Thoreau inspired Gandhi and Martin Luther King among others. His family made pencils and he worked for the family factory.



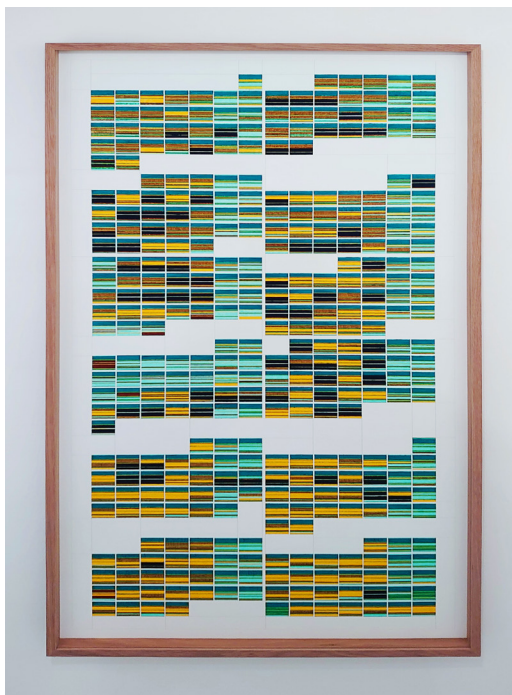
## 10. YOU'D BETTER START EARLY

2023 - 2024

3 music boxes, 14,5 x 9,5 x 5,5 cm each, edition of 3 + 1 AP

Thanks to Robert Rudolf, professor of computer assisted music at the conservatory and also Gérard Dabonot du Turlutain for their art of band music.

Those customised music boxes propose each one a different melody that matches to the biggest international companies jingles (**Windows, Mc Donalds, Apple**). Those music boxes traditionally serve as lullaby to children... !











## 11. NUANCIER DE LA SERVITUDE VOLONTAIRE

2023 - 2024

Felt pen coloring printed on Arches 250 gr paper, oak frame, anti UV and anti reflect glass, 127 x 67 cm with frame, 64 x 124 cm without frame, edition of 3 + 1 AP  
Thanks to the team of l'Image collée for their framing.

Time planning into 12 parts, one per month, highlighting the little time available for creation contrary to daily and professional activities. Each activity will be illustrated into another color :

- Household works 
- Travel 
- Meals 
- Sleep 
- Artistic work 
- Work (television) 
- Work (others : graphism, teaching) 
- Leisure 



## 12. DES NOUILLES ENCORE

2023 - 2024

4K video, 16 : 9 format, loop, color, stereo sound subtitled in French, 3'26", edition of 3 + 1 AP. Grant from ADAGP for the video documentation of a performance.

Harpist : Selma Vauclin Hadj-Moussa

Solists : Agathe Hermann (mezzo - soprano) and Marielle Boutelier (soprano)

Edition and image : Yaël Bitton

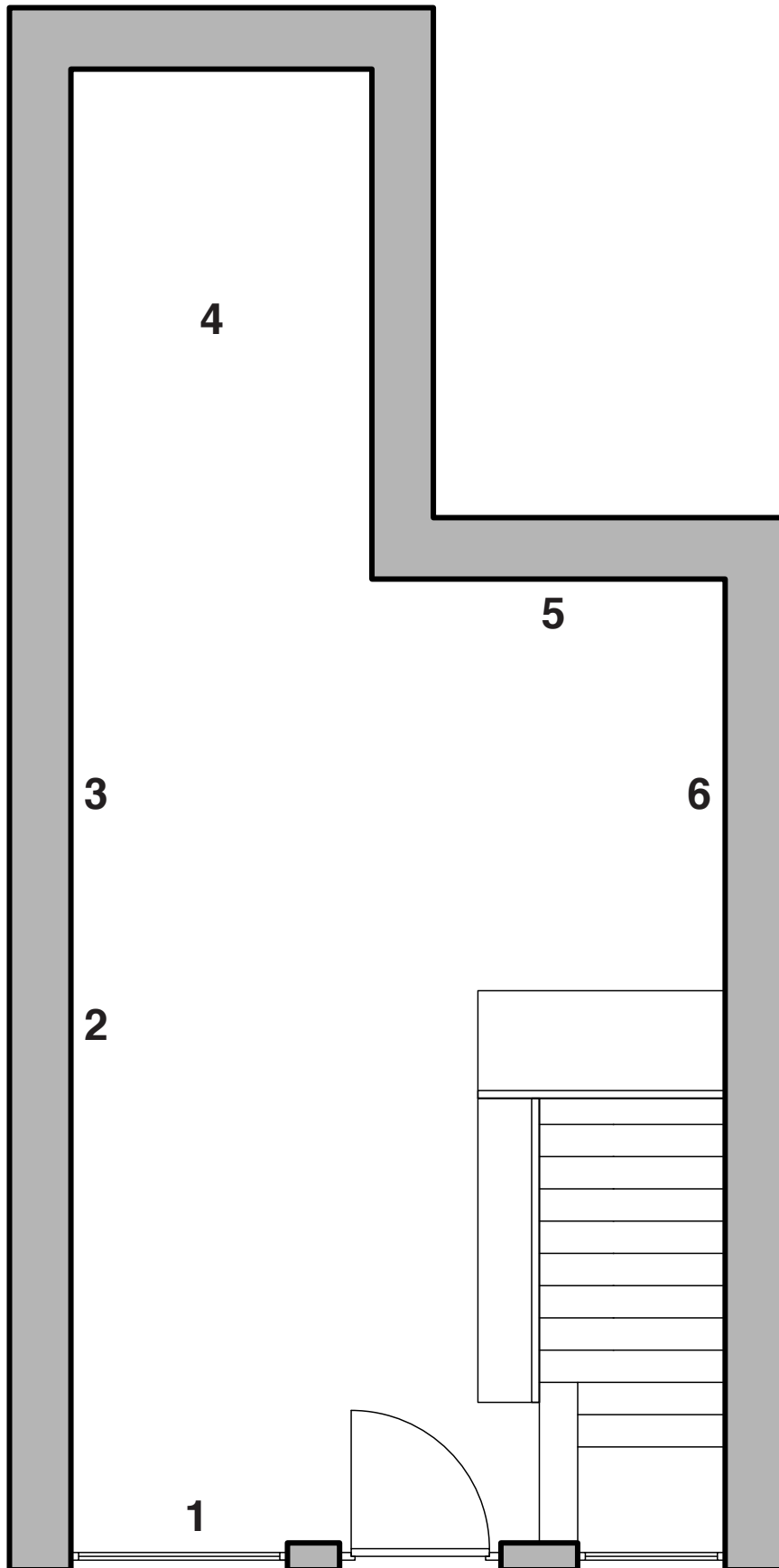
Sound : Fred Dabo

Thanks to the Conservatoire Lili et Nadia Boulanger, Noisy le Sec, France, Julien Jugand, Noémie Martin, Mohamed Charef, Robert Rudolf, Jérémy Wagner, Murielle Boutelier and Agathe Hermann for their magnificent voices, Selma Vauclin Hadj-Moussa for her magic fingers of harpist, Yaël Bitton for her knowledge of image and edition, Tami Notsani for her precious help, Fred Dabo for his marvelous sound, Mathieu Farnarier for his attentive ear, Aurélie Saraf for the rental of her precious harp, Nadège Vauclin for her welcoming, the ADAGP for the grant for the video documentation of a performance.

Upon the famous Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880) operetta *The Tales of Hoffman* aria « Barcarolle » (1881), the artist proposes other lyrics to two lyrical singers. This text draws its inspiration in slogans seen around the big demonstrations against pension system reforms in Paris this spring (2023)...

**High level**

- 1. BUREAU D'ÉCHANGE
- 2. BLIND TEST
- 3. UNITED AI
- 4. LETTER TO THE BLIND
- 5. LA FORÊT PENSANTE
- 6. DE MÈCHE



**Low level**

- 7. PARLER AUX MURS**
- 8. ALABAMA**
- 9. MINE DE RIEN**
- 10. YOU'D BETTER START EARLY**
- 11. NUANCIER DE LA SERVITUDE VOLONTAIRE**
- 12. DES NOUILLES ENCORE**

