Selected Works

Ghaku Okazaki



Song of the Heart (Song of Life),
oil on canvas, 200 x 130 cm, 2023
photo ©Ana Rodriguez

Detail





The Smallest Ocean in the World, oil on canvas, 10 x 10 cm, 2024
photo ©Christof Jakob

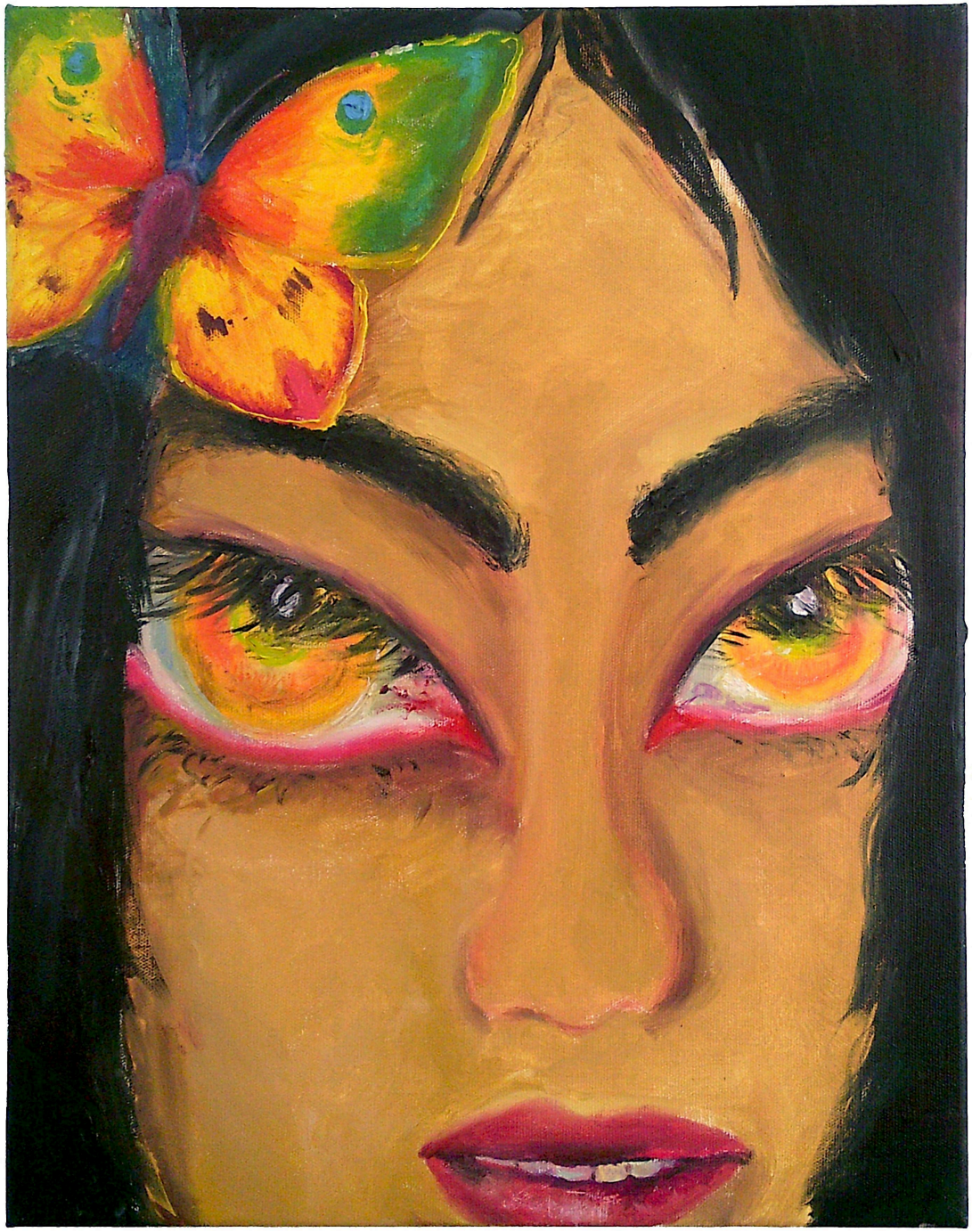

智
愛
空
色
生命最基羅



Tropical Rain, oil on canvas, 60 x 80 cm, 2024 photo ©Christof Jakob



Paper, music, a night of gems,
oil pastel on paper, 29.70 x 20 cm, 2024
photo ©Christof Jakob



いのち Life.
oil on canvas, 50 x 40 cm, 2024
Photo ©Christof Jakob



Mayfly Walking in the Night,
oil on canvas, 100 x 80 cm, 2024
photo ©Christof Jakob



Glitter of a Summer (Gems of Life),
oil on canvas, 80 x 60 cm, 2024
photo ©Christof Jakob





Joy of Life, concrete and lacquer, 250 x 150 x 150 cm, public sculpture, Skulpturenpark Mörfelden-Walldorf, Germany, 2022 photo ©Haiko Emmel



Moon Boat,
oil on canvas, 200 x 149.50 cm, 2022
photo ©Ana Rodriguez



Dance / Universal Mandala / Everything is Beautiful by Nature
oil on canvas and mural painting with acrylic lacquer, 250 x 550 cm
/ BBK annual exhibition “Parallel Worlds”, Tor 40, Bremen, Germany, 2019
photo ©Petra Liebetanz



Anima, oil on canvas, 130 x 200 cm, 2024 photo ©Christof Jakob



Moonlight Mandala,
acrylic lacquer on canvas, 80 x 60 cm, 2021
photo ©Christof Jakob



Zephyrus,
oil on canvas, 200 x 150 cm, 2024
photo ©Christof Jakob



A Couple of Plants, oil on canvas, 97 x 131.50 cm, 2018



The Family, concrete and lacquer, 180 x 83 x 56, 187 x 94 x 47, 146 x 58 x 47 cm, Künstlerstätte Stuhr, Germany 2023 photo ©Ana Rodriguez



A Flower which blooms in Silence,
oil on canvas, 120 x 80 cm, 2019,
photo colour correction by ©Ana Rodriguez





Midday Stars, Midnight Sun, oil on canvas, 70 x 100 cm, 2023
photo ©Ana Rodriguez

Detail

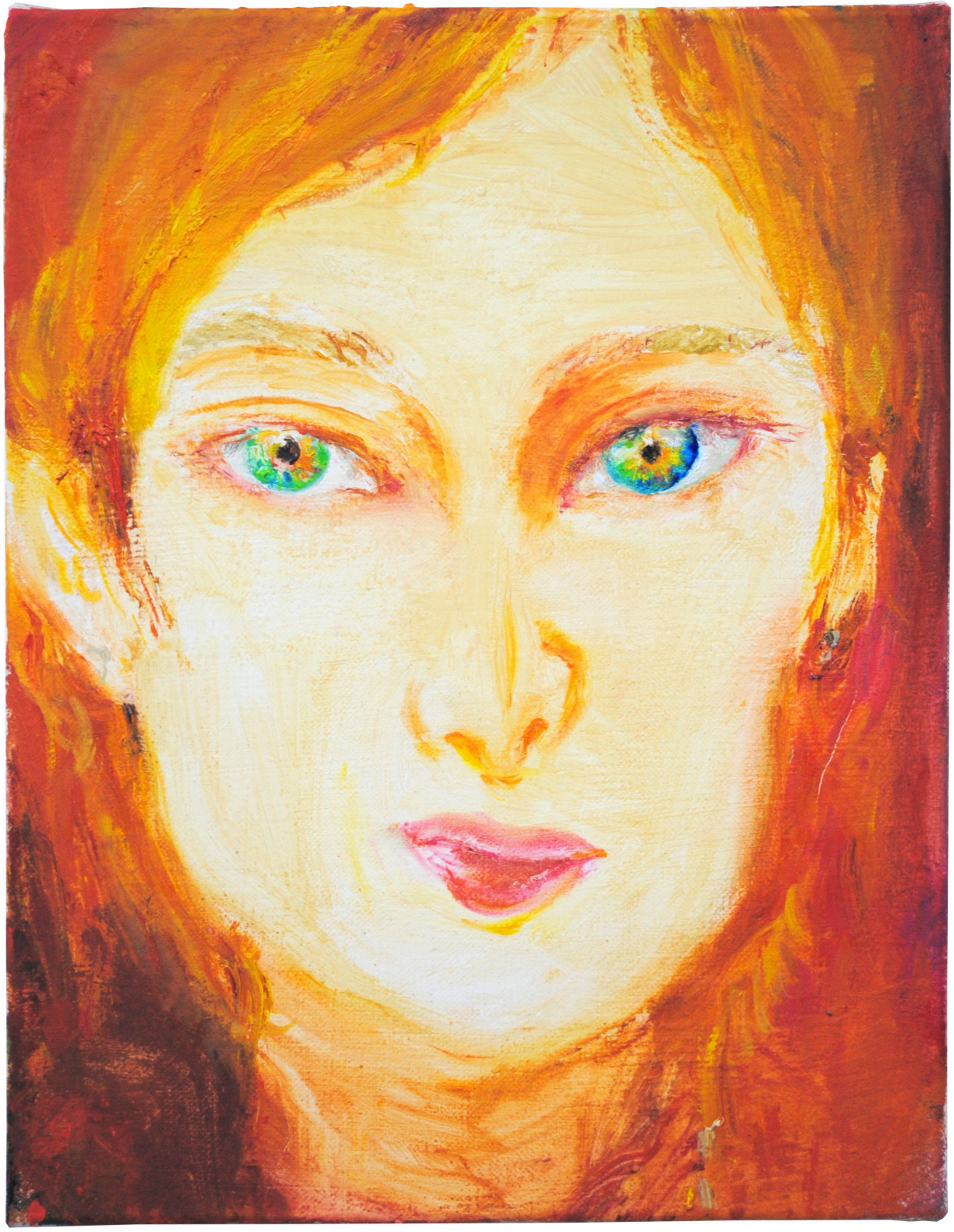




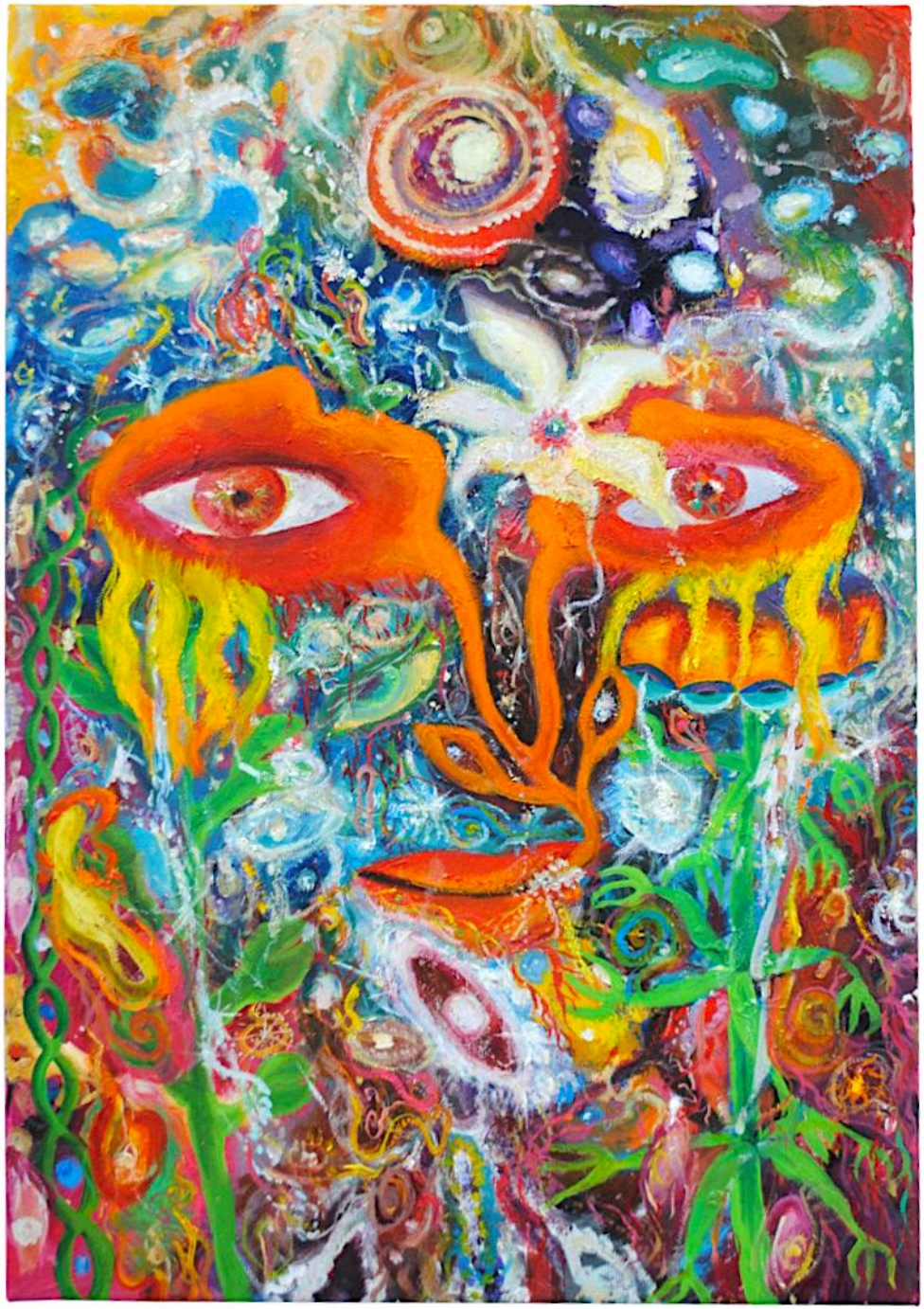
Königin ohne Krone,
oil on canvas, 50 x 40 cm, 2026



海 Ocean,
oil on canvas, 50 x 40 cm, 2024
Photo ©Christof Jakob









Gate of Life,
oil on canvas,
100 x 100 cm, 2026



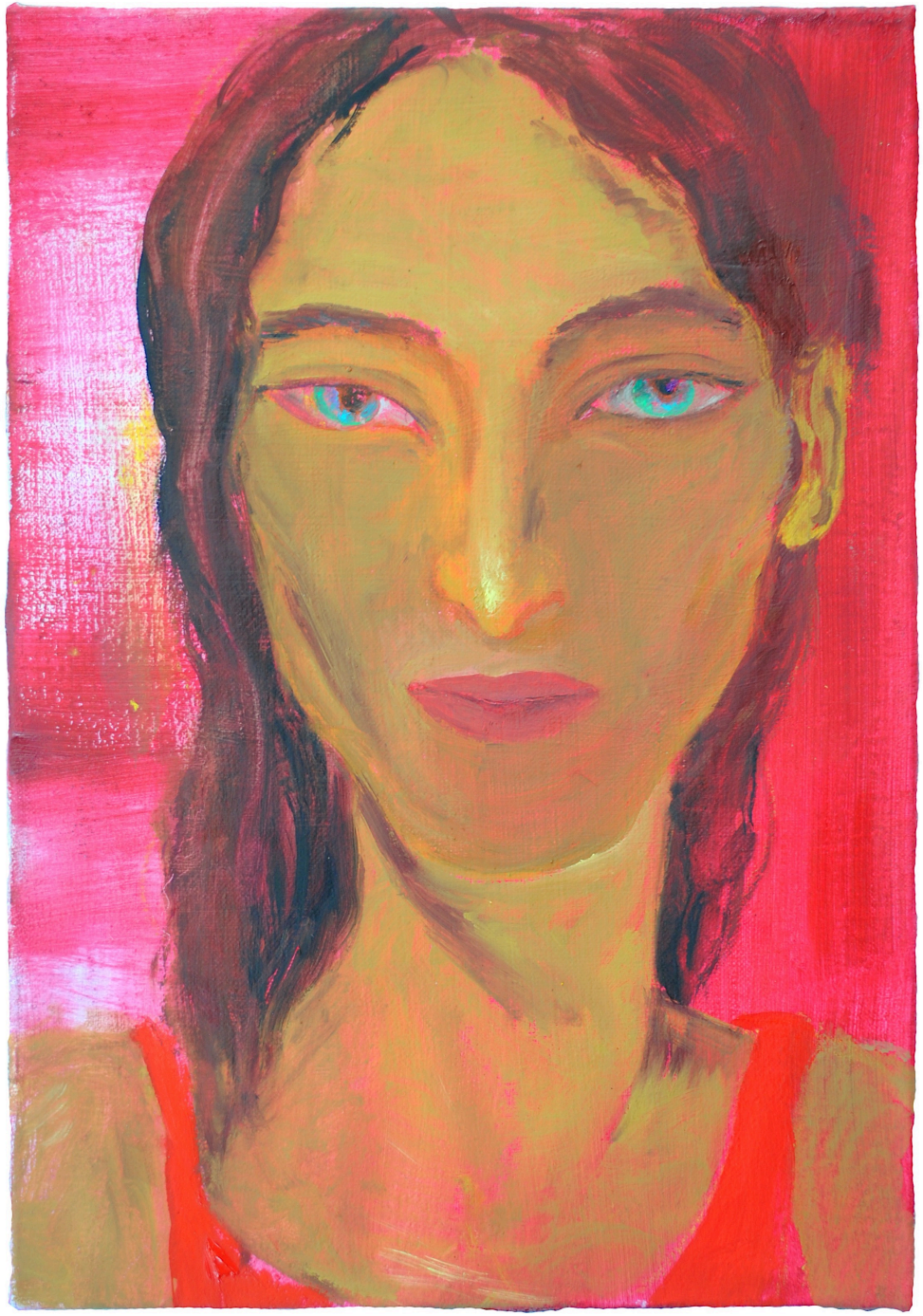
Mind Landscape, oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cm, 2026



Butterfly Letter,
oil on canvas, 80 x 100 cm, 2026



A Process to grow, oil on canvas, 80 x 100 cm, 2026



You can be mv friend if vou are not a fool,
oil on canvas, 70 x 40 cm, 2026



Flowers in the Sky,
Acryllack auf Betonwand, oil on canvas, concrete, wood and acrylic lacquer, sizeflexible, “43. Bremen Art Prize, Städtische Galerie Bremen, 2020
photo ©Konstanze Spät & ©Jens Weyers


空華
生きる喜び
空に見る花
空
観
あ、美しい


空華
生きる喜び


金胎
空華
すべては美しい

GHAKU OKAZAKI, “Flowers in the Sky”, 2020, installation, mural painting, paintings on canvas, sculptures

Ghaku Okazaki shows a comprehensive painterly and sculptural work, which consists of two sculptures and a large-format mural painting, in which several paintings on canvas are integrated. They form huge scale of an entire installation to visualise a total concept of diversity. Every element is clearly harmonised with each other through their figuration and the strong colours that Ghaku Okazaki uses. Under the programmatic-poetic title of “Flowers in the Sky”, he is concerned with the visualisation of a harmonious relationship between all living beings based on a thoroughly spiritual attitude and an explicit vision of the future. Important topics such as life and death or sexuality are mentioned in this cosmos and visualised by clear symbols, allegorical images and spiritual beings. For example, the large sculpture in this whole installation “Mandala of Life and Death” shows the dual principle of life and death with its two different sides. The painting on canvas "Rainbow Butterfly”, which was painted in 2018 fits into the entire installation, shows the futuristic and utopic vision that people are no longer judged on the basis of their skin colour.The rainbow skin coloured faces is an obvious symbol of the unification of individual differences. Ghaku Okazaki calls this basic principle "the unity of a diversity" and refers, uses and combines the merging of very different concepts, philosophies, spiritual practices, but also artistic materials and techniques. For example: his sculptures have wilder presence than his calm and harmonic paintings. And at the same time, they are merged into the whole installation through his magical use of vivid colours.
Ephemeral murals that will be painted over after the exhibition stand next to the easily transportable but durable paintings and the solid and robust sculptures. In terms of content, there are apparently references to different cultures, the images remind the viewers of some Buddhist as well as Indian or even Latin American imagery, which however need not necessarily have been an influence for Ghaku Okazaki. In any case, we could misunderstand these images as mere exoticism if we would read the work in the context of a western art history. But the intention of the artist is the right opposite of it. Exoticism is based on colonialism. However, Ghaku Okazaki’s imagery is intended to affirm the vital diversity of imagination, and it is right opposite of colonialist oppression or cultural appropriation. This installation is accordingly open to very different interpretations. Just as with the clearly intended spirituality of the futuristic harmony of all living beings, humour must not be neglected, which is found in many details. We can find it most clearly perhaps in the blue figure that seems to sit on the heater of the room. This figure is humorously painted in a funny spot, and at the same time its obviously androgynous body throw the viewers an important question about our sexuality. And some other elements of the mural are playfully painted in reaction to some specific things of the room. This lightness of humour opens the visitors the entrance into the vision with full of messages.

Ingmar Lähnemann, curator of the Municipal Gallery Bremen



Songs of the Sky,
Öl auf Leinwand, 20 x 20 cm, 2024
Foto ©Christof Jakob



Black Lotus, oil on canvas, 70 x 60 cm, 2024 photo ©Christof Jakob



Everything is Beautiful, mural painting with acrylic lacquer, 264 x 324, 264 x 205.50 cm, DAAD Scholarship, University of Guelph, Canada, 2018



Secret Yoga Mandala,
oil on canvas, 70 x 50 cm, 2021
photo ©Ana Rodriguez



Universal Heart,
oil on canvas, 230 x 140 cm, 2018



From the Beginning to the End,
clay, wood, mirror and acrylic lacquer, 79 x 45 x 42.50 cm, 2018
colour correction ©Ana Rodriguez



Chamber of Emptiness, acrylic lacquer, concrete, found object, 250 x 350 x 350 cm, Kickstarter-Zuschuss Scholarship, Stiftung Kunstfonds, Haus Löwenstr., Stuttgart, 2022
photo ©Ferdinando Iannone (Atelier Oradoro GbR)

空



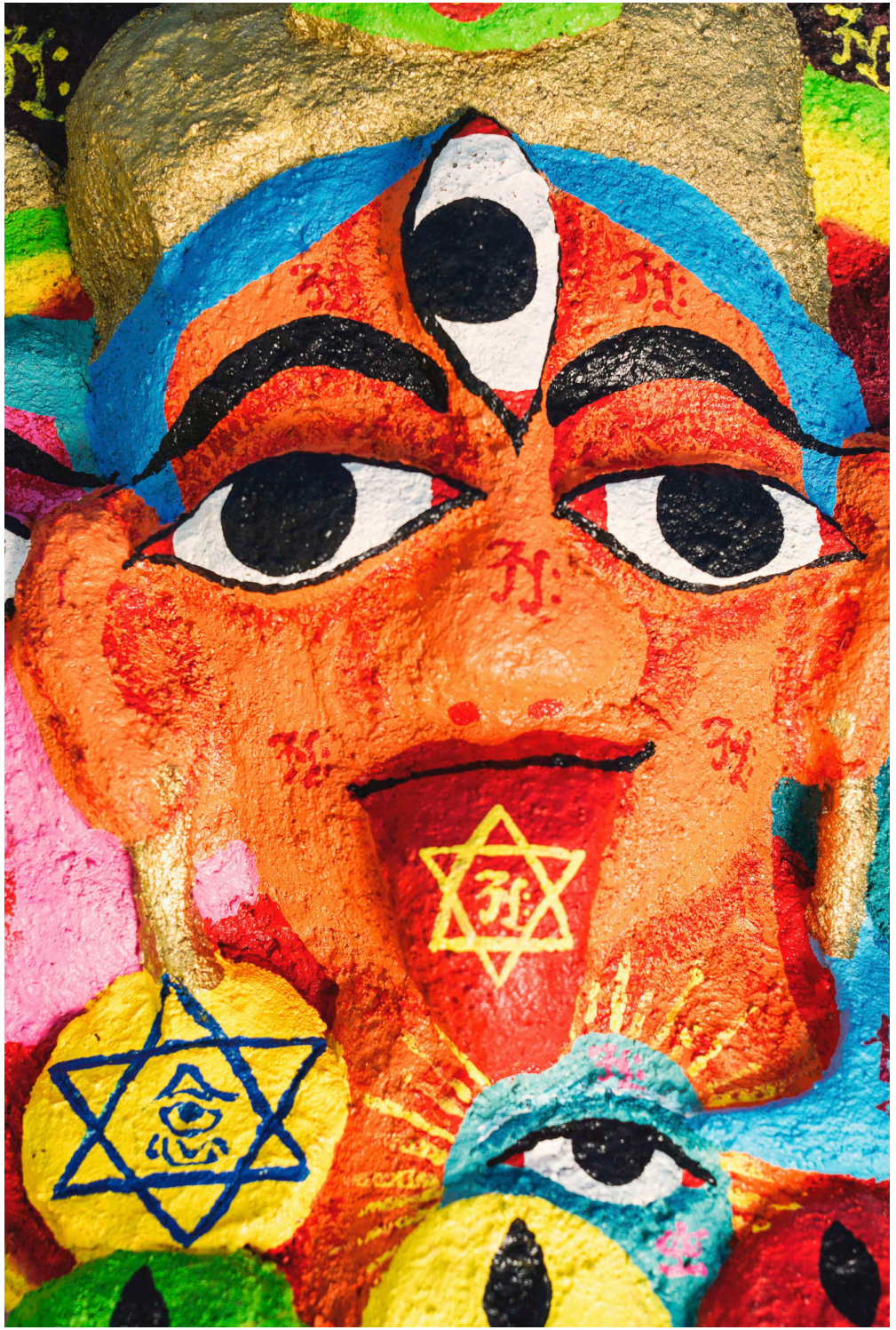


Mandala-Blumengarten, concrete and acrylic lacquer, 300 x 150 x 150 cm, 250 x 120 x 120 cm x 4, public sculptures in Kulturpark Reutlingen-Nord, Reutlingen, Germany, 2021 Photo ©Ferdinando Iannone






南無大日如來





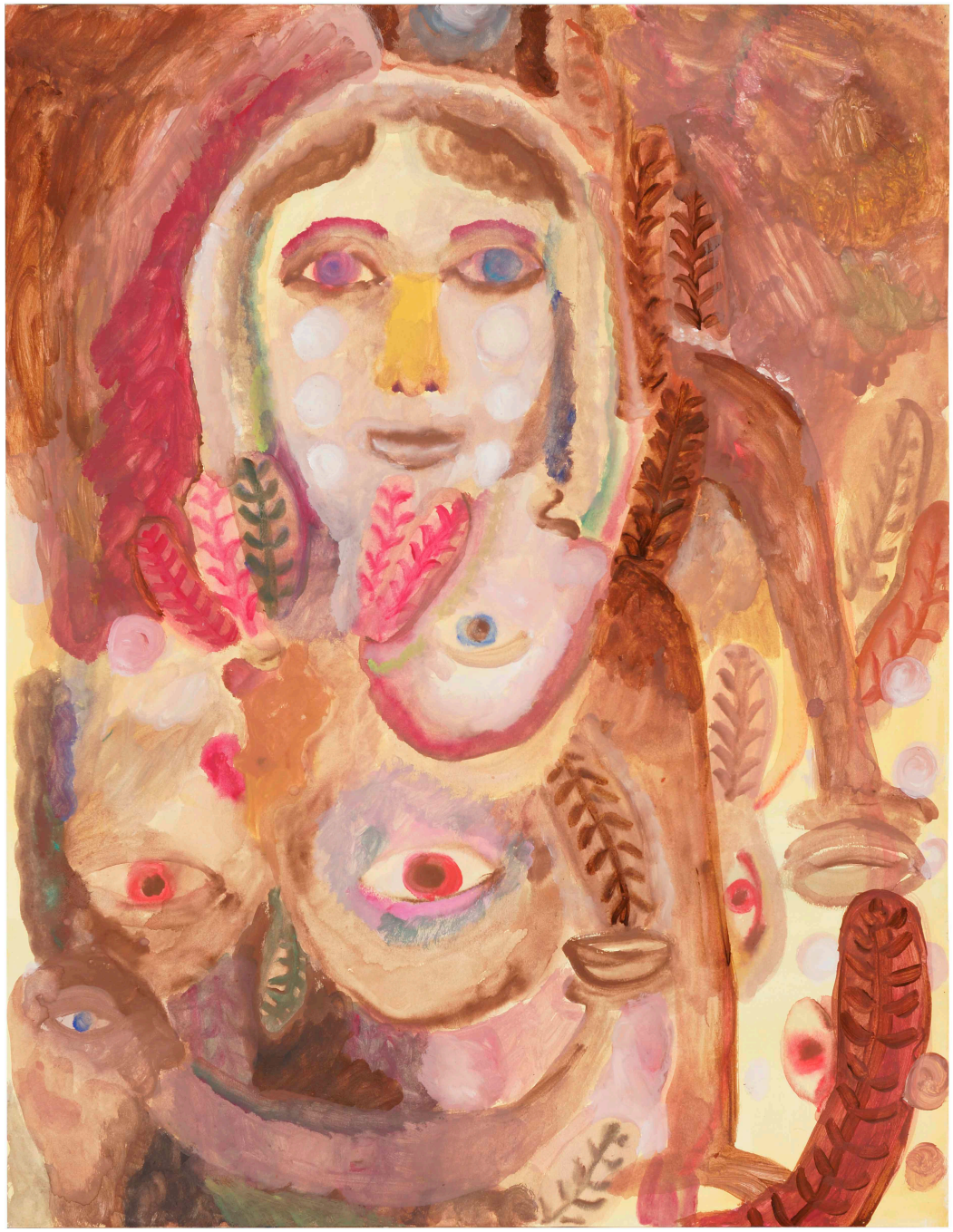

法輪







Green Sun,
oil on canvas, 100 x 80 cm



Woman in the night,
water colour on paper, 80 x 60 cm, 2014



Flowerhead,
watercolour on paper, 80 x 60 cm, 2014



Rainbow Forest,
water colour on paper, 80 x 60 cm, 2014



A Moth in the Night,
watercolour on paper, 80 x 60 cm, 2014



Rain drops, water colour on paper, 60 x 80 cm, 2014



Moon Mandala,
acrylic lacquer on canvas, 100,50 x 80 cm, 2023
photo ©Ana Rodriguez

Detail





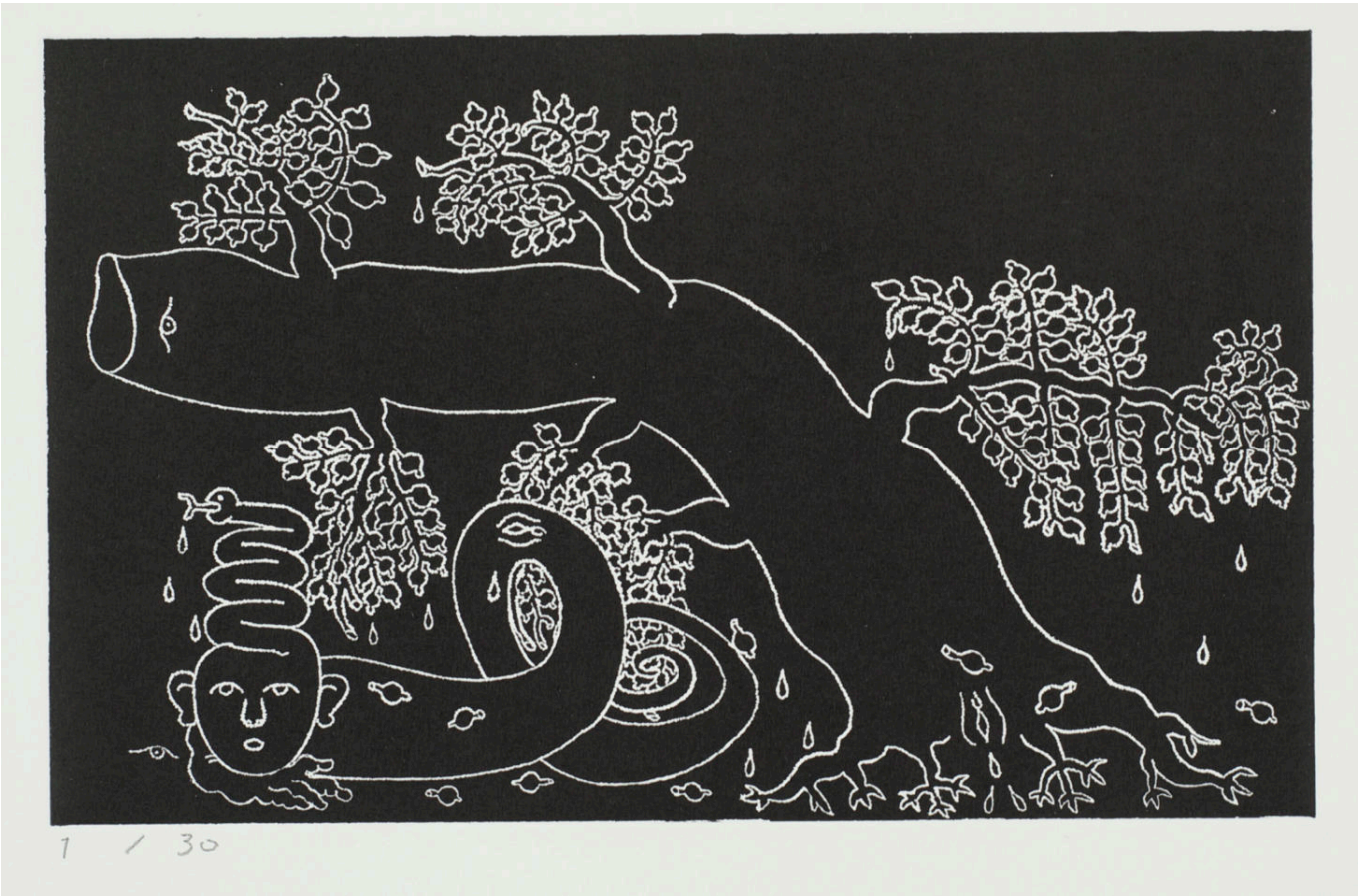
Rainbow Arms,
oil on canvas, 200 x 130 cm, 2020



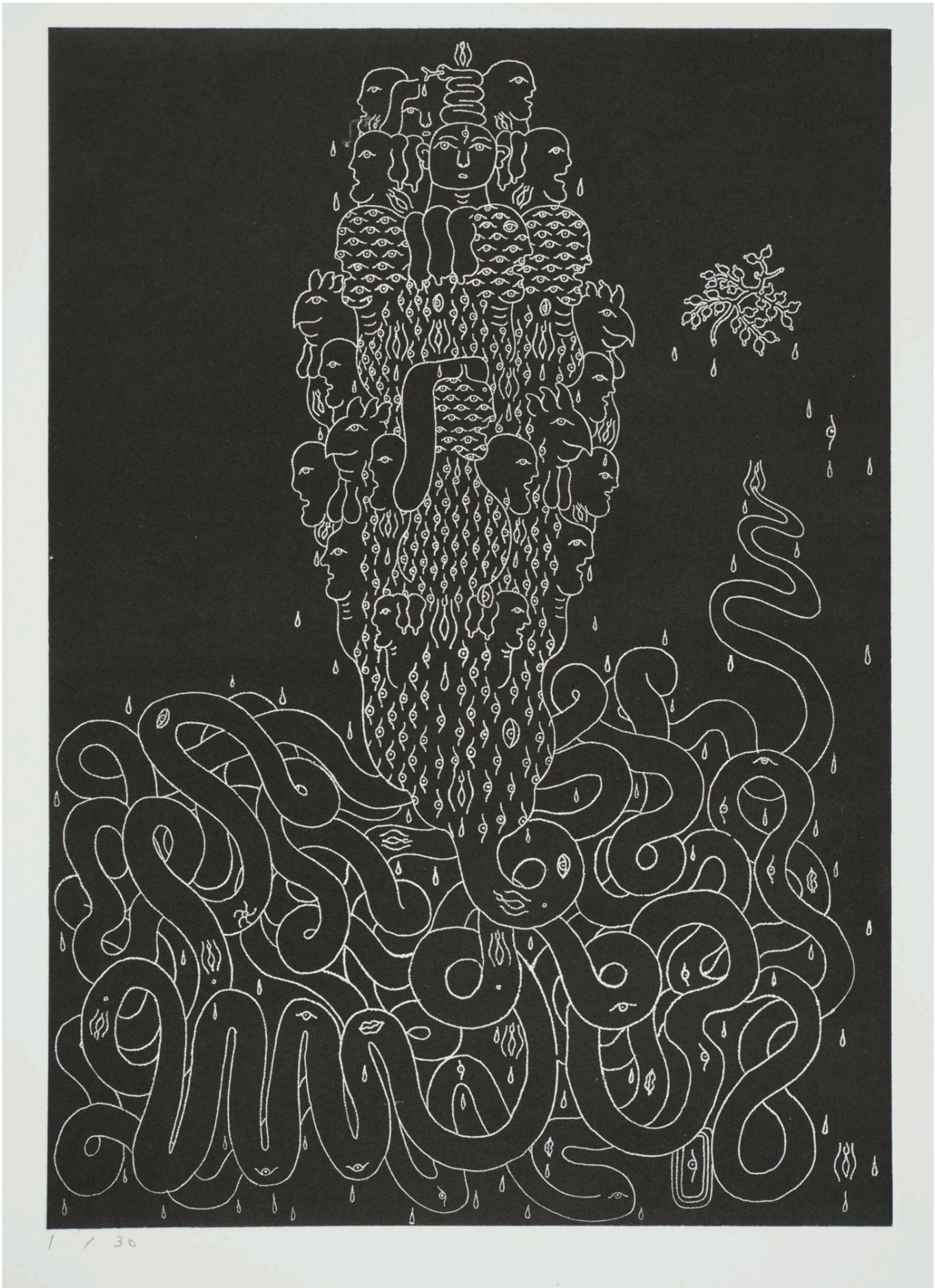
Nicht verlorenes Paradis, concrete and lacquer, 180 x 60 x 60 cm, 230 x 60 x 60 cm, 190 x 60 x 60 cm, Aquamediale 15, Schlepzig (Spreewald), Germany, 2023
photo ©FRAMERATE MEDIA / Förderverein aquamediale e.V.



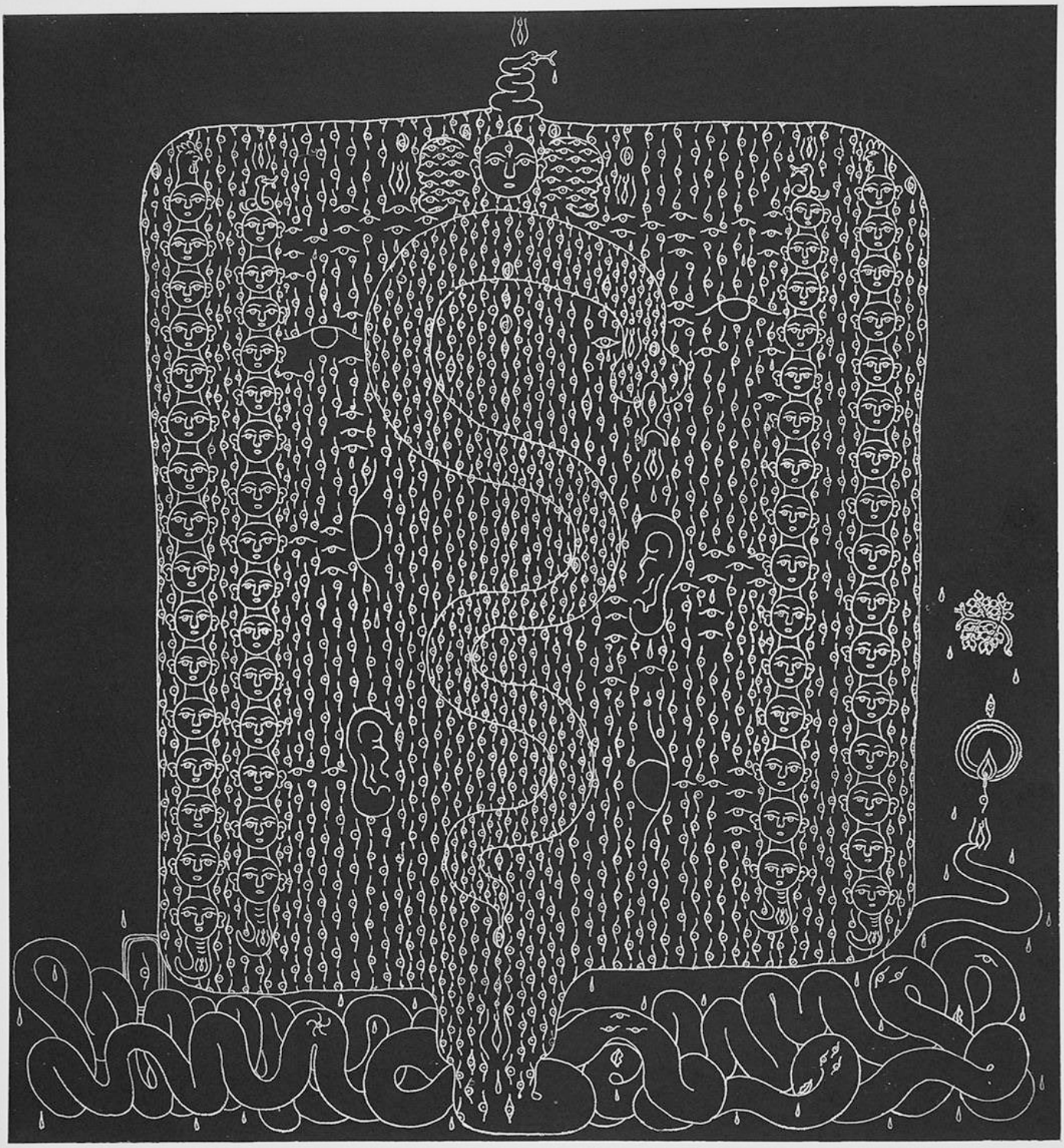
Eine Freundin von mir, Tempera und Öl auf Pappteller, 22,50 cm Durchmesser, 2025



Stars 38 Ugajin 2,
Etching on paper, plate size : 11.20 x 18.90 cm, Edition of 30, 2015



Benzaiten Mandala 7,
Ätzung auf Papier, Plattengröße : 21,60 x 30,60 cm, Edition von 30, 2015



Benzaiten Mandala 13,
Ätzung auf Papier, Plattengröße : 13,60 x 13,00 cm, Edition von 30, 2015



Stars 6,
Ätzung auf Papier, Plattengröße : 13,50 x 15,00 cm, Edition von 30, 2015

*Explanation about the "Star of David" in my works

Ghaku Okazaki

*In my older works, there is star-like signs to see. They look exactly the same like the “star of David” in the Jewish tradition.
However, these star-sins in my works has different historical origin. They are from the Japanese nature worship.

In the Japanese tradition, the star can be interpreted in different ways.
It consists of two triangles: △▽.

△ typically can be interpreted as the representation of the earth and the space, material and female energy, and ▽ the sky, time and thoughts as well as male energy.

I do not support the genocide in Gaza and any other places of the world and I am neither anti-Palestinian nor antisemitic, and I do not support nationalism in any place, of any kind.

I create the works with the will and hope to the World Peace and I celebrate the differences between us with my works.

Since the beginning of the war in Gaza I avoid to paint/draw these stars in my works. They are still to be found in my older works. However, it does not mean any political statement, conviction or support for the violent system from myself.



(Reference picture: a typical appearance of the “star” in the Japanese mythology.)