

The Gallery 45

HANIE SOLTANI
POOYA RAZI
RAYA MATTA

BEHIND THE CURTAIN OF RESILIENCE

AN EXHIBITION OF THREE MIDDLE EASTERN
ARTISTS FROM IRAN AND LEBANON.

OCTOBER 30TH -
6-9PM
NOVEMBER
29TH



IN CONJUNCTION WITH LIMASSOL ART WALKS



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Hanie Soltani is a versatile figurative painter who lives and works in Tehran. Soltani's work delves into the complex narratives of identity, memory, and the human condition, often through a deeply personal lens. Her paintings explore the intersections of contemporary Iranian culture and broader global themes, capturing the nuanced emotional imagery of her subjects. Soltani's visual language is rooted in the tradition of Persian art, yet her approach is distinctly modern.

Drawing inspiration from Persian painting colours and the Western history of painting, her works often feature dreamlike compositions where fragmented figures and environments merge. Soltani creates spaces that oscillate between the real and the imagined, challenging conventional perceptions of reality. Her use of rich colour palettes, intricate patterns, and layered textures evokes a sense of history while addressing contemporary social and political issues. Female figures often occupy the central focus of her paintings, symbolising both resilience and vulnerability amidst the backdrop of cultural and societal constraints.

Hanie Soltani earned her MFA in Painting from the University of Tehran. She has participated in numerous exhibitions across Iran and internationally. Her work has been included in group exhibitions and has garnered attention for its evocative storytelling and technical prowess. She has been recognised with awards from the Royal Society of Oil Painters at the Mall Galleries in London and received a prize from Gallery Ramfjord in Oslo. Her work has been showcased in the National Portrait Gallery's Portrait Award Exhibition in 2024.

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Ballerina Necklace

Gouache on cardboard mounted on wood

50 x 70 cm

2023

€2,100 + 5% VAT

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Grit

Gouache on cardboard mounded on wood

69 x 50 cm

2023

€2,300 + 5% VAT

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Zahra in Autumn Balcony

Oil on canvas mounted on wood

75 x 100 cm, Diptych

2023

€3,000 + 5% VAT

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Spring Balcony

Oil on canvas mounted on wood

70 x 100 cm, Triptych

2023

€3,200 + 5% VAT



EI

Gouache on cardboard mounted on wood

48 x 64 cm

2024

€1,700 + 5% VAT

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Raya Matta is a visual artist of Lebanese and Greek origins, currently living between Beirut and Athens. After attending the French school of Athens, she got her master's degree in Architecture at the Academy of Arts in Beirut where she then launched her own art space called 'The ArtSpot'.

Her artistic journey has always been subject to Lebanon's instability, with her paintings often depicting human figures engaged in cultural and societal customs, as well as compositions of common objects, that hold specific meanings and representations.

In her latest years, her work evolves in series, that seem to follow the course of her life events. The Baggage series is the first, influenced by the aftermath of the Beirut blast in 2020, and reflects the loss of her studio and painting collection. Her architectural background is evident in the sharp, clear compositions and viewpoints of her work.

Raya's work was showcased in solo and group exhibitions in Beirut (Beit Beirut scheduled solo exhibition, Sept 2025, Maya Art Space, March 2025, Maya art space, August 2025), Paris (Espace Bernard Palissy, November 2024) and Athens (Entexnon Gallery, November 2024, South Athens Pinacothèque, March 2025). Her work also figured in auctions such as the Al Bahia auction in Qatar.

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Blind Totem

Acrylic on canvas

70 x 100 cm

2023

€2,100 + 5% VAT

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Settled 1

Acrylic on canvas

70 x 100 cm

2022

€2,100 + 5% VAT

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Cloth 1

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 100 cm

2024

€3,000 + 5% VAT

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Blind Leadership
Acrylic on canvas
70 x 100 cm
2023
€2,100 + 5% VAT

The
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Out of Track

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 100 cm

2023

€3,000 + 5% VAT

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Cloth 2

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 100 cm

2025

€3,000 + 5% VAT

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Misused

Acrylic on canvas

60 x 90 cm

2024

€1,650 + 5% VAT

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Dependence

Acrylic on canvas

70 x 100 cm

2025

€2,200 + 5% VAT

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Disobedience

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 200cm

2025

€5,400 + 5% VAT

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Superheroes

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 180 cm

2025

€5,400 + 5% VAT

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POOYA RAZI is a multidisciplinary artist born in 1984 in Tehran. A graduate of the Art University of Tehran, Pooya's artistic practice spans painting, short film, and video. His video art and short films are deeply informed by his painterly sensibilities and visual techniques, and have been shown and recognised in both gallery spaces and international film festivals.

Razi has held six solo painting exhibitions and has participated in numerous group exhibitions, both locally and internationally, including in Canada, the UK, Belgium, and Dubai. His short films have been officially selected for several major international festivals such as the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival in France, Festival Du Nouveau Cinéma in Montreal, Glasgow Short Film Festival in Scotland, and the Oberhausen Short Film Festival in Germany, among others.

In 2015, he was nominated for the Grand Prize at the 60th International Short Film Festival Oberhausen. In 2021, he received a Special Mention by the Jury for Best Music Video at the festival's 67th edition.



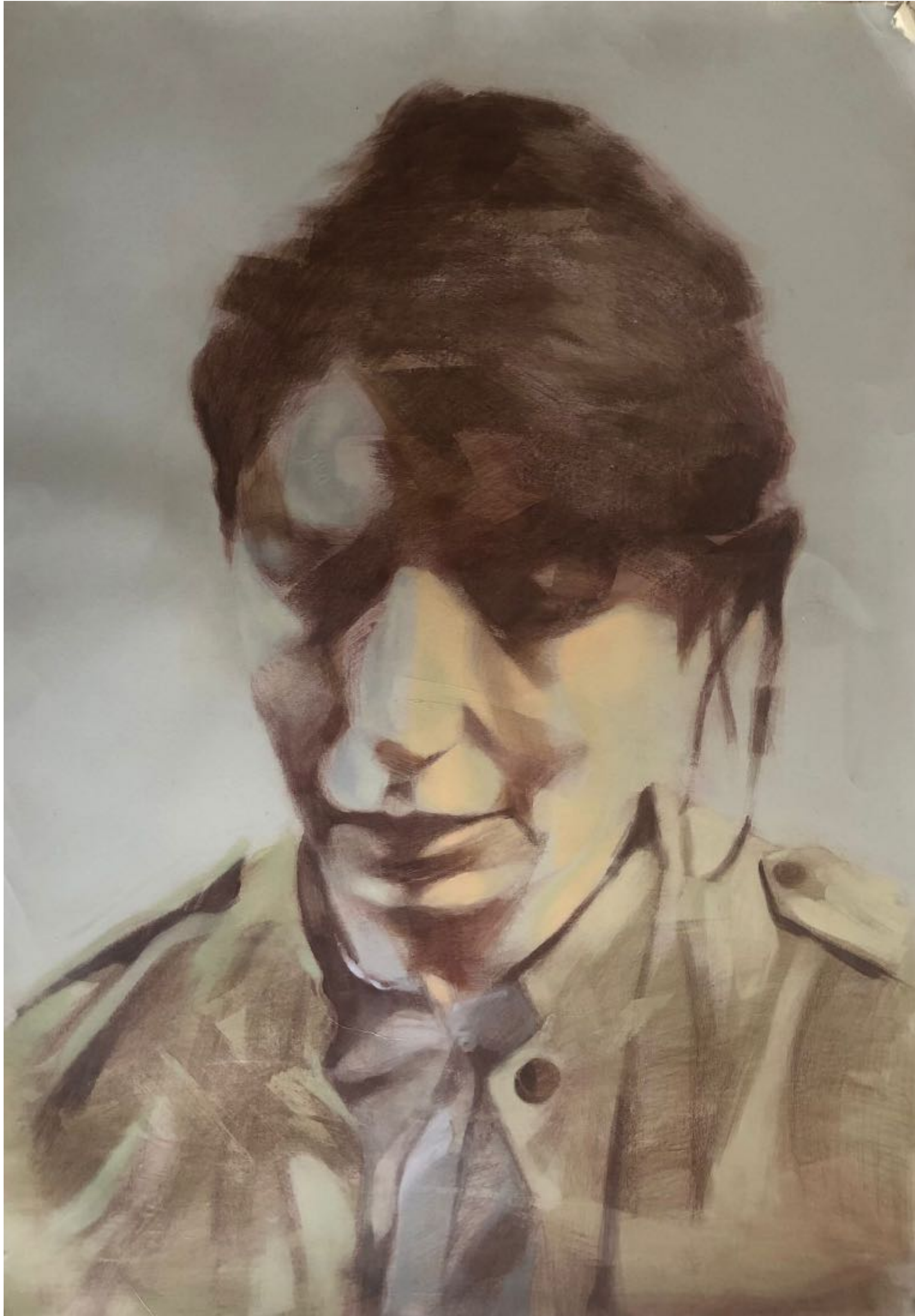
Untitled

Mixed media on cardboard

100 x 70 cm

2022

€2,800 + 5% VAT



Untitled

Mixed media on cardboard

100 x 70 cm

2022

€2,800 + 5% VAT

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Untitled

Oil on canvas

140 x 100 cm

2023

€4,800 + 5% VAT



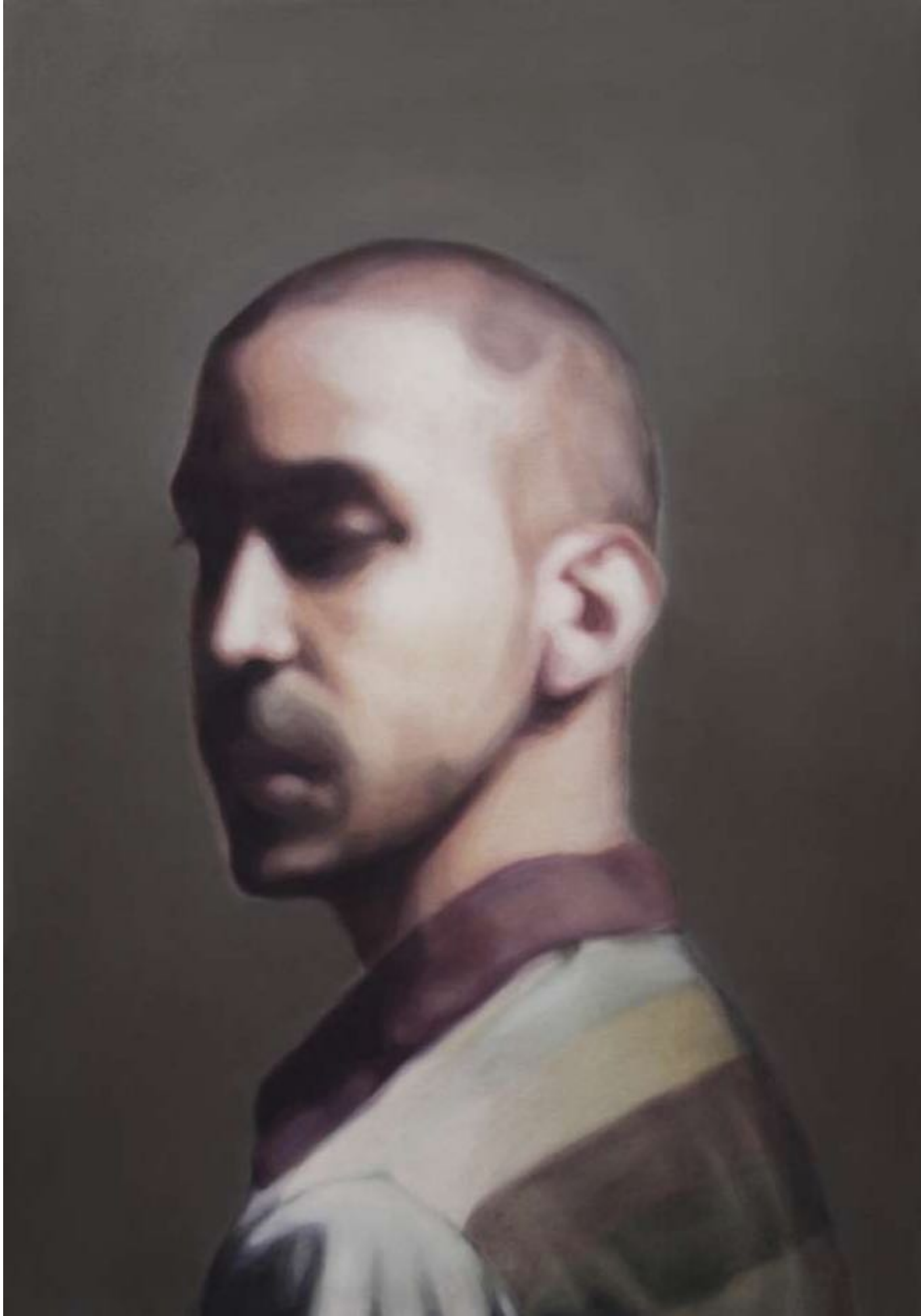
Untitled (Absence series)

Oil on cardboard

100 x 70 cm

2019

€3,500 + 5% VAT



Interval

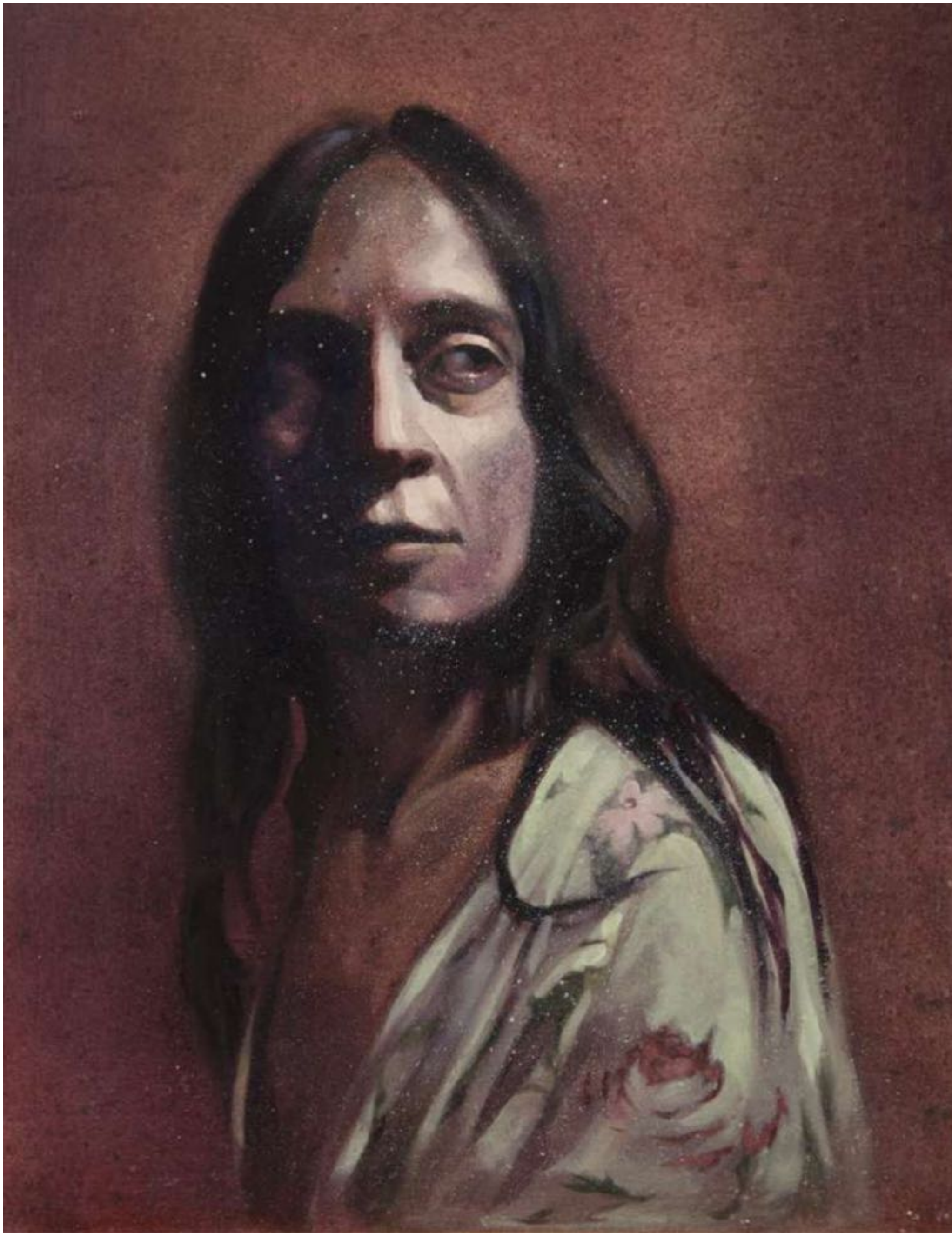
100 x 70 cm

2015

Oil on canvas

€3,500 + 5% VAT

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Shedding Skin

80 x 60 cm

2023

Oil on wooden panel

€3,000 + 5% VAT

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