

Niccolò Moronato

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

WHAT DO WE LEAVE BEHIND OR ASIDE WHILE WE'RE BUSY LIVING?

WHAT DO WE TAKE SO MUCH FOR GRANTED THAT WE FORGET ABOUT IT?

I experience the world as an anthology of languages: religion is a language, work is a language, people, politics, socialization, space, authority – everything is a language that can be exposed, analyzed and re-negotiated.

The foundation of my artistic practice is in mapping all these languages, and in exposing the behaviors and social norms we unwittingly adopt - opening them for play and collective re-validation.

Through drawing, performance, installation, photography, and text, I invite my audience through a revelatory process, where latent poetics become visible and re-definable.

My works and installations often intervene in semi-public spaces, such as porter's lodges and phone booths, and can involve infiltrating other people's jobs or lives.

I live and work in Milan and Chicago.

RESIDENCIES

January - April 2019 – ViaFarini - Milan.

COLLECTIONS

Joan Flasch Collection, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

December 2017 – Franco e Renata (collab. with Thomas Berra), Pastificio Cerere Foundation, Rome.

October 2017 – Last In/First Out, part of AndarXPorte group show, porter's lodge of Palazzo Archinto, Milan.

June 2017 – ri-RIP, performance and presentation of the second mapping, Gardens of Porta Venezia phonebooth, Milan.

April 2017 – How do you say goodnight? at The Dangerous Professors, group show, Triumph Gallery, Chicago. Curated by Ruslana Lichtzier.

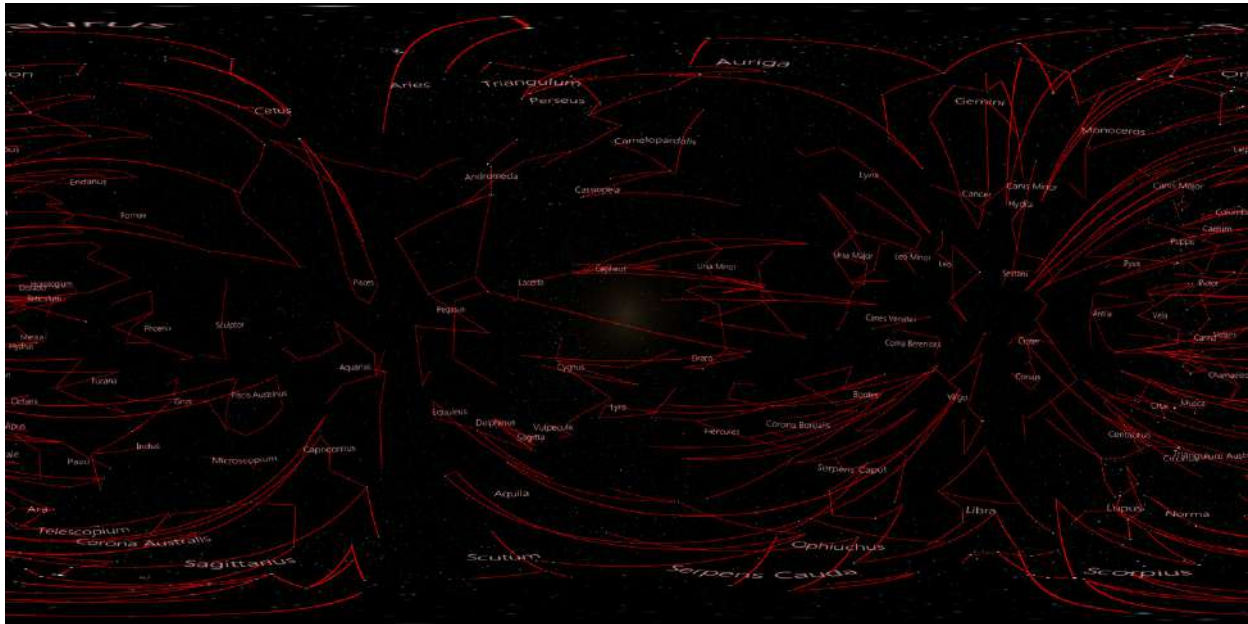
November 2016 – RIP, installation and presentation of the first mapping, Viale Brianza phonebooth, Milan.

February 2016 – part of Thomas Berra's Subculture Fanzine group showcase, Edicola Radetzky, Milan.

WORKS

- 5 Firmament/w.i.p.
- 11 Last in/First out
- 17 Nonument
- 21 RIP
- 29 How do you say goodnight
- 33 Réclame
- 43 Errors
- 46 Contemporary concerns

Firmament/w.i.p.



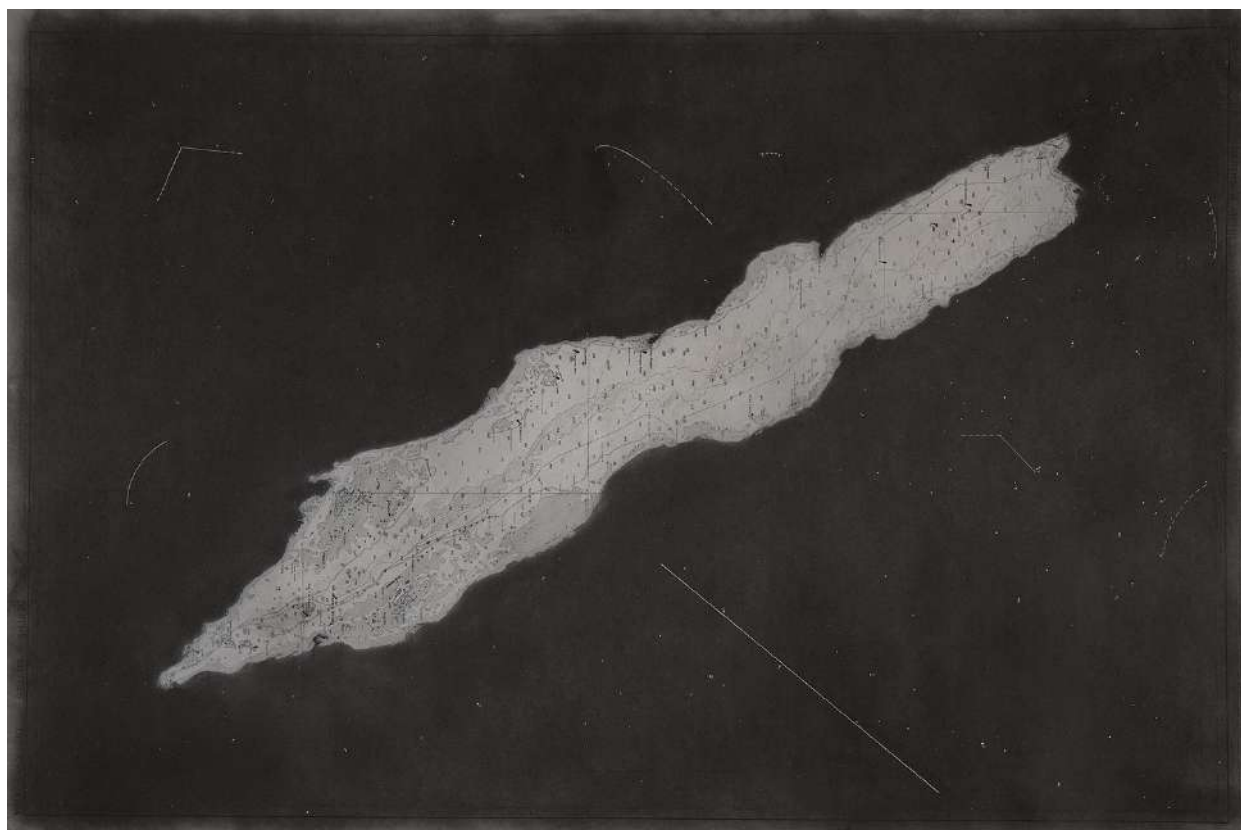
Firmament (2018, in progress) is a project comprising works in several different media (large-scale mark-makings, digital technology, artificial intelligence, text, performance, installation, and Teletext video), inspired by the ongoing collaboration with the Director of Space Visualization at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago.

It is focused on the process of devising new shapes and constellations out of a blank, new sky: the celestial vault as seen from planet Trappist -1c, an object located 40 light years away from us, and deemed “perfect for life” since its discovery in 2017.

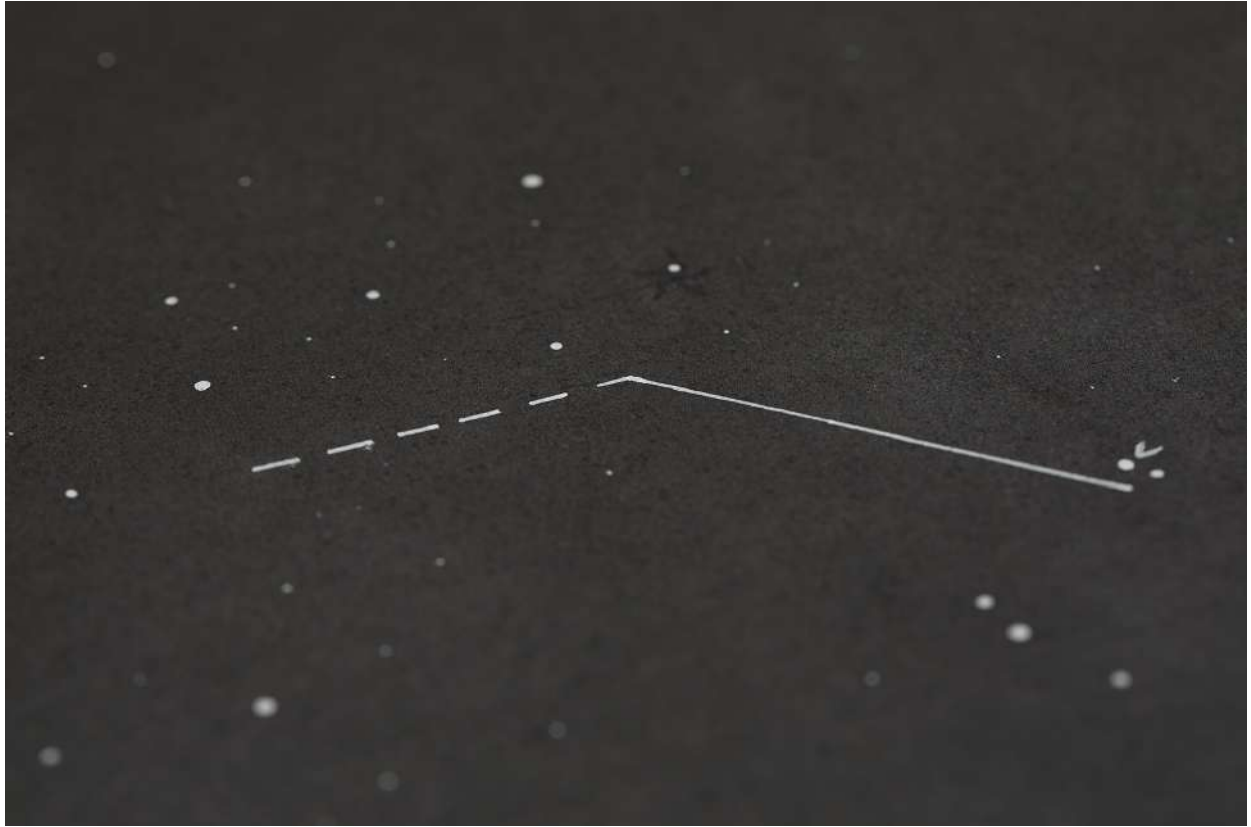
Such a view was made possible by the unique technology available at the Adler Planetarium’s Space Visualization Lab.

The project confronts themes of collective imagination, universal representation, the mental colonization of space, and the role of emotional contemplation in the understanding of science and information.





These drawings, which I call firmaments, trace my first approaches toward this new sky, seeking a different kind of orientation, looking for geometries, and projecting myself upon a blank canvas - leaving along the mark of an arbitrary act such as dissecting the sky, in the form of suggested symmetries and shapes. They are firmaments, although nothing in them will actually remain firm.





I used 20th Century navigation and bathymetric charts from all over the world and blacked out consistent portions of them with graphite. Then, I placed the stars from a piece of the Trappist sky using white India ink. Marks explore the field along with my gaze. I calibrate for orientation. I create mental pictures that disappear as I advance in all directions. I pin down points, stumble across geometries, and sense new narratives of navigation.



Rèclame



1



2



3

1. Get insured with who you want but get insured.
2. The aperitif of connoisseurs.
3. Gout, arthritis, sciatica, rheumatisms, post-fracture pain.

Paper collages, reclaiming pieces of old advertising payoffs and mixing them with photographs from my daily research at Fondazione Feltrinelli's Archives.

An ongoing collection of "ads" I made for Franco e Renata, a "pictorial novel" project with painter Thomas Berra, based on Italian romance magazines from the 1950s.

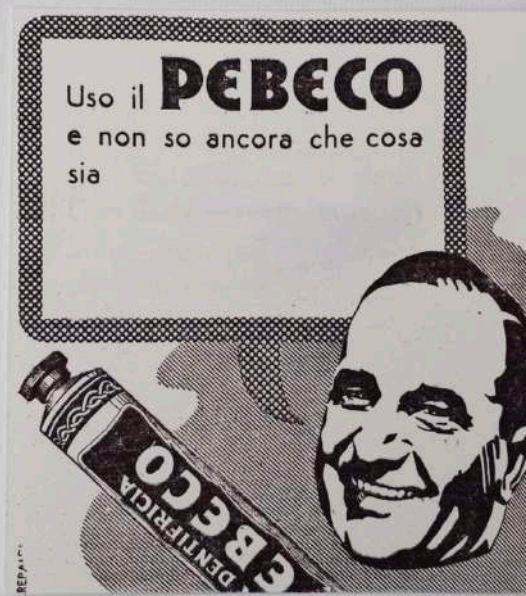
The novel premiered on December 2017 with a newsstand installation at Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome.

1. The temptation of a slender guy.
2. It's fine, you can smoke.
3. Great loan conditions.
4. The most tested plane on Earth.
5. Powder for men, steel.

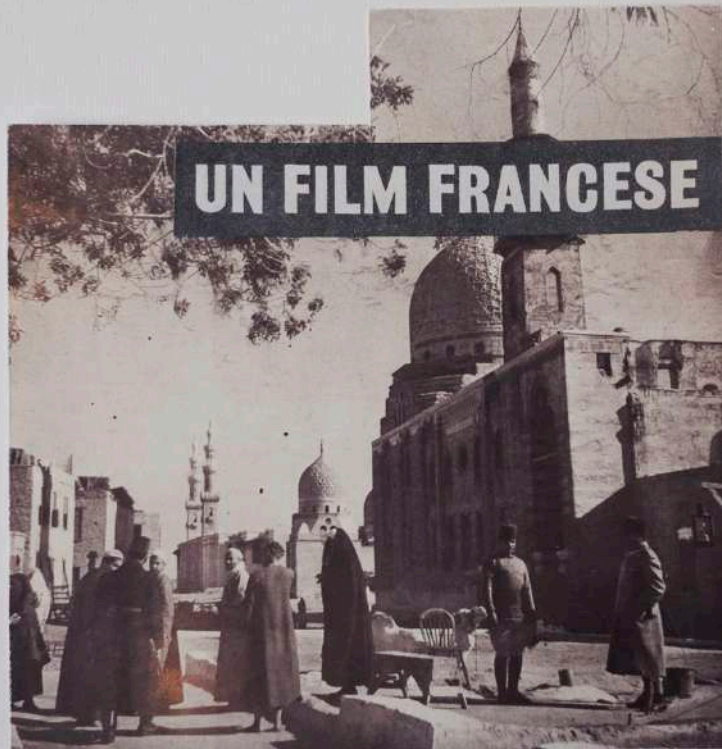




Connecting 74 Countries worldwide.



I use PEBECO and still don't know what it is, india ink on paper.



A French movie.

la Colla, questa volta, non ha fatto nulla. Anche l'altro, il fratello, è stato ucciso. Ma non è stato ucciso da un cavallo, ma da un cavallo che si è scagliato contro di lui. Il cavallo era stato addormentato e si era scagliato contro di lui. Il cavallo era stato addormentato e si era scagliato contro di lui.

LE PIU BELLE LANE PER UOMO
SARTORIA DI CLASSE
Schaffhof v. P.O. 39, FRISINGA

Al Hotel la Colla doveva sopprimere solo per qualche giorno, ma l'impiegato di Hotel l'ha costretto a restare.

Bisogna dire che la gente non ha mai visto un cavallo che si scagliasse contro un uomo. Ma non è stato un cavallo che si è scagliato contro di lui, ma un cavallo che si è scagliato contro di lui.

ASSICURATEVI con chi volete, ma ASSICURATEVI

Il cavallo era stato addormentato e si era scagliato contro di lui. Il cavallo era stato addormentato e si era scagliato contro di lui.

Ma invece di ritornare a stare vicino a suo moglie, egli non ha fatto nulla. Ma non è stato un cavallo che si è scagliato contro di lui, ma un cavallo che si è scagliato contro di lui.

CAVALLI DA CORSA CONTRO AUTO

L'incidente sull'autostrada tedesca della valle del Reno, nel tratto Frilgung-Basilea. Nel pomeriggio di venerdì 15 settembre, un'autostrada tedesca, si sono incrociati, a galoppo sfrenato, contro una colonna di automobili che ritenevano forse, un ultimo ostacolo verso la libertà. Tre cavalli sono stati violentemente investiti e uccisi dalle automobili, mentre gli altri riuscivano ad evitare l'investimento ed a raggiungere i posti di sicurezza. Due automobilisti, che erano sulle vetture investite, hanno riportato gravissime ferite e versano in pericolo di vita all'ospedale di Frilgung, dove sono stati ricoverati.

VOLETE DIVENTARE ATTRICI?
«GRAND HOTEL»
VI OFFRE LA GRANDE OCCASIONE

VIVAIO MOSCARDINI
Consente anche la domenica!
Viale Pasubio N. 23 Tel. 55-555

GRACE UMLIATA

La principessa aveva forse trovato il modo di ritornare al cinema: avrebbe destinato alla beneficenza tutti i proventi della sua scrittura, ma il "registro del brido" non l'ha interpellata e ha scelto un'interprete che le somiglia molto.

HITCHCOCK HA PREFERITO UN'ATTRICE PIU' GIOVANE

GOTTA ARTRITI SCIATICA REUMATISMI POSTUMI DI FRATTURE

Una straordinaria somiglianza



BUJO in PARADISO

Romanzo di Greta Granor

XXVIII PUNTATA

«Non aveva parlato ad Achille di niente... la "cassa" rimase un po' vuota...»
 «Invece d'essere solo, si affrettava verso quel suo letto per andare a letto e neppure...»
 «Certo, ma...»
 «Per la verità, non si guardava in un modo strano...»
 «Sì, ma...»
 «Ma quando di notte...»
 «Ma quando di notte...»
 «Ma quando di notte...»

Usa il **PEBECO**
il più sicuro ed economico



Tintoria M.E.C.
(Capitolato) (Milano)

PIEDI STANCHI?

Basta il sollievo più rapido.

Per alleviare le infiammazioni e le pressioni dei piedi, massaggiarli con un balsamo...»

Un'ottima soluzione della cura rapida...»

LA CORTIGIANA DELLA ZAR

in vendita nelle
librerie e nei cinema

**SPENCER-JAMES
TRACY-STEWART
CAROL
CORSE
JOHN
GREENSTREET
HODAK
BARRYMORE**

VERCELLI

Cinema SPLENDORE

Grande successo del
TECHNICOLOR

TIFONE SULL' ABISSINIA

con:
**Dorothy LAMOUR
Robert PRESTON**

LA SPOSA PAGANA

FRESCO DI LAUREA, FRANCO, GIOVANE INGEGNERE, TUTTO È COME LAVEVA LASCIATO, HA TUTTO È RIENTRATO NELLA NATIA VERCELLI. DESTINATO A CAMBIARE, FORSE PER SEMPRE.



AL CINEMA

**GABLE-SMITH
WENDELL COREY
AUDREY TOTTER
FRANK MORGAN
MARY ASTOR**

SENZA
BUONCOSTUME

Domani ai Cinema
**BARBERINI e
METROPOLITAN**

**ALAN
BREIN
MARA
PODES**

**IL NAVIGLIO
NON PERDONA**

REG. LEWIS ALLEN



BHOWANI JUNCTION

Filmed in Pakistan. Cost of thousands.

STARRING
**AVA GARDNER
STEWART GRANGER**

BILL TRAVERS ARTHUR SCHULTZ CINEMA SCOPE COLOR

LA TENTAZIONE DI UN RAGAZZO MAGRO



DEMIS L'EX DEGLI «APHRODITE'S CHILD» NON HA PIÙ VOGLIA DI ESSERE UN BUON MARITO



LASCIO MIA MOGLIE PERCHÉ VOGLIO VIVERE IN UN HAREM!

Dalla redazione Parigi, novembre

COME rendere la propria moglie felice? Tutti i maschi in almeno due parti di proprio corpo, dimmi...»
 «...pensano che il maschio migliore sia l'unico...»
 «...il maschio migliore...»
 «...il maschio migliore...»

Richard Widmark è sulle braccia da almeno trent'anni. In suo onore il uomo divo è violento lo ha coschetto, durante la lunga carriera, a impersonare ruoli spiacevoli.

... per fortuna, la talpa quasi
pattinamente, vicino e attese pa-
zientemente. Durante tutto il
cammino, il cane si era
comportato in modo
molto tranquillo, ben due volte
aveva abbaiato e si era
avvicinato a un
cane di nome
Skyward e considerato un
amico. Per due anni siamo sta-
ti, per fortuna, in talpa quasi
pattinamente, vicino e attese pa-
zientemente. Durante tutto il
cammino, il cane si era
comportato in modo
molto tranquillo, ben due volte
aveva abbaiato e si era
avvicinato a un
cane di nome
Skyward e considerato un
amico. Per due anni siamo sta-
ti, per fortuna, in talpa quasi
pattinamente, vicino e attese pa-
zientemente. Durante tutto il
cammino, il cane si era
comportato in modo
molto tranquillo, ben due volte
aveva abbaiato e si era
avvicinato a un
cane di nome
Skyward e considerato un
amico.

Sooty Owl



PER LA BUONCOSTUME L'UNIONE TRA FRANCO E RENATA È TROPPO ESOTICA. BASTERÀ IL LORO CORAGGIO A DIMOSTRARE CHE IL VERO AMORE NON CONOSCE ETÀ?



'REGAZZI' SVEJATE

DICE ANNA MAGNANI ...E MI PASSA LA PAURA

Dai primi passi sul set cinematografico allo sceneggiato televisivo che lo vede a fianco di Nannarella, il pettolezzo sui flirt e sulle rivalità. Le preoccupazioni della mamma: «Mi raccomando, non ti stancare». Ma lo scugnizzo non ha tregua: il pubblico lo costringe spesso a sottoporsi a estenuanti «cours de force»

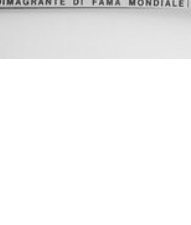


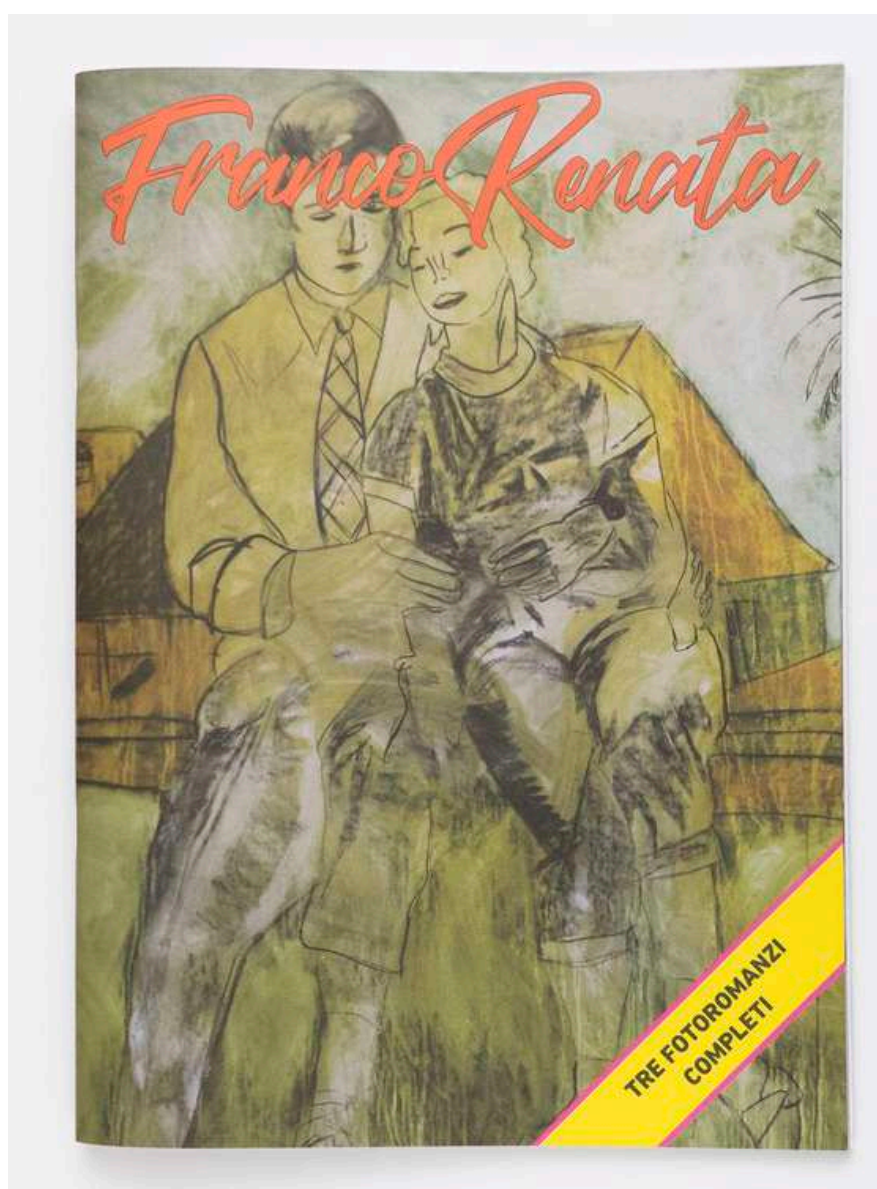

la sospende, poi tutto sanguinante perché sono voluti dei pagni veri. La vita dell'attentatore è stata diversificata e si rivolgeranno a questi. Quando giro con Lucia Bosé la famosa scena d'amore faccio violenza a me stesso perché il cuore mi batte

[illegible]

L'ALTO PREZZO DEL SUCCESSO A sinistra, Massimo Ranieri vince a Torino il premio "Dedal di Donatello". Il filo di destra lo mostra soffocante, mentre cerca di riprendersi dal lieve malore che ha colpito nel corso di una serata. Nonostante ciò ha parlato a termine la spettacolo

Humphrey BOGART
I BASSIFONDI DI SAN LORENZO





Last in / First out



Last in / First out, 2017, pencil on invoice copy paper.

Last In / First Out is a stock management accounting method, by which the last piece that comes into stock is the first to come out. On a duplicate receipt block, I noted the pieces of conversations around me, completing them with other phrases or thoughts. Then I let words accumulate on the copying paper of the block, opening up a field for new thoughts to emerge without any necessary logic, in a purely evocative way. I brought this process into a semi-intimate space for almost two months – a porter's lodge in an almost-abandoned baroque building in Milan. People coming to visit the art show upstairs would walk through the entry space feeling puzzled about its function and role. Their verbal interactions with Mauro the doorman were duly noted on a receipt, of which they'd get a copy.

In the things we say, hear or think all day hides the seed of something deeper, more mysterious and intimate. This process exists to bring it to light.





MATRICE DELLA RICEVUTA n. *1113*

Data *at any time*

Ricevuti da *representants can take*

€ *the least I can pay*

per *for something I wouldn't want*

happened to me

but it was

Soggetta a bollo vigente

TOTALE € *generally*

made

FIRMA *Neer's that is*

16257 (n)

2

MATRICE DELLA RICEVUTA n. *it's been*

Data *not many times*

Ricevuti da *I've been here*

€ *some thing - I wouldn't want*

per *to go only*

Soggetta a bollo vigente

TOTALE € *noticee*

FIRMA *when'd bother you*

16257 (n) 2

MATRICE DELLA RICEVUTA n. *totally*

Data *old days*

Ricevuti da *happy times*

€ *so many*

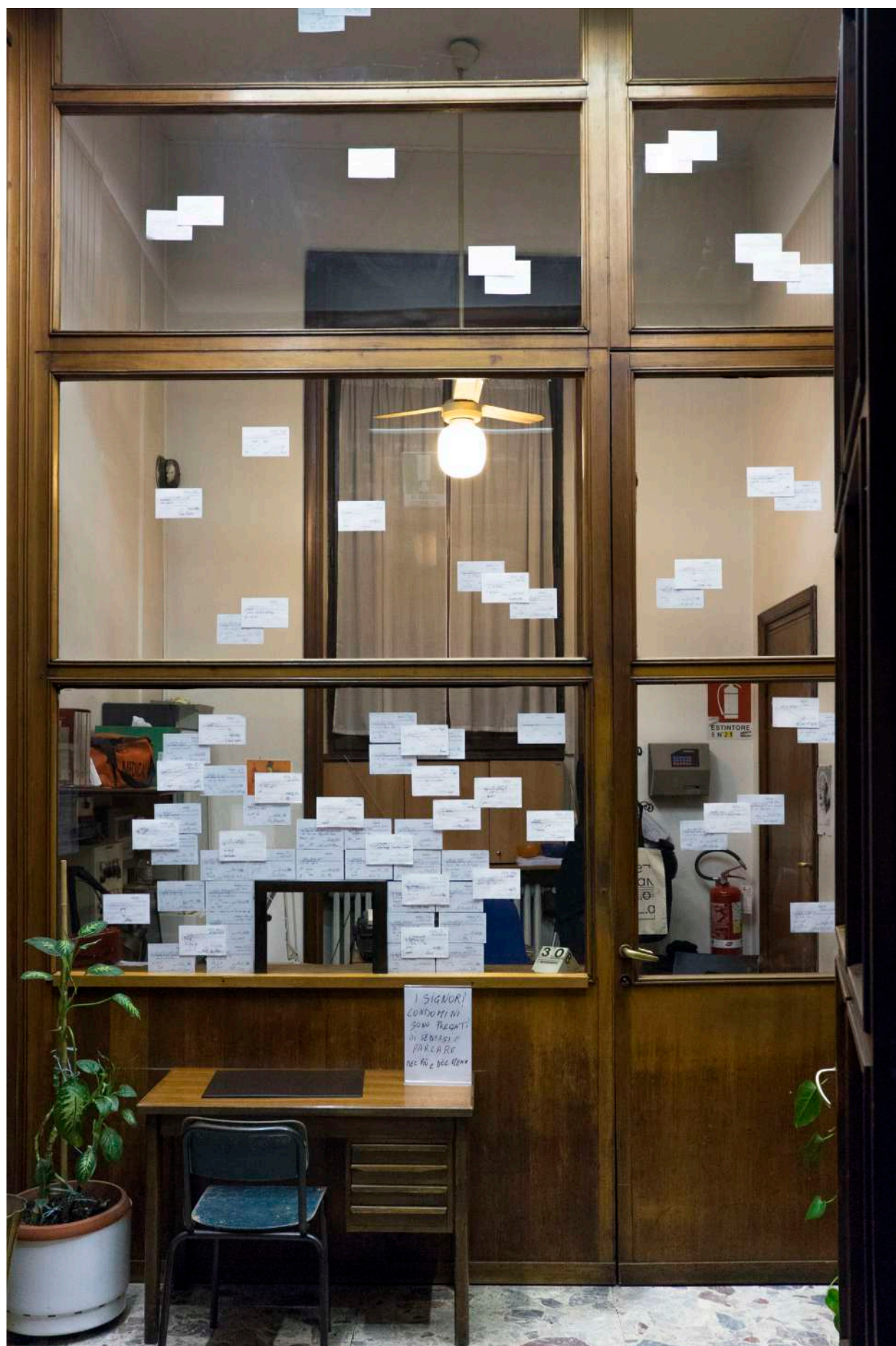
per *eyes looking into*

Soggetta a bollo vigente

TOTALE € *let it up*

FIRMA *for now*

16257 (n) 2



Nonument







Nonument, 2016-2017, polymer extrusion.

Nonument is a sculpture that questions the essence of a statue's basement, engaging with the social, cultural, symbolical, visual, and material expectations in regards to public monuments.

Its optimal size is 2.6 meters - the minimum monumental scale - and it is intended for public space. The current form of the work originates from a 3D-printable portrait drawn from the original (and lost) 1.5 meters tall wood and clay structure.



Errors, 2016, algorithm on wall.

This is the only memory of the beautiful sticker artworks of the Varesine, a historic neighborhood of Milan that no longer exists. Varesine was bulldozed in 2011 to make room for a skyscraper speculation project.

This is a **layering of errors**, ultimately producing a thing of beauty, therefore questioning the positive or negative value society gives to mistakes.

Error #1: an illegal act of art, unauthorized, on a public wall.

x

Error #2: failing to protect that wall and its neighborhood from speculation.

x

Error #3: Google's algorithm mistaking the drawing for a person, therefore censoring its face.

x

Error #4: Google StreetView time bug, showing a 2008 picture in a 2016 mapping.

=

Result: a new work of unintentional, unauthorized collaborative art, where the original artwork and its context only exist in a radically transformed version.

RIP



The name RIP echoes that of the defunct Italian public phone company, SIP. RIP is a **public exercise in curiosity**, an open inquiry about **intimacy and disappearance in the public space**.

I accidentally found an old phonebook city map from the late 1980s, and noticed that all phone booths were marked upon it. I went and looked for them, and in most cases I only found their square, concrete bases and a bunch of other ruins. But I also found that some of them were still standing, invisible to most people, silently undergoing removal. It both scares and fascinates me how we literally stop seeing things once we don't use them anymore.

I opened a Facebook page, Prontopronto, to document the mapping and research, and then proceeded to build a 1:1 section of a phonebooth with both original and recreated components.

Then, I placed the piece on the exact spots where it used to stand 30 years ago. The skin of the city has changed quite a lot since then.

Presentations took place inside a real phonebooth. **Anyone could place a free anonymous call, recorded by RIP for further works.**



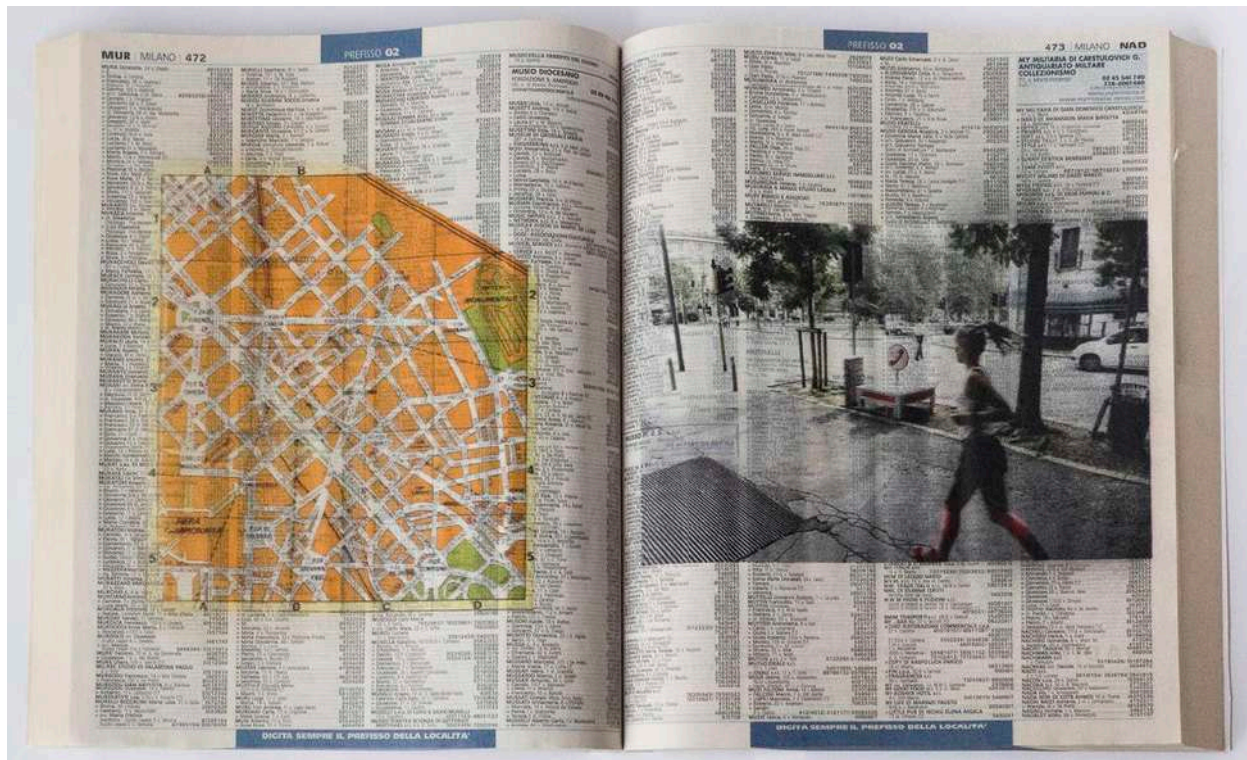
RIP, 2016, mixed media (wood, metal, paint, acrylic glass).
short selection (total installations 24)



PRESENTATIONS



PHONEBOOK



PHONEBOOK



RIP – phonebox, 2017, vinyl extrusion, vinyl paint, photographic prints.
Part of the Joan Flasch Collection, SAIC, Art Institute of Chicago.



How do you say good night

HOW DO YOU
SAY GOODNIGHT ?



"Language is like air. You realize how important it is only when it is messed up. Then it can kill you."

— Herta Müller

Starting from the experience of being a foreign national in the U.S., the work highlights the difficulty to preserve individual spontaneity in such a highly regulated language environment.

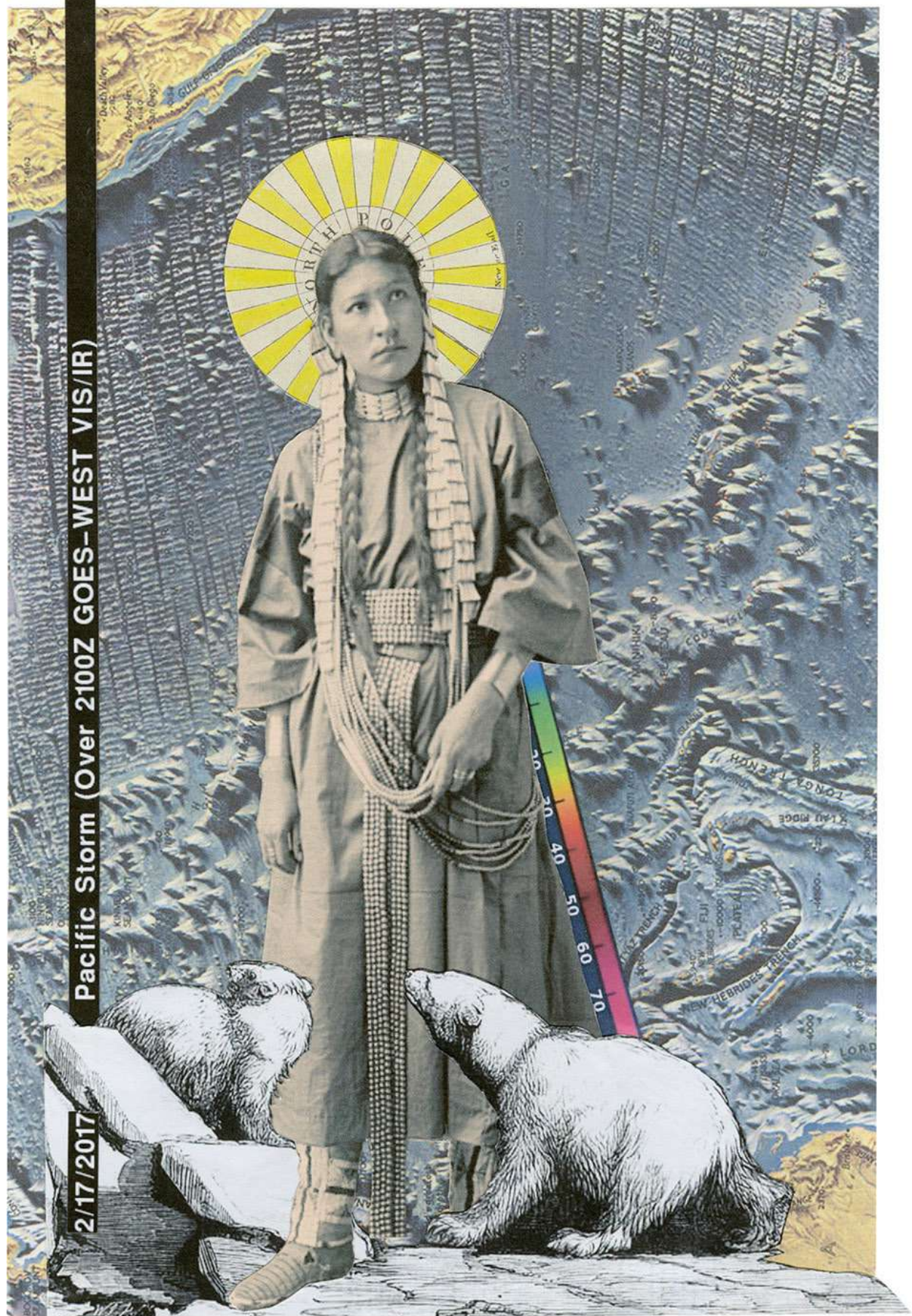
A title from a 1949 educational school movie about dating is extracted and placed in different contexts, including performance in public venues, to work as an open question and an unsettling doubt.

Indeed, the sentence comes to question **what's left of the process of language propaganda**, which began in the mid-40s, and how an unwitting, generalized alignment around pitches, tones, and words creates a restrictive environment for the free expression of ideas and emotions.

Whereas the original movie provided an indication on "the right way to say goodnight", the question - now delivered from its original purpose - encourages everyone to come up with their own individual response, shedding light on the invisible importance of language in our lives.

The work, a cyanotype part of a series of silkscreen prints, was first shown and performed at The Dangerous Professors, Triumph Gallery, Chicago, Illinois.

Contemporary Concerns



Protect us from Climate Change, 2017, mixed media.

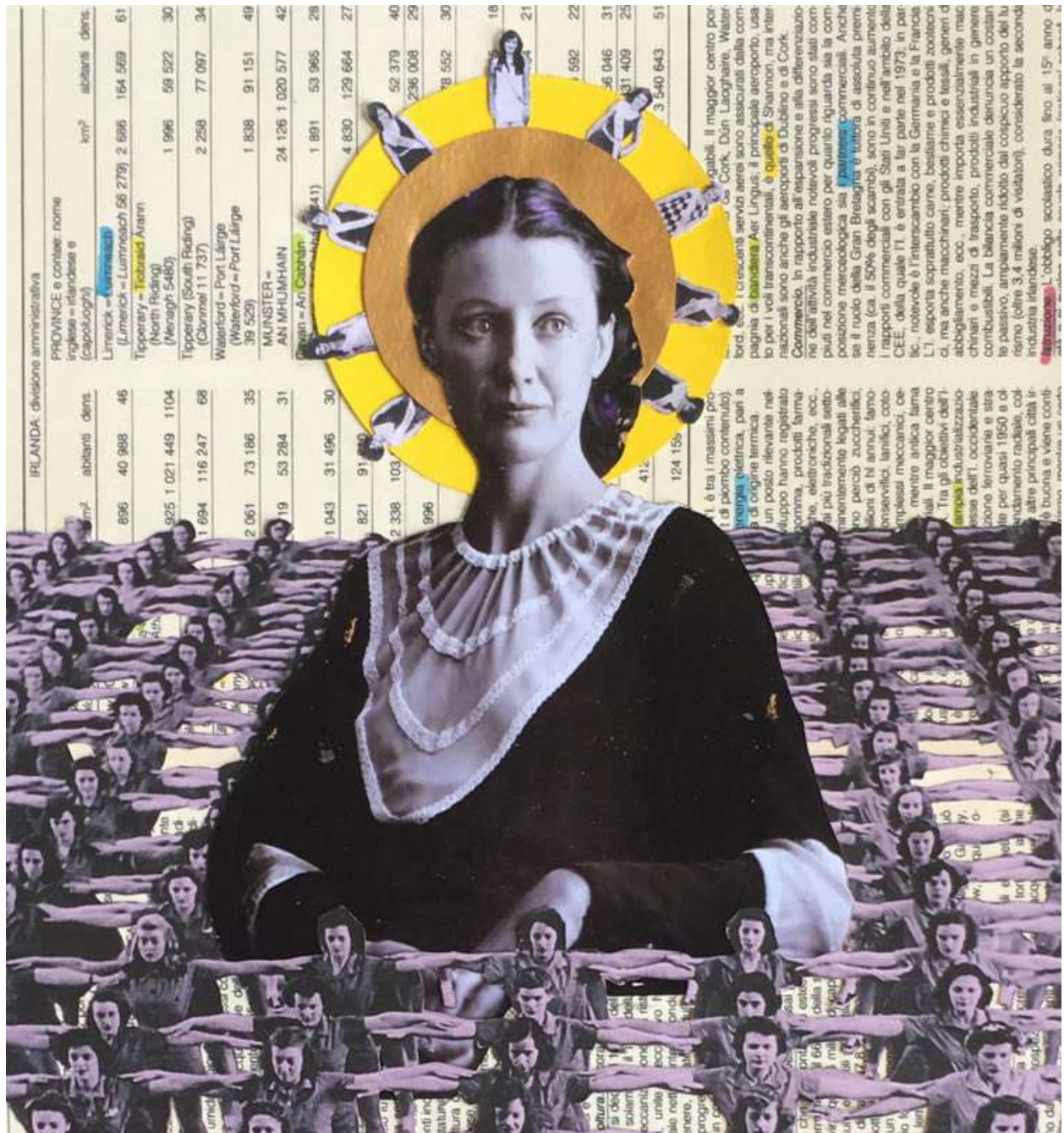
This ongoing project explores the dynamic by which myth is created in a post-factual society, the subjectivity of all kinds of faith and the power of belief in the struggle for values.

Saint patronages are plentiful and sometimes quite odd (e.g. television, flight attendants, barbecue cooks*). Saint patronages are also a loophole in the Catholic structure, a blurry space for partial “democracy” where the number of prayers counts almost as votes in deciding who gets prayed for what.

Some of these Saints are patrons to very contemporary concerns and had little to no iconography until now: protesters, feminists, climate change, discrimination, hackers, etc. Some other Saints might not be saint yet, but could easily mix in with the system.



Protect our protests, detail, 2017, mixed media.



Protect our feminists, detail, 2017, mixed media.