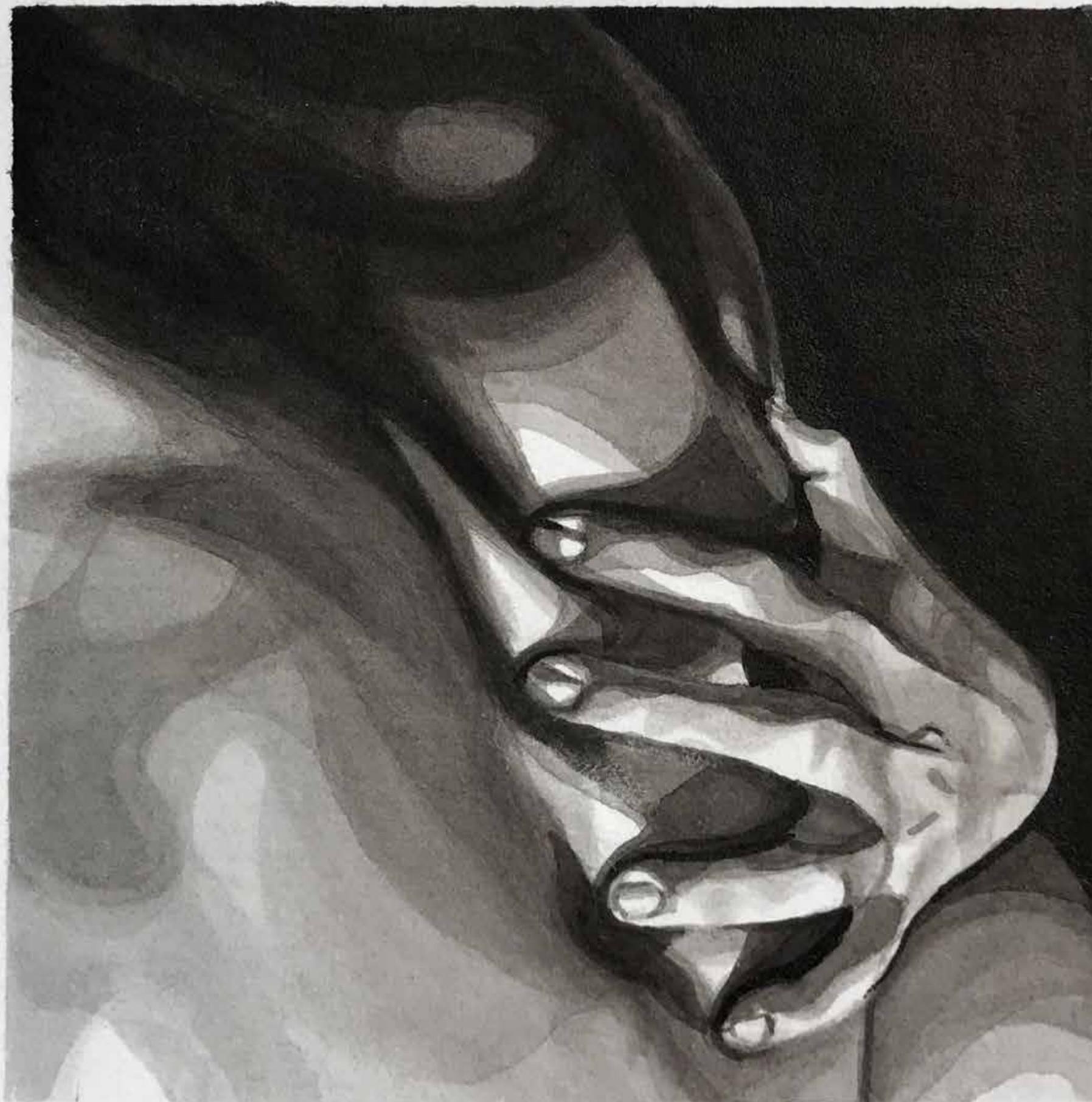
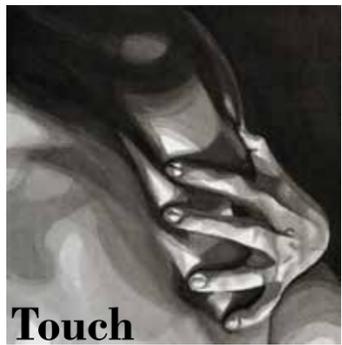


9 Aug 2021 – 20 Aug 2021



Touch



Touch

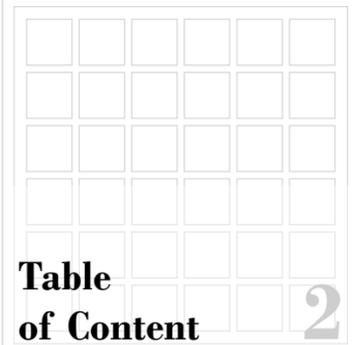


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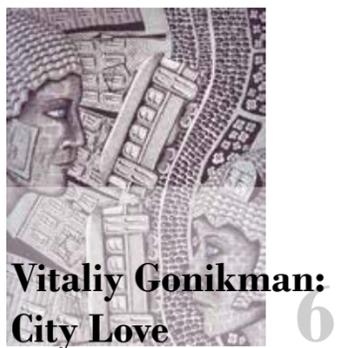
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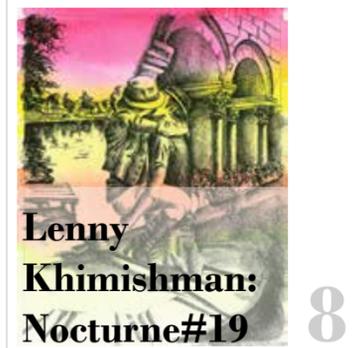
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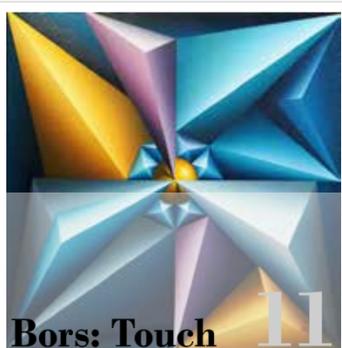
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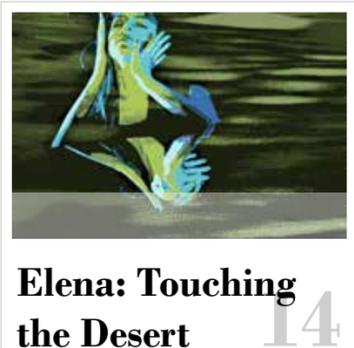
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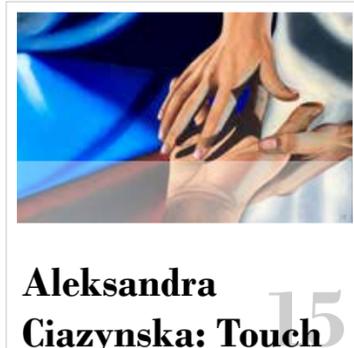
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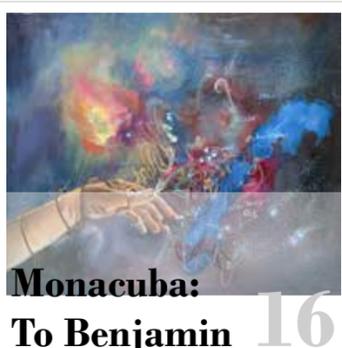
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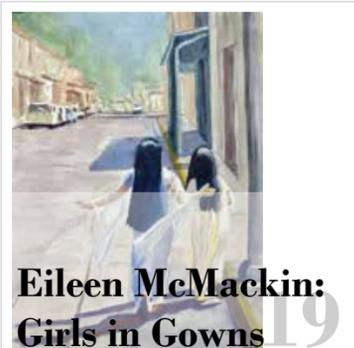
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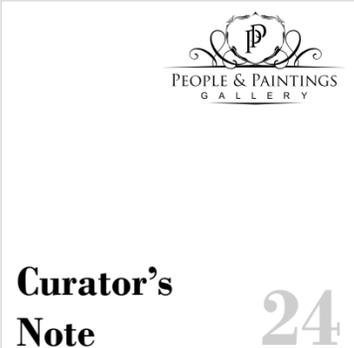
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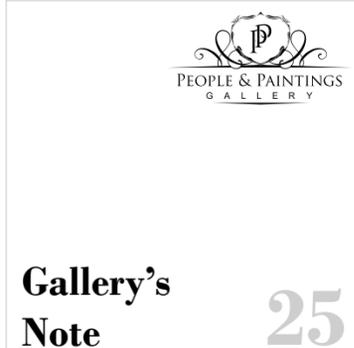
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Touch

People today are experiencing isolation more than ever before. Social media platforms continue to promise new levels of connection but ultimately result in profound solitude. The number of followers, friends, clicks, and likes can never replace an embrace from a loved one. Adding to the decline in physical touch is the fear that pervades physical closeness despite loosening health regulations in our post-COVID society.

Physical connection is fundamental to our existence. It is how we communicate, express love, bond socially, and physically feel pleasure and happiness. Physical touch is a part of every relationship we have, whether it is romantic, platonic, or familial. Touch can be erotic, healing, comforting, invigorating, and powerful.

For this exhibition, I am seeking work that celebrates touch and reminds viewers of the beauty and importance of physical connection.

Curator: Erika Florizel Narhi-Martinez

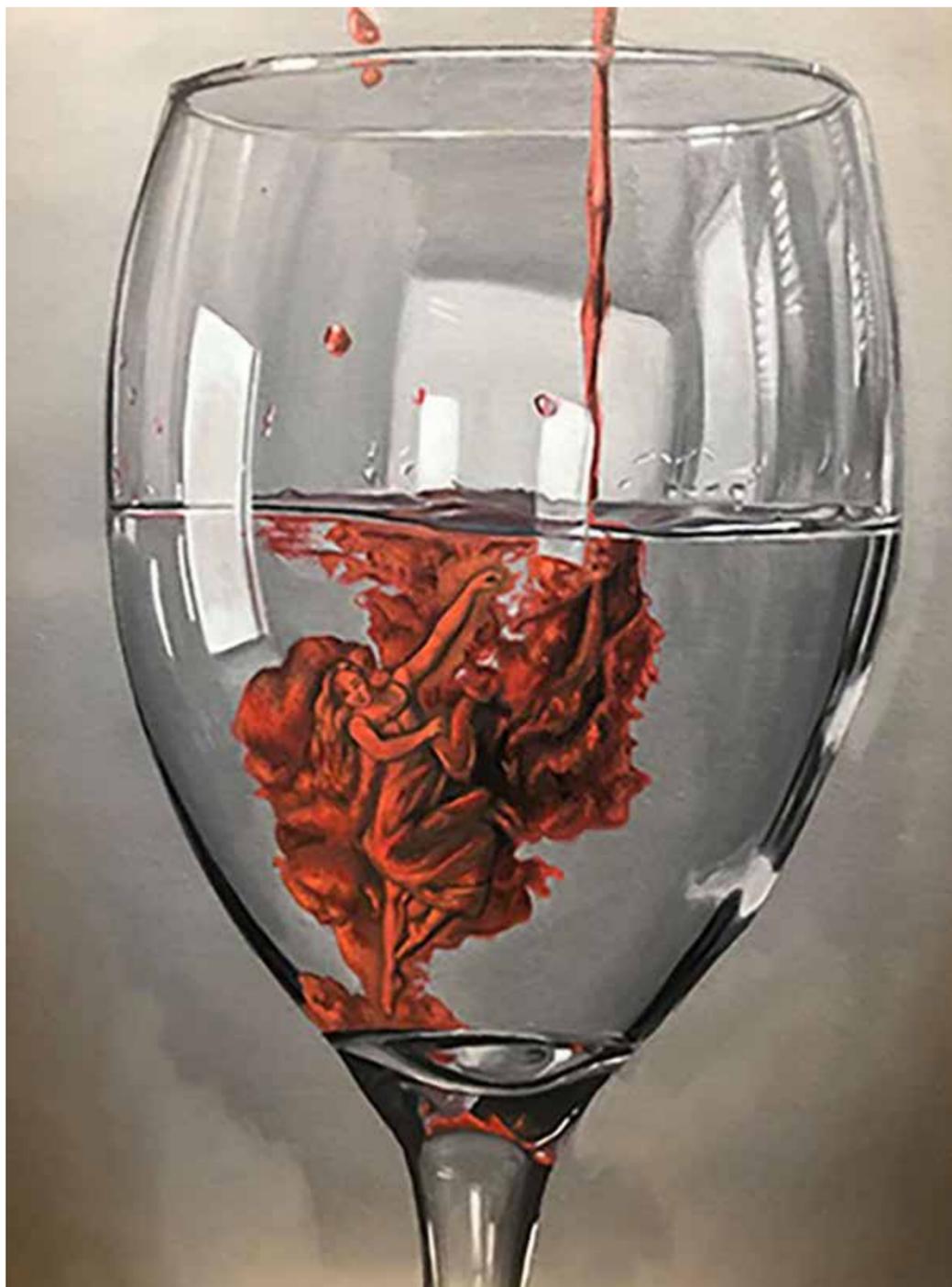
Location: Online Exhibition

Touch



3

Ramy Alfy: When Ink Dance With Water



Art No: PP2638RA0936

Artwork Dimensions:
w 60.96 cm (24 inches)
h 76.2 cm (30 inches)

Year Created: 2021

Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

Touch



4

Evgenia Klimenko: I Can't Stay Away From You



Art No: PP0022EK0154

Artwork Dimensions:

w 28 cm (11.2 inches)

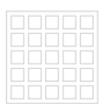
h 22 cm (8.8 inches)

Year Created: 2016

Medium: Pastels

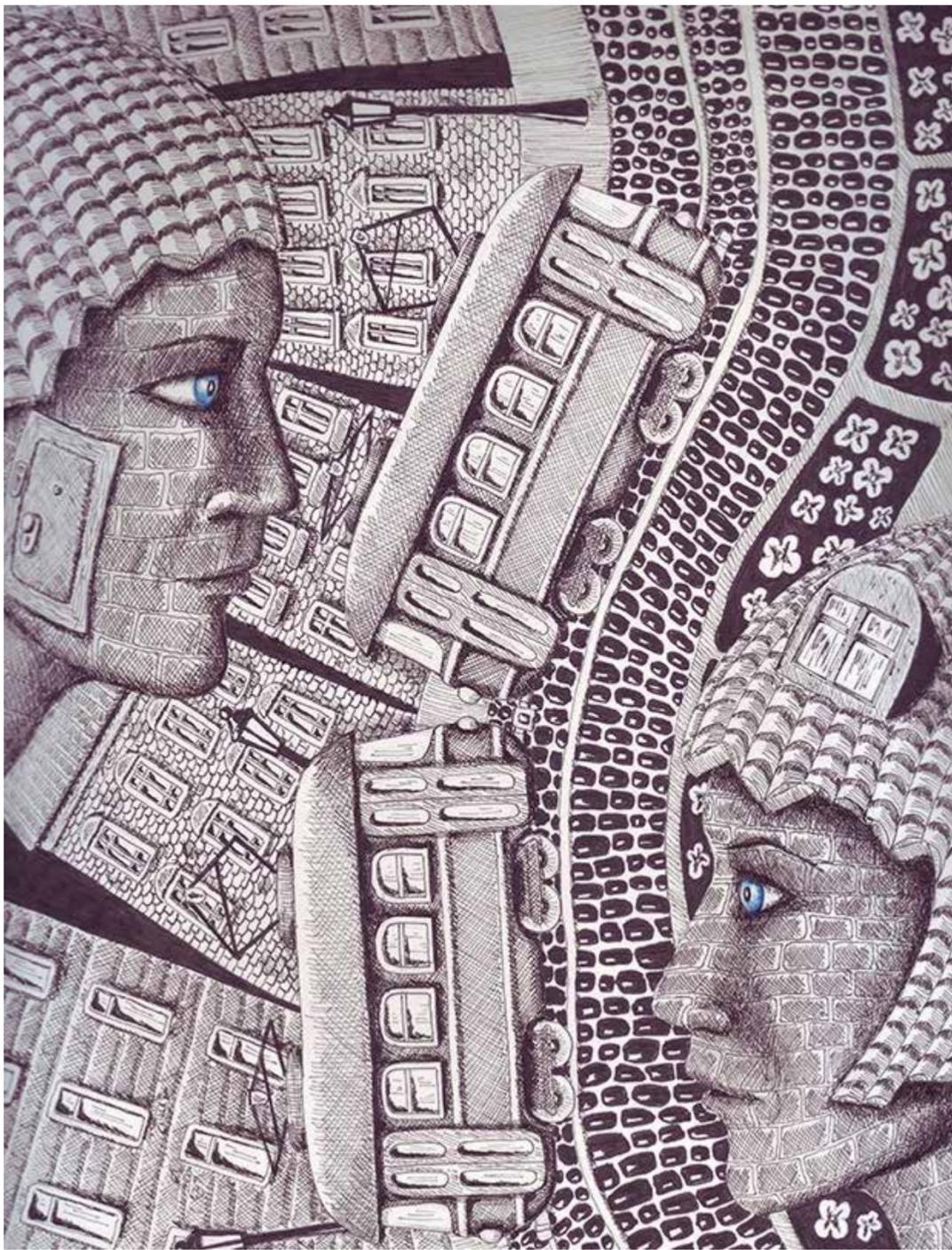
Surface: Sandpaper

Touch



5

Vitaliy Gonikman: City Love



Art No: PP0030VG0287

Artwork Dimensions:

w 22.86 cm (9 inches)

h 30.48 cm (12 inches)

Year Created: 2013

Medium: Ink

Surface: Paper

City Love surreal drawing

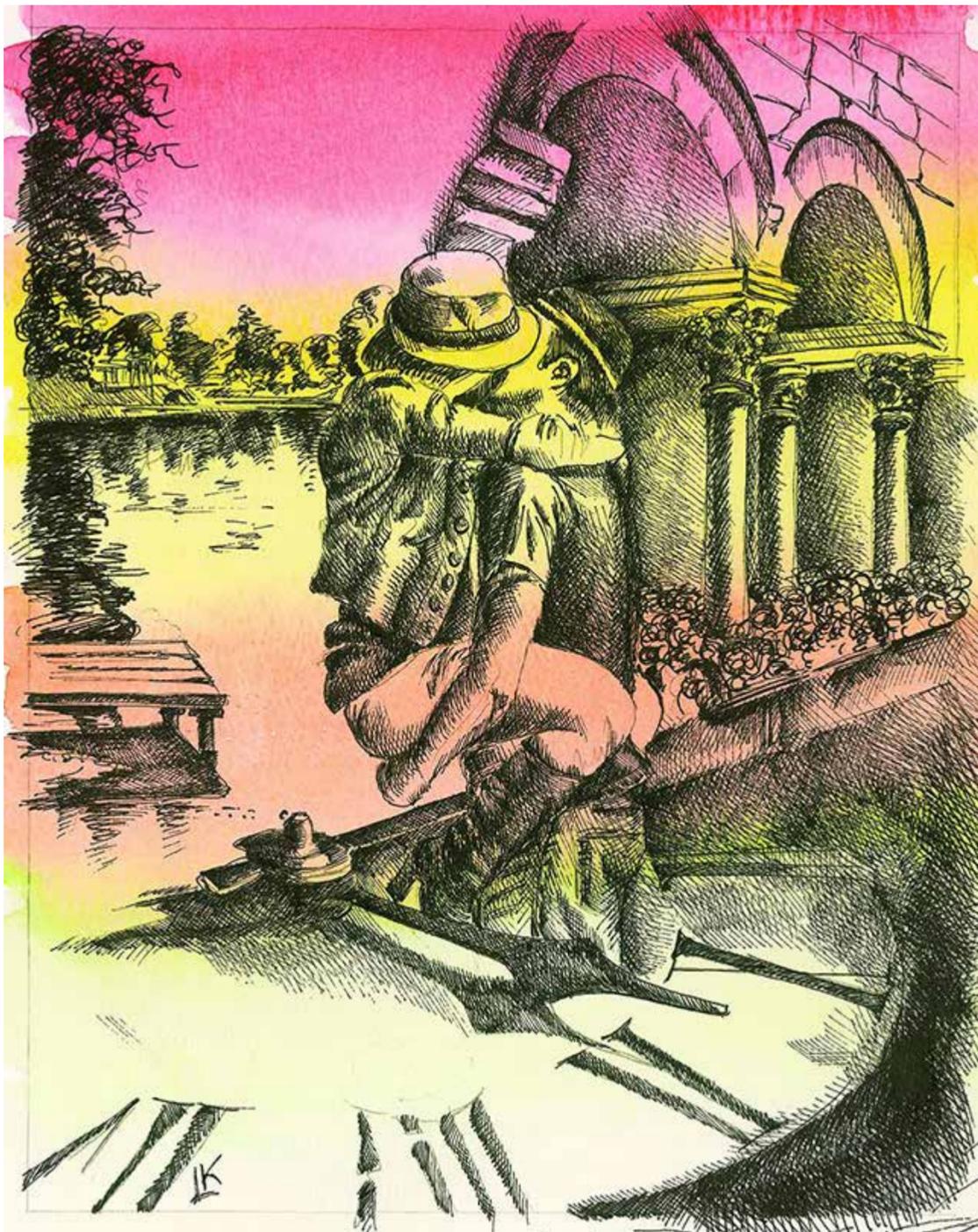
Anna Drik: Date



Art No: PPO032AD0511
Artwork Dimensions:
w 30.48 cm (12 inches)
h 22.86 cm (9 inches)
Year Created: 2016
Medium: Ink
Surface: Watercolor Paper

Indian ink over music script

Lenny Khimishman: Nocturne#19



Art No: PP0052LK0572

Artwork Dimensions:
w 40.64 cm (16 inches)

h 43.18 cm (17 inches)

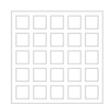
Year Created: 2018

Medium: Watercolor

Surface: Watercolor Paper

Fantasy

Touch



8

Juliana Stankiewicz: Rural Self Portrait



Popular
Vote Award

Art No: PP1136
Artwork Dimensions:
w 30.48 cm (12 inches)
h 43.18 cm (17 inches)
Year Created: 2019
Medium: Other
Surface: Other

This is a self portrait taken holding one of my parents chickens. The feel of their slippery feathers and bony wings, spastic body movements, makes them sometimes difficult animals to handle. I really enjoyed spending time with them.

Touch



9

Urszula Filipowich: Clash of Clouds



Art No: PP1129
Artwork Dimensions:
w 30 cm (12 inches)
h 40 cm (16 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Acrylic
Surface: Fiberboard

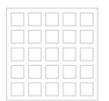
The beauty and importance of physical connection. The physical touch is the way to communicate. It can have a lot of shades.

It can illuminate the darkness. And its absence can plunge us into emotional recesses of darkness. Not having a physical touch is like not having a daylight.

The touch can be so different, can be erotic, healing, comforting, invigorating, and powerful.

Light and darkneses.

Touch



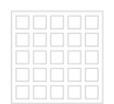
10

Bors: Touch



Art No: PP1128
Artwork Dimensions:
w 50 cm (20 inches)
h 50 cm (20 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

Touch



11

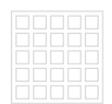
Touch is one of the most mysterious units of communication. There are many examples of this in the living world, but perhaps one uses it in the most versatile way. Just a moment, but in this moment we can convey countless feelings, from tenderness, through erotica, to warning. You can't be without touch, Man.

V. Szakácsi Éva: Touching Water



Art No: PP1120
Artwork Dimensions:
w 70 cm (28 inches)
h 40 cm (16 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

Touch



12

Touching water: beautiful. Soothes, relaxes, embraces with love, reminds you of the time spent in the womb in the amniotic fluid. She caresses and your thoughts weave beautiful dreams. It is surrounded by peace and infinite freedom.

Krisztina Lőrincz: Power of Touch

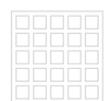


Art No: PP1105
Artwork Dimensions:
w 76 cm (30.4 inches)
h 58 cm (23.2 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

I saw these mannequins in a shopwindow and it captured my imagination how they looked alive merely from this movement. It was fascinating that this physical closeness, this gesture, this touch made them look full of life. And it was simply the sight of this movement what made them look alive in my mind, so it must be way more amazing what a real touch is capable of.

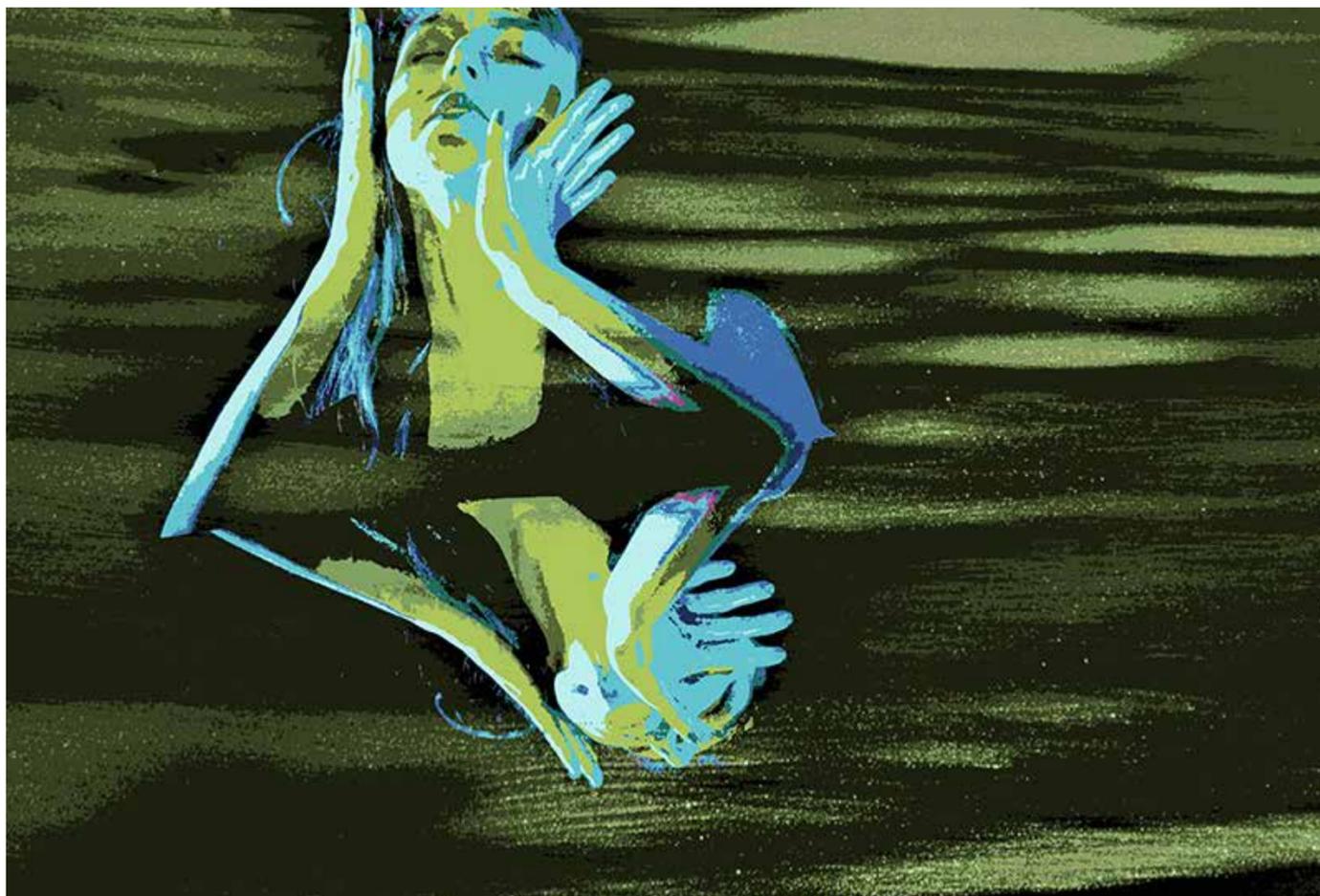
A simple touch can have incredible effect: it can bring solace, it can bring peace, it can bring happiness. And this is the power of touch: it is like creation, it can turn the lifeless into living.

Touch



13

Elena: Touching the Desert



Art No: PP1099
Artwork Dimensions:
w 60 cm (24 inches)
h 40 cm (16 inches)
Year Created: 2019
Medium: Other
Surface: Paper

Touch



14

Aleksandra Ciazynska: Touch



Art No: PP1096
Artwork Dimensions:
w 80 cm (32 inches)
h 50 cm (20 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

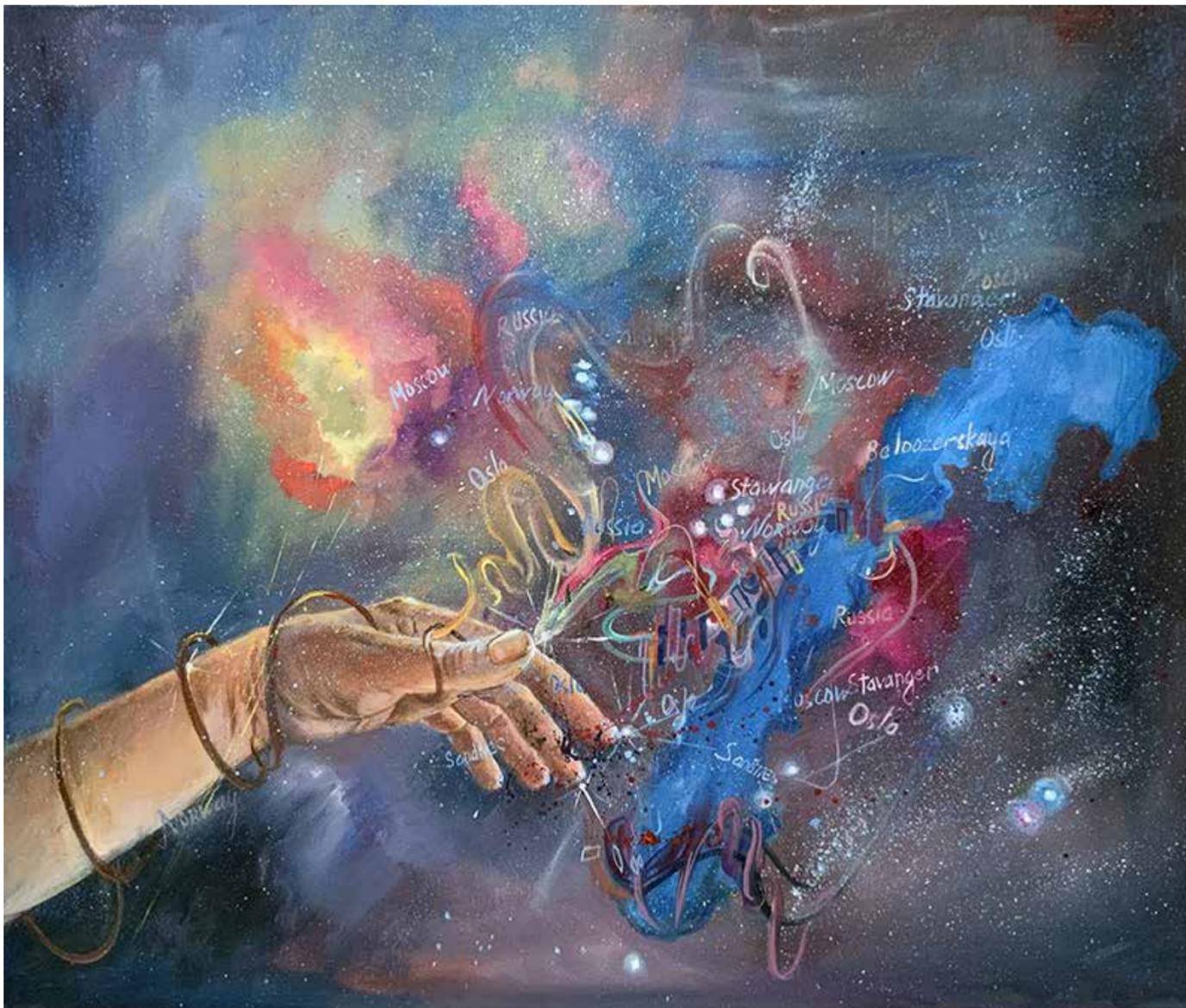
Touch



15

Everyone needs closeness to another person. Affectionate touch is the flow of good energy, energy that we need to live. Life then becomes colorful and therefore seems easier and happier.

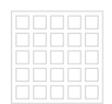
Monacuba: To Benjamin



Art No: PP1082
Artwork Dimensions:
w 60 cm (24 inches)
h 50 cm (20 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

A pandemic. Quarantine. Everything passes, everything can be endured, but the fact that the connection between relatives and close people was interrupted is a true tragedy. My work was written for the exhibition "Touch". I live in Moscow, in Russia, my daughter and three-year-old grandson live in Norway, this is the most beautiful and tender time for a child, we communicate online every day, but most of all I miss touches that would express my love to them through hugs. The only thing that saves is that you can throw out your pain, express it in painting

Touch



16

Womanwithstick: A New Kind of Touch

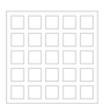


Art No: PP1081
Artwork Dimensions:
w 60.96 cm (24 inches)
h 71.12 cm (28 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Acrylic
Surface: Canvas

At a time when physical touch has been prohibited in our country for some significant time, many people have turned to other ways of gaining some form of tactile comfort. Touching nature through walks and gardening, buying pets to stroke, cooking to feel and taste textures... All these became part of a new physically distanced landscape. This painting tries to show that connection with that new landscape, a rising above the limitations.

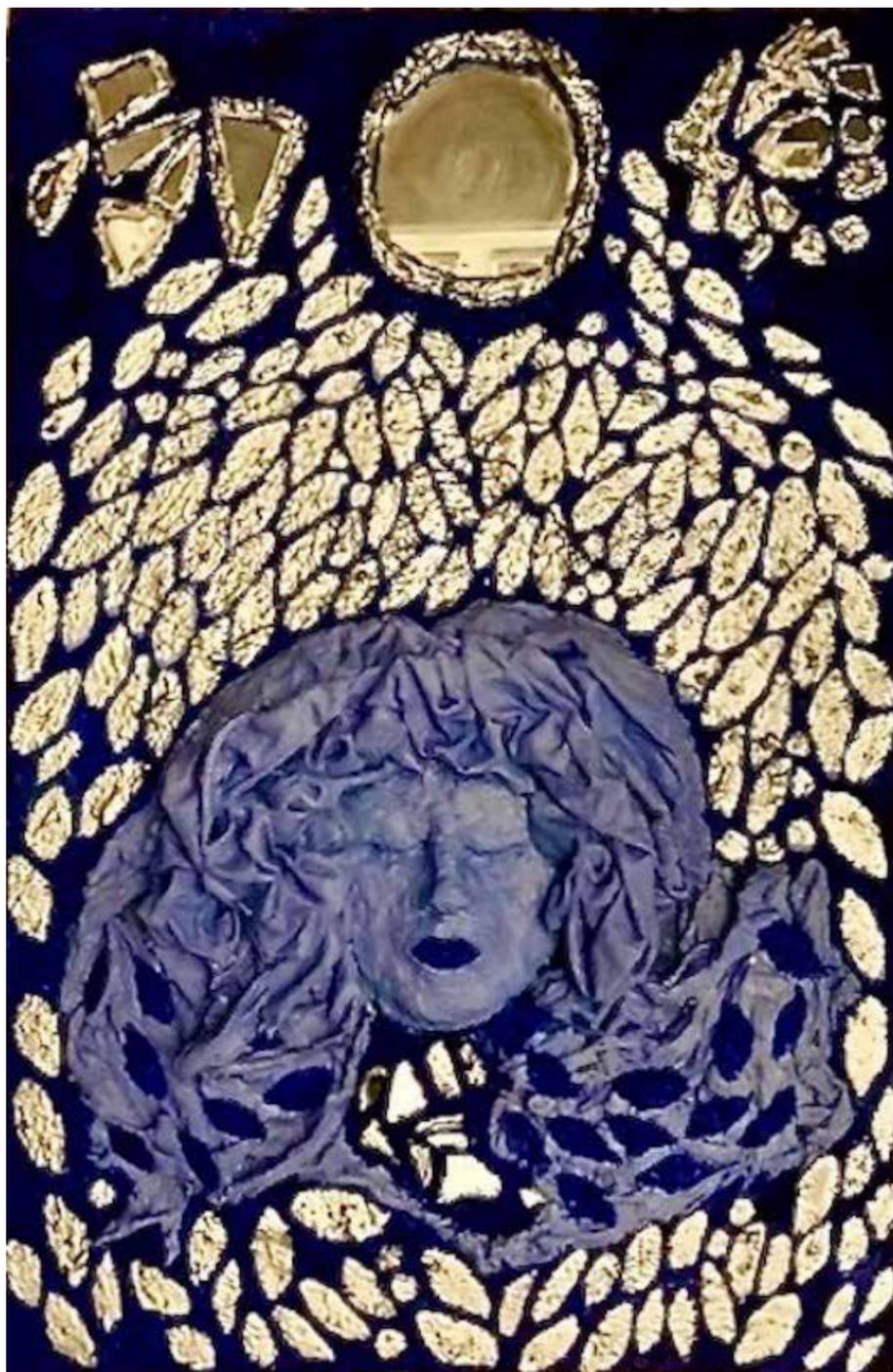
This painting was also commissioned to celebrate the marriage of two people, both in their seventies, who found fulfilment when minds connected and touch became a way to celebrate that communion and fusion.

Touch



17

Miss Margaret: The Snow Queen



Art No: PP1080
Artwork Dimensions:
w 60.96 cm (24 inches)
h 91.44 cm (36 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Acrylic
Surface: Canvas

I have always found the presence of the hand an important aspect of my work, and even more so now that we live so much in the era of the flat screen, and art the imitates the flat screen. I want people who look at my work to feel my work in their fingertips as well as their eyes, and to feel the impulse to reach out and touch it. I honestly would not mind if they did! My pictures are really extending that invitation. My Snow Queen painting has mirrors, clay, and impasto paint, all of which I used to avoid any appearance of a flat screen and to invite touch.

Touch



18

Eileen McMackin: Girls in Gowns



Art No: PP1077

Artwork Dimensions:

w 27.94 cm (11 inches)

h 35.56 cm (14 inches)

Year Created: 2021

Medium: Watercolor

Surface: Watercolor Paper

A heartwarming scene in the city of Albuquerque: two girls on their way to celebrate an important event... together.

Touch



19

Christopher Willauer: Within My Spirit I Hold Oceans Of Love For You



Curator's
Award

Art No: PP1135
Artwork Dimensions:
w 1 cm (0.4 inches)
h 1 cm (0.4 inches)
Year Created: 2017
Medium: Other
Surface: Other

Touch



20

Video Project:

Vimeo Link for Video <https://vimeo.com/248586653>

Elena: Pas de deux



Art No: PP1027
Artwork Dimensions:
w 30 cm (12 inches)
h 30 cm (12 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Ink
Surface: Paper

Touch



21

Benjamin Alejandro Luna: Longing and Uncertainty



Gallery
Award



Art No: PP1133
Artwork Dimensions:
w 50 cm (20 inches)
h 40 cm (16 inches)
Year Created: 2021
Medium: Oil
Surface: Canvas

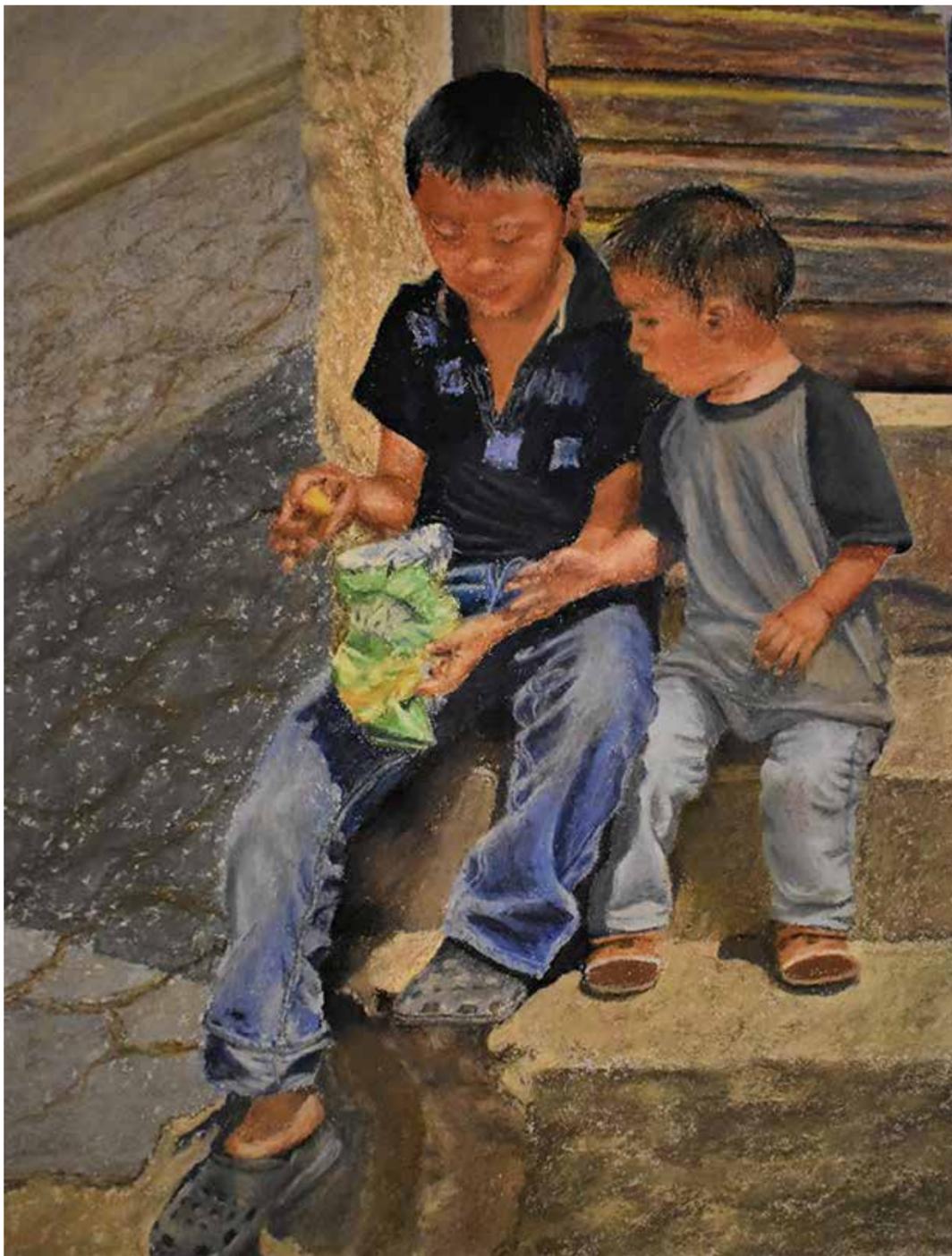
Touch



22

The time in which we live has put us in a situation of isolation, forcing us to restrict human contact to only a few interactions, where we put aside feelings and emotions and there is only less than cordiality. And in these new norms and new way of living we have left, on the one hand, the longing for what we literally had at our fingertips. A caress, a consolation, an affection that can only be given through with human contact; and we are left with uncertainty, not knowing if we will play again and when, or even approach without the fear of doing us a bad thing. That is what my painting represent "Longing and Uncertainty".

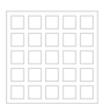
Sue: Mama Said to Share



Art No: PPO959
Artwork Dimensions:
w 30.48 cm (12 inches)
h 40.64 cm (16 inches)
Year Created: 2020
Medium: Pastels
Surface: Sandpaper

A “touching” image of two brothers in Guatemala. Not being privy to their private conversation, I could only wonder if “big brother” was going to share his chips with “little brother.” I could just imagine the little one reminding his brother that “Mama said to share.” But even if there was that moment of sibling rivalry, you can tell by how close they sit to each other that they are at ease and comforted by each other’s presence. I loved adding the tiny details to this painting — the older boy’s unzipped zipper, his sandal dangling on his foot, the younger one’s dirty shirt and hand-me-down jeans but obviously new pair of shoes.

Touch



23



Curator's Note

Thank you to all of the artists for your submissions. I am delighted by the varied interpretations of the theme and the descriptions the artists included with their work were cathartic to read.

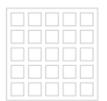
Many artists agreed that touch is essential and is lacking in our current lives. Some artists depicted touch in relationships that are romantic, or familial, or with nature. Other artists chose to focus instead on the absence of and/or invitation to touch, the longing for a connection that is for many reasons unavailable. The range in style and subject inspire the viewer to embrace our tactile connections wherever, and with whomever, we find comfort.

The Curator's Award goes to the video project "Within My Spirit I Hold Oceans Of Love For You" by Christopher Willauer (US)

You can watch the video here: <https://vimeo.com/248586653>

Erika Florizel Narhi-Martinez

Touch



24



Gallery's Note

Touch is a sense that sometimes gets overlooked in art.

We are grateful to our curator Erika Florizel Narhi-Martinez for bringing up this theme.

This exhibition puts a strong focus on the value of touch, the intimacy it provides, and even the symbolic side of a touching piece.

Each artist does an outstanding job of relating to the overall theme, ranging in feeling from love and care to power and value. A lot of the pieces go in many different directions, which makes it an exhibition everyone can get something out of.

One of the biggest limits to touch is that it differs from grabbing or holding onto an object. Getting that relatively short touch sensation means that each piece can be interpreted much differently with each person visiting. The exhibition's theme is open enough to allow viewers to take it all in and enjoy what they want.

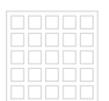
The winners of the contest are:

Curator's Award – "Within My Spirit I Hold Oceans Of Love For You" Christopher Willauer (US)

Gallery Award – "Longing and Uncertainty" Benjamin Alejandro Luna (Mexico)

Popular Vote Award – "Rural Self Portrait" Juliana Stankiewicz (US)

Touch



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