

Barbara Karsch-Chaïeb

Installation, Drawing, Video

I am interested in time, the apparent dilatability and unrestness of time, the intensity and extension of a moment in its transience. These collected perceptions are shown in installative works in space with material, drawings and videos. In addition a diversified media enters into a interconnection with space, being always arranged in a new way.

For many years I have also been working with the history of time and Earth, as it can be found in the oil shale rock from the foothills of the Swabian Alb. I am fascinated by rock and earth, as well as the forces of nature, water and air, which have inscribed their traces into our Earth history. Preserved materials, archived memories.

*To go with the flow*

2019

Flexible installation

Four Japanese paper rolls, 40-cm wide, variable lengths

Watercolour with water from the Thames in London

The installation was developed from a drawing. Grey, black and white lines, applied to rolls of Japanese paper, create an apparent chaos of lines and supposed (dis)order. The water, with which the watercolour is mixed comes from a river, the Thames in London. There was the installation on view in October 2019 to January 2020 the exhibition *Contemplations* at Stables Gallery, London-Twickenham.

The striking lines, drawn strictly with a ruler, are associated with lines drawn exclusively with water, they overlap and break the system. These water-line-interventions, like flow of water in general, build an almost invisible something that leaves traces in the form of subtle changes in the paper. The arrangement of the four paper rolls is done in a way that might remind of flowing movements, a meandering stream. The play with the title, which is an expression, and as much as “swimming with the current” means, hints out to numerous properties of water and man. Water flows, water is alive, water crosses borders.





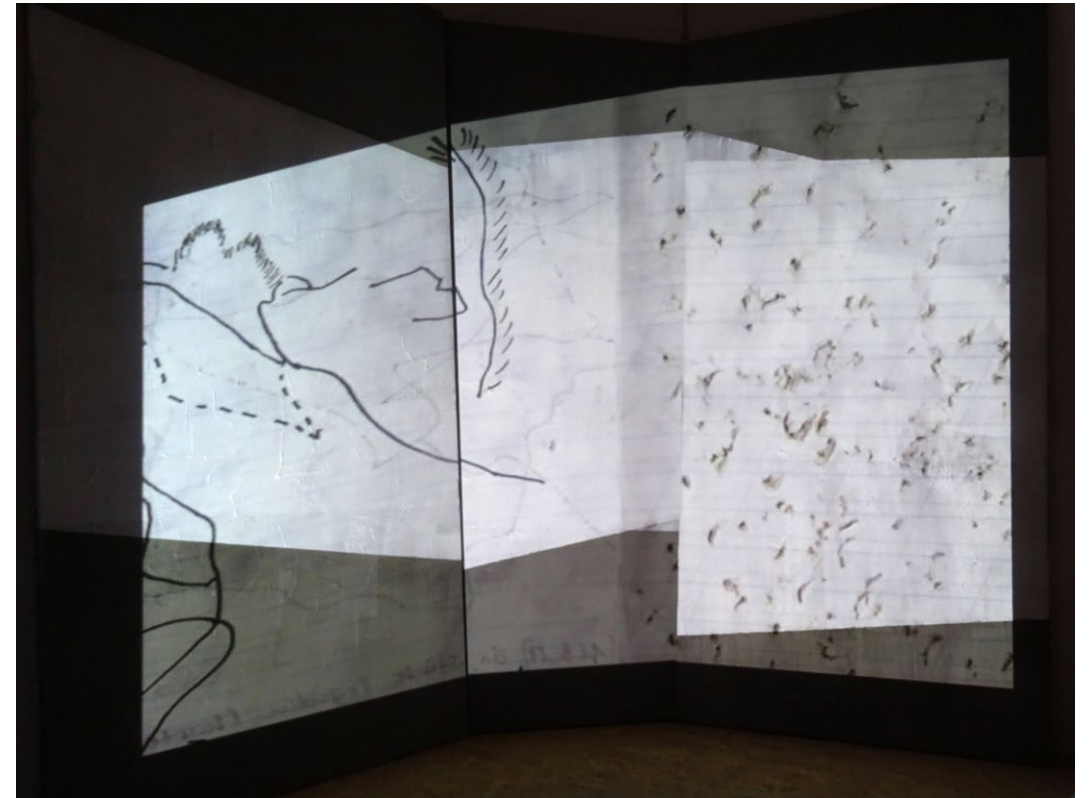
## *Engadin Map*

2017

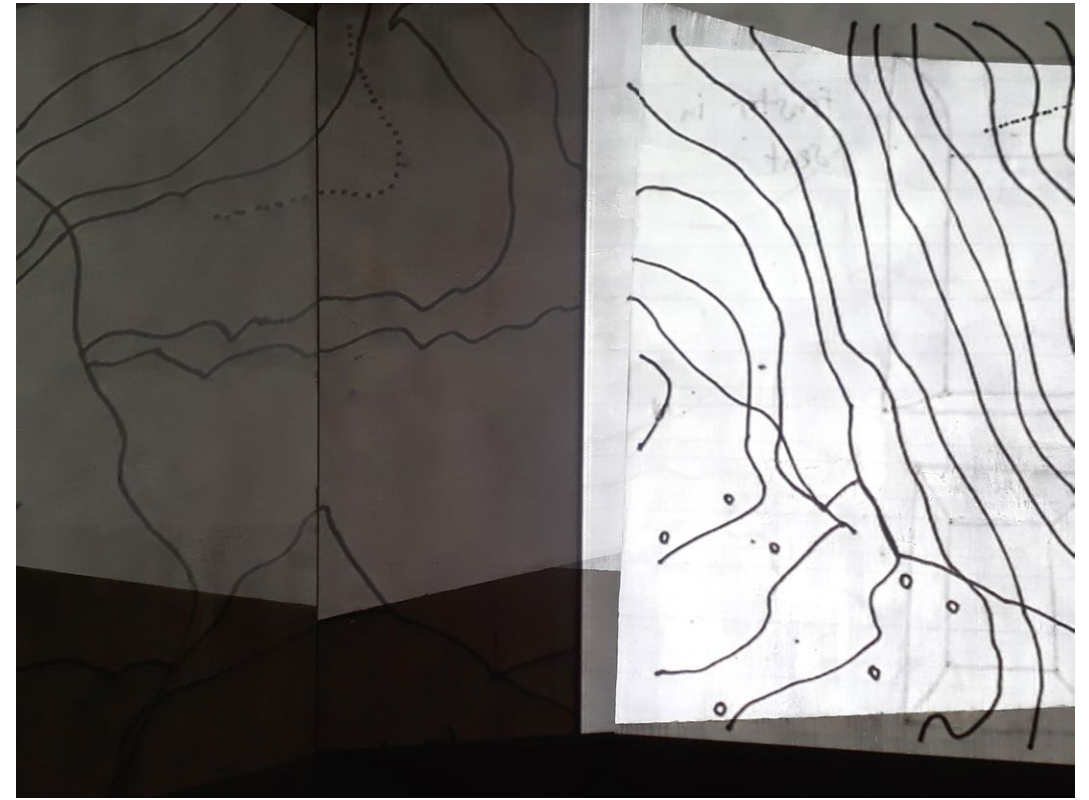
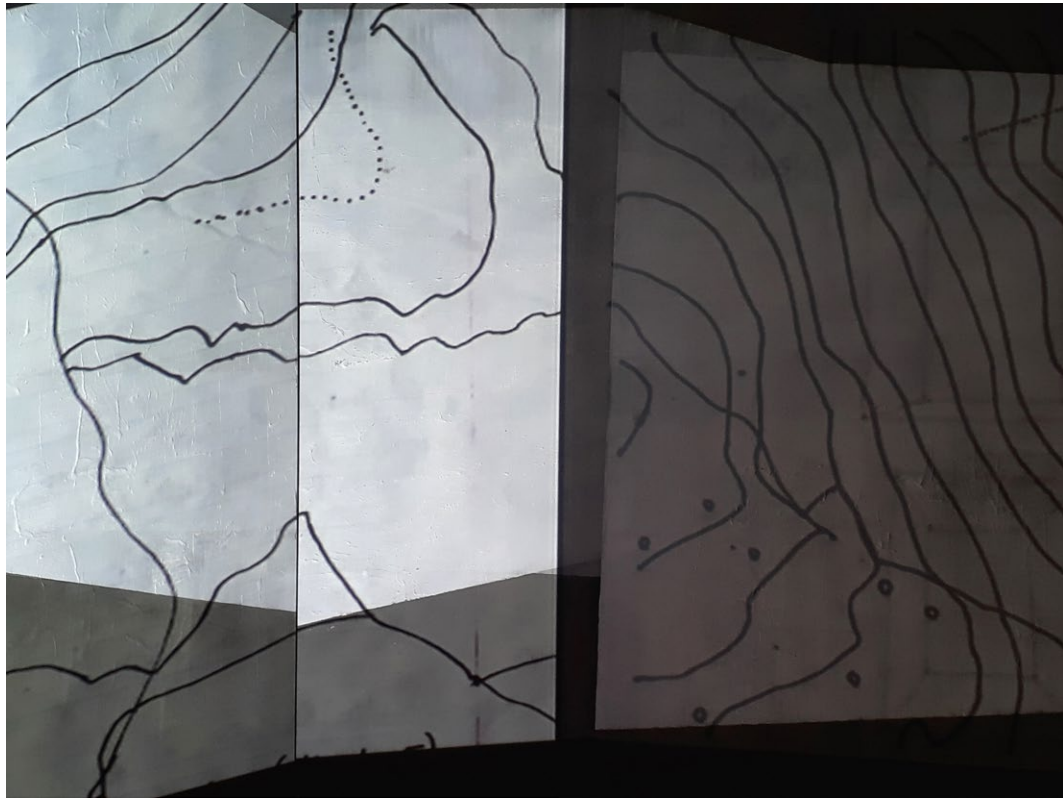
Video-projection of drawings on three canvases with oil shale  
and white marble

300 × 100 cm

The drawings were made from a travel map during my stay in Nairs,  
Contemporary Art Center in Engadin, Switzerland. The level  
curves are peculiarly meaningful in this mountainous area. The act  
of drawing turns the symbolic representation of relief into a  
poetic image of the place.



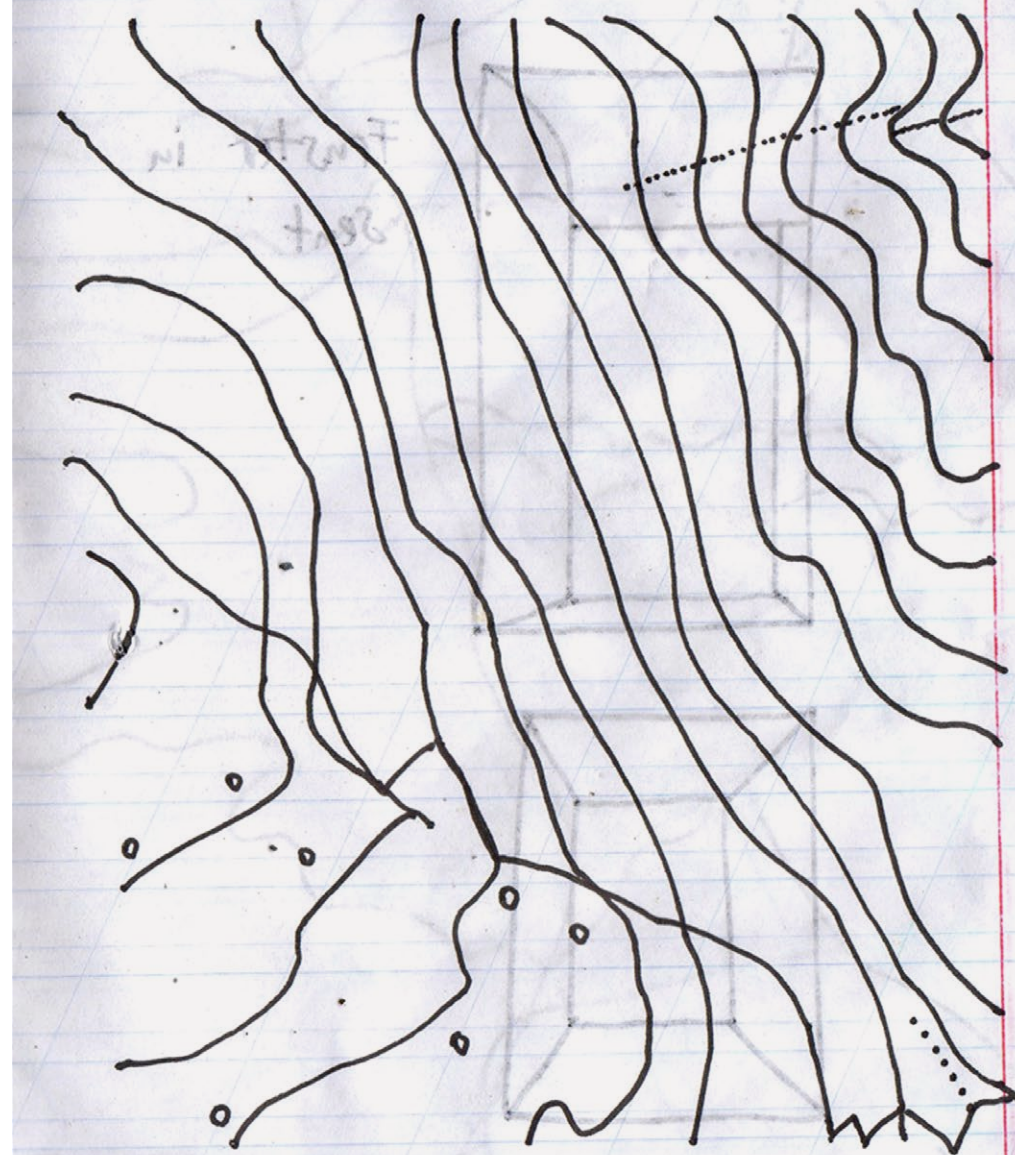








[16.8.17] ein Stück Engadin (Karte 6)





## *Schneegrenze* (Snow Line)

2017

Installation, fragmented

On show during the exhibition *Timelessness* at the Kunstverein Ellwangen e.V. (with Gerd Kanz)

W.T.

Oil shale and marble stone on canvas

5 × 200 × 100 cm

## *Mer de Glace* (French glaciers in the Mont Blanc massif)

2015/2017

Sculpture on the floor, oil shale on Japanese paper, mirror

ca. 250 × 100 cm

Photographs of the ascent of the Mont Blanc, taken by Hugo Stille (grandfather of the artist), alpinist and photographer.

Handprints (5 out of 20), 23 × 18 cm

1 *Bionnassay – Nordwand (North Face)*, 10/08/1953

2 *Ref du Requin, mountains around the Glacier de Talèfre*, 14/08/1953

3 *Montblanc and la Vierge*, 15/08/1953

4 *Glacier de Tacul (Mer de Glace) seen from the Dent du Géant*, 17/08/1953

5 *Mer de Glace*, 19/08/1953

## *Schneefrei (aper)* (Snowfree)

Monotypes, oil shale on paper, 12 of 20 on four object-tables

108 × 50 cm each















Previous page:

*Schichten und Zeichen* (Layers and Signs)

2018

Ink, fineliner and egg tempera on paper

104 × 152 cm, framed

Made at the I-Park Foundation East Haddam, Connecticut, USA

*Licht und Schatten* (Light and Shadow)

2018

Ink, pigmentliner, substances from a tree, soil mixed with egg tempera

16 sheets, 24 × 18 cm each

Made at the I-Park Foundation East Haddam, Connecticut, USA





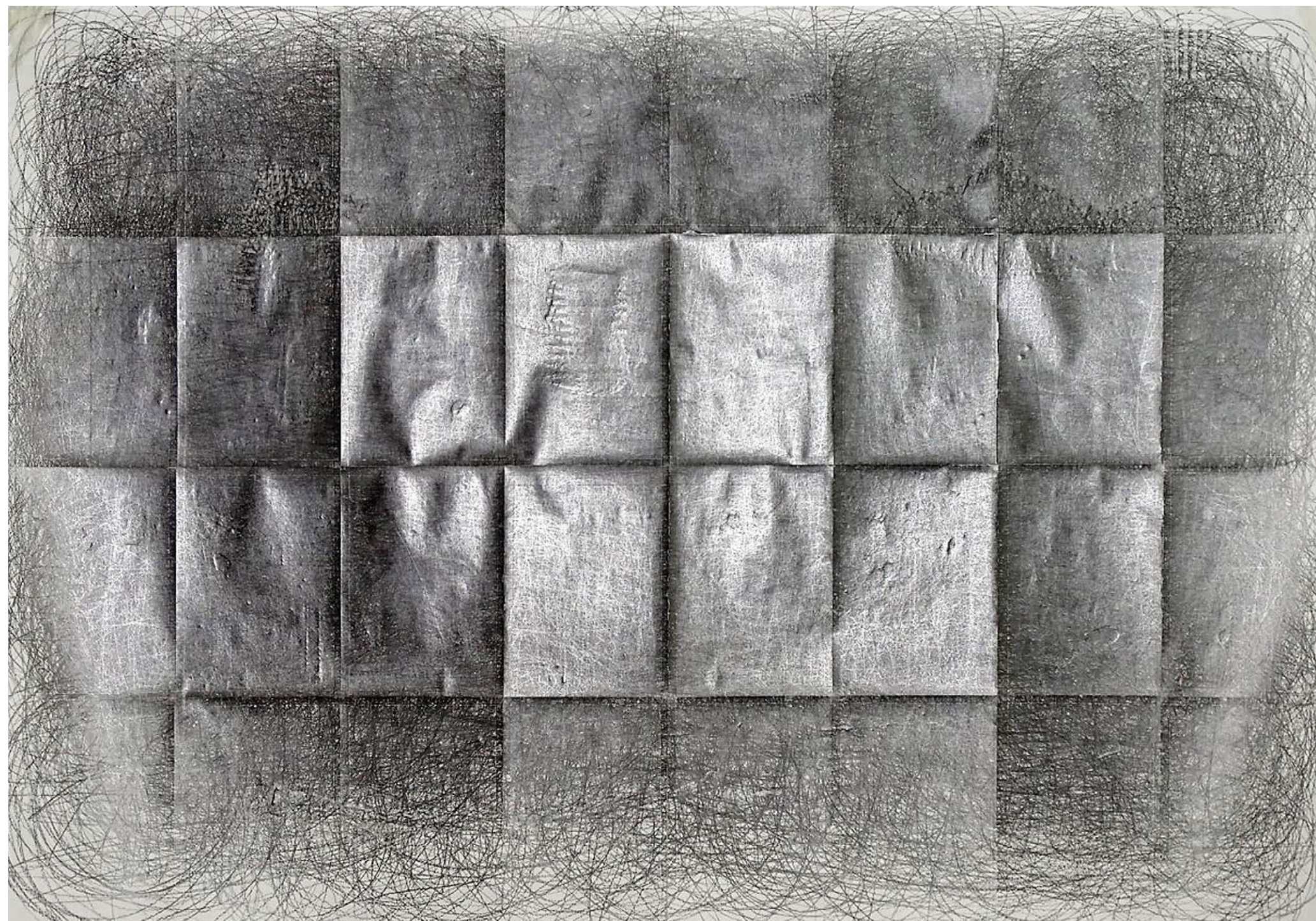
*River*

2018

Drawing, ink on paper and substances from the river

Series of five sheets, 30 × 42 cm each





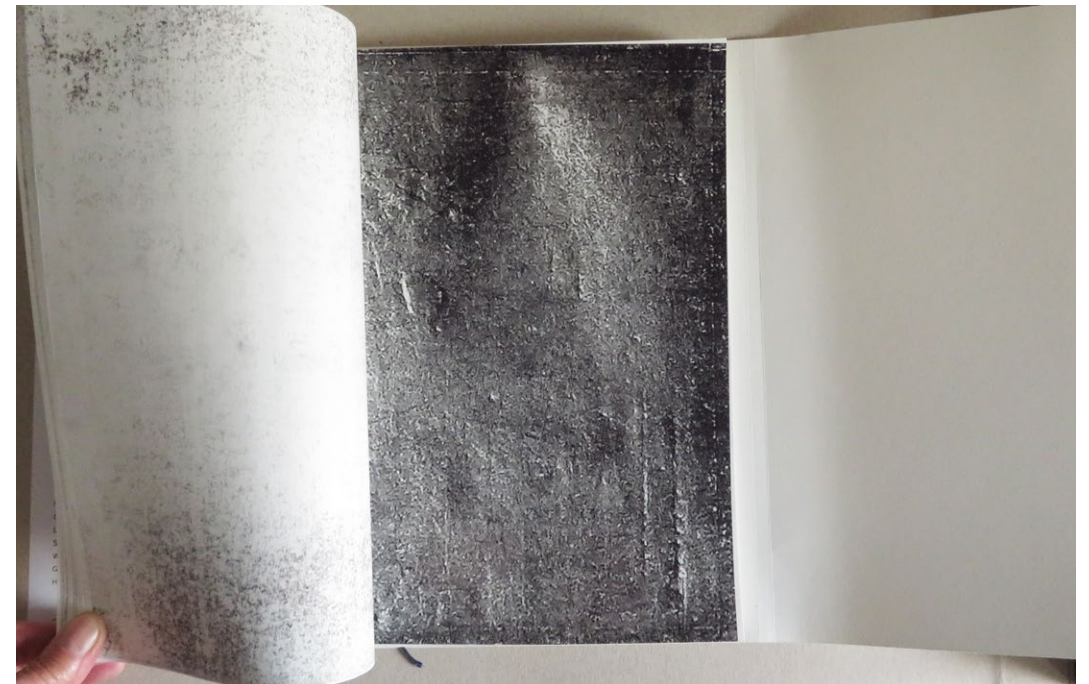
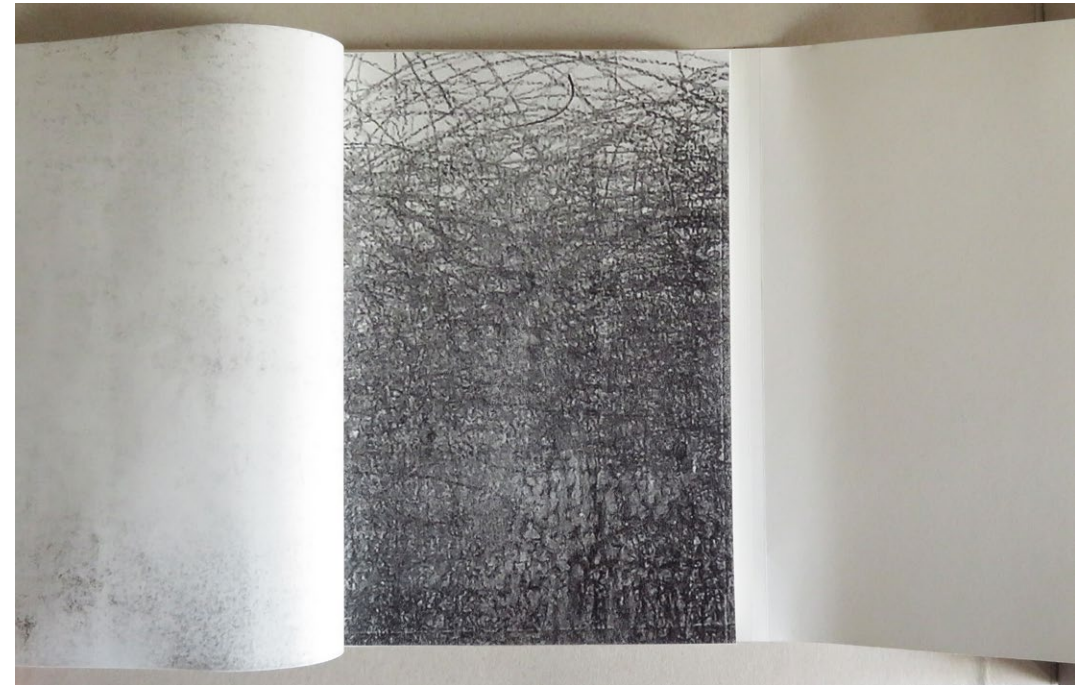


*Leben und Tod, Zeichnen auf Musik*  
(Life and Death, Drawing on Music)

2018

Drawing (graphite on paper), 118 × 159 cm  
Artist's book, 29,7 × 21 cm, 74 pages, 28 × 20 cm

Hearing, perceiving, transferring sounds and rhythms in lines on paper. Recording the sound produced by drawing with a graphite pen on paper. Recording the movements of the drawing. Transformation of the sound into new pieces of music/compositions, to which again is drawn. For quite some time now, I've been drawing on music, not with music that just runs in the background. Concentrated, I try to perceive exactly what I hear and then transfer the sounds in lines onto the paper. Combined with high concentration and body tension, arising large-format drawings with numerous layers of graphite. Drawing with the graphite pencil produces a sound that is recorded with the camera. Also recorded are the dynamic movements of my arm, as it loops and draws itself over the space defined by the size of the sheet. So far, three large-format drawings have been created.





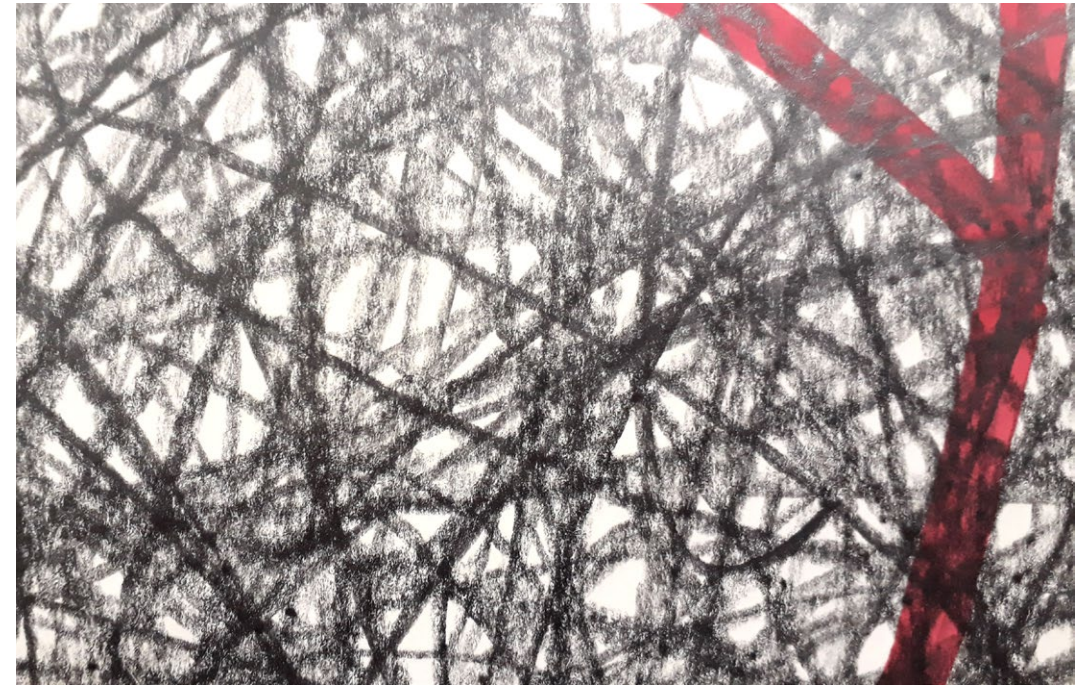
*Migration Line, Zeichnen auf Musik*  
(Migration Line, Drawing on Music)

2018

Graphite and pigmentliner on paper

135 × 175 cm

Exhibition view: *Stuttgart-Connection, FaVu Galerie, Brünn*,  
Czech Republic, 2019



*But Don't Vanish*

2018

Single-channel video installation, 12:12 min., looped, sound and poem

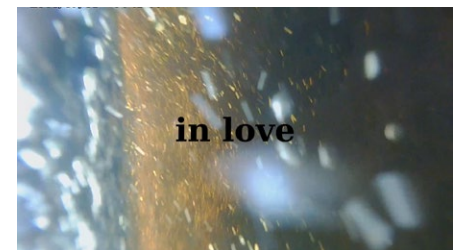
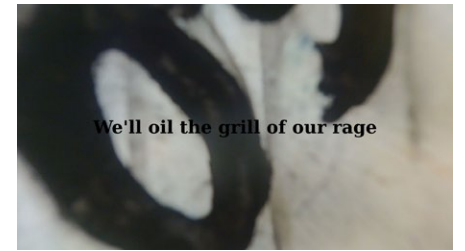
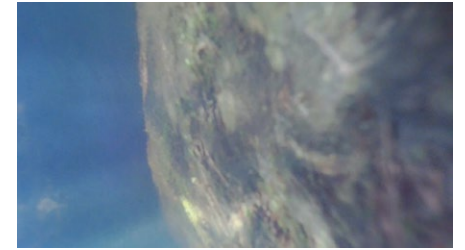
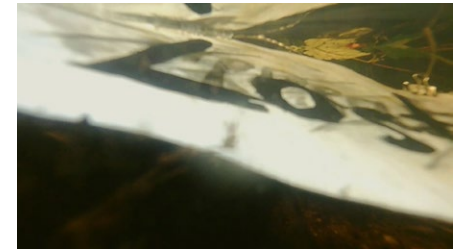
Recording and video editing: Barbara Karsch-Chaïeb

Poem: Farnaz Fatemi, USA

Sounddesign: Trevor Bumgarner, USA

Link to the video:

<https://youtu.be/m3LEBq4Vyao>





*But Don't Vanish* is (moving) image, words and sound. An experimental film that suggests different levels of time and space. Time seems to stand still in some places, strongly condensed in others, and with the naked eye it is sometimes no longer comprehensible what is happening. The sentences, which run fragmentarily linearly through the film, provide support. *Don't disappear* could be a possible translation of *But Don't Vanish*, reminding us of the transience of our existence, pointing to deep, unconscious fears. The almost unbearable slowness, the unexpected silence and blurriness that appear in some parts of the film create a sense of loss of control. The formerly wild, romantic idea of nature has long since been shaken; for thousands of years man has been intervening in and destroying natural systems. On the other hand, man often sees nature as an undefined, alien danger and creates systems that can be controlled. Evoked by numerous images, as well as by various sounds of water, which have been amplified, changed and reinterpreted, slowness, beauty and silence face unknown chaos and unconscious depth.

Exhibition view *LINES – Messages from the New World*  
in the GEDOK Gallery, March 2019 (with Beate Rygiert, writer)





## *Das Wasser des Lebens* (The Water of Life)

2018

Single-channel video installation

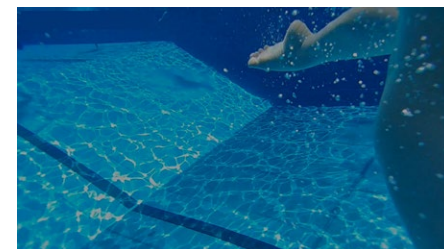
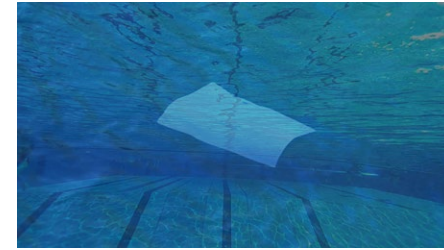
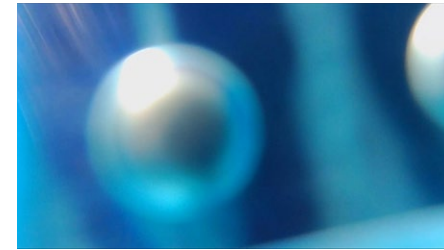
9:36 min., looped, 16:9

Water is essential for every human being. Increasing water shortage endangers the existence of people, water becomes more valuable and expensive, no longer accessible for all people on this earth. The video shows different temporal and local levels, the seemingly graceful, the beauty is disturbed by sudden chaos.

Video and sound recordings of the open air pool in Honau, the river Inn, the mineral springs (Engadin, Switzerland). From the river Lauter in Gundelfingen (Germany). Film stills from Cambodia and a drawing on paper, which was created in Nairs.

Link to the video:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xl5x1ALPYog&](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xl5x1ALPYog&)



<i>Biographie and exhibitions</i>		<i>Group Exhibitions (selection until 2009)</i>	
1967	born in Hechingen, South Germany	2020	w. T., Linienscharen in Art Association Ulm
1998–2001	School of Art <i>Freie Hochschule Kunstseminar Metzingen</i> (from 2001 <i>Art Academie of Schwäbisch Hall</i> )		In aller Stille (In silence), Kontur kv, Kunstbezirk Gustav-Siegle Haus, Stuttgart
2001	Diploma of Visual Art	2019	Blasenflieger, Linienscharen, Kornhaus, Gallery of the City of Kirchheim unter Teck
	Living and working as artist in Stuttgart. Working in Art Education, Land Art workshops.		Contemplations, Stables Gallery London, Great Britain
	Member of Künstlerhaus Stuttgart, GEDOK Stuttgart.		FAVU Galerie, Brünn, Czech Republic
			FATart, Exhibition & Art Fair, Kammgarn West, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
			Muster der Macht, Oberwelt Stuttgart
			But Don't Vanish, Open Screening, Int. Shortfilmfestival Oberhausen
			Seiten   Räume, Artist Books, Linienscharen, Hospitalhof Stuttgart
			2018 Fieldwork, exhibitions of members of GEDOK
			Seiten   Räume, Artist Books, Linienscharen, wkv Stuttgart, Graphothek der
			Stadtbibliothek Stuttgart, Schriftstellerhaus Stuttgart
			Soil we live of, Group Global, Berlin
			ORTSBEZUG. The water of life, Art in Tuffcellar, Lichtenstein-Honau*
			Future of memories, Fotofestival Łódź, Poland
			BOXENSTOPP, Museum World of Glass, St. Helen, Great Britain
			LAYERS, Kulturschiene, Zürich-Herrliberg, Switzerland
			SPOT ON NAIRS, 30 years Contemporary Art Center NAIRS, Switzerland
		2017	Future of memories, Public Record Office Stuttgart*
			Näherung, Linienscharen, Atelier in der Wilhelmstraße, Stuttgart-Bad Canstatt
			Currant d'ajer, NAIRS, Switzerland
			Men & Work, Photographs 2017, Gallery Merkle Stuttgart
		2016	Stuttgart – City in movement?, Kunstbezirk Gustav-Siegle Haus, Stuttgart*
			Auswärts/ Poza Domem/ Away, exchange Łódź-Stuttgart, Town Hall Stuttgart
			Differenzierbare Mannigfaltigkeit, Linienscharen, wkv Stuttgart
			Fabulous, Kunstverein Landshut
			Human's spaces, 68elf, Photokina Köln*
			Vanilla Plain, Naked Eye Gallery, Brighton, Great Britain
			Nothing special, Kunstbezirk Gustav-Siegle Haus, Stuttgart
		2015	The black spider, Oberwelt Stuttgart
			In between, Naked Eye Gallery, Brighton, Great Britain
		2014	Discovery, Kunst- und Gewerbeverein Regensburg
			Underground, Ligne Maginot (Art-project to the First Worldwar), Schoenenbourg, France*
			Intimate strangeness, Städtische Galerie Böblingen*
			Newfoundland, Kunstverein Heidenheim
		2013	Turbulent, Rolercoaster of Art, New Townhall Leipzig*
			NEULAND / Virgin soil, Kunstverein Viernheim
			Donaueschinger Regionale 2013, Donaueschingen*
			ALLE FEAT. ARRANGIERTE EHEN, Linienscharen, wkv Stuttgart
			Anonymous drawing, Berlin, Leipzig, Eindhoven, Netherlands
			All hands on deck, nachtspeicher23, Hamburg
		2012	Zinnober Rot/ Vermillion, Künstlerhaus Stuttgart
			vii. Shiryaevo-Revue „IS-SA OSTROVA ...“, Stuttgarter Kunstverein*
			Ephemerals, Zeppelinmuseum Friedrichshafen
			The brain on track, Wilhelm-Fabry-Museum Hilden*
		2011	TabuScript, Gedok Gallery Stuttgart
			The FACE- of Revo/Euro/Arab (history)-BOOK, wkv Stuttgart
			Kettle full of diamonds, nachtspeicher23, Hamburg
		2010	Quadratkubikmeter hoch eins, nachtspeicher23, Hamburg
			Your love should be like a rain in spring..., Cultural Center CK, Skopje, Macedonia
			Without Title, The Fridge, Sofia, Bulgaria
			Marienmädchen, Galerie kArton, Budapest, Hungary
		2009	Conserving memories, Oberwelt Stuttgart
			Suitcasebombs, Bunker Wilhelmsplatz, Stuttgart
		*	With catalogue
<i>Grants and Fellowships</i>			
2019	Artist in Residence, NAIRS, Contemporary Art Center, Switzerland		
	Grant for the project Olga-Area, City Stuttgart (District council) and swsg		
2018	Artist-in-Residence, Brünn, Czech Republic		
	Artist-in-Residence I-Park Foundation, East Haddam, USA		
2017	Artist-in-Residence NAIRS, Contemporary Art Center, Switzerland		
2016	Grant of the Foundation Anton Geiselhart, Münsingen-Gundelfingen (Germany)		
	Grant for the project Olga-Area, City Stuttgart (District council)		
2015	Artist-in-Residence, ACOSS, Yerevan, Armenia		
	Grant for the studio 104a, City Stuttgart, (2015–2018)		
2014	Artist-in-Residence, Łódź, Poland		
2012	Artistic research, Lichtfabrik, Künstlerhaus Bethanien Berlin		
2011	Grant through LBBW Stuttgart (also in 2005)		
2010	Grant through the Karin-Abt-Straubinger-Foundation, Stuttgart		
2009	Several grants through the Ritter Foundation, Waldenbuch (also in 2003, 2005)		
<i>Collections and Biennial</i>			
Since 2012	Collection Brum Stuttgart		
2011	Participation at the VII Shiryaevo Biennial, RU		
2003	Public acquisition by the Regierungspräsidium Tübingen (regional authority)		
<i>Solo Exhibitions (selection)</i>			
2019	LINES – Messages of the New World, Gedok Gallery Stuttgart (with Beate Rygiert, writer)		
2018	Open Studio, I-Park Foundation, East Haddam, Connecticut., USA		
2017	Stone Soil Form, Galerie Brötzingen Art, Pforzheim		
	Timelessness, Kunstverein Ellwangen e.V. (with Gerd Kanz)*		
	Naturwerk Erde Wasser (soil water), Museum Anton Geiselhart, Münsingen-Gundelfingen*		
	Clandestine beauty/ Clandestine loud, Photographs and Performance,		
	Westquartier Stuttgart (with Dorothea Dieckmann, writer)		
2016	The prolongation of the moment, Gallery Imaginarium, Łódź, Poland		
	#faces#identities, UG – Art in the Underground, Stuttgart (with Stefanie Krüger)		
	Engrossed in thought – memories of an ephemeral time, ZERO Arts Gallery Stuttgart		
2015	What is luck for you?, Performance, HAYP Pop Up Gallery, Armenia		
	To ablate; to apply; to carry away, Ebene o, Züblin, parking garage, Stuttgart		
	BODENPROBEN/ Soil samples, ZERO Arts Stuttgart		
2014	The soil, Kunst-Raum-Akademie Weingarten (with Katrin Wegemann, Klaus Illi, Betty Baier)		
2013	gegenundüber**IN TOUCH, Gedok Gallery Stuttgart (with Ingrid Schütz)		
2011	<petrefakte>futur</2.0<, Natural History Museum Reutlingen		
	SPACE, Schauraum Nürtingen (with Klaudia Dietewich)*		
2009	b.on, TRESOR – Space for ephemeral art, Stuttgart		
2008	Algerie mon amour..., Kulturhaus Steiner, Gallery Steiner, Plochingen		
2005	Musala, Alte Seegrasspinnerei/ Old Seaweedmill Nürtingen*		
2002	Desert II, Gallery Weißes Häusle, Hechingen		
	Stratifications, Museum Rohrbach, Balingen		
2001	Lias-epsilon, Natural History Museum Reutlingen*		



Barbara Karsch-Chaïeb, drawing on music, 2018

Photo credits  
Barbara Karsch-Chaïeb  
Roland Hasenmüller, Imago Medien, Ellwangen

Graphic Design  
Christina Schmid  
Clara Neumann



Atelier 104 a  
Breitscheidstraße 104 a  
70176 Stuttgart

+49 171 98 38 336  
barbara.karsch-chaieb@gmx.de  
[www.lias-epsilon.net](http://www.lias-epsilon.net)