

Wilderness House Literary Review 20/3

Bruno Charenton

I have been lucky not to feel any need to sustain my art by selling it, though I have sold on numerous occasions. A few shows in Paris while living there ("le jardin des oiseaux, golden days of a local community garden", "here and now", "papiers peints"), now regularly in Brittany ("Japon Breton", "d'Ici et d'ailleurs", "l'or du temps") occasionally sharing show space with other artists (ceramicist, sculptor, engraver). I have also enjoyed creating posters for special events, illustrating a cookbook (published in French "Recettes partagées", then published in English, "Plant, share, and cook", still selling after 15 years) Locally, I have recently completed a mural fresco for a seaside resort in Lezardrieux, the beautiful village where my studio has been running for the last 4 years. I have been asked to complete another fresco in the near future in another village.

I am also in the process of adding to the studio, where I have people coming to draw, paint, print, another venue where live model drawing sessions could take place regularly : I still find this exercise one of the most exacting and profitable for anyone with a interest for drawing.

Artist's statement

BRUNO CHARENTON was born in 1956 in the Breton city of Nantes, France, over the river Loire, close to the sea, looking westward. I have lived in Brittany most of my childhood, then around the age of 19, in London for almost 3 years, and later steadily in Paris, for most of my adult life. I am now settled back in Brittany living on the northern coast bordering the English Channel.

My taste for drawing and painting became an essential part of life fairly late : around the eighties when I started travelling around and visiting museums, learning notions of architecture, looking at the Masters, learning of composition, understanding sculpture, spending time walking in countryside, cities, everywhere, both in continental Europe (Italy) and Britain. My admiration went for other people's ability to catch sight of beauty and conceive art, put it down on paper or canvas, photograph it, turn their vital perception into works of visual interest. I took to reading and listening to music. I began drawing from reality, and managed to fuse my budding art culture and my desire to produce and reproduce what thrilled my eyes and emotions.

Self-taught, I have frequented public art schools and live model studios for quite some time and learned the ropes, particularly drawing and watercolour painting.

I now run a free for all studio in a small village by the sea, and believe anyone can access art, work, grab their share of techniques and make their way, with some advice, practice, observation. I have been showing my work every other year or so since the nineties, and have no other ambition than that of sharing what I value and think I have modestly accomplished in art. I draw or paint on a daily basis : be it drawing musicians during a concert, sitting on the beach after a swim, sketching sleepers on a train... Instagram is now playing a small part in showing more and often. Work-

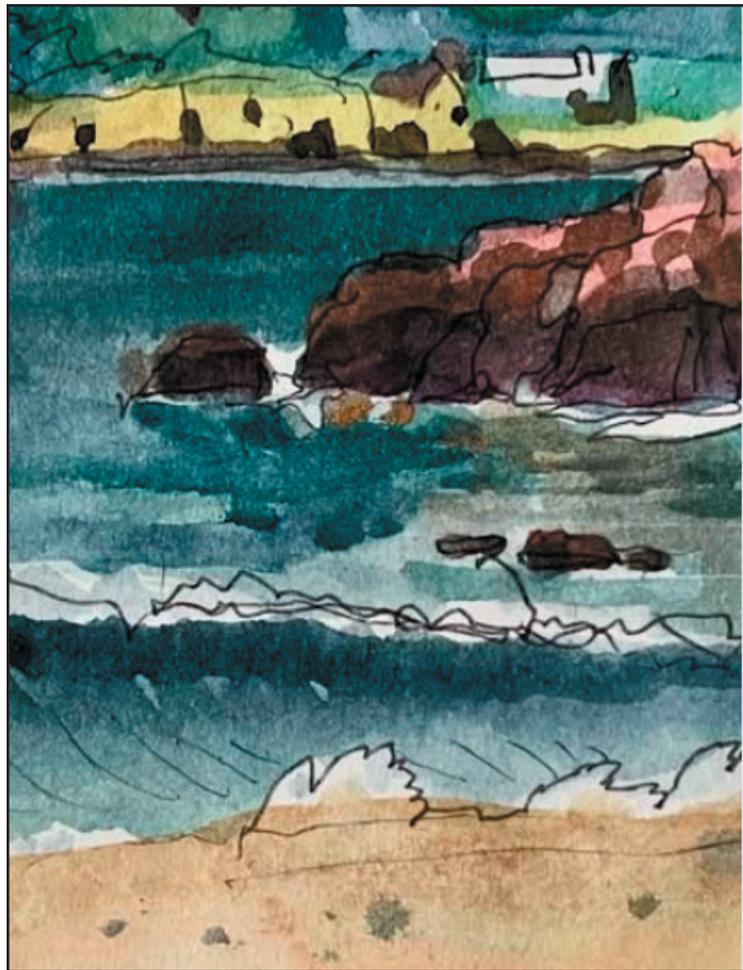
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ing on a very modest scale or using the same subject matter over and over again, are ways to expand. Less is more, a motto I could borrow, has me running on the basis of never taking no for an answer, and always trying again.

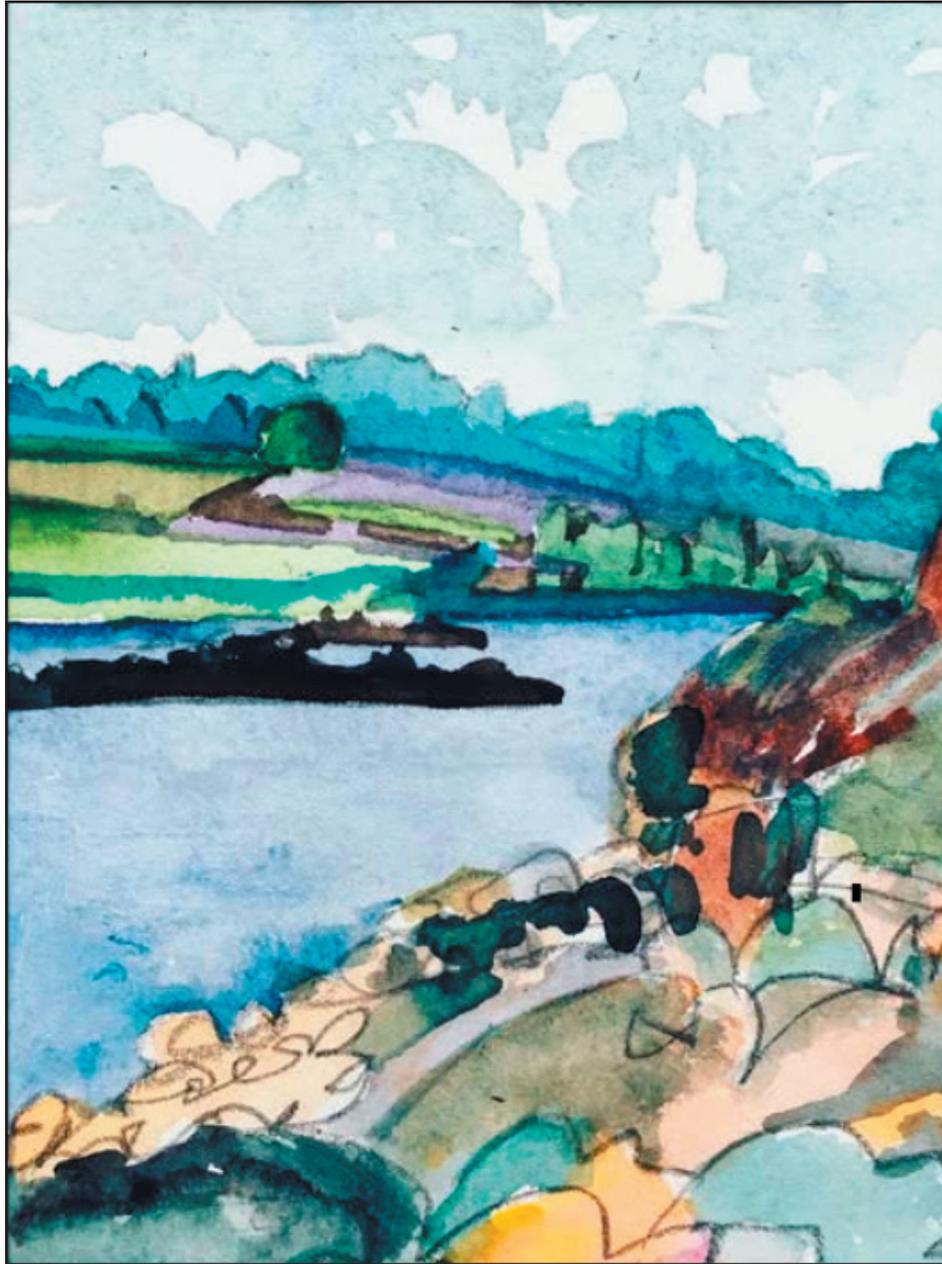
My works are available on

Instagram : bruenho

Blog : boite-de-peinture.blogspot.com



Breton coast – watercolour 20x15cm



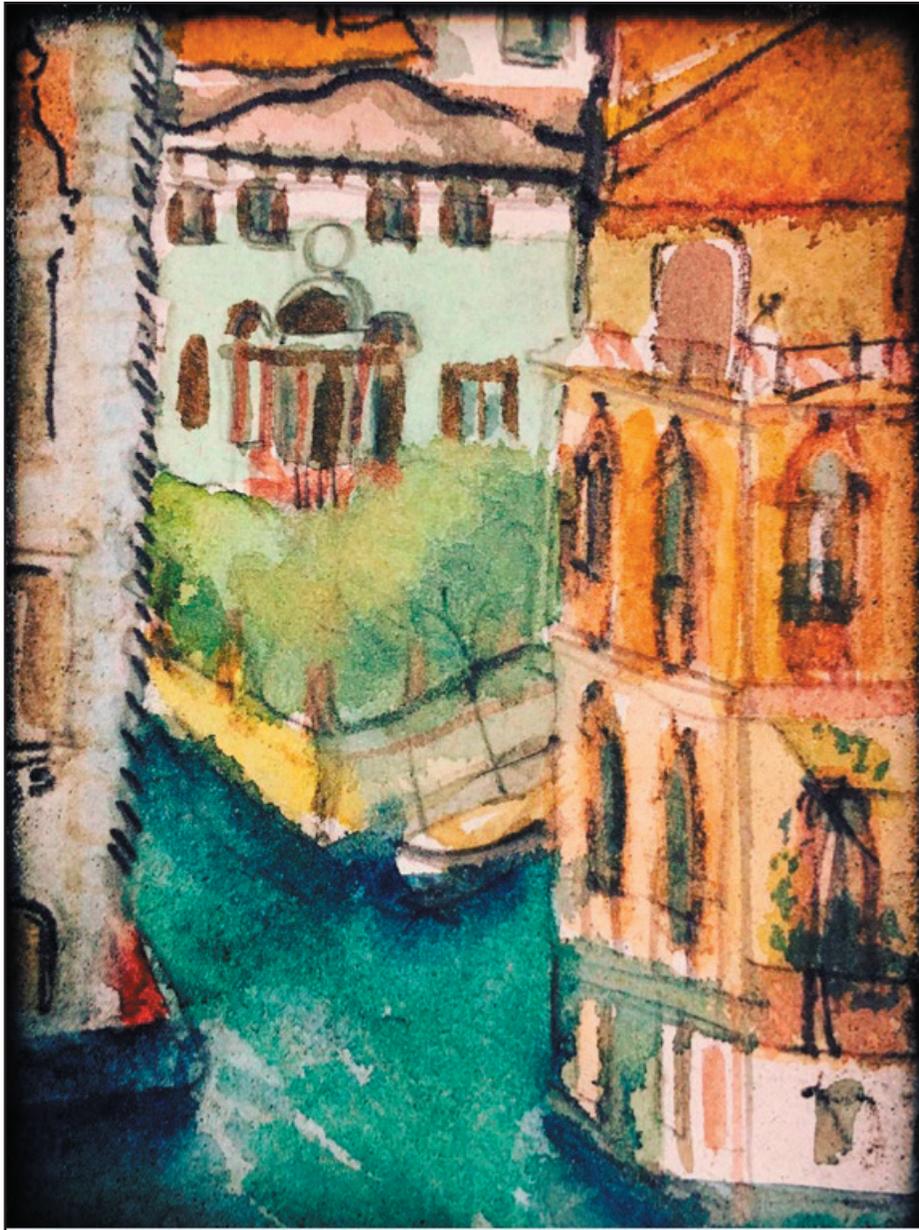
Jaudy – watercolour 25x 15cm



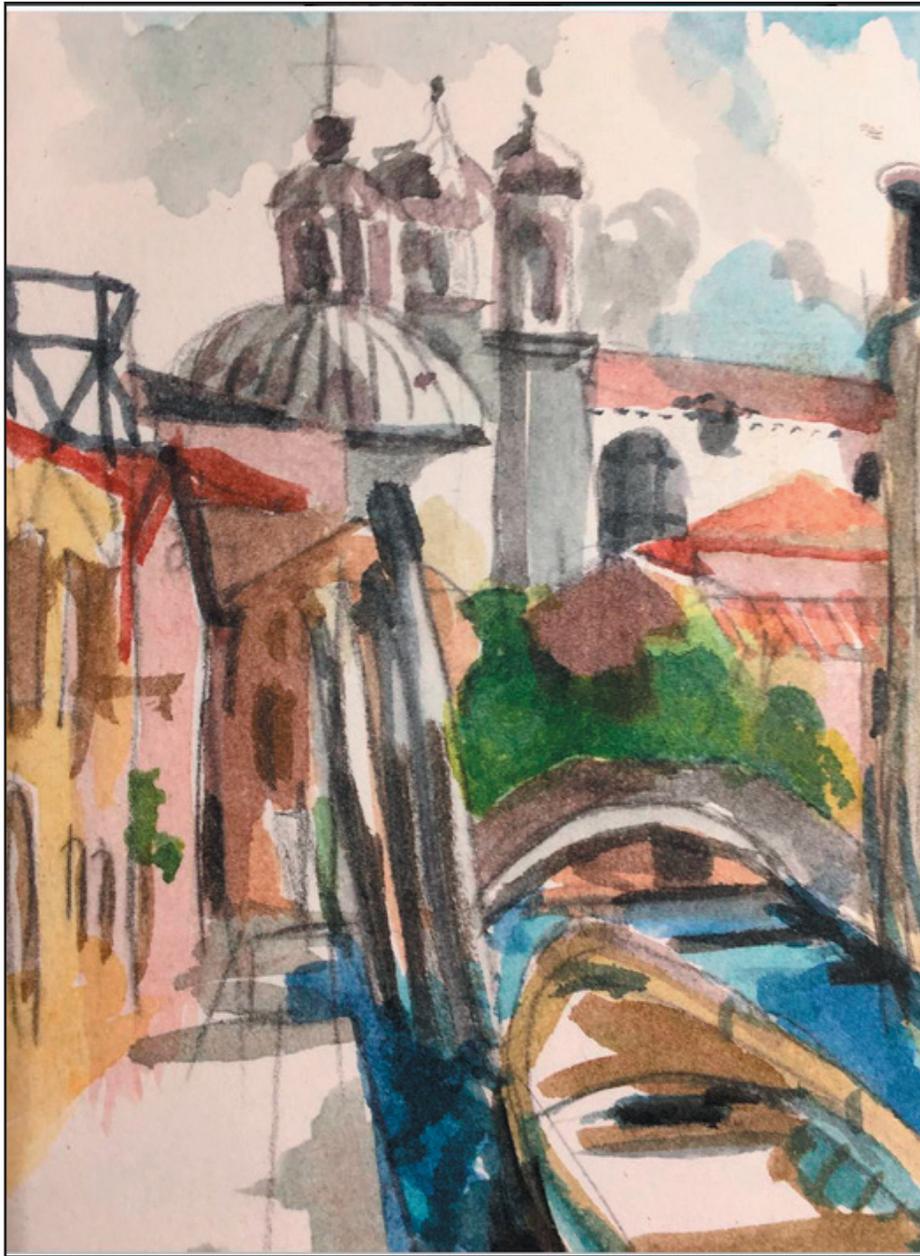
Abendrot – watercolour 20x15cm



Mooring – watercolour 20x15cm



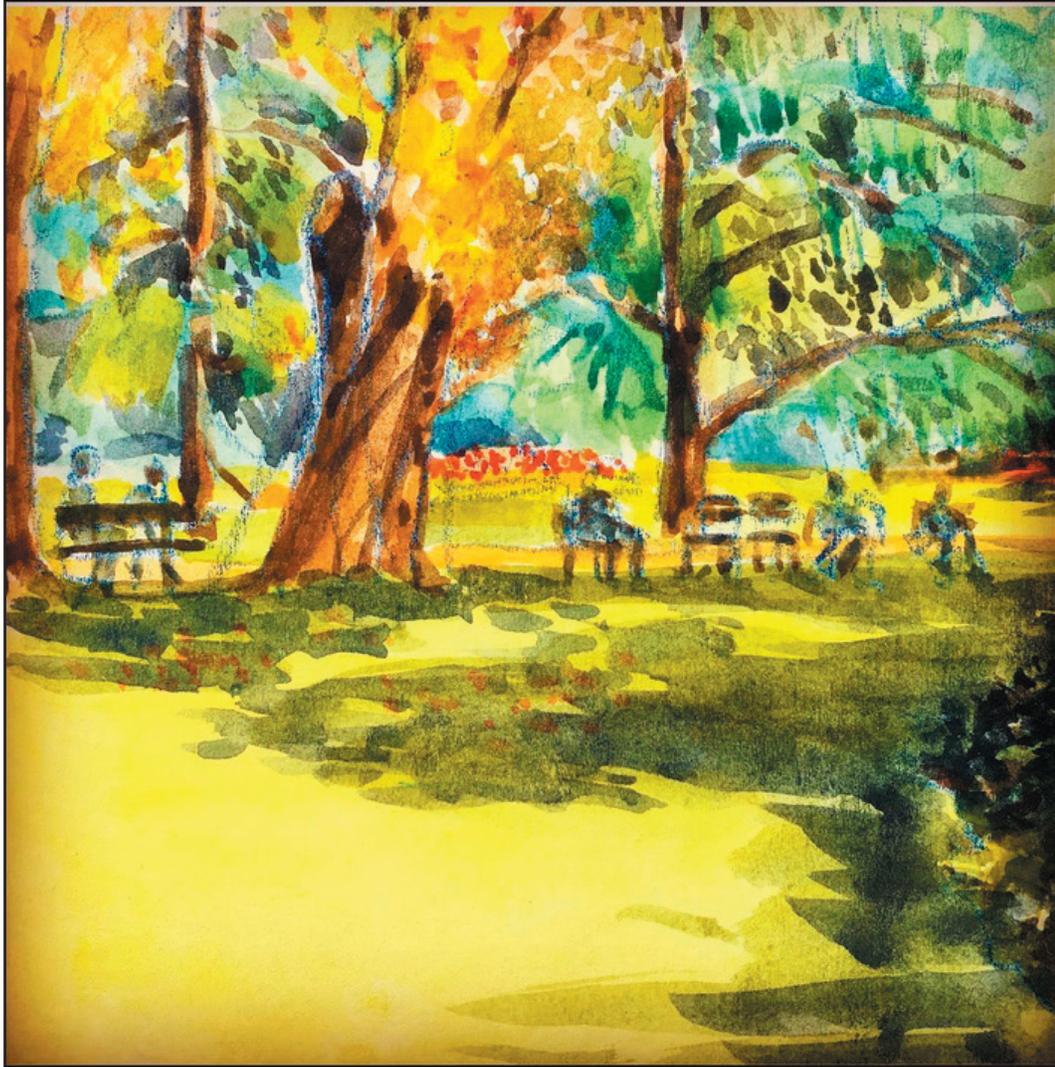
Canal grande – watercolour 15x10cm



Pomeriggio – watercolour 15x10cm



Granada blue - watercolour 20x15cm



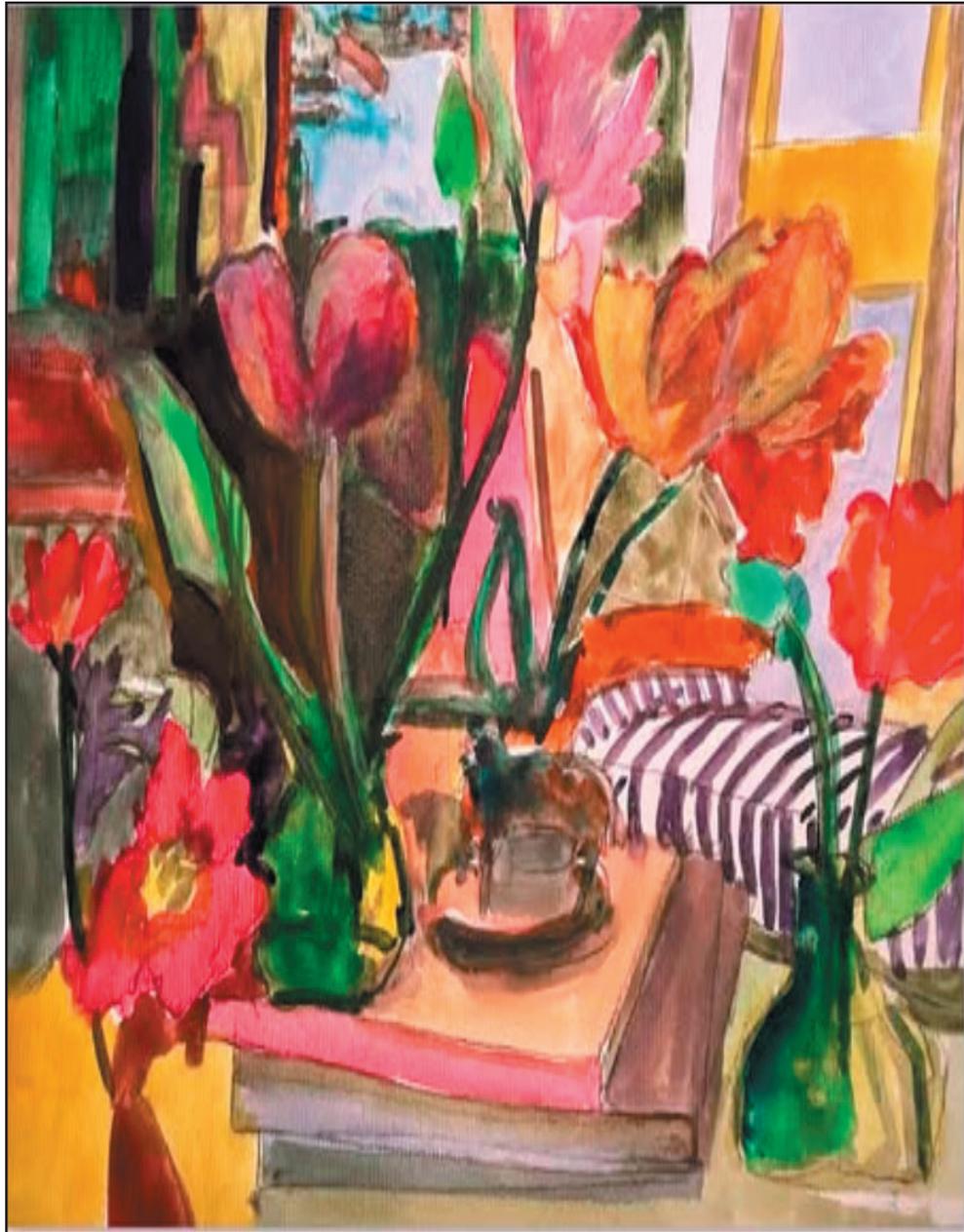
Luxembourg – watercolour 15x10cm



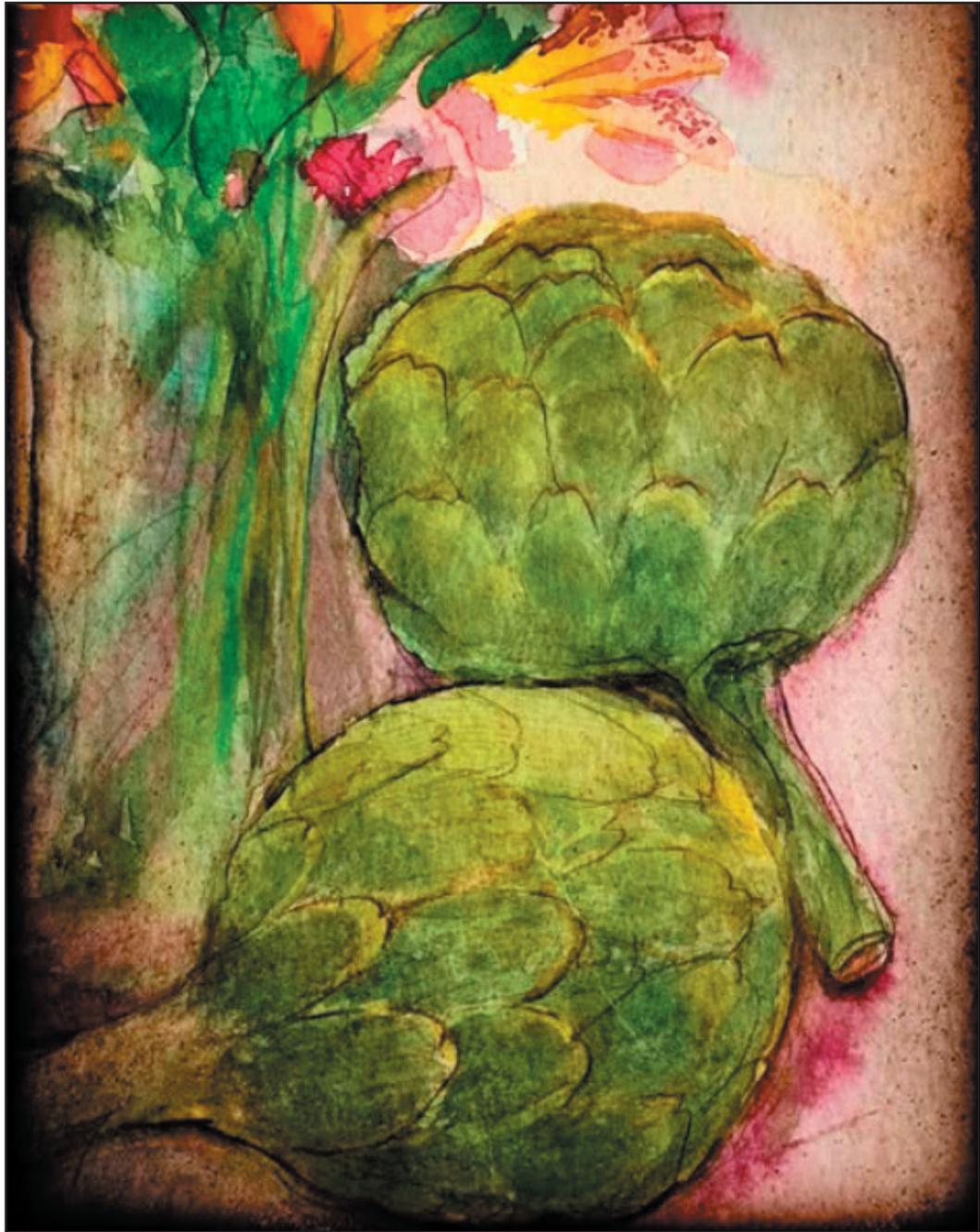
Jardin des plantes – watercolour 20x15cm



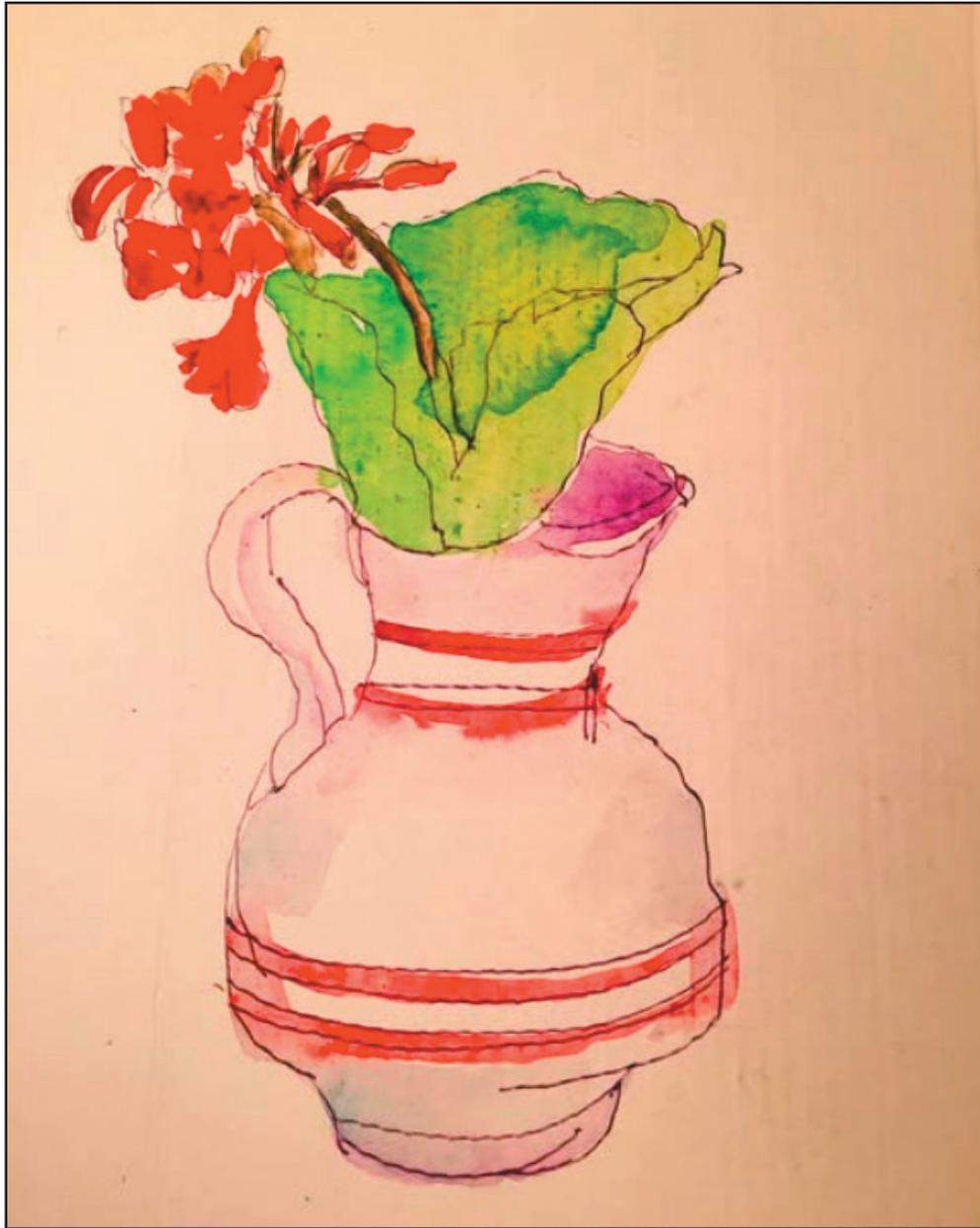
Drawing room – watercolour 15x10cm



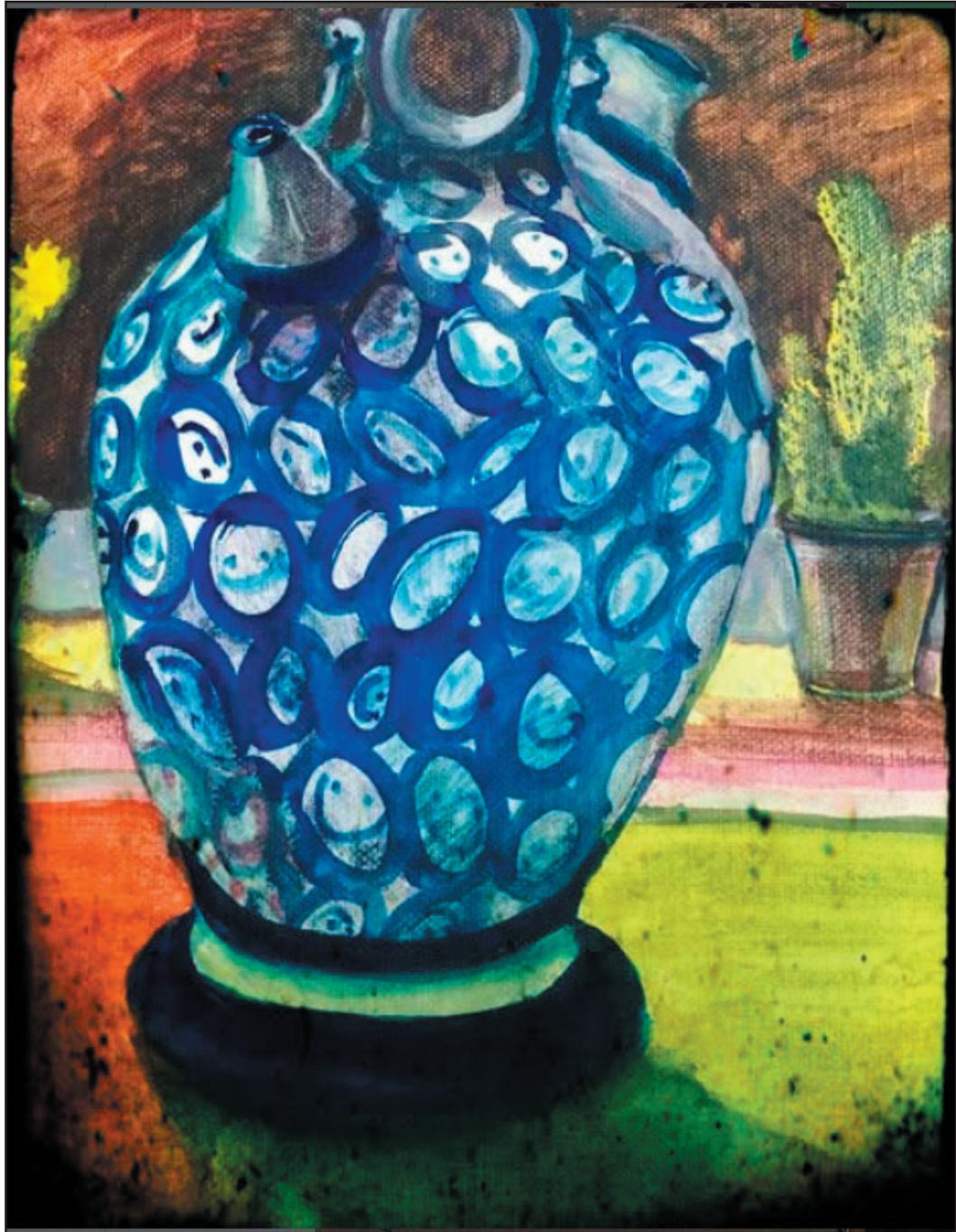
Tulips – watercolour 25x15cm



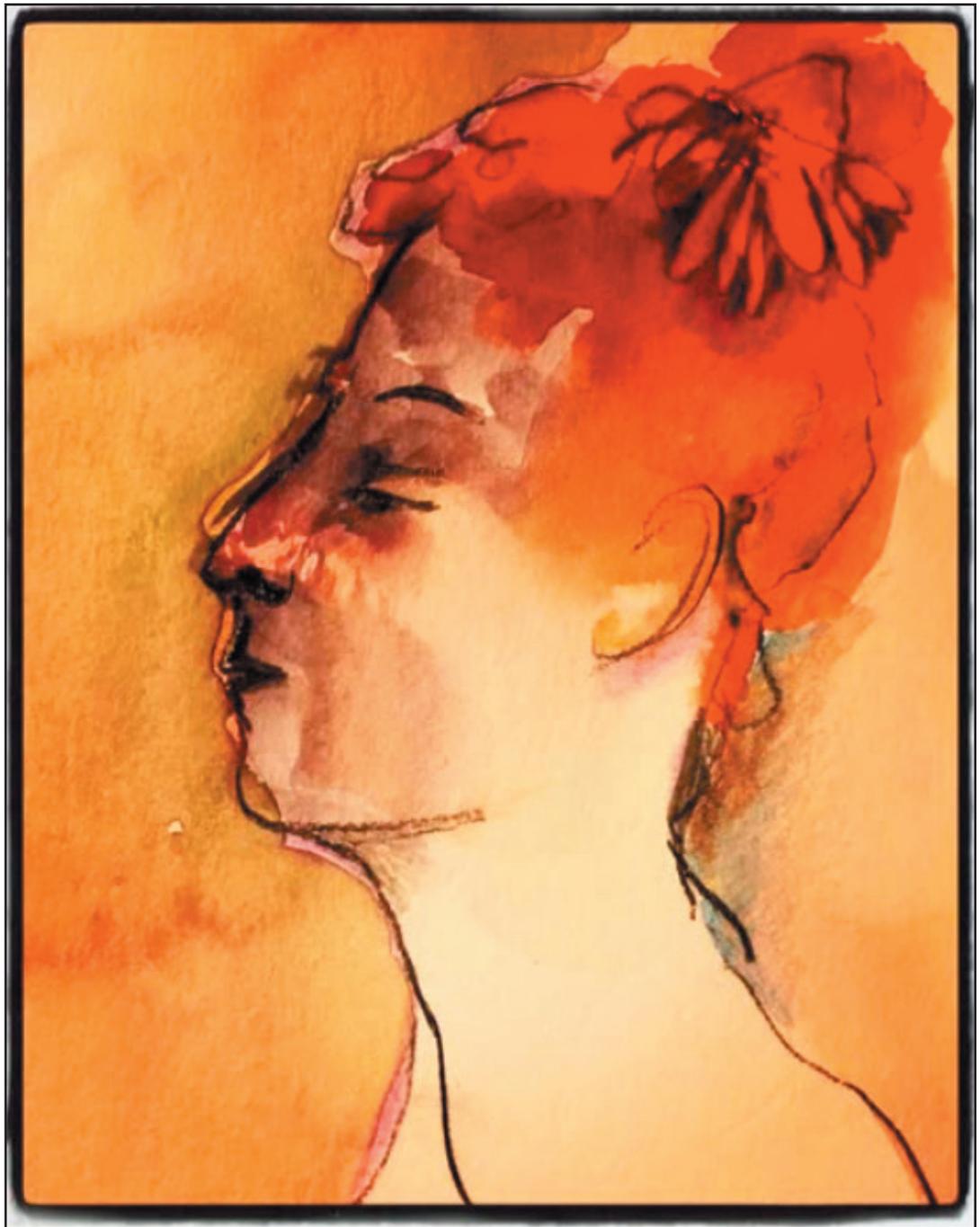
Artichokes – watercolour 21x29cm



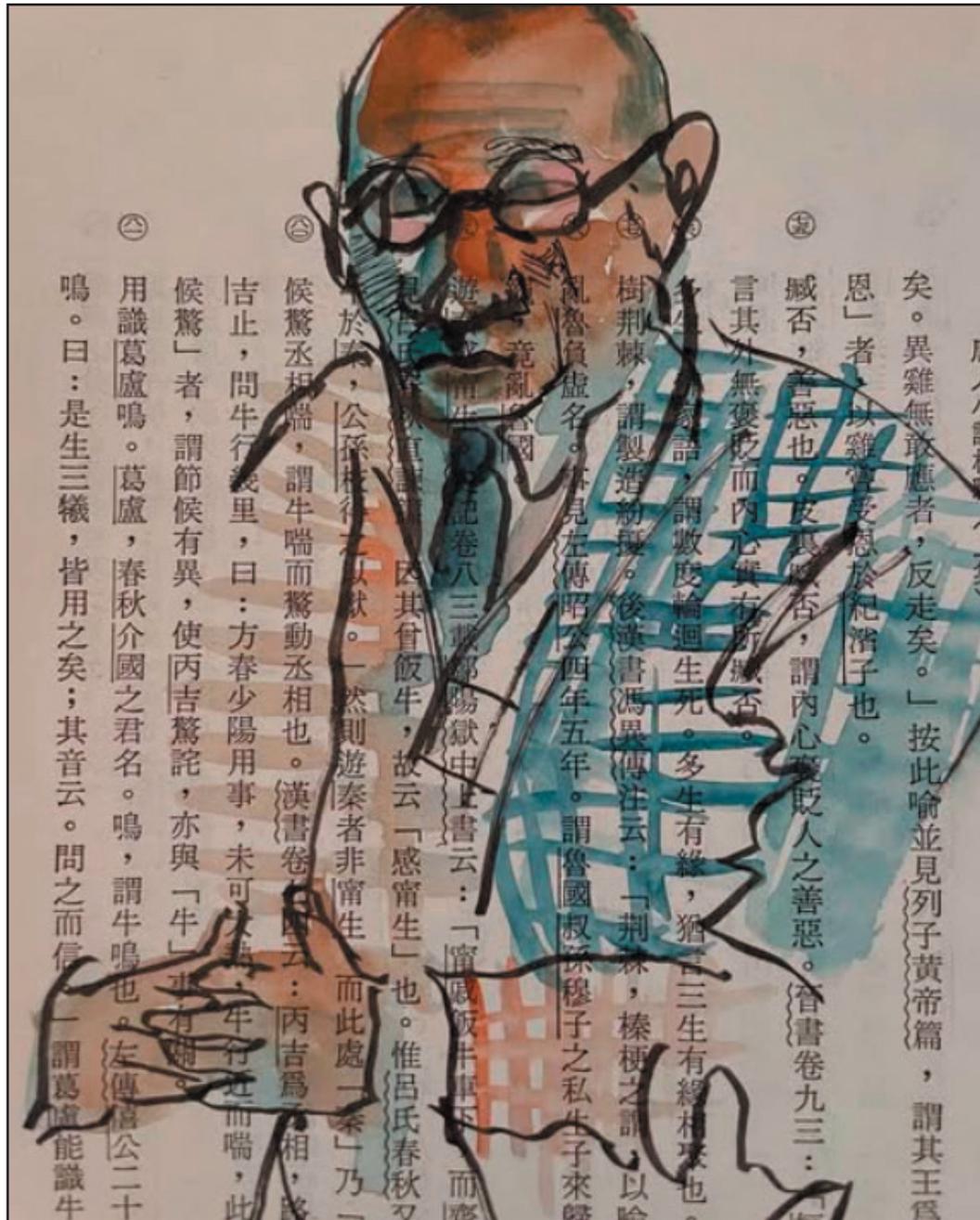
Geranium – watercolour 20x15cm



Smileys Jar – acrylic 21x19cm



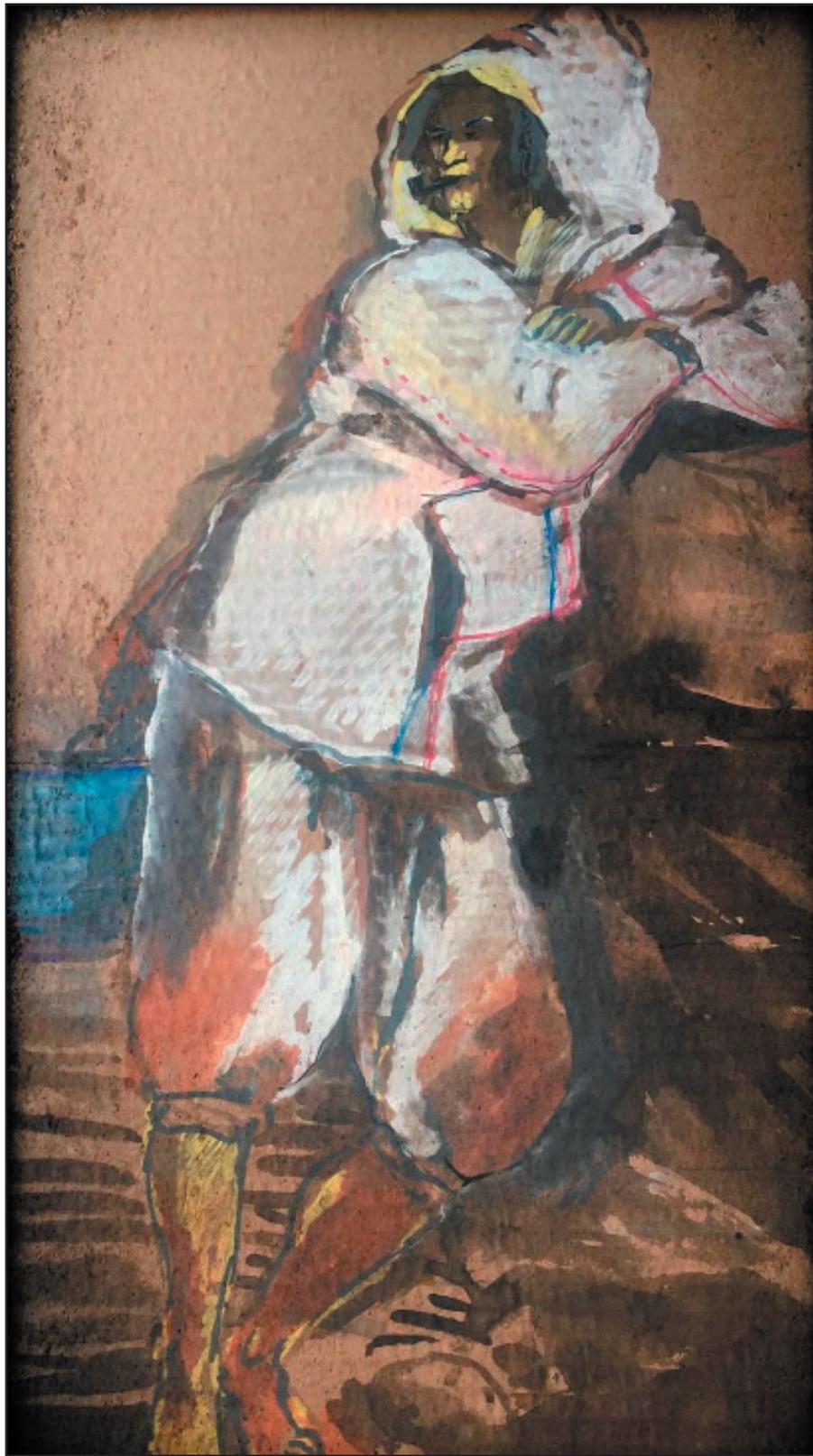
Redhead – watercolour 21x29cm



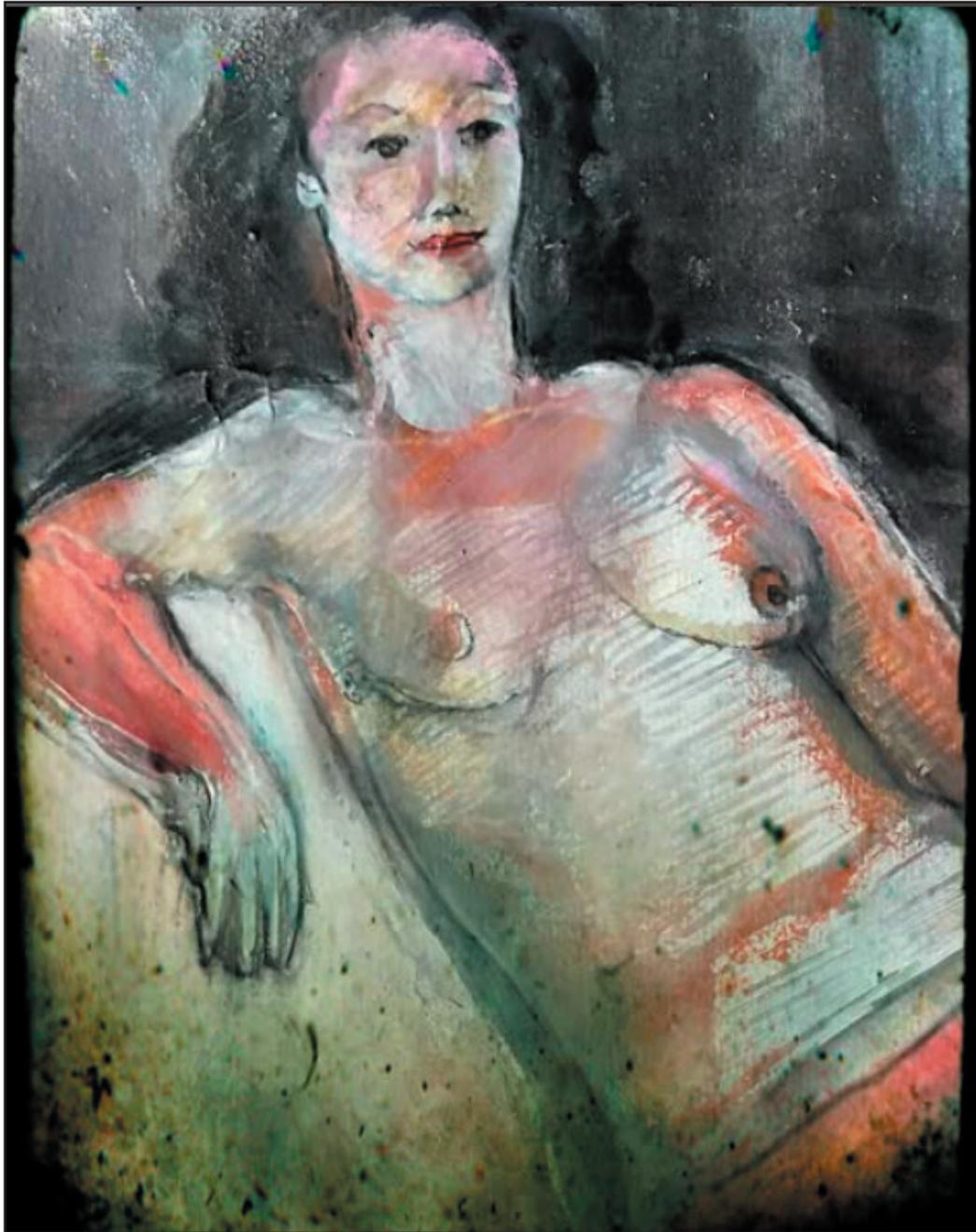
The Poet – watercolour 15x10cm



Duet – watercolour 20x15cm



Kabig – acrylic 21x29cm



Nude – watercolour 21x10cm



Museum nap – watercolour 15x10cm