

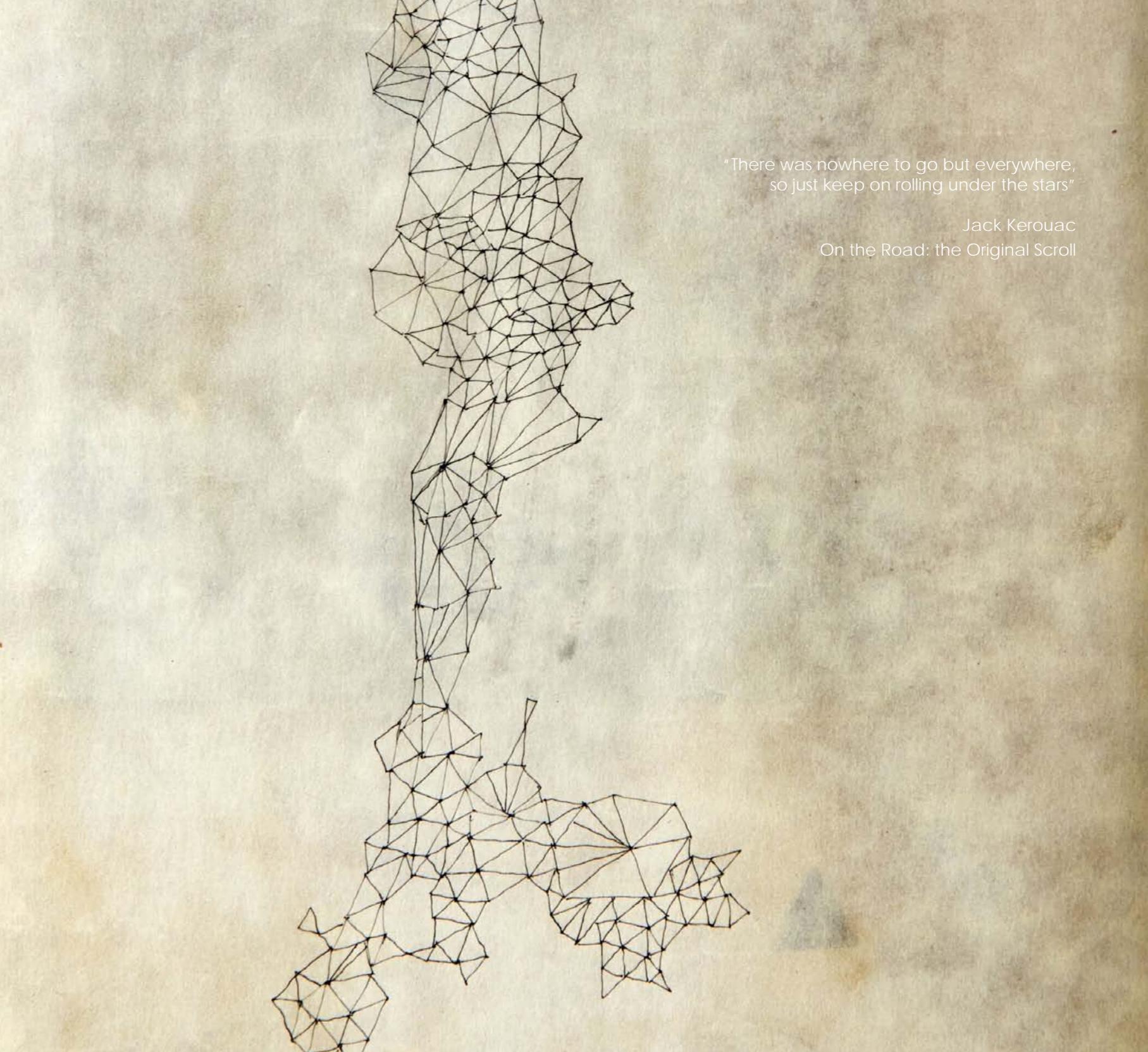
MAURO BENZI
NOWHERE LAND

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NOWHERE LAND

NOWHERE LAND

- 1) the state of nonexistence or seeming nonexistence
- 2) an unknown, remote, or nonexistent place or region

BLACK BOOK STORIES
detail



"There was nowhere to go but everywhere,
so just keep on rolling under the stars"

Jack Kerouac
On the Road: the Original Scroll

IL DESERTO RICOSTRUITO

Archeologo della contemporaneità, Mauro Benzi è un esploratore di archivi fotografici, dei depositi in cui si raccoglie l'immaginario del recente passato, è un abitante di sofisticati territori musicali contemporanei e, al contempo, un contemplatore di inquietanti paesaggi industriali e post-industriali, lì dove uno scampolo di orizzonte naturale rende più vivo e poetico il dissidio. Non fugge dalle cose, ne vive la carne, il dionisismo esasperato del suono, l'ebbrezza dell'incontro col corpo, la dispersione del viaggio. Eppure, ferito da un'inguaribile nostalgia per una bellezza sempre possibile e sempre irrimediabilmente sciupata, ha condensato il suo sentire in un'inflessibile ricerca di astrazioni, segni minimi, condensazioni di grafite, di ruggine, che danno curvatura e spazio alla tessitura della tela.

Riducendo a linee asciutte e a geografie sospese il visto e il sentito, per cui non è possibile distinguere lo sguardo dell'occhio e quello del cuore, Mauro ha ritrovato, ricostruito il suo deserto privato, un giardino di vuoti, un verziere in tardo autunno, una vigilia di primavera ancora spoglia di vita. Gemma che matura la propria arte serena sotto la scoria ignara dell'azzurro. Anche le sue architetture impossibili sono come ipotesi di templi, di romitaggi sospesi e specchiati nel vuoto, rifugi invernali denudati in attesa di un dio.

Il passaggio stesso dai lavori a tecnica mista su tela alle incisioni a puntasecca, nel loro riflettersi, riprodursi, distanziarsi dal prototipo, raccontano un desiderio di allontanarsi dalla ricchezza del vedere, dalla tempesta del sentire, persino dall'esuberanza dell'ascoltare, per muoversi in una metafisica del distacco, della memoria, del canto interiore, mormorio della parola che vibra in gola per raccogliere nient'altro che il poco necessario.

Alessandro Giovanardi

THE DESERT RECONSTRUCTED

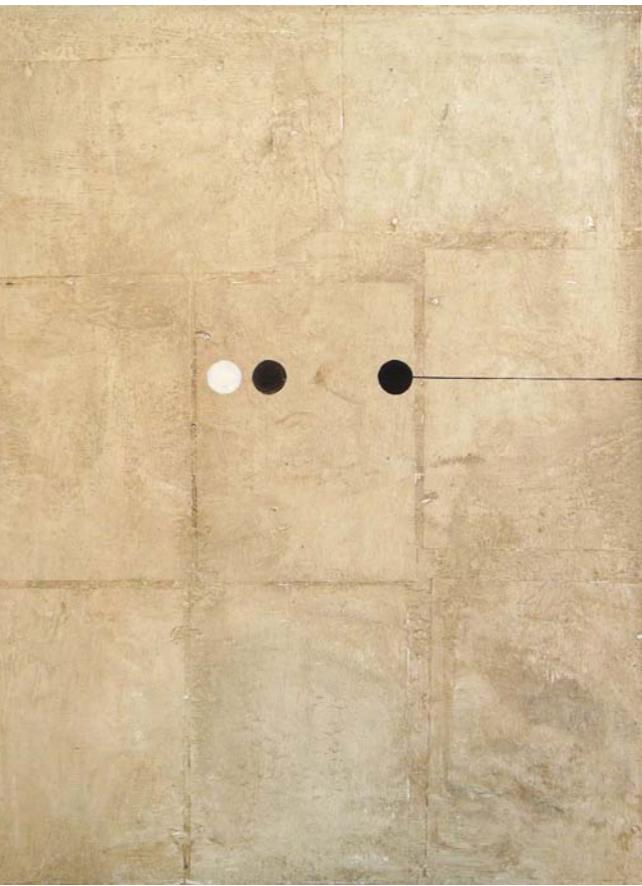
Mauro Benzi is an archaeologist of our times. He is an explorer of photographic archives where imageries of the recent past are collected. He inhabits sophisticated contemporary musical territories and, simultaneously, contemplates unsettling industrial and post-industrial landscapes towering over fragile horizons, which turn conflict into poetry. Mauro's work tackles things head on, reaching down to their soul – thus giving expression to the exasperated dionysism of the sound, the inebriation of the encounter with the body, the displacement of travel. And yet, anguished by an incurable nostalgia for an irremediably damaged beauty, the artist condenses his perceptions into an inflexible search for abstractions, imperceptible signs and layers of graphite and rust, which add curvatures and space to the weaving of the canvass.

Mauro condenses visual and perceived elements into fragile lines and floating geographies. In this way, he has found and reconstructed his own private desert: a garden nurturing the void, a lifeless spring's eve – where impossible architectures evoke empty temples waiting for a god.

The shift in his work – from mixed techniques on canvass to engravings – seems to reflect a desire to step back from lavishness. This allows Mauro's art to move onto the metaphysics of detachment, memory and inner sounds – resembling a whisper that captures nothing but the bare minimum.

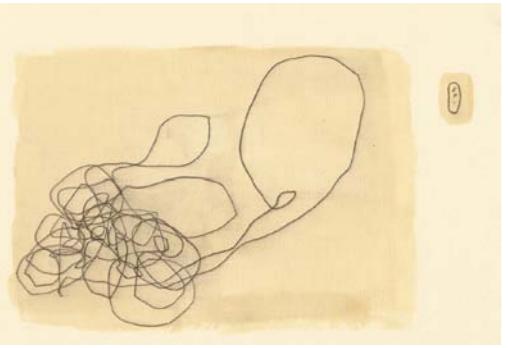
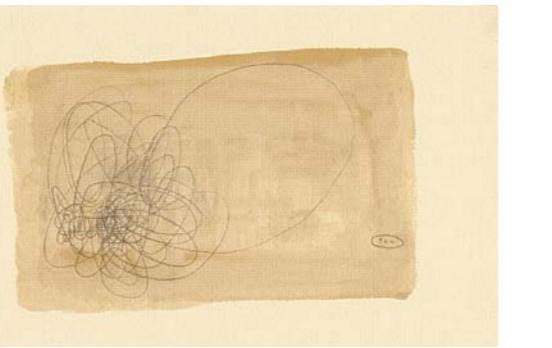
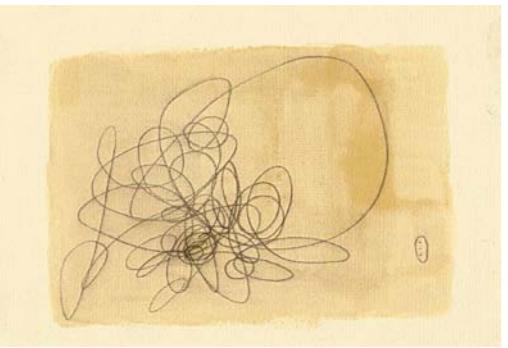
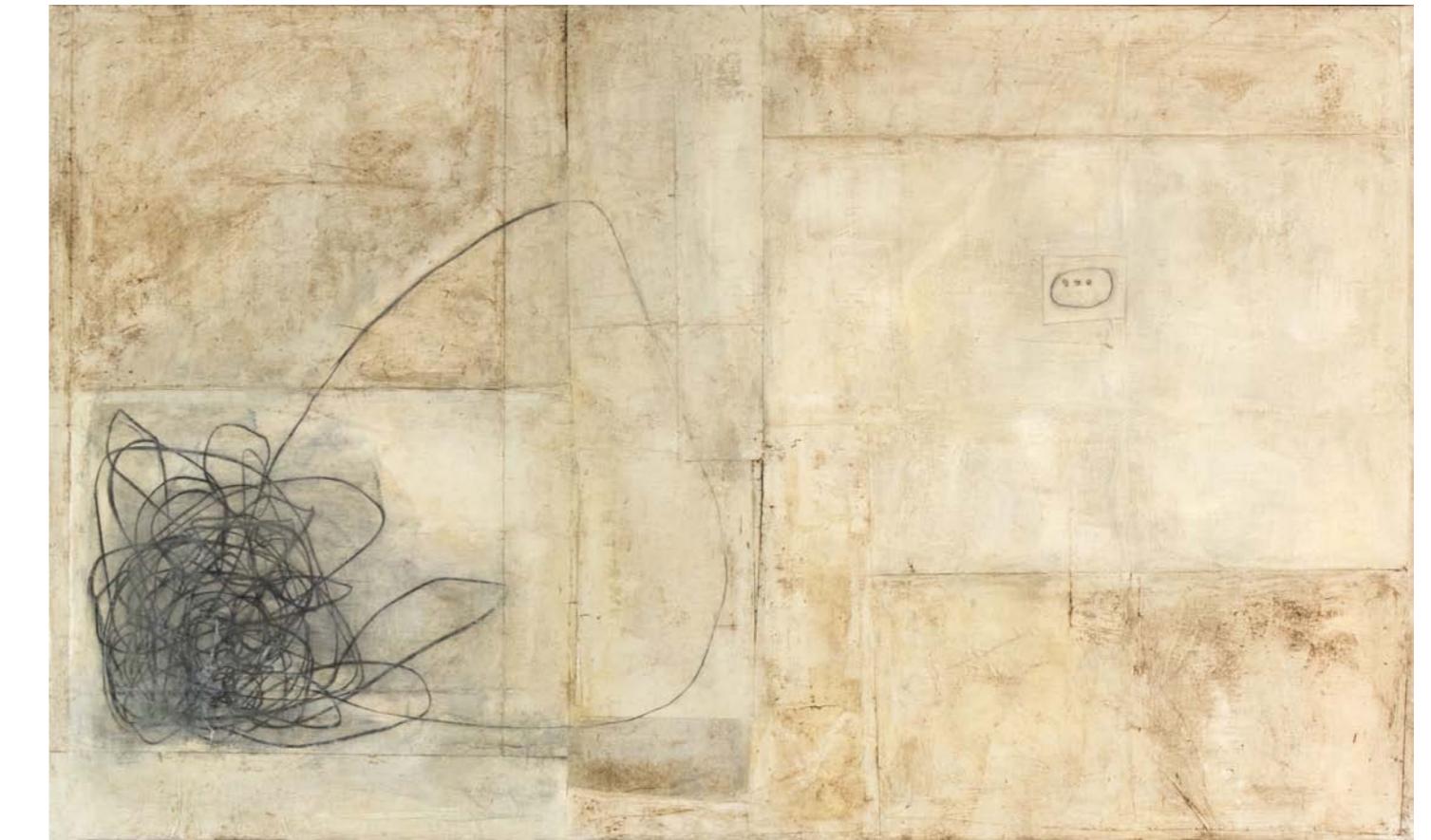
Alessandro Giovanardi

CHALK #00
(2009)



mixed media on canvas in two parts, 90x140 cm (diptych)

NEBULA #05
(2009)



sketches of NEBULA #05

mixed media on canvas, 110x180 cm

NEBULA #01
(2010)



industrial fabric, glue, rust on canvas, 100x130 cm

NEBULA #02
(2011)



industrial fabric, glue, rust, ink on canvas, 30x40 cm

NEBULA #03
(2013)



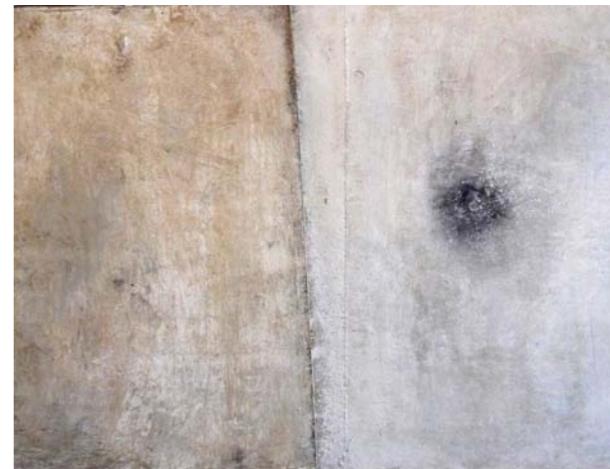
NEBULA #10
(2014)



industrial fabric, glue, rust, ink on wood in two parts, 26x39 cm (diptych)

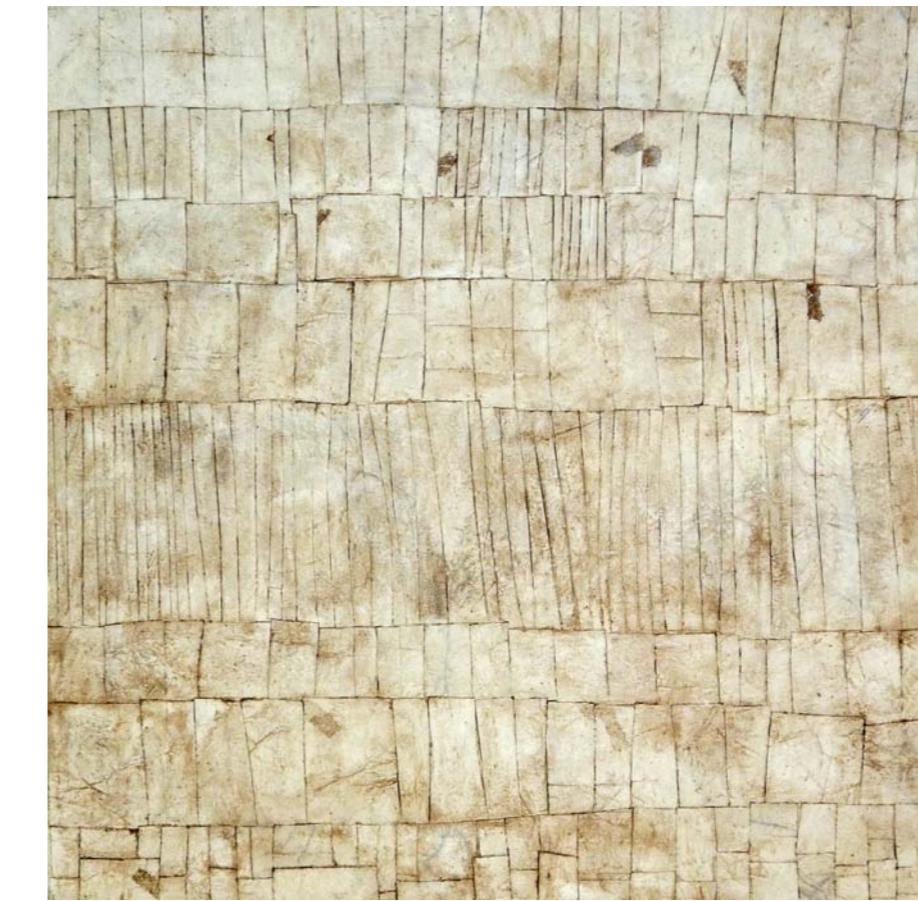
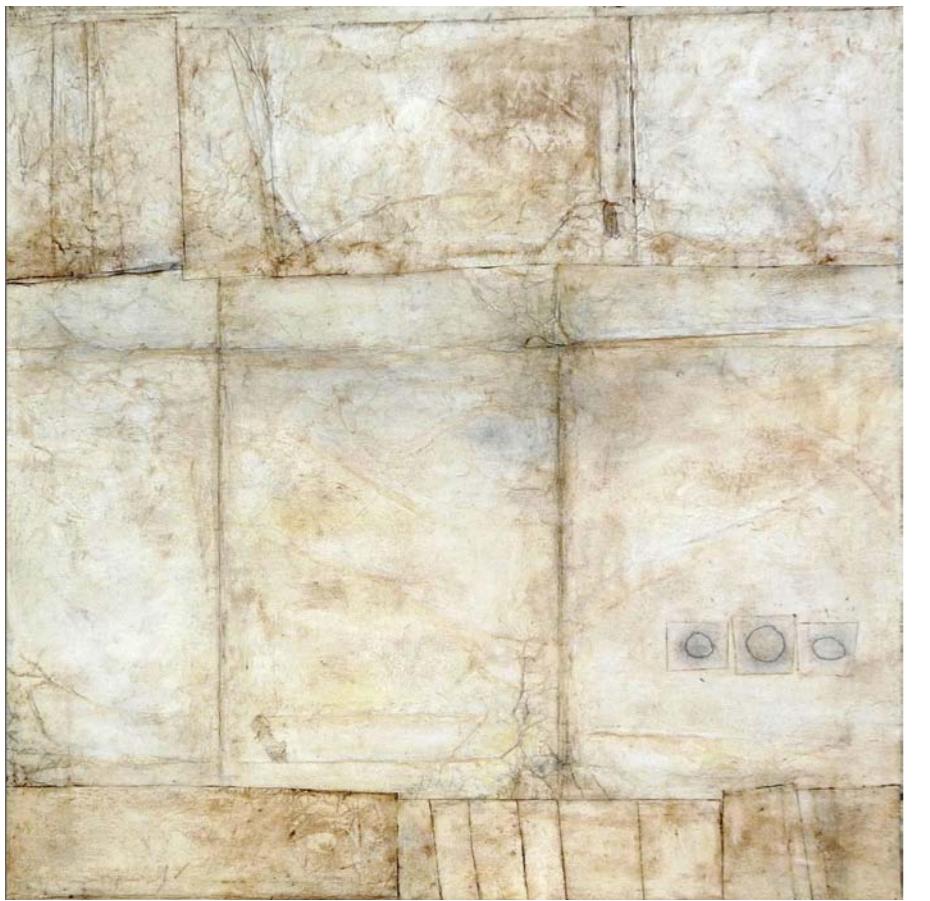
industrial fabric, glue, rust on canvas, 85x85 cm

NEBULA #07
(2009) untitled composition



mixed media on paper in five parts, 40x133 cm

NEBULA #04
(2010)



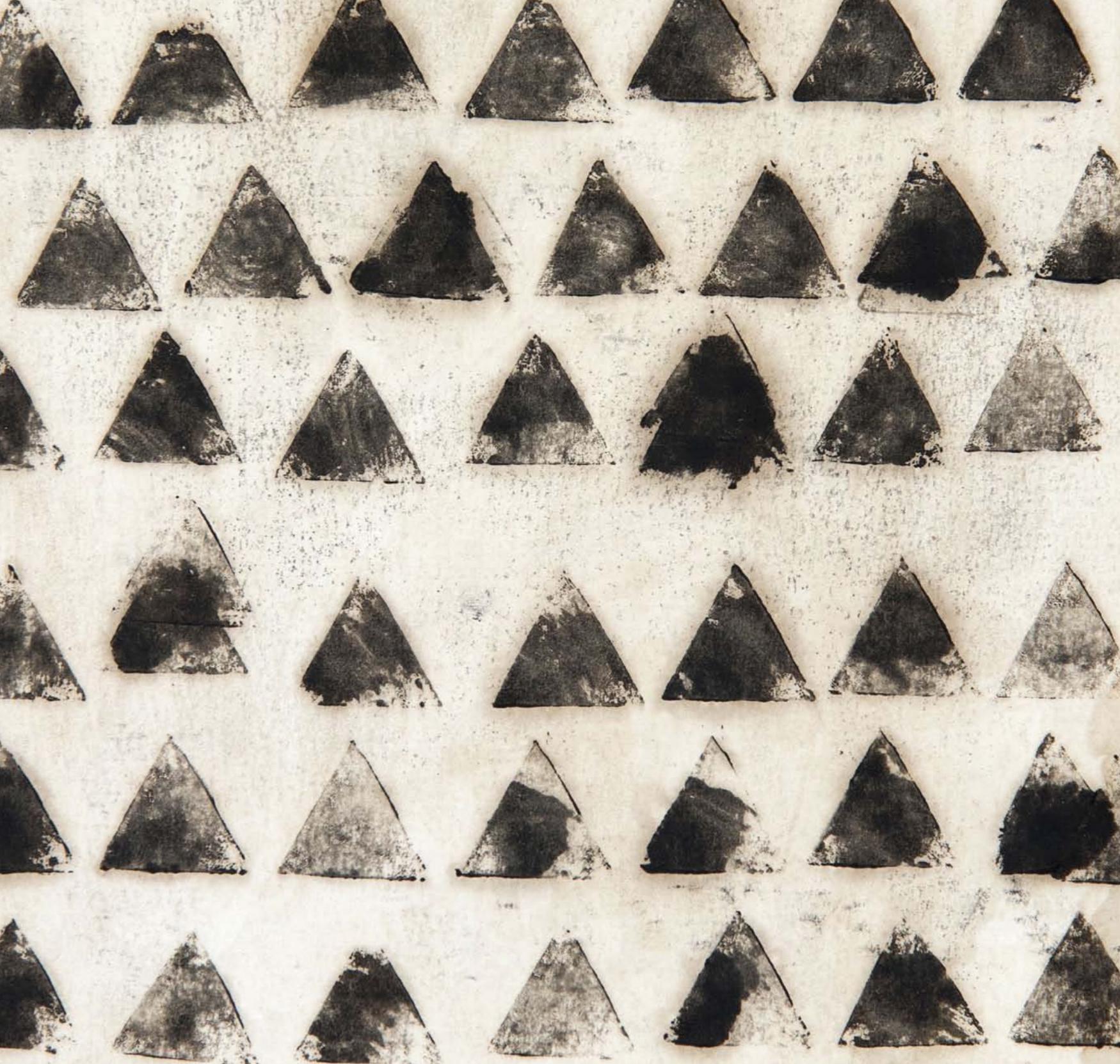
mixed media on canvas in three parts, 100x270 cm (triptych)

NEBULA #11
(2010)

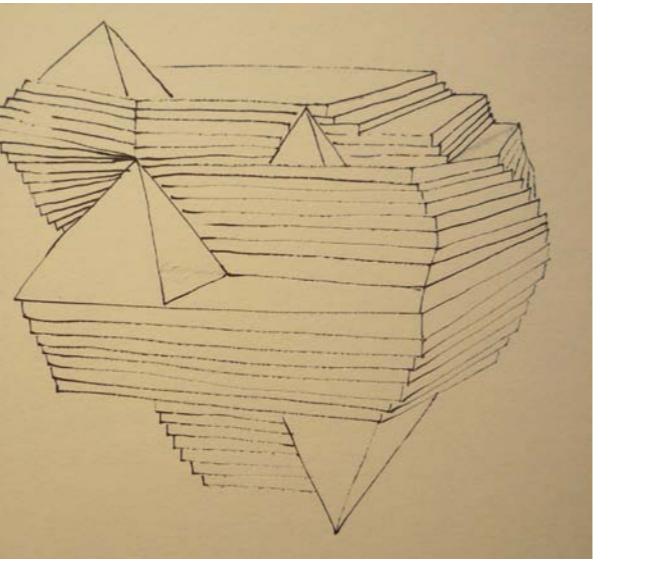


mixed media on wood, 51x40 cm

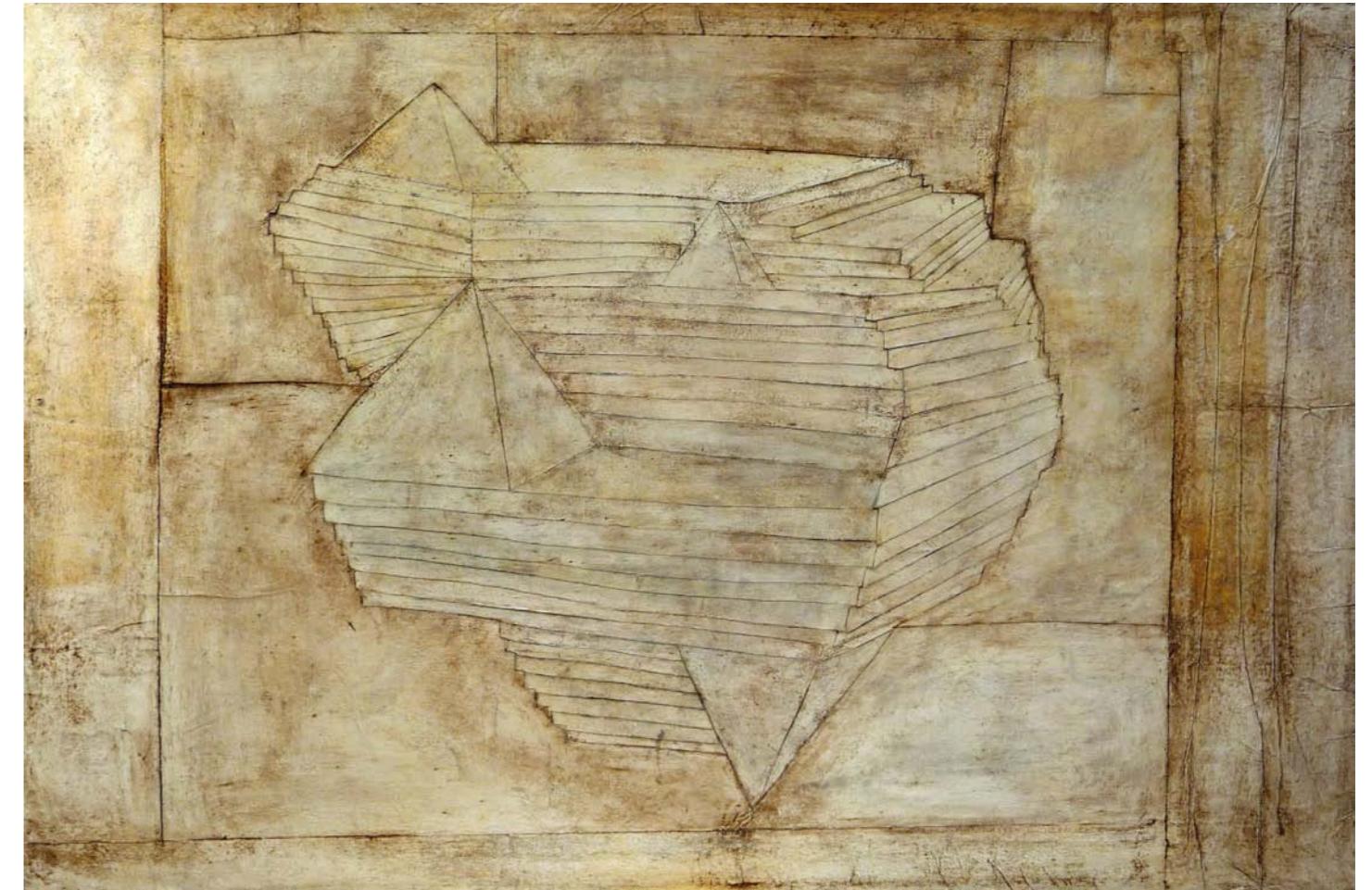
BLACK BOOK STORIES
detail



sketch of NOWHERE #00

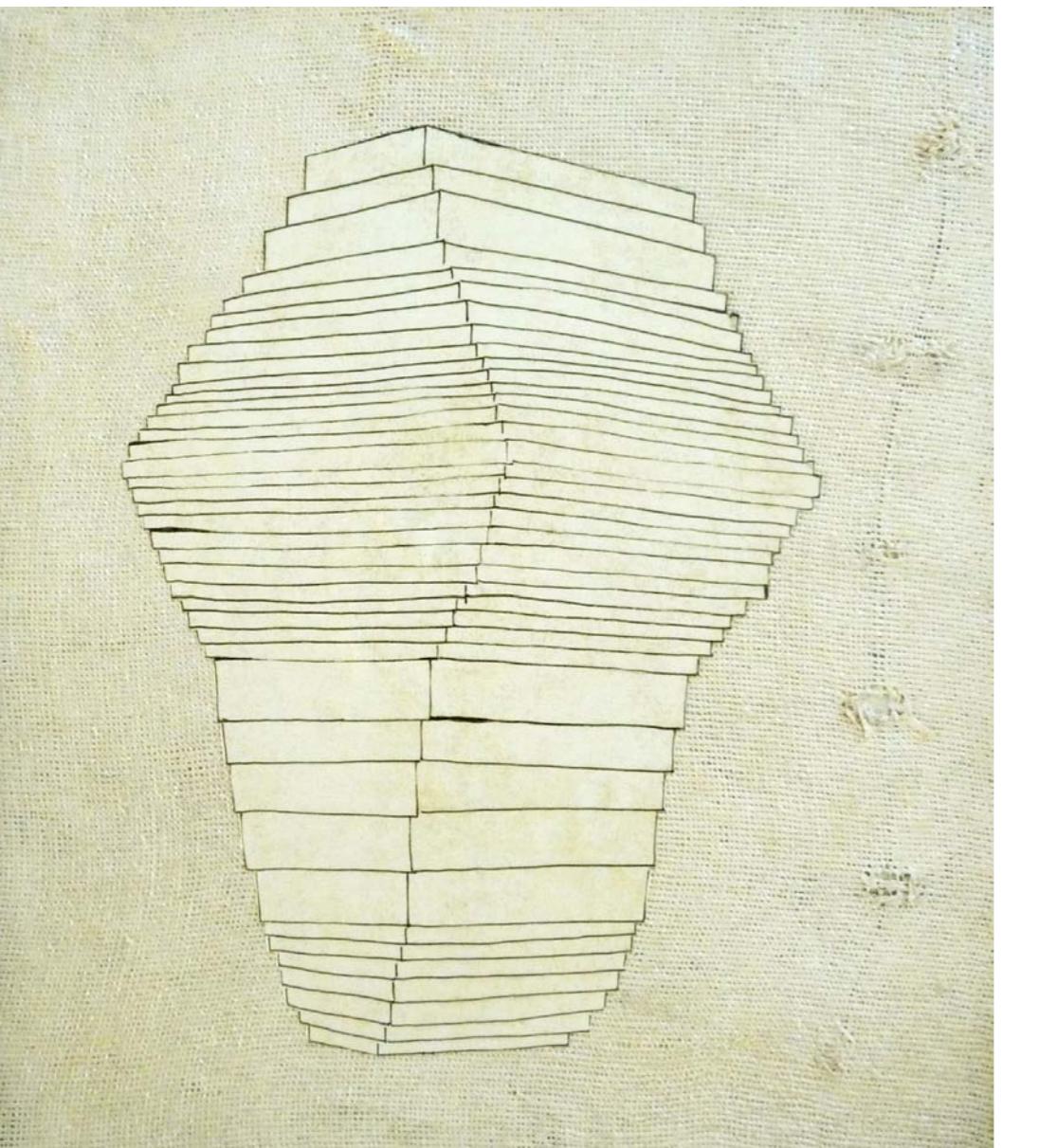


NOWHERE #00
(2013)



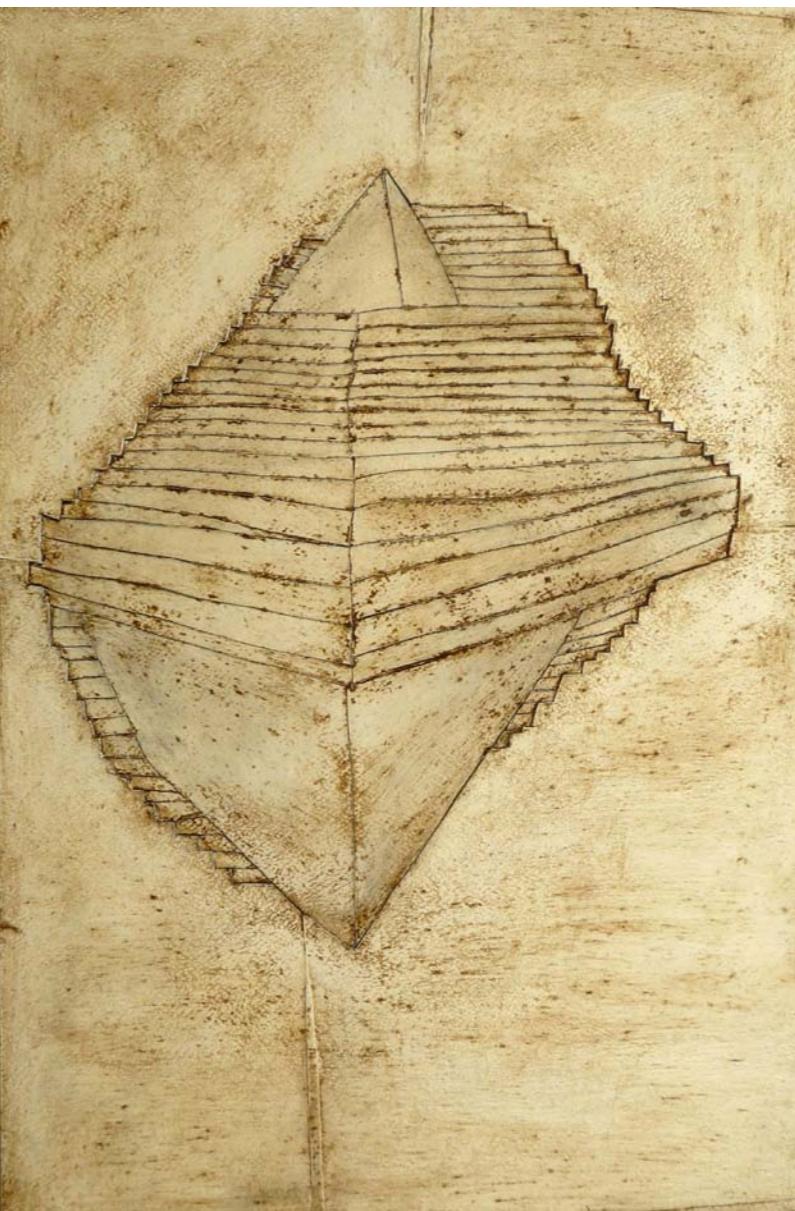
mixed media on canvas, 100x150 cm

NOWHERE #01
(2013)



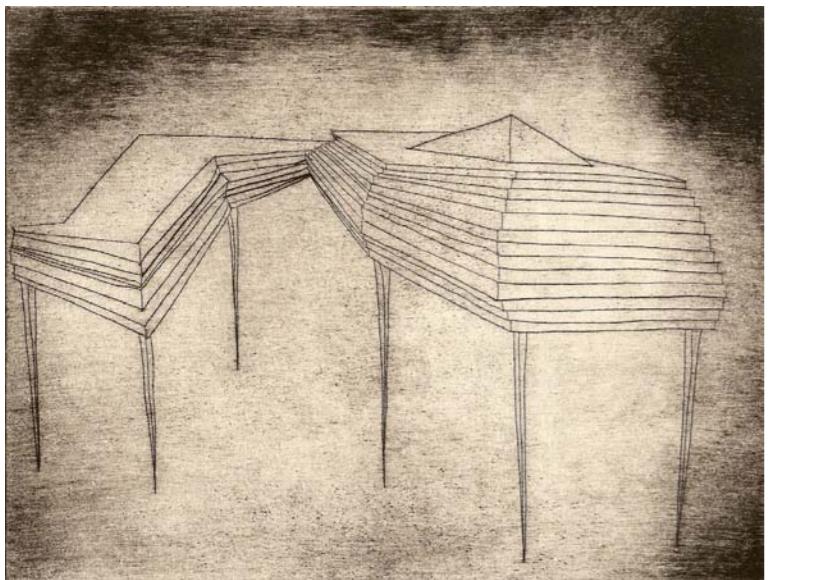
mixed media on wood, 25x22 cm

NOWHERE #11
(2014)



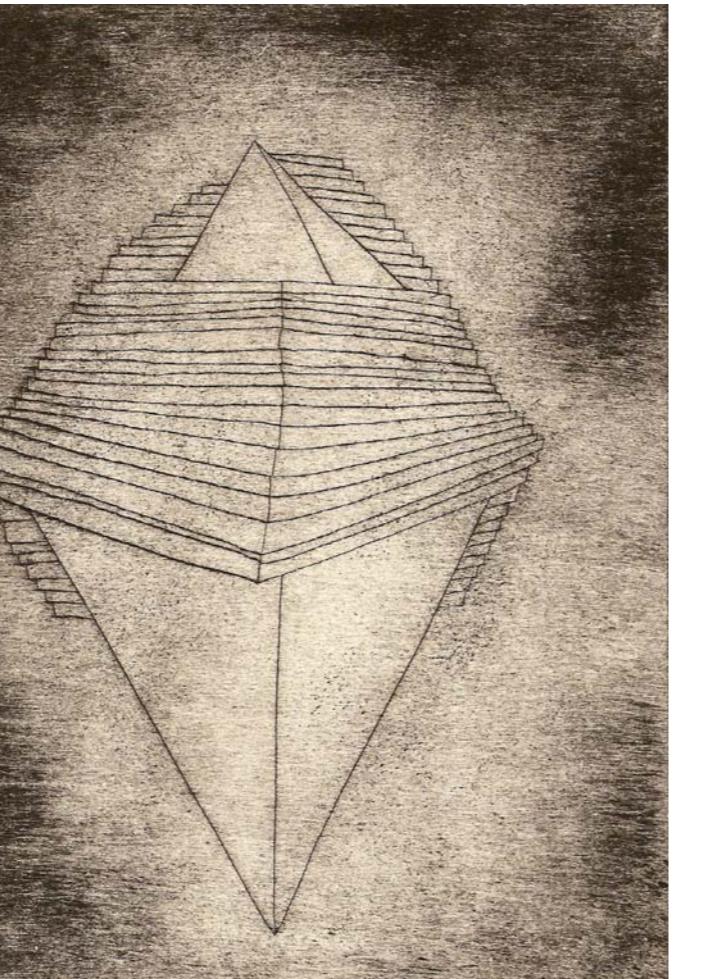
mixed media on wood, 48x32 cm

NOWHERE #03
(2012)



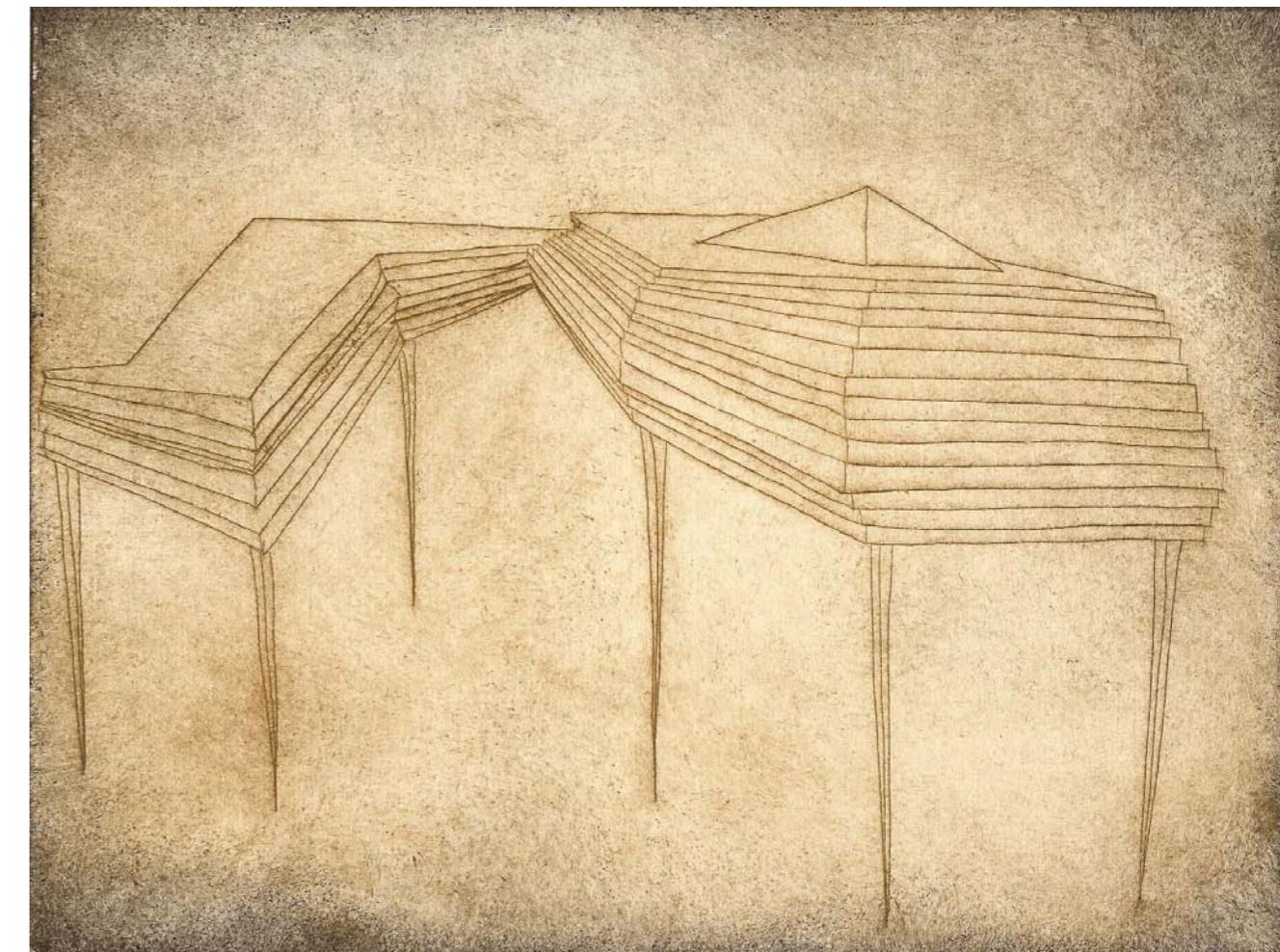
drypoint etching on paper, 21x25 cm (ed. 5/6)

NOWHERE #09
(2012)



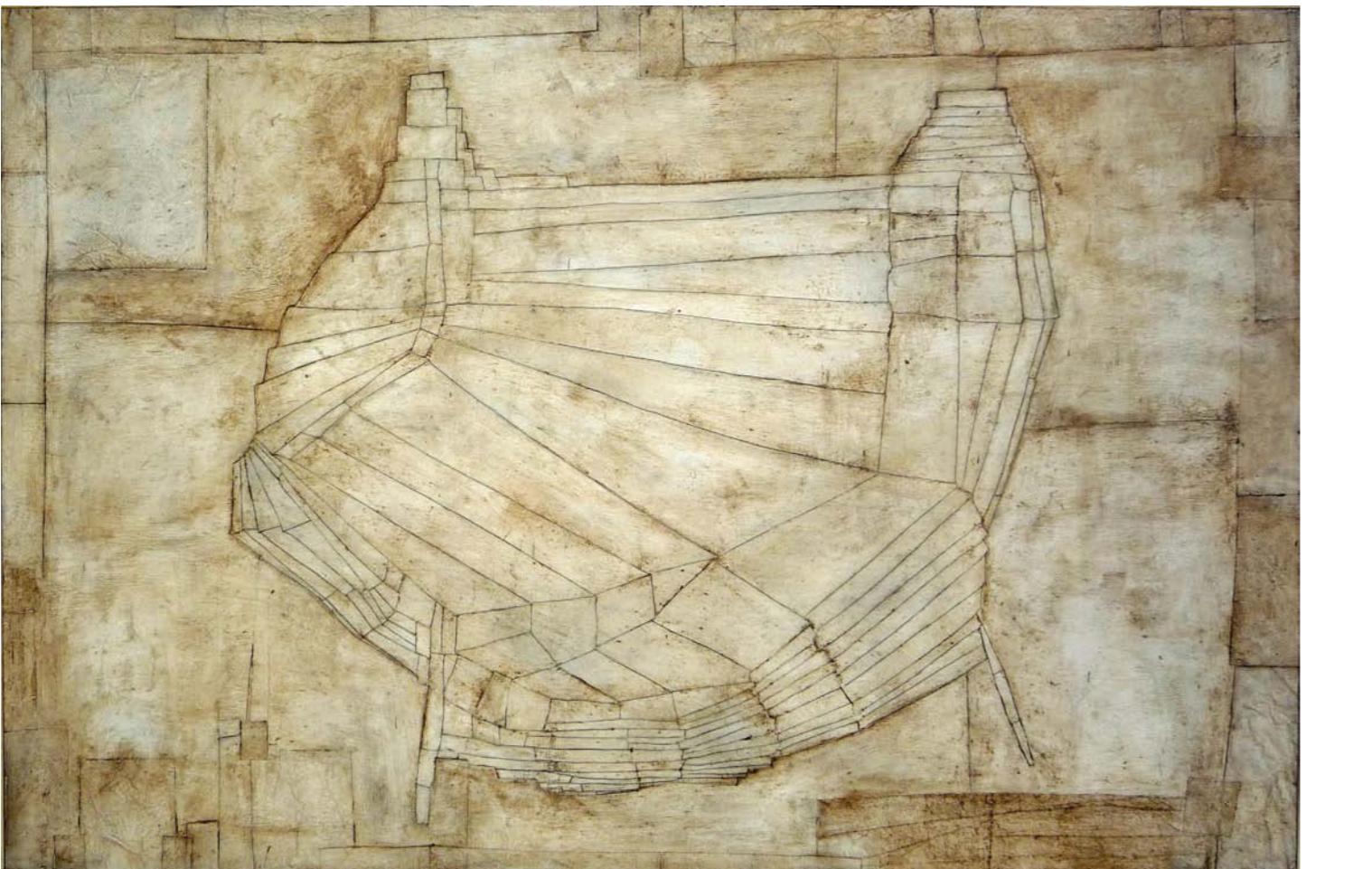
drypoint etching on paper, 25x21 cm (ed. 4/5)

NOWHERE #06
(2012)



drypoint etching on paper, 21x25 cm (ed. 1/6)

NOWHERE #13
(2015)



mixed media on canvas, 100x150 cm

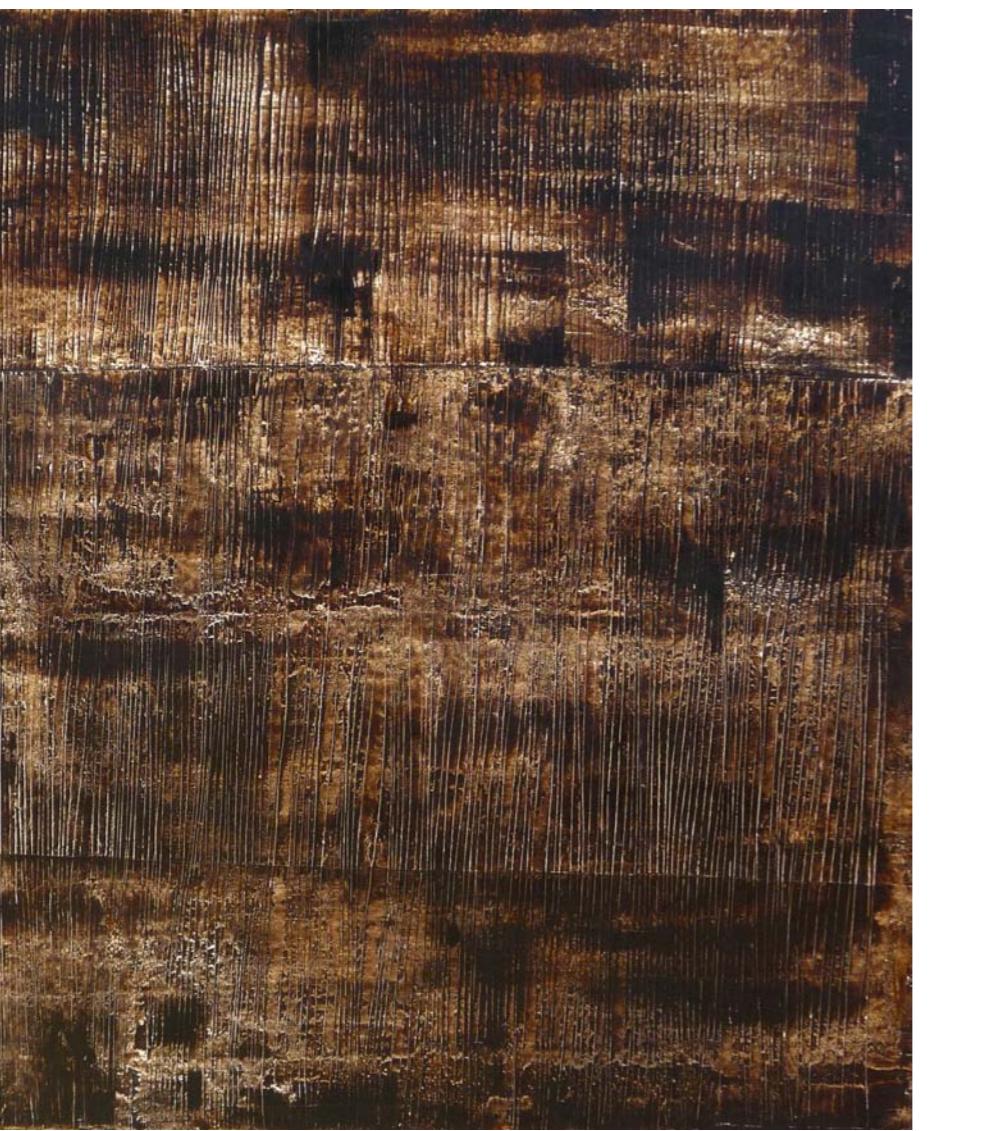
NOWHERE #15
(2016)



mixed media on wood, 32x39 cm

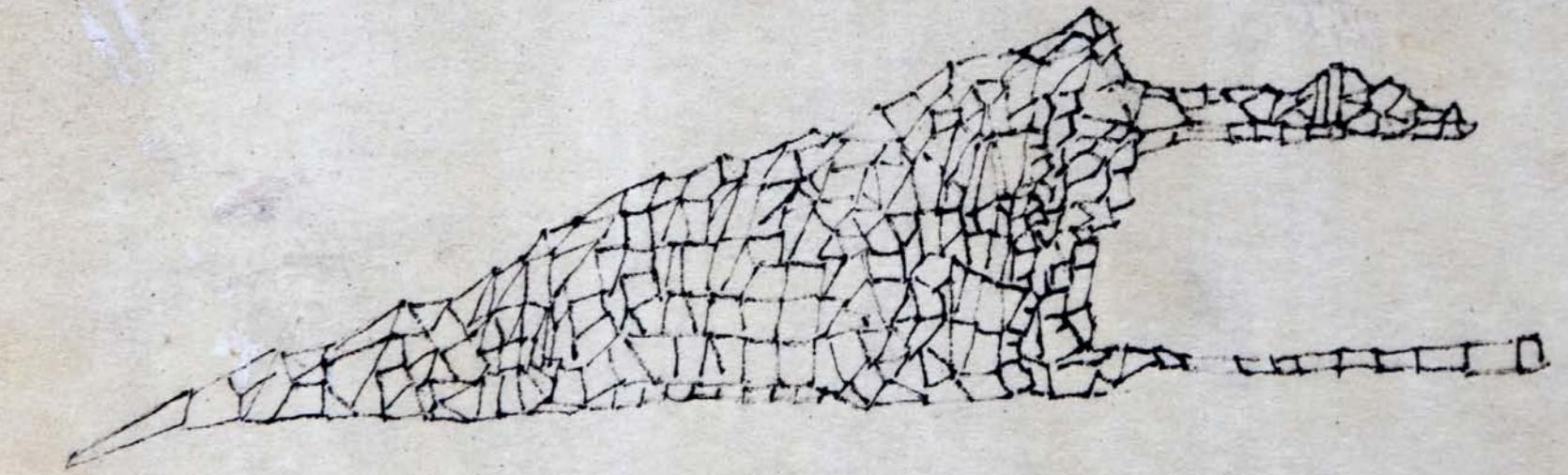
NOWHERE BASE
(2009)

collection of MAM'S Museum – Sassoferato – Italy

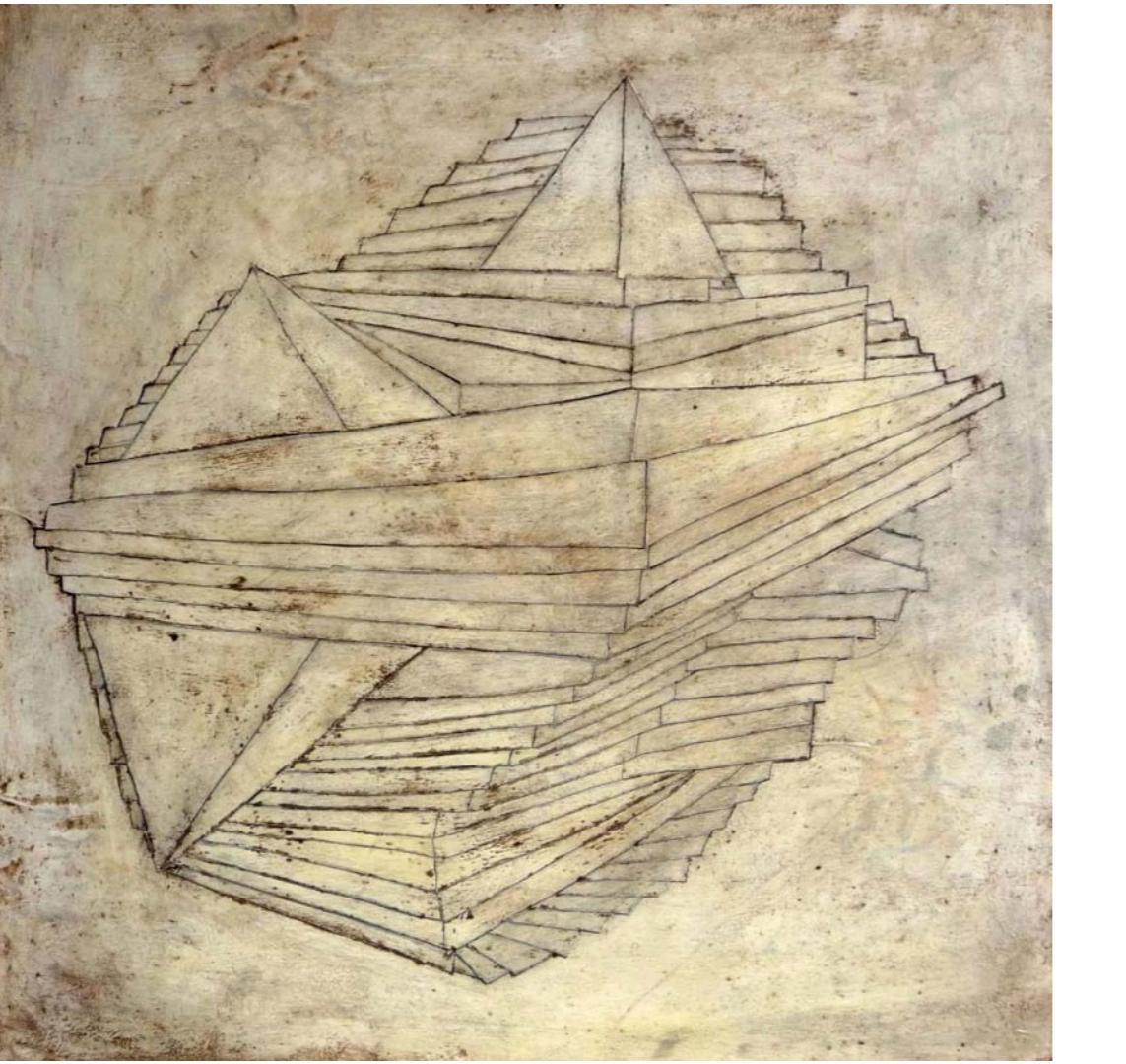


mixed media on wood, 120x100 cm

BLACK BOOK STORIES
detail



NOWHERE #12
(2014)



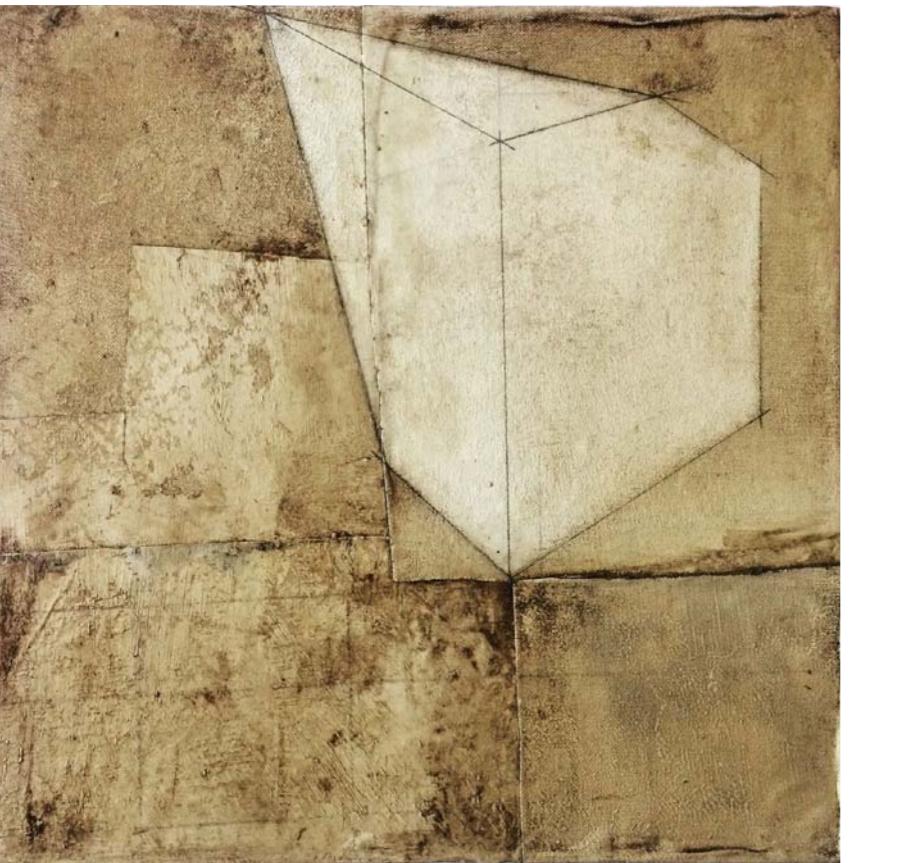
mixed media on wood, 60x60 cm

NOWHERE #14
(2015)



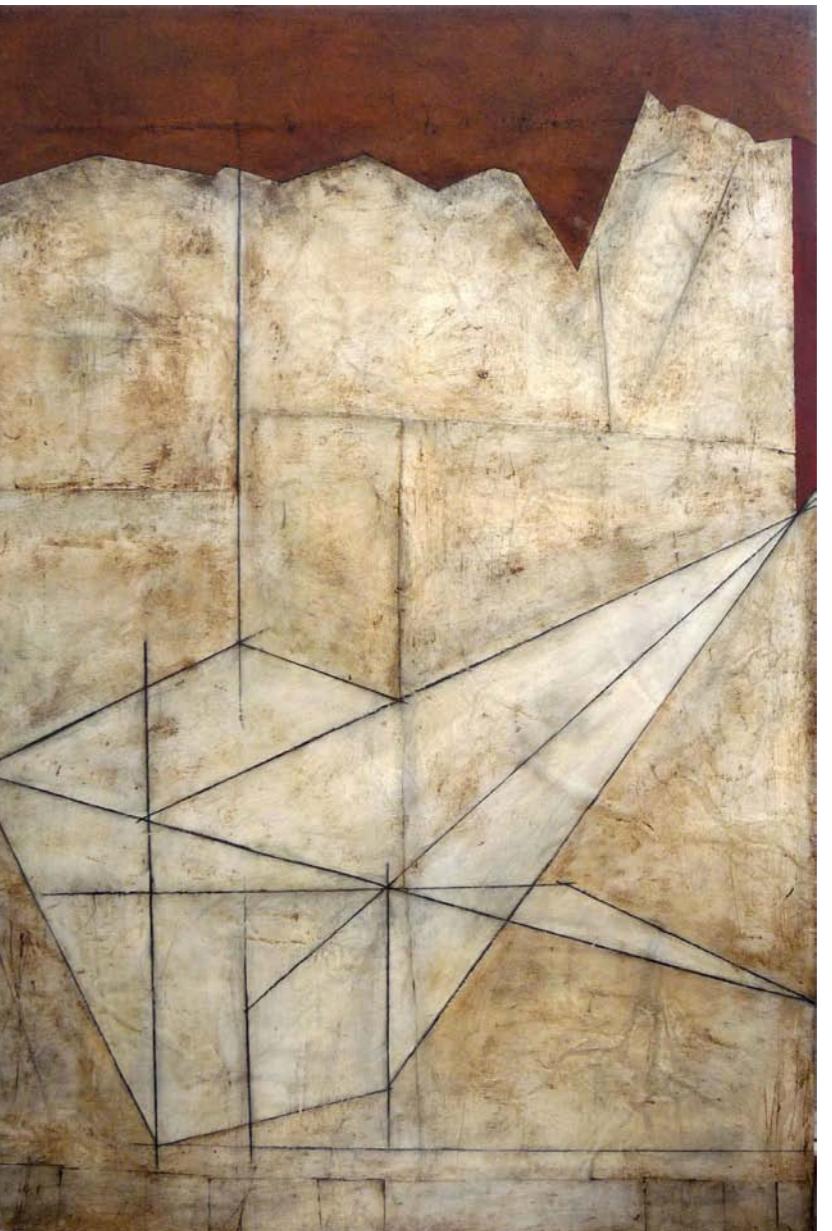
mixed media on canvas, 100x150 cm

NOWHERE HOUSE
(2017)



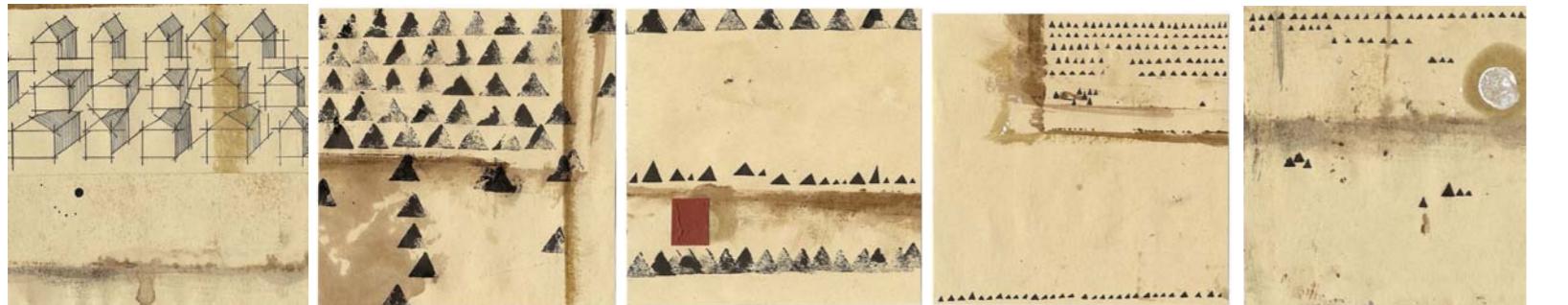
mixed media on wood, 20,5x20,5 cm

NOWHERE #16
(2016)



mixed media on canvas, 150x100 cm

NOWHERE LANDSCAPE
(2014)



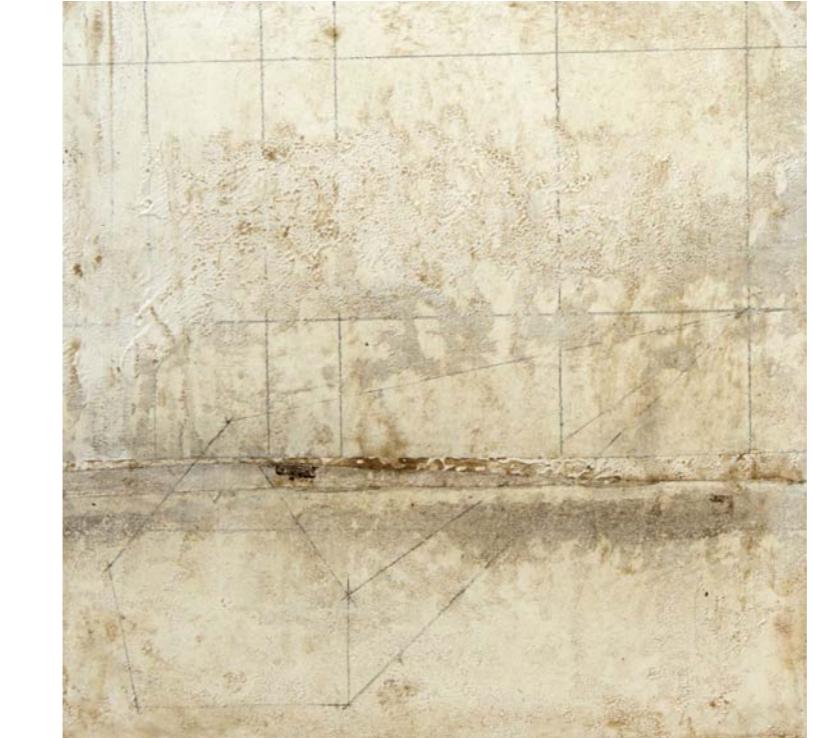
mixed media on paper in five parts, 14x70 cm

NOWHERE SKYLINE
(2017)



mixed media on wood, 18x24 cm

NOWHERE LANDSCAPE
(2017)



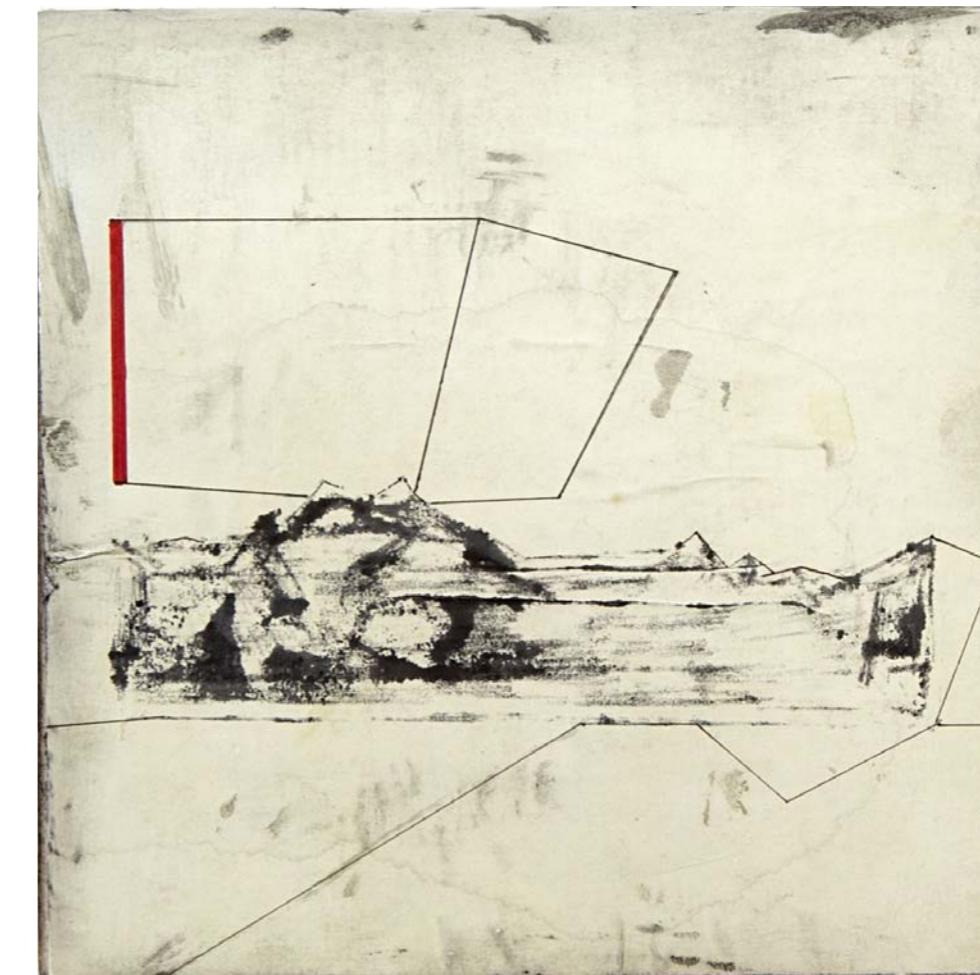
mixed media on wood in three parts, 22x66 cm (triptych)

NOWHERE MOUNTAIN 2
(2017)



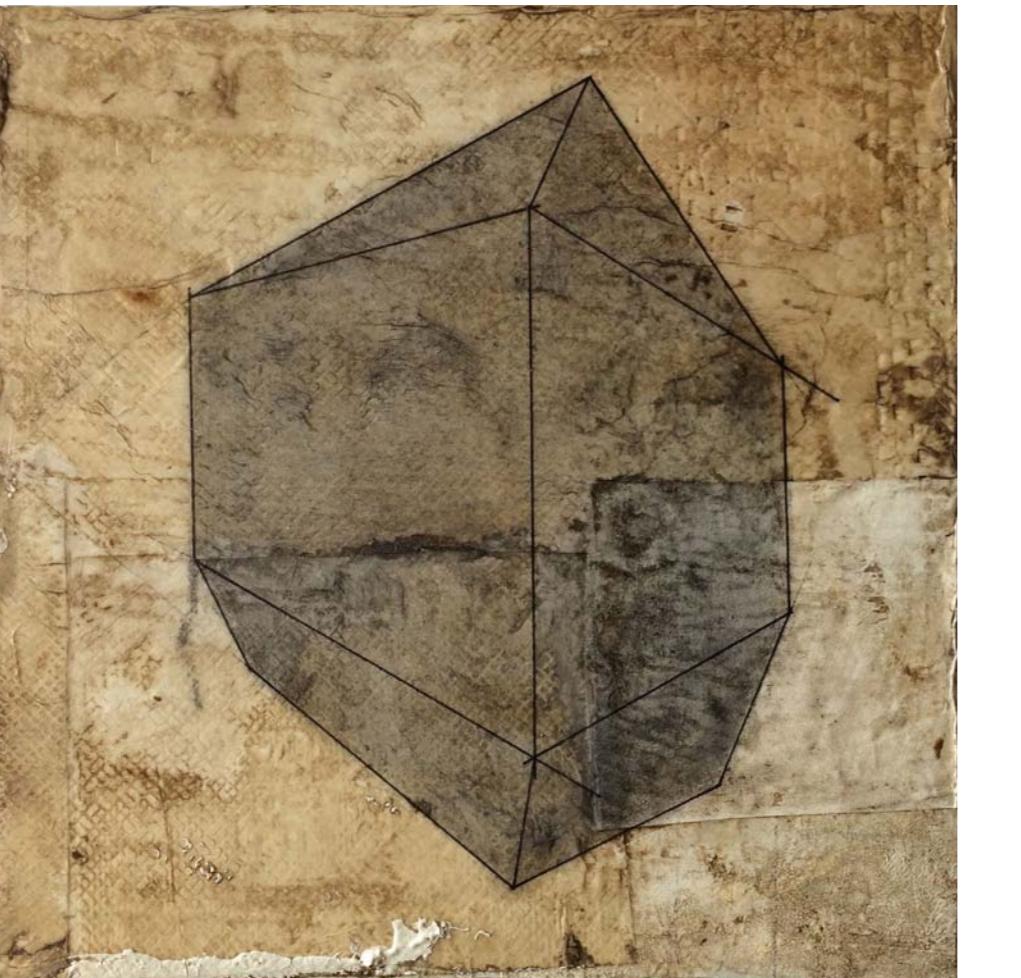
mixed media on paper, 15x21 cm

NOWHERE MOUNTAIN 1
(2016)



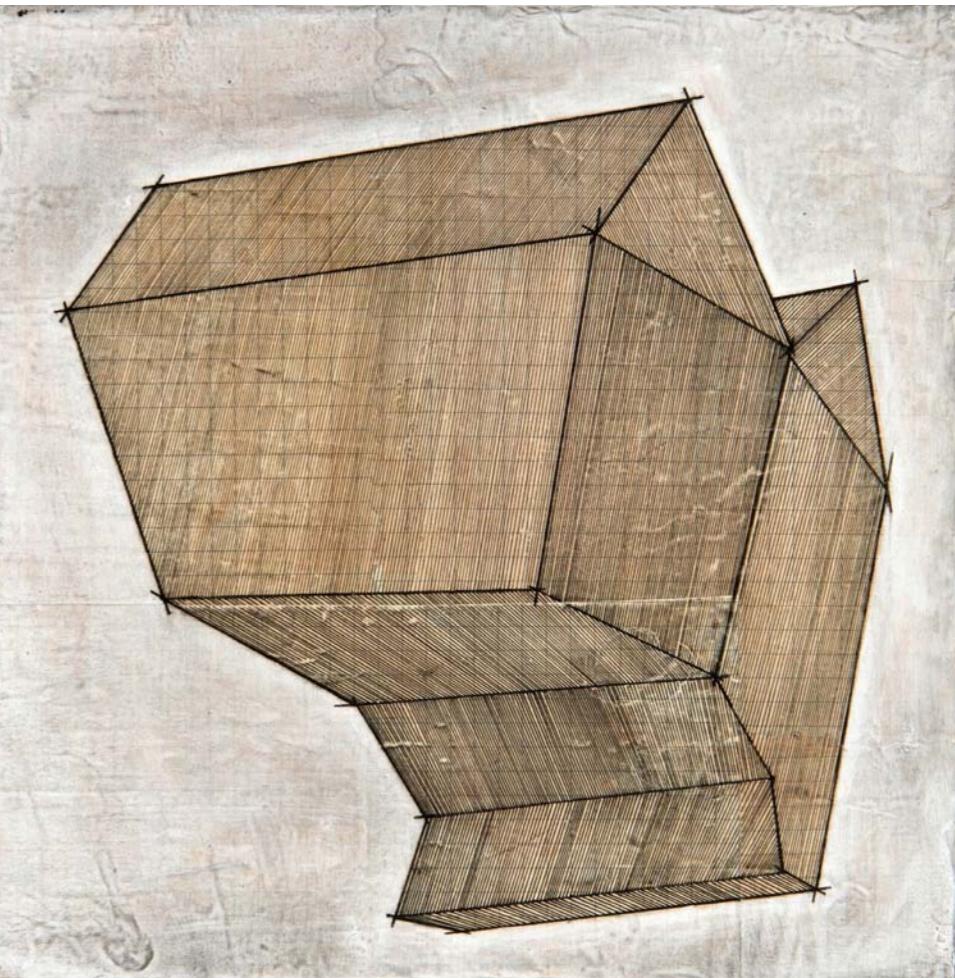
mixed media on wood, 15x15 cm

NOWHERE
(2017)

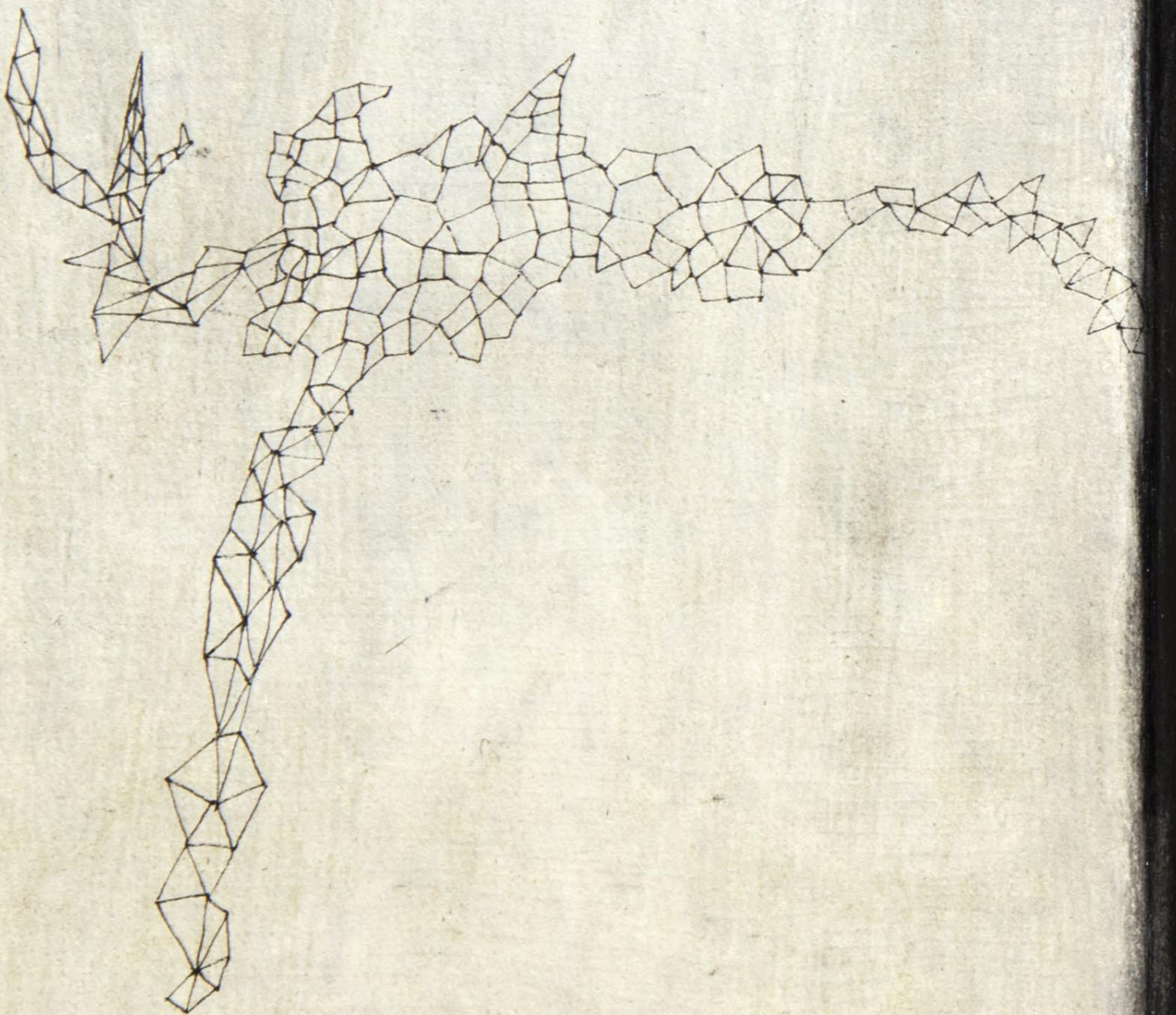


mixed media on wood, 20,5x20,5 cm

NOWHERE SOLID
(2017)



mixed media on wood, 20,5x20,5 cm



BLACK BOOK STORIES
detail

MAURO BENZI

Date of birth:

17/09/1976 Rimini (Italy)

Education:

1994 - High School Level (History of Art and Jewelry)

1996 - Gems Setter Specialization

Exhibitions:

2016 - The Summer Show, GR Gallery, New York

2015 - Cantiere Artistico 3° Edizione, S. Mauro Pascoli (FC)

2015 - Morphine Experience, Ala Moderna del Museo della Città, Rimini

2015 - RisuonaRimini #2, Castel Sismondo, Rimini

2014 - Matrioska Lab Store #6, Ala Moderna del Museo della Città, Rimini

2014 - Cantiere Artistico 2° Edizione, S. Mauro Pascoli (FC)

2014 - Padre Nostro, Palazzo degli Scalzi, Sassoferato (AN)

2014 - Studio Materico, Spazio MAT, Misano Adriatico (RN)

2014 - Premio F.A.M.E. per l'Arte Contemporanea, Villa Franceschi, Riccione (RN)

2014 - Padre Nostro, Nuova Galleria delle Arti, Fabriano (AN)

2014 - Eva e la Sua Terra, Magazzini del Sale, Cervia, (RA)

2014 - RisuonaRimini #1, Ala Moderna del Museo della Città, Rimini

2013 - Matrioska Lab Store #4, Castel Sismondo, Rimini

2013 - 63° Rassegna Internazionale d'Arte G.B.Salvi, Sassoferato (AN)

2012 - 62° Rassegna Internazionale d'Arte G.B.Salvi, Sassoferato (AN)

2010 - San Marino Artisti, Repubblica di San Marino

2009 - Nott'Arte, Repubblica di San Marino

2004 - Dei diletti e delle penne, Rimini

Awards: 63° Rassegna Internazionale d'Arte G.B.Salvi, Sassoferato (AN)

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TMF

Bauhaus

NOWHERE / LANDSCAPE

2017

(B)