



AGNES ESSONTI LUQUE



MONA VARICHON

Art-o-rama, Marseille, FR (2024)

We are very pleased to announce our participation in the 2024 edition of Art-o-Rama with a shared booth between Bombon Projects and Cordova. On this occasion, we present a series of photographic and mixed media works through a dialogue with artists Agnes Essonti Luque (Barcelona, 1996) and Mona Varichon (Paris, 1989).

Agnes Essonti Luque is a Cameroonian and Spanish artist whose work delves into fundamental issues of identity, culture, and ancestry. Through her work, Luque explores and challenges the complexities of cultural belonging and identity using a variety of artistic media, including photography, video, and performance. These media become tools with which she configures and reconstructs her own memories, offering an introspective view of her heritage and experiences.

Deeply influenced by decolonial movements and activism, Essonti Luque's work addresses themes of self-representation, narratives of identity and belonging, and food politics providing a platform for reflection and dialogue on cultural representation and resistance.

Agnes Essonti Luque resides and works in Hospitalet de Llobregat. Her academic background includes studies in Photography in London, a postgraduate degree in Culture and Thought of Black Peoples, and a master's degree in Photography. Essonti's work has been shown in international exhibitions, including *1384 Days Wide* at Rencontres de Bamako 2015, 14th Dakar Biennale OFF and XI Lanzarote Art Biennial. In 2023 she produced the performance *Bayam Sellam, La*

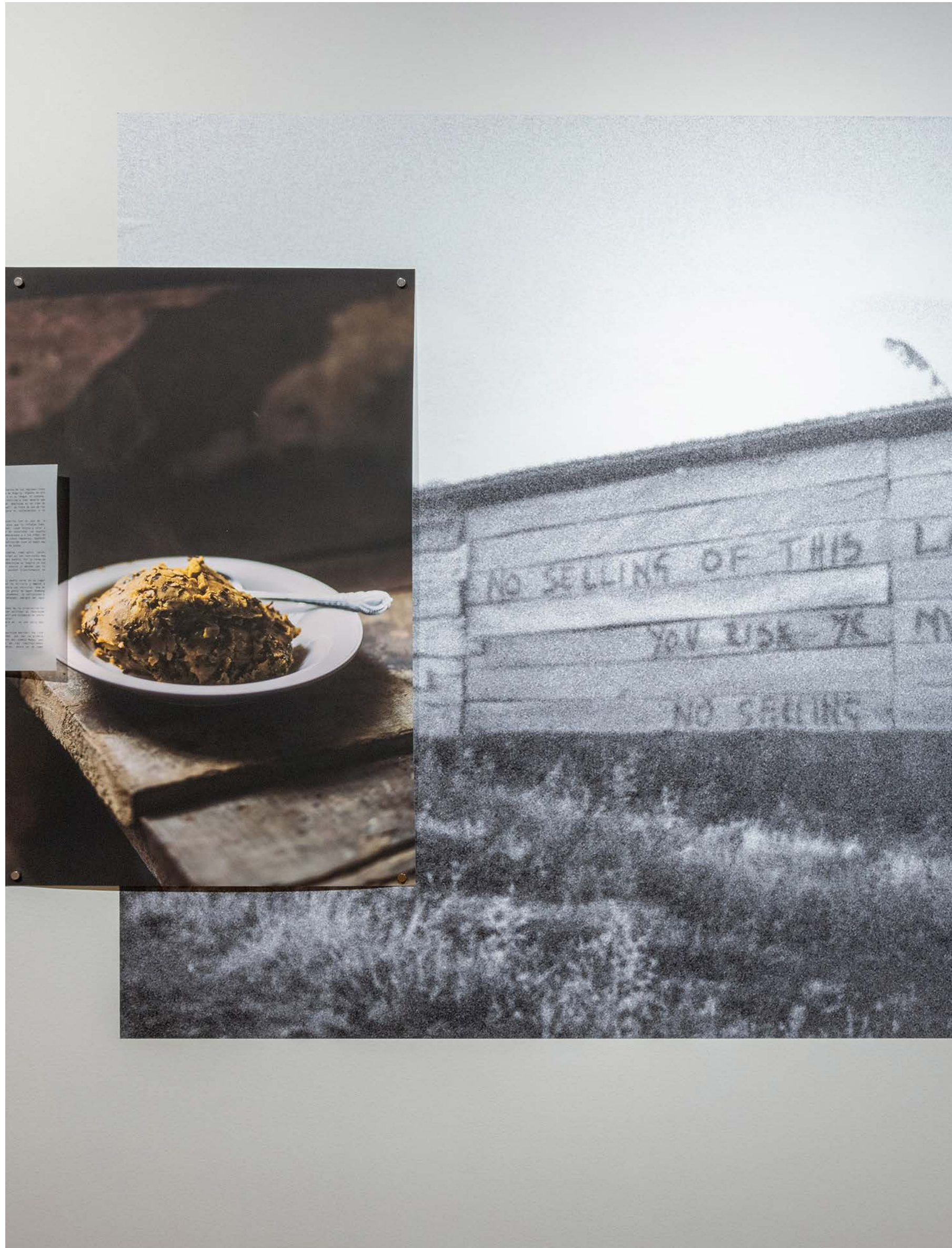
Bissaperie at the Museo Nacional Thyssen- Bornemisza and in the MNCARS.

Mona Varichon is a Franco-Egyptian artist and translator based in Paris and New York City who received her MFA from ArtCenter (Pasadena, CA) in 2018.

Her work uses advertisement, social media, popular culture, art history and 'amateur' art forms to both chronicle and comment on our present moment. Her photographs, films and performances archive, pay homage to, or contextualize major cultural events, as well as intimate experiences that she captures or puts on display in order to make them shareable. Her pieces circulate on YouTube, in various stores, mailboxes, interiors, cinemas and art spaces.

Recent exhibits include Air de Paris and the Centre Pompidou (Paris, France), the Capc musée d'art contemporain (Bordeaux, France), the Van Gogh Foundation (Arles, France), the Villa Arson (Nice, France), Alienze (Vienna, Austria), the Sifang Art Museum Satellite (Shanghai, China), the National Gallery (Prague, Czech Republic), Cocotte (Treignac, France), and The Vanity Gallery, the Redcat Theatre, Kristina Kite and The Egyptian Theater (Los Angeles, CA). With the FRAC Lorraine (Metz, France), she translated the catalogs of artists Pippa Garner, Betye Saar, Christina Ramberg and Cécile B. Evans into French. She was nominated for the 2024 Ricard Prize by curator Arlène Berceliot-Courtin and will take part in the Prize's exhibition in September 2024 at the Fondation Ricard, Paris.

A Journey (2024)



A Journey (2024) installation detail

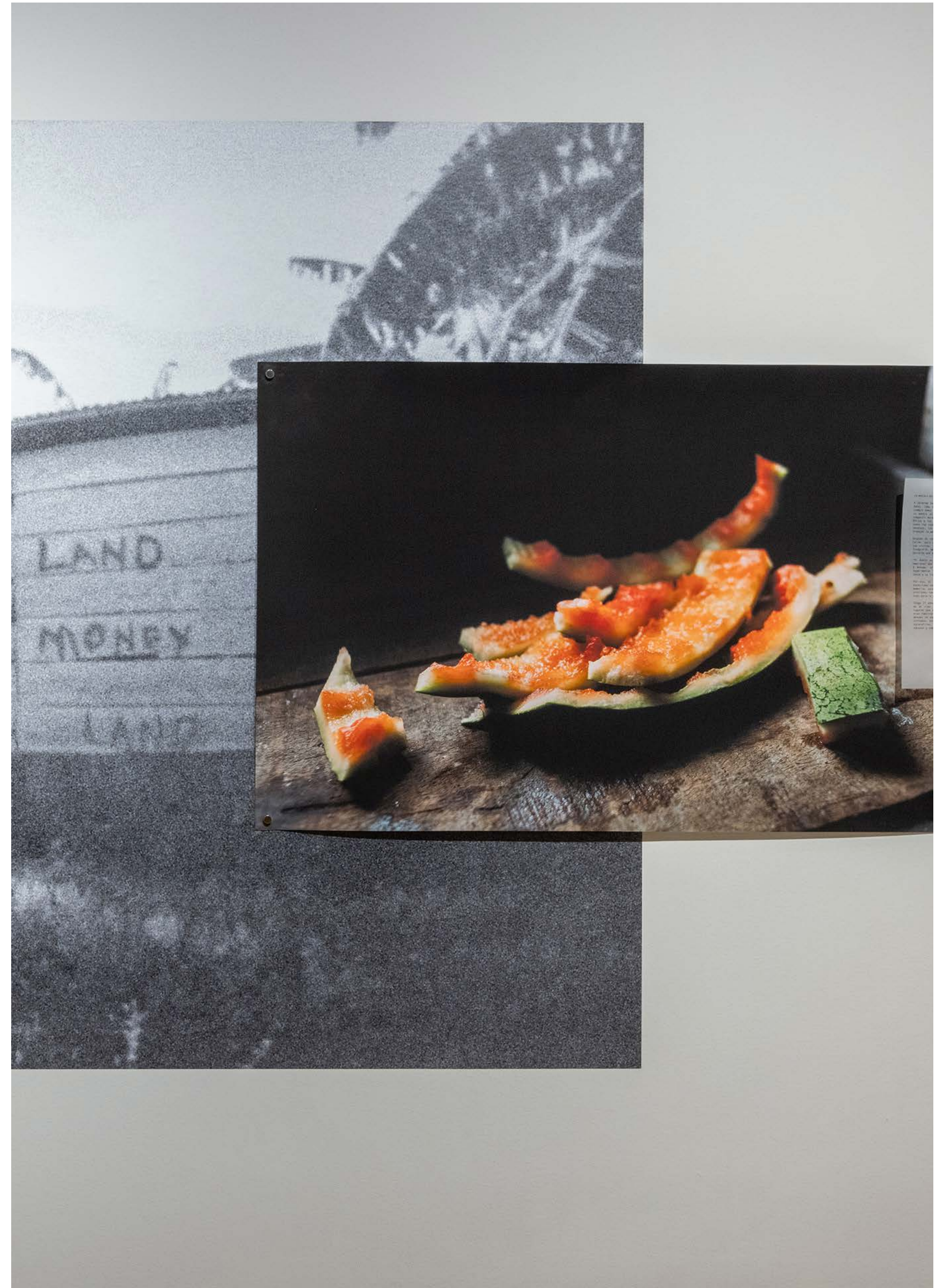
A Journey is an installation by **Agnes Essonti** based on a wooden statuette from the collection of the Ethnological Museum of Catalonia, the result of an invitation by curator Rosa Lleó to participate in the show *Reenchantments*, an exhibition that brings together the research of 10 artists on ten pieces from the collection and proposes a new reading of these works and the possibility of imagining new futures.

Essonti has chosen a wooden statuette from Central Africa to revisit questions focused on ethnographic concepts —because ethnography is a fundamentally European science— contrasting them with notions of ancestry and spirituality from African cosmologies. This statuette, currently in the reserve, is a protected piece with heritage status and can only be seen in exhibitions. But if, beyond the authenticity of the object, what interests us is its meaning, it could be presented in a different way, in this case

through a replica. The artist photographed the original statue in the museum and commissioned a copy from Ibrahima Seydi, a Senegalese artisan living in Barcelona. This replica is “reenchanted” and travels with the artist to Cameroon, engaging with both place and family and friends. It is captured in a photographic series

“I have to admit that this object interests me far more for what it was, or could have been, than for what it is today (a piece of wood, a number, nothing). The only information we have says “ancestor statue” and tells us about the material it is made of, where it was acquired from, and when. Who was this ancestor, and what was she like? Does she live on within this object? Did she magically disappear at the very moment Jordi Sabater i Pi decided that the statue was to be brought to Barcelona’s Ethnographic Museum? Or did she die slowly, shut away in a storeroom? How did her descendants remember her when the statue was no longer there? Has anybody been looking for her over all these years?”.

—Agnes Essonti Luque



A Journey (2024) installation detail



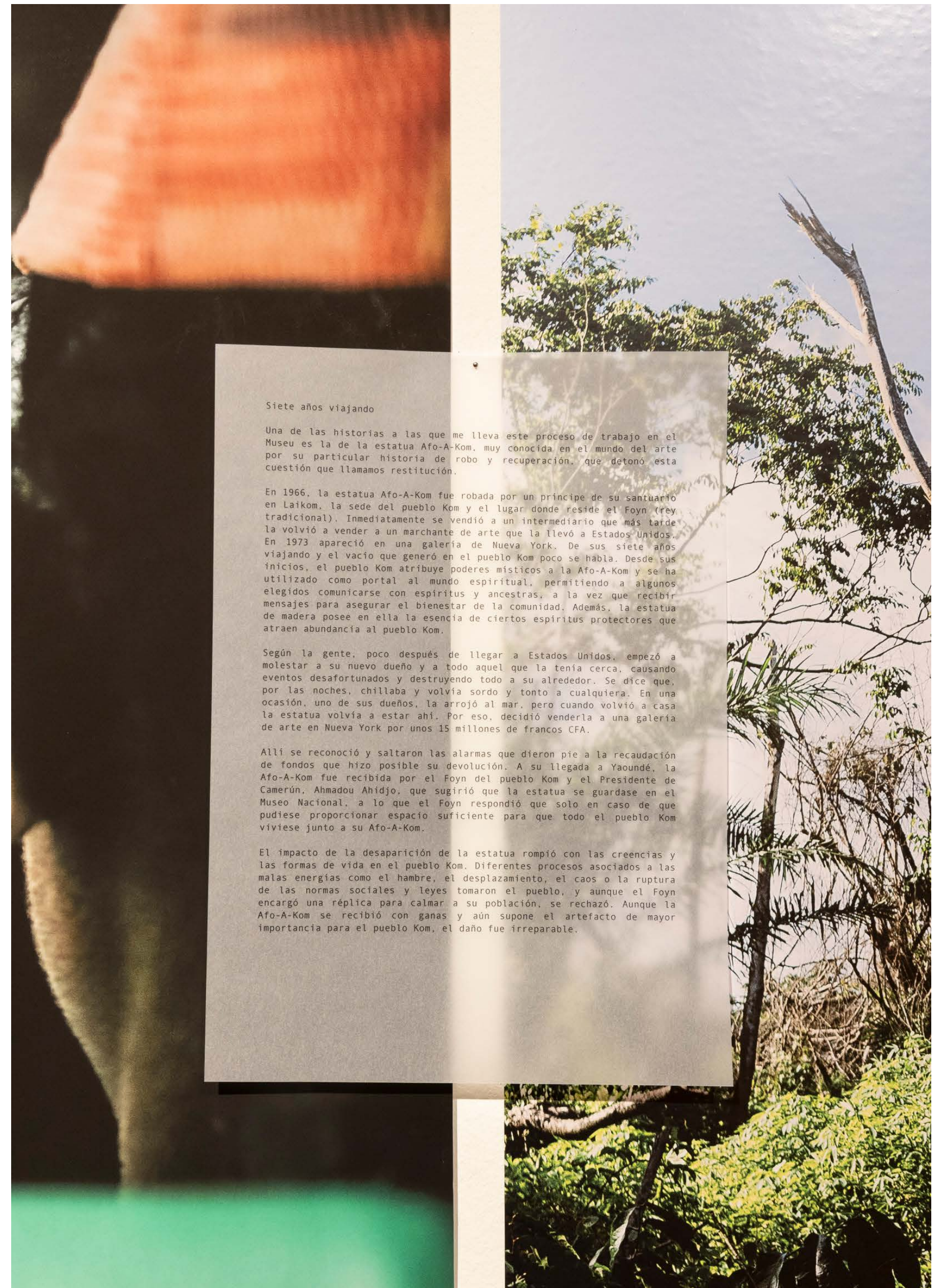
A Journey (2024)

Agnes Essonti Luque

Photographic installation: inkjet print on Canson Satin photo paper, print on vinyl and CMYK print on vegetable paper
600 cm x 135 cm



A Journey (2024) installation detail



A Journey (2024) installation details



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A Journey (2024) installation detail



A Journey (2024) installation detail



AGNES ESSONTI LUQUE

(b. 1996, L'Hospitalet, lives and works in Barcelona)

INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Taym we Taym bi bin Taym*, Bombon Projects, Barcelona, ES

2022 *Beta a kale fo ma on mapane*, Tangent Projects, Barcelona, ES

2016 *Nadie lo quiso así*, CC Pati Limona, Barcelona, ES

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Origens Africae*, Pep Llabrés Art Contemporani, Palma, ES

Foodscapes, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, AR

Embodying the Sacred, Voices, UNIT London, Londres, UK

Foodscapes, La casa de la Arquitectura, Madrid, ES

Reencantamientos, Museu Etnològic i de Cultures del Món, Barcelona, ES

Generación 2024, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, ES

Un cambio de paradigma, Sala Arte Joven, Madrid, ES

2023 *Something Else at The Citadel*, El Cairo, EG

Dozing on the accidental provocation, CC

Blanquerna, Madrid, ES

Fragmentos en Bozal, CCE Bata, Bata, GQ

In dreams I walk with you, Silver Eye,

Pittsburgh, US

Cuidar, Sanar, Recordar, Resistir,

MAC Panamá, PA

Las palabras que aún no poseemos, XI Bienal de Arte de Lanzarote, ES

2022 *Mapes d'allò que no podem oblidar*, SAJ, Barcelona, ES

Dozing on the accidental provocation, Arts Santa Mònica, Barcelona, ES

Fragments en Bozal, Dak'Art OFF, Dakar, SN

2021 *Eres menos tú de lo que piensas*, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Rafael Botí, Córdoba, ES

2020 *Healing*, Bienal MAV, ES

PERFORMANCES AND GATHERINGS

2024 *Inventing Recipes to be (together)* with SAJ BCN, AER Summer Academy, Bodø, NO

2023 *NA CHOP A CHOP*, *Something Else at The Citadel*, El Cairo, EG

Wi get ears, mek wi hye; wi get eyes, mek wi nye, Tangent Projects, ES

Wi get ears, mek wi hye; wi get eyes, mek wi nye, Bombon Projects, ES

La Bissaperie, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, ES
Bayam Sellam, Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum, Madrid, ES

2022 *Essonti must nyongo*, Arts Santa Monica, Barcelona, ES
Essonti must nyongo, Tangent Projects, Barcelona, ES

BIENNALES

2024 *MANIFESTA 15*, Barcelona, ES

2023 *Foodscapes*, Pabellón Español, Biennale Architettura, Venecia, IT
Las palabras que aún no poseemos, XI Bienal de Arte de Lanzarote, ES

2022 *OZANGÉ*, I Bienal de Fotografía Africana en España, Málaga, ES

2015 *1384 Days Wide*, Rencontres de Bamako, Bamako, ML

ART FAIRS

2024 *Art-o-rama*, Bombon Projects, Marsella, FR

2023 *OTHERNESS*, Art Madrid '23, Madrid, ES

2022 *SWAB Barcelona Art Fair*, Tangent Projects, Barcelona, ES

RESIDENCIES, WORKSHOPS AND TALKS

2024 *Les Ongles Noires*, Dakar, SN

2023 *Les Ateliers NADAR*, Musée National de Yaoundé, CM
Artist Residency, Dëkandoo, Gandiol, SN
La Cordobayangue, Instituto Cervantes, Bremen, DE

2022 Plat(t)form Fotomuseum Winterthur, special mention, Winterthur, CH

2021 *Cuatro X Tres Botí Abierto*, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Rafael Botí, Córdoba, ES
RARA Residencia, Villanueva del Rosario, ES
Más Visibles, Más Feminismos: Diversidad, estrategias y redes en tiempo de pandemia, MAV, ES

2017 *Descolonizando la Mirada, Lo Afro está en el Centro*, CA2M, Madrid

CURATING

2024 *Miradas ecofeministas en el arte ecuatoguineano*, CCE Bata, GQ

COLLECTIONS

Fundación Montemadrid

Free the trappers (2024)

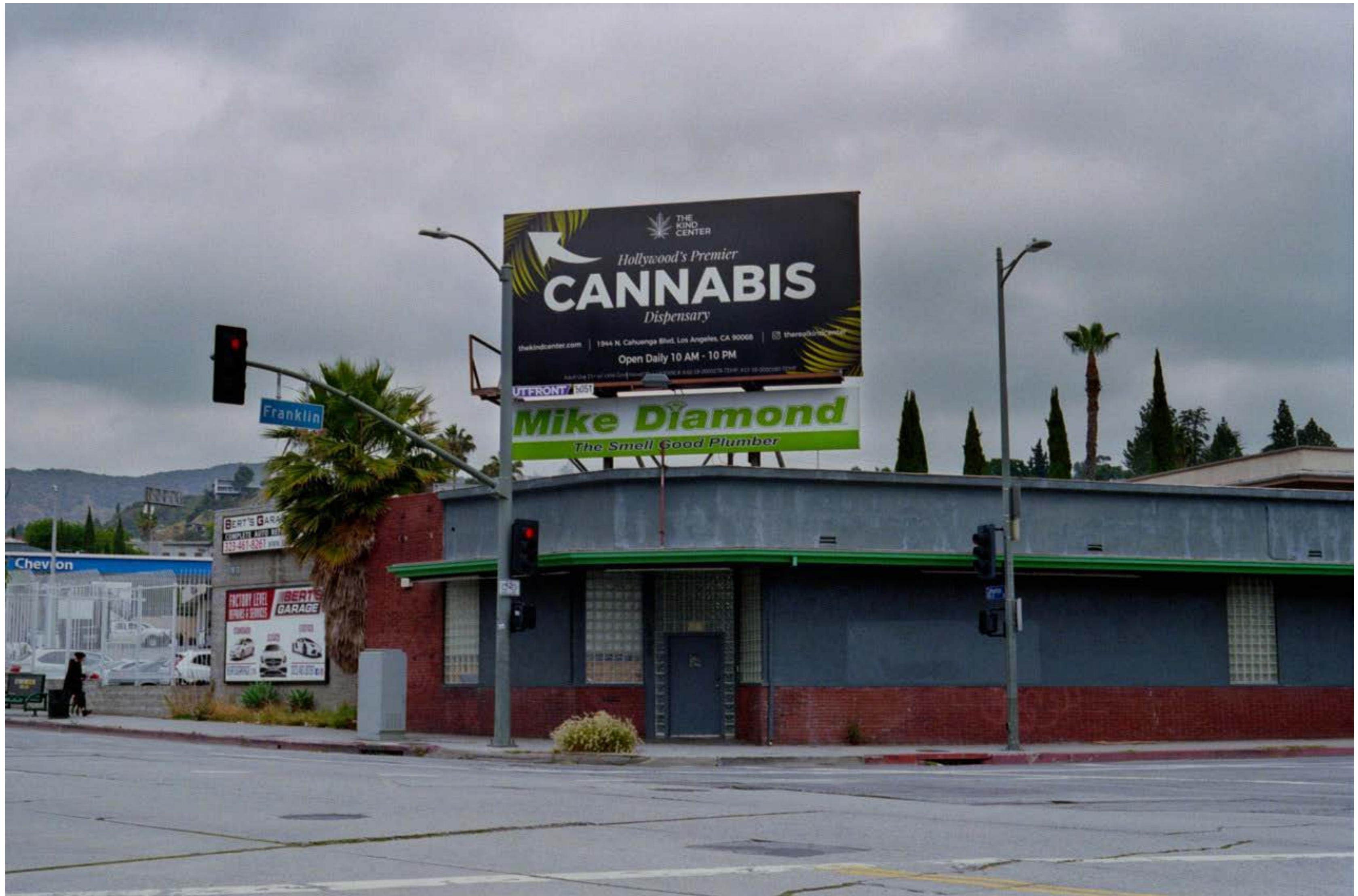


LA Cannabis Co, June 2019, Los Angeles CA 90019 (2024), Free the trappers series

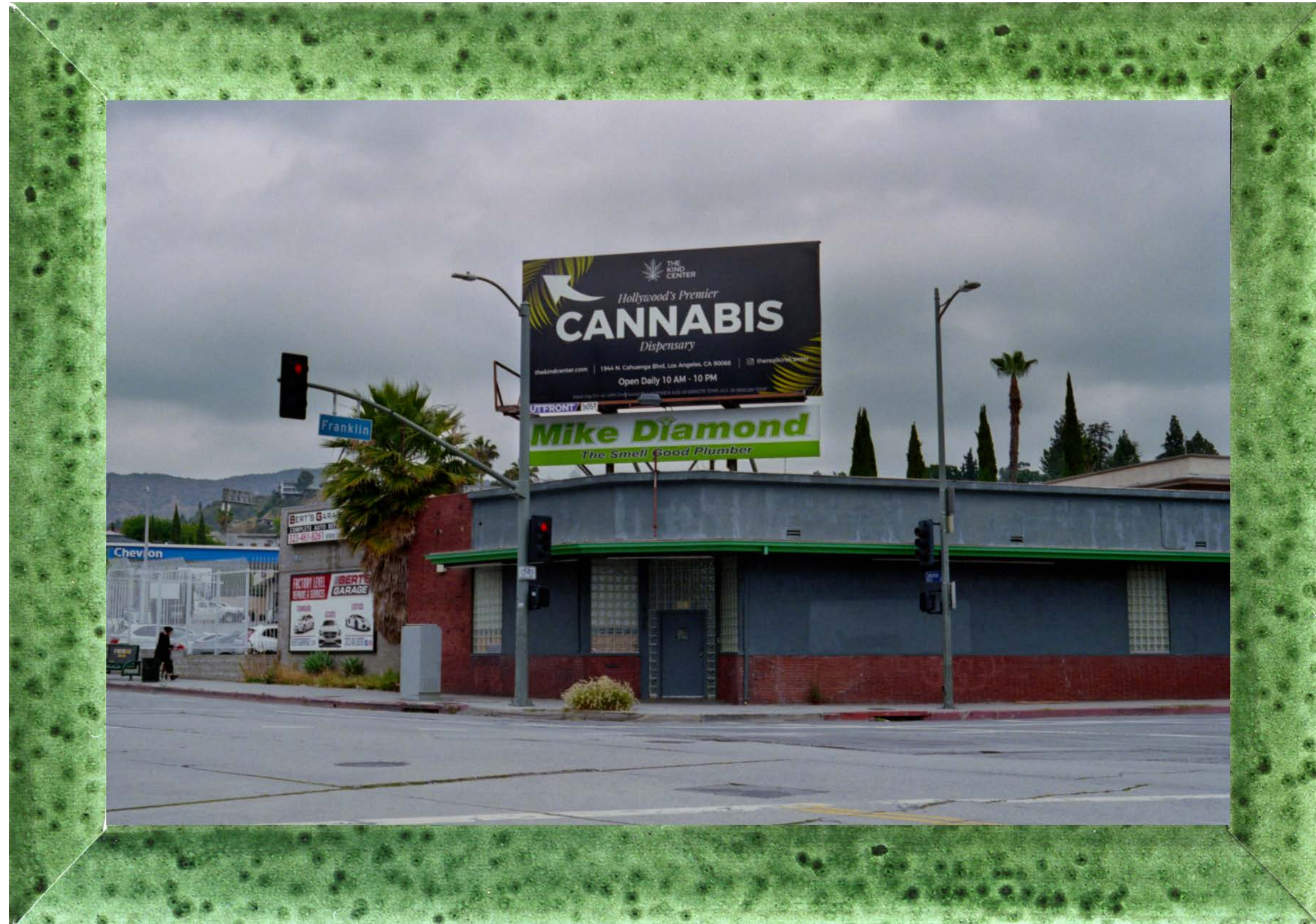
The images on display come from **Mona Varichon's** ongoing series entitled *Free the trappers/Libérez les dealers* which documents billboards advertising marijuana dispensaries after the recent legalization in California and New York. Varichon's images shed light on this particular moment in cultural and legal history and seek to question the language, imagery and intentions of this newly sanctioned industry.



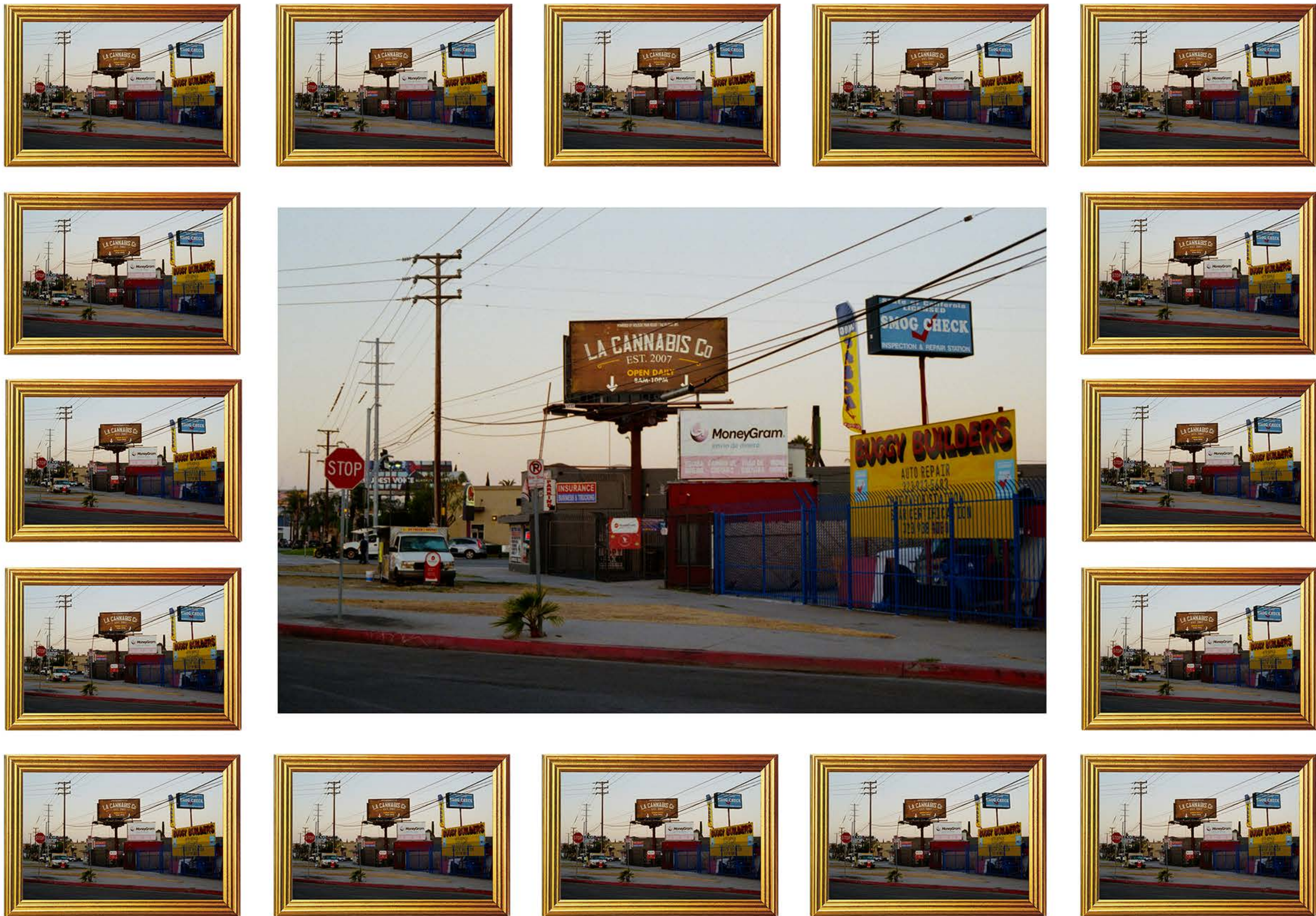
Hollywood's Premier Cannabis, May 2019, Los Angeles CA 90068 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 2 + 1 AP
Photographic installation, archival pigment print: 1 print + 16 prints in Photop's frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon
92 x 68 cm



Hollywood's Premier Cannabis, May 2019, Los Angeles CA 90068 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 2
Archival pigment print
52 x 34 cm



Hollywood's Premier Cannabis, May 2019, Los Angeles CA 90068 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 32
Archival pigment print on paper in Photop's frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon
11 x 15,7 cm



LA Cannabis Co, June 2019, Los Angeles CA 90019 (2024), Free the trappers series

Mona Varichon

Ed. 2 + 1 AP

Photographic installation, archival pigment print: 1 print + 16 prints in Photop's frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon

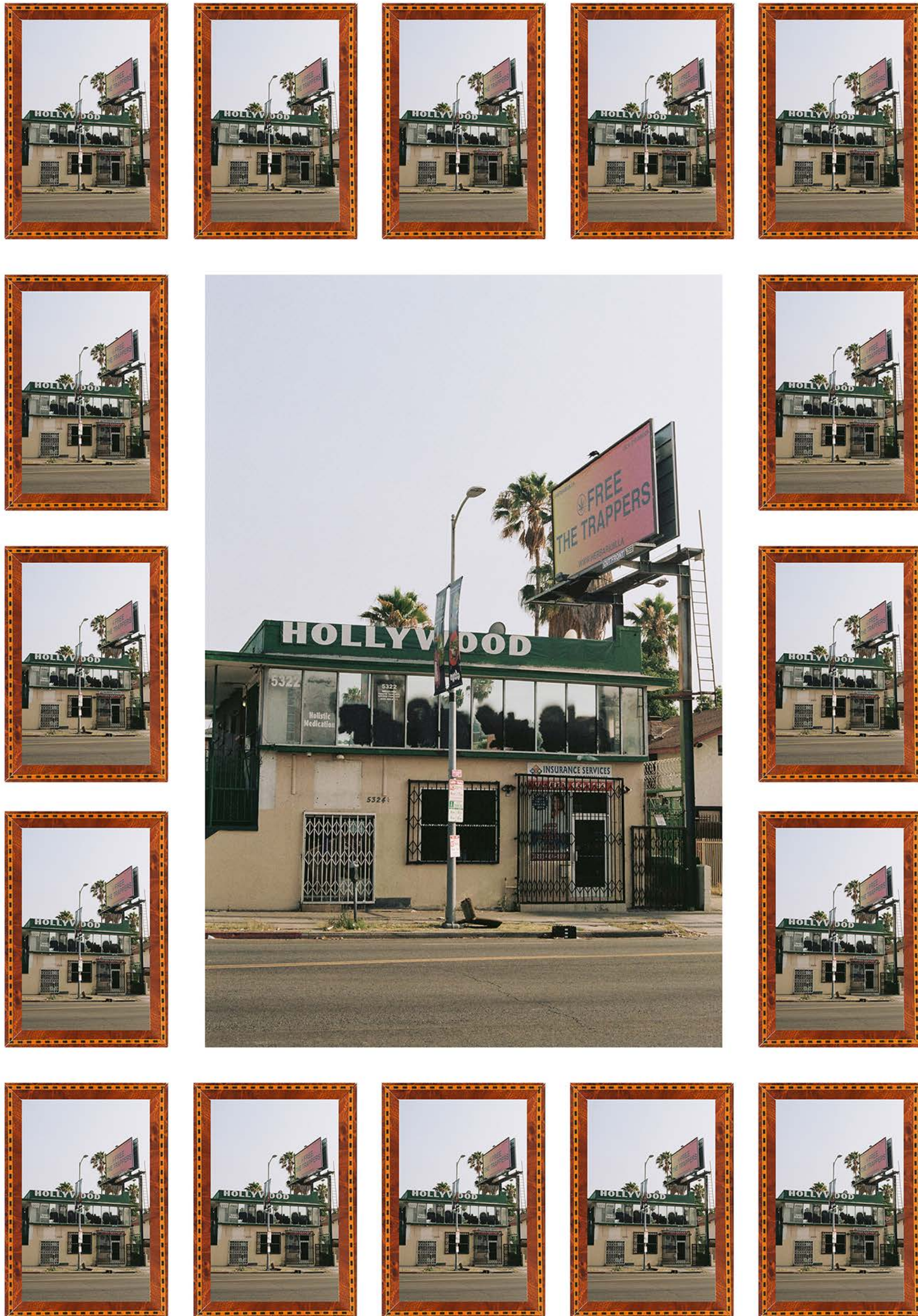
92 x 68 cm



LA Cannabis Co, June 2019, Los Angeles CA 90019 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 2
Archival pigment print
52 x 34 cm



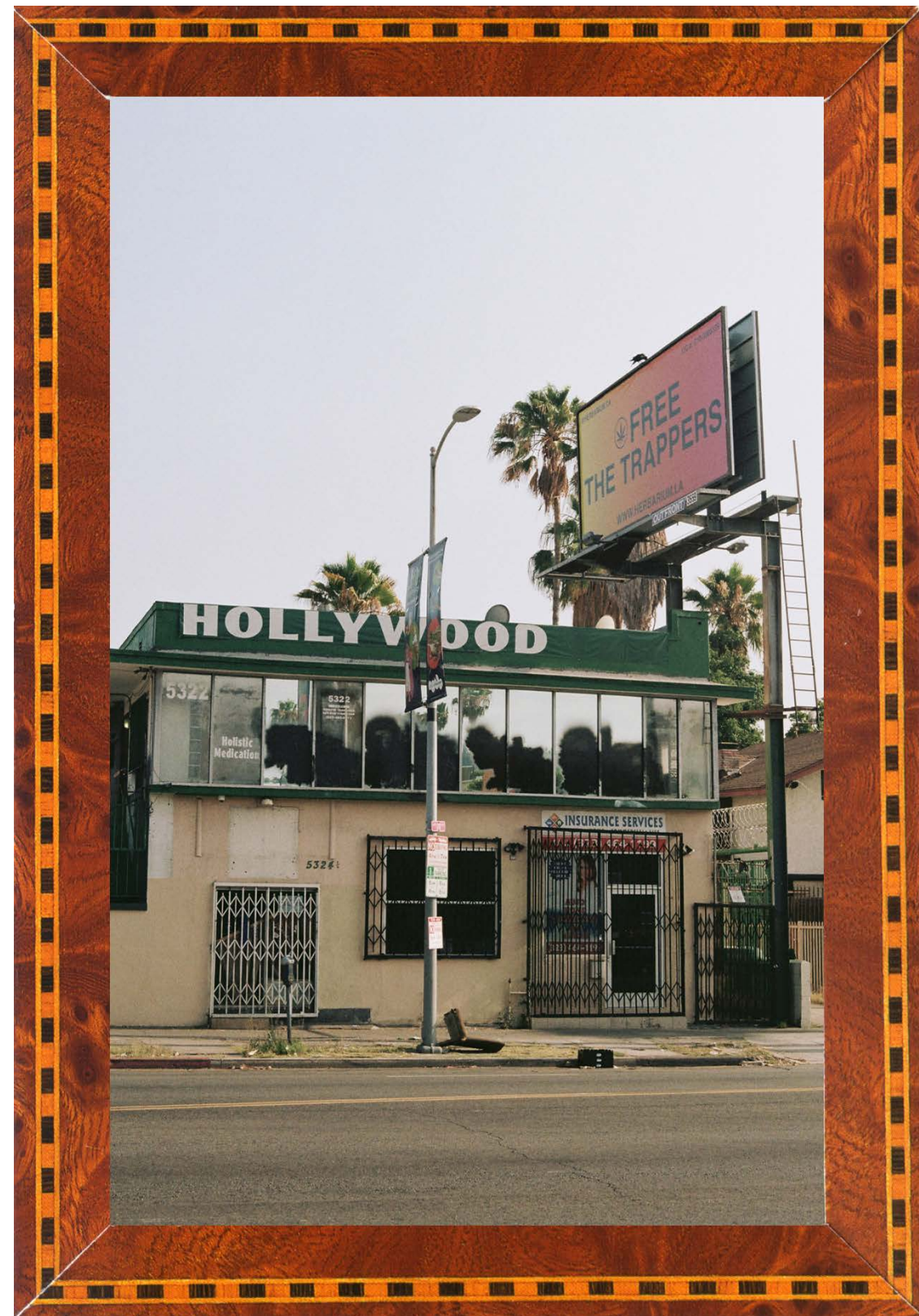
LA Cannabis Co, June 2019, Los Angeles CA 90019 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 32
Archival pigment print on paper in Photop's frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon
11 x 15,7 cm



*Free the trappers, Los Angeles CA 90036, July 2021 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 2 + 1 AP
Photographic installation, archival pigment print: 1 print + 16 prints in Photop's
frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon
92 x 68 cm*



Free the trappers, Los Angeles CA 90036, July 2021 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 2
Archival pigment print
52 x 34 cm



Free the trappers, Los Angeles CA 90036, July 2021 (2024), Free the trappers series
Mona Varichon
Ed. 32
Archival pigment print on paper in Photop's frames by Jacques-Henry Varichon
11 x 15,7 cm

MONA VARICHON

(b. 1989, Paris, lives and works between Paris and New York)

INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Mona Varichon presents*, Bel Ami, Los Angeles, US

2022 *La porte du Mektoub*, MOVE 2022, curated by Caroline Ferreira, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR

2021 *Corps à cor*, CAPC Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux, FR

2018 *No, I Was Thinking Of Life*, Goodan Family Graduate Art Gallery, Pasadena, US

2016 *Demain C'est Loin*, Galerie La Croix, Pasadena, US

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Weather Diaries* (with Malak El Zanaty Varichon), Air de Paris, Romainville, FR

Entrée des Artistes (with Nicolas Faubert), Air de Paris, Romainville, FR

All the messages are emotional, curated by Arlène Berceiot Courtin, Fondation Ricard, Paris, FR

Nouvelle Pangée, Mairie de Villetaneuse, Villetaneuse, FR

2023 *I took a screenshot of the whole world*, curated by Ruba Al-Sweel, POUISH, Aubervilliers, FR

L'Atelier du Sud, Fondation Vincent van Gogh, Arles, FR

Small World, Sentiment, Paris FR

Amour Systémique, curated by Cédric Fauq, CAPC

Musée d'Art Contemporain, Burdeos, FR

to *"The Fire Next Time"*, curated by Rosanna Puyol and Mawena Yehouessi, Villa Arson, Nice, FR

2022 *La Cité des arts*, curated by Elsa Delage, april april gallery, Brooklyn, US

Tourismus (with Naoki Sutter—Shudo), Alienze, Viena, AT

Inner dims, curated by Julie Beaufiles, Sifang Art Museum Satellite, Shanghai, CN

Des voix traversées, Institut d'art contemporain, Villeurbanne, FR

Lèche-vitrine, Cocotte, Treignac, FR

MOVE: Intimacy as Resistance, curated by Caroline Ferreira, Trade Fair Palace, Praga, CZ

2021 *Matrices & multiples* (with Malak El Zanaty Varichon), The Vanity Gallery, Los Angeles, US

Les Urbaines, curated by Noémie Degen and Simon Jatton, Espace Arlaud, Lausanne CH

Les Chichas de la pensée, curated by Mehdi Meklat and Badrouline Saïd Abdallah, Magasins Généraux, Pantin, FR

The Going Away Present, Kristina Kite Gallery, Los Angeles, US

The negative version of the official version

of things, curated by Julie Beaufiles, Balice Hertling, Paris, FR

- 2020 *Le saint ennui*, curated by Clément Délépine, BQ, Berlin, DE
- 2020 *Auguri*, curated by Louise Sartor, Cocotte, Treignac, FR
- The Mushroom at the End of The World* by Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, u's, Diamond Valley, US
- Mere Skyn*, curated by Cory Scozzari, CAPC musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux, FR
- Does my thumb erase my mouth ?*, curated by Lucas Morin, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, FR
- Your friends and neighbors*, High Art, Paris, FR
- Portable Documents Formatted for Home Use*, Bel Ami, Los Angeles, US (online)
- A table for 50*, curated by Philipp Timischl y Gina Folly, GaleriePCP, Paris, FR
- Heavy Metal Rat*, curated by Kim Farkas y Marion Vasseur-Raluy, 7 Ricaut, Paris FR
- 2019 *An exhibition of artworks by Kayla Ephros, Nicole-Antonia Spagnola, Diamond Stingily, McKenzie Toma, (...) Mona Varichon, Audrey Wollen*, Fiesta Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood, US
- 2017 *Amia Yokoyama, Lane Davis, Mona Varichon*, in lieu, Los Angeles, US
- Ex-Libris*, curated by Marcus Herse, Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, Orange, US
- From Second to Third*, curated by Alberto Cuadros, 2738 Gilroy, Los Angeles, US
- 2016 *Tropismes*, Cité Internationale des Arts, Pavillon des Italiens, Paris, FR
- CURATORIAL WORK**
- 2023 *Marie Losier & Genevieve Belleveau*, april april gallery, Brooklyn, US
- 2021 *Musical chat with Joseph Schiano Di Lombo*, Conservatoire Jacques Thibaud, Bordeaux, FR
- George et Mike Kuchar*, Cinéma Le Klingon, Air de Paris, Romainville, FR
- Malak El Zanaty Varichon, *De l'autre côté du ciel avec eux sous les étoiles*, Cocotte, Treignac, FR
- Underground/On the surface*, Ciné—club Totale Dérive, Arles, FR
- 2019 *George and Mike Kuchar*, Yale Union, Portland, US
- Dovetail II*, Cordova Gallery for LOOP Barcelona, Barcelona, ES
- 2018 *An Ode To All That*, ArtCenter Alumni Reunion, Pasadena, US
- Alone Together*, Leroy's, Los Angeles, US
- Temps Mort, This Light: Stuttgart*, Kunsthalle Stuttgart, Stuttgart, DE
- 2017 *Crisis*, Ampersand, Lisbon, PT
- Measures of Distance*, Potts, Alhambra, US

bombon

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