



ONLINE PORTFOLIO REVIEW 2020

presented by Aarhus Billedkunstcenter / Aarhus Center for Visual Art



Christel Pilkaer Thomsen

christelpilkaerthomsen.com

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Christel Pilkaer Thomsen is a photography-based visual artist who graduated from MA Photography at the Royal College of Art, London in 2019. Her photographic practice is rooted in different photographic methods and alternative processes, and it can be seen as a form of expanded and embodied portraiture with a focus on memory, identity and mythology in relation to present-day social and environmental issues. By combining different methods, from abstract and figurative photography, she is exploring the boundaries of the photographic medium in its form, processes and contents.

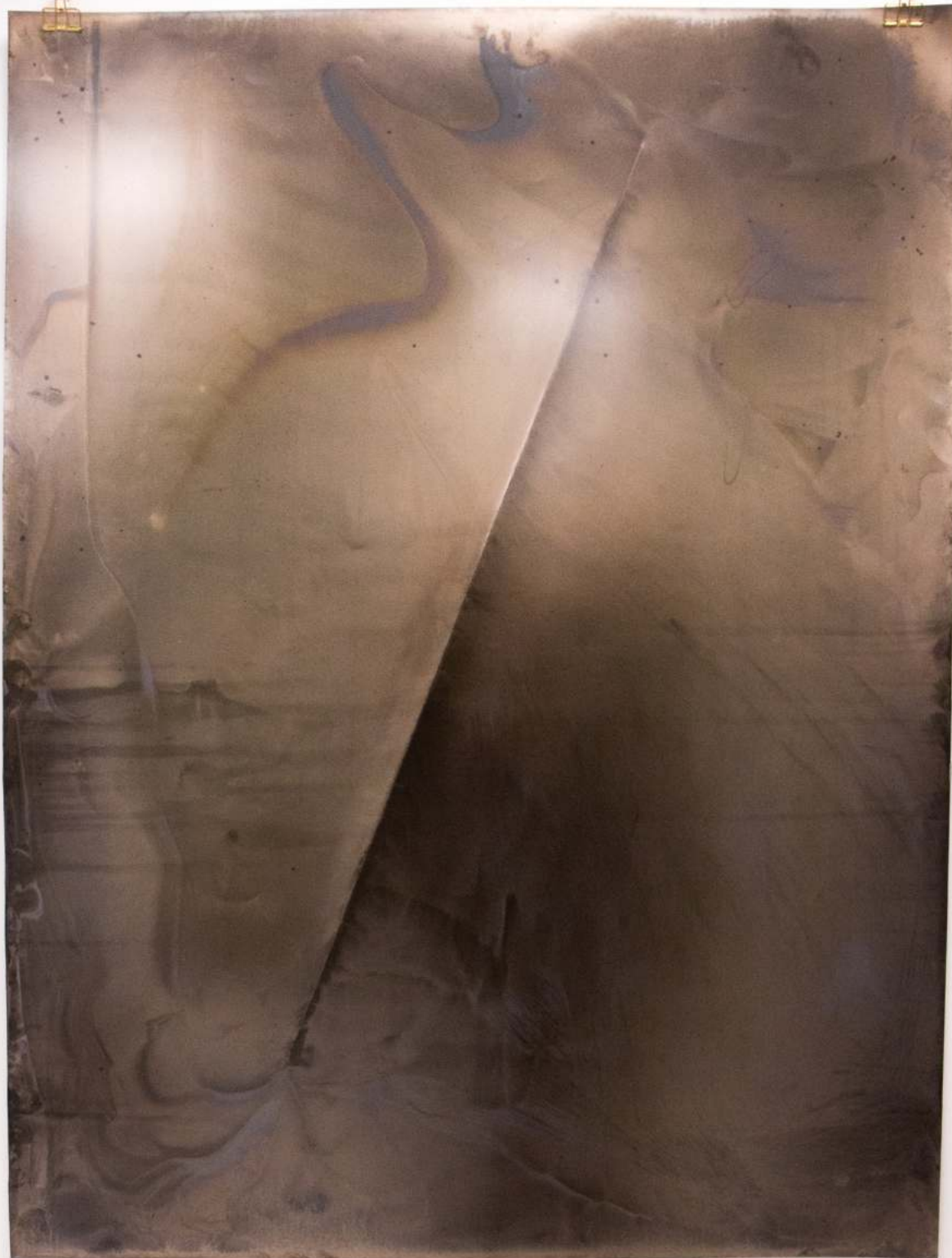
Tracing the Aftermath (ongoing)

Exhibited at Robert Capa Center of Photography (Budapest, HU) as part of Parallel Photo Platform, 2019.

RC photographic paper, digital print on fabric, metal pole / digital print on paper / alternative process on photographic paper, Perspex/Plexiglas / RC photographic paper, acrylic sheets, metal wire / RC photographic paper

Tracing the Aftermath is a collection of different segments from a greater ongoing body of work. The project investigates the role of photography as a tool to visualize the non-visible in relation to traumatic memories and how trauma unconsciously affects the body and the mind. Through the visualizing of contemporary post-war problematics, the use of personal narratives and collective responses to trauma, the project explores the identity and memory of people living with PTSD. This is woven together by personal narratives of the subjects and abstractions created by the artist.





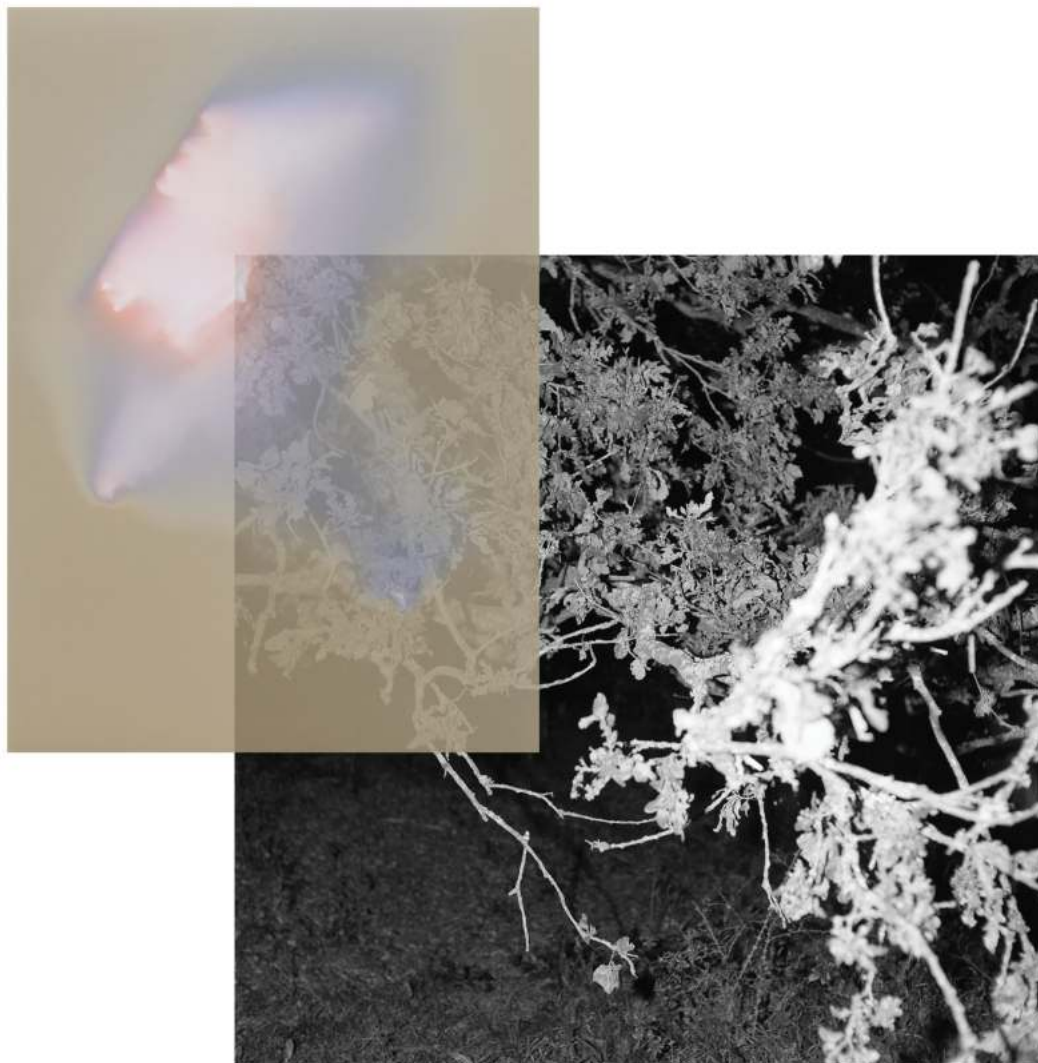


Inoculate Promethean

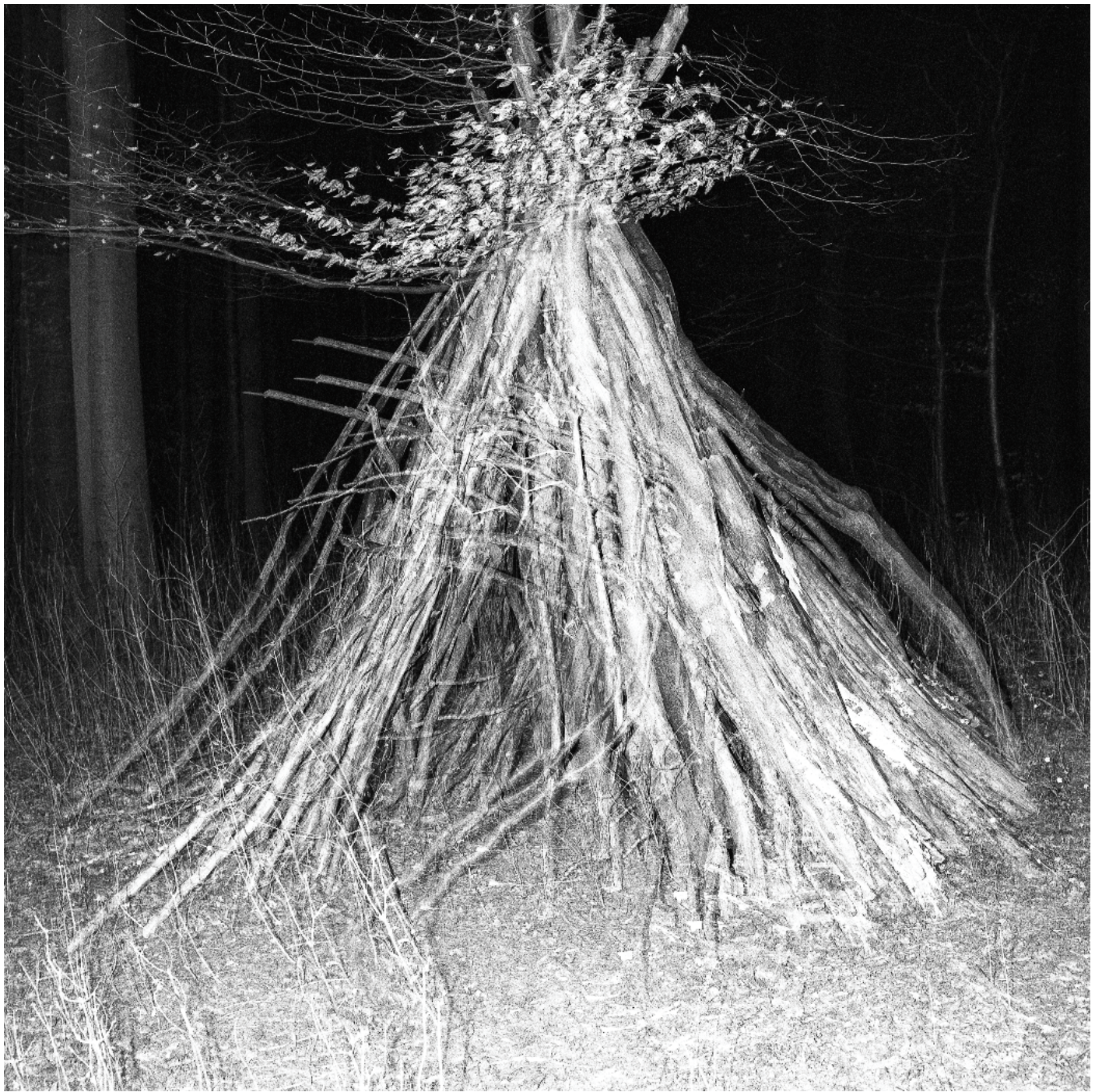
Created during a group workshop facilitated by pic.london (June-October, 2019). Exhibited as part of a collective exhibition at Lewisham Arthouse in London (October 2019).

RC photographic paper, transparent sheets.

Inoculate Promethean began during a group workshop with the artist collective, A Rumour Reached the Village. The project deals with the human psyche and non-human influences on fear of both the unknown and the known. Based on shared narratives formed in the artist collective, the project investigates our use of storytelling and myths to understand unexplainable natural events and unreasonable tragedies or natural occurrences. Mixed together with the Greek myth of Prometheus, the project uses analog and alternative photographic processes to capture and visualize the nature of the unknown.







Grænsehegn (working title)

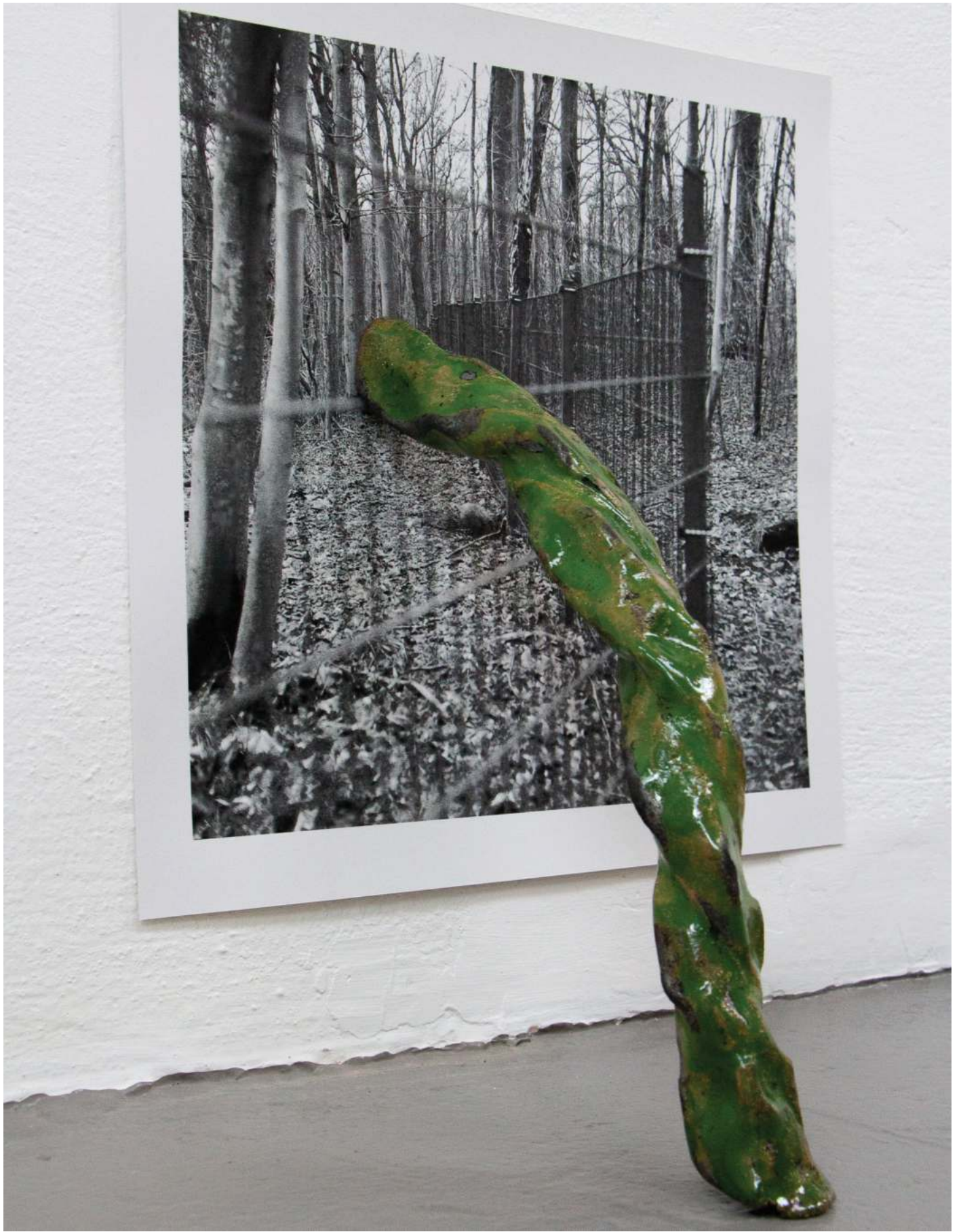
2020-ongoing

Photographic paper, ceramic pieces.

Grænsehegn is about the newly erected steel fence at the Danish-German border. The project aims at exploring the physical and symbolic significance of the fence on a social and environmental level. At the core of the project lies an ongoing passion to explore the photographic medium's ability to document and visualize contemporary issues through different photographic processes both figurative and abstract. In the eyes of current events, it has become more important than ever to examine the political, social and environmental consequences of physical border control.







CV - Photography-based visual artist



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Christel Pilkær Thomsen

Education

Master of Arts - Fine Art Photography - MA Photography

Royal College of Art, London, UK: Master of Photography, Arts, 10/2017 - 06/2019

Dissertation: *Tracing Trauma through Photography* - specialized on traumatic memories and how they can be visualized through the photographic medium and photographic processes.

Bachelor in Dramaturgy

Aarhus Universitet, Aarhus: Bachelor of Arts, Humaniora, 09/2010 - 06/2014

Awards

Parallel European Photo Platform 2nd cycle artist 2018-2019

Finalist for the European Photography Award 2018

References

Tom Lovelace - Photography Tutor -MA Photography, Royal College of Art

“Christel is a highly professional student and artist and her practice demonstrates huge potential. Her attention to detail, time management and professional conduct is very high. She is able to work both independently and as a part of a team and community. I have been particularly impressed by the ways in which Christel is constantly searching for areas to improve and refine within her artistic practice.”

Selected Group Shows

After School - Collective Strategies - *pic.london*, Lewisham Arthouse, London, UK, 2019

Parallel Intersection Budapest - second cycle artists, Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Hungary, Budapest, 2019

MA Photography Degree Show - Royal College of Art, Battersea, London, UK, June/July 2019

em <BODY>ment - PPS (Photography Project Space), Royal College of Art, Battersea, London, UK, 2019

6 Academies - European Photography Award, at *Unseen Photo*, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2018

Parallel Intersection Zagreb - second cycle artists, at Organ Vida, Zagreb, Croatia, 2018