



Saring

Hamidi Hadi

Wei-LingGallery

“Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself.”

- Leo Tolstoy, “Three Methods of Reform”, *Pamphlets*, 1900

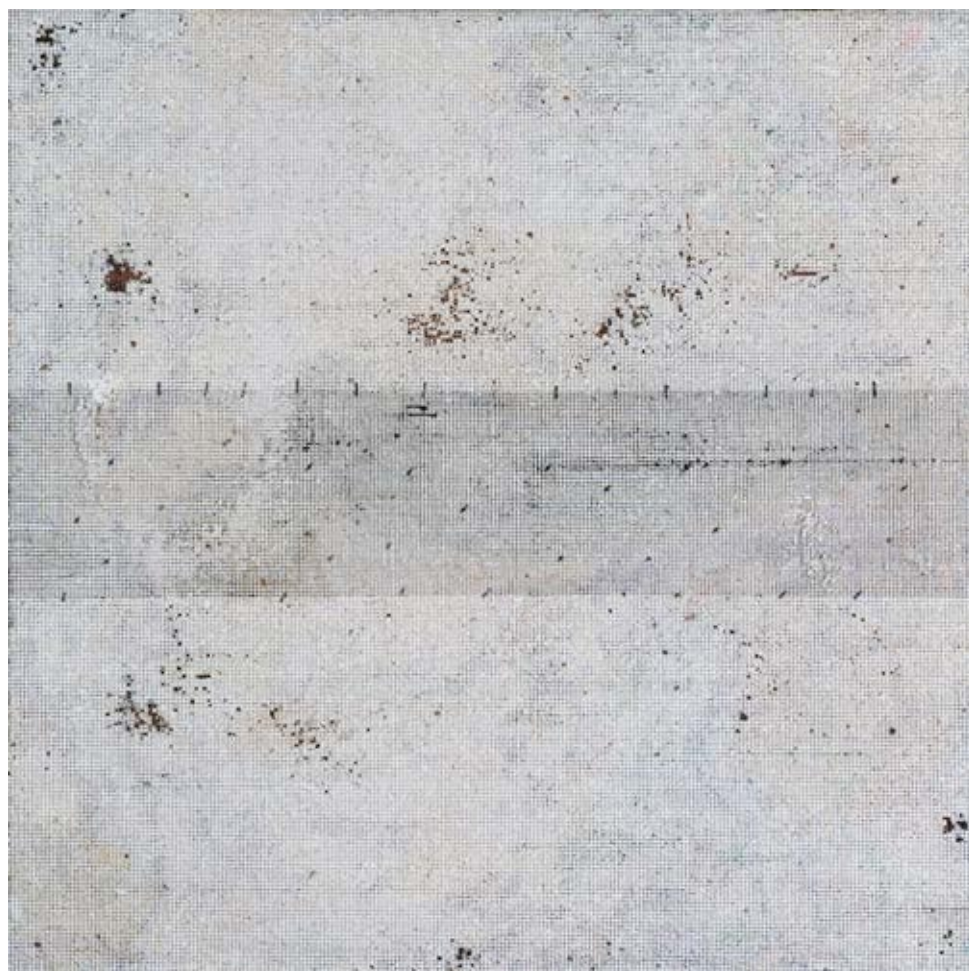
Saring
Hamidi Hadi

5 April - 11 June 2019

Wei-Ling Contemporary is delighted to present ‘*Saring*’ (to filter), Hamidi Hadi’s new body of works and culmination of endeavours in his search of a “higher self”. Although the expression is associated to multiple spiritual beliefs, its basic premise refers to being conscious of our “Atma” (true self), as introduced by philosopher Helena Blovotsky in *The Key to Theosophy*, 1889. As she described, the ray between oneself and the universe is inseparable; one must work on becoming better before initiating any change to his or her surroundings. Hamidi Hadi implements this concept through the act of filtering, which could be elaborated both literally and figuratively. He believes in the dual meaning behind the verb “filter” itself. The first delineation is to remove all unwanted or unnecessary materials, which is straightforwardly applied through the technique of paper recycling using wire mesh. This process involves mixing primarily shredded paper with water, followed by dipping the wire mesh into the mixture. As it is lifted out of the mixture, only the pulps of the paper would stay on the mesh and set to dry as part of the piece, leaving the excess water behind. Hamidi Hadi sightsees this approach as a metaphor of letting go; of the past, and all other matters that no longer serve him well. With this comes the latter definition of the verb “filter”, that is, the act of moving or passing forward in a specific direction. As if going through the mesh himself, with each filtration, the artist takes a step closer towards his “higher self”, trusting that this path would allow him, as an artist, to raise awareness in the society.



The choice of used paper as the main material for this series is due to the artist’s concern towards the impact that human beings have on the environment. He draws attention to paper as one of nature’s gifts that we often put to waste, believing in its potential of being transformed into other forms that may even exceed our expectations. As Tolstoy phrased, “*The simple things are also the most extraordinary things, and only the wise can see them.*” The artist experiments with the density of the paper pulps so as to create intriguing textures, which are strongly present in the pieces *Glimpse*, *VEIL*, and *Imagining Green*. While certain works leave us in awe with what the artist describes as “mystical” colours, as of the intense green in *Imagining Green III* and the bold red in *Lover*, others convey calmer atmospheres through different combinations of earthy tones, such as in *Serenity*, *Unforseen*, *Sarina: Body and Soul*, *SARING: Witness*, and *Bathe: Shower Rain*.



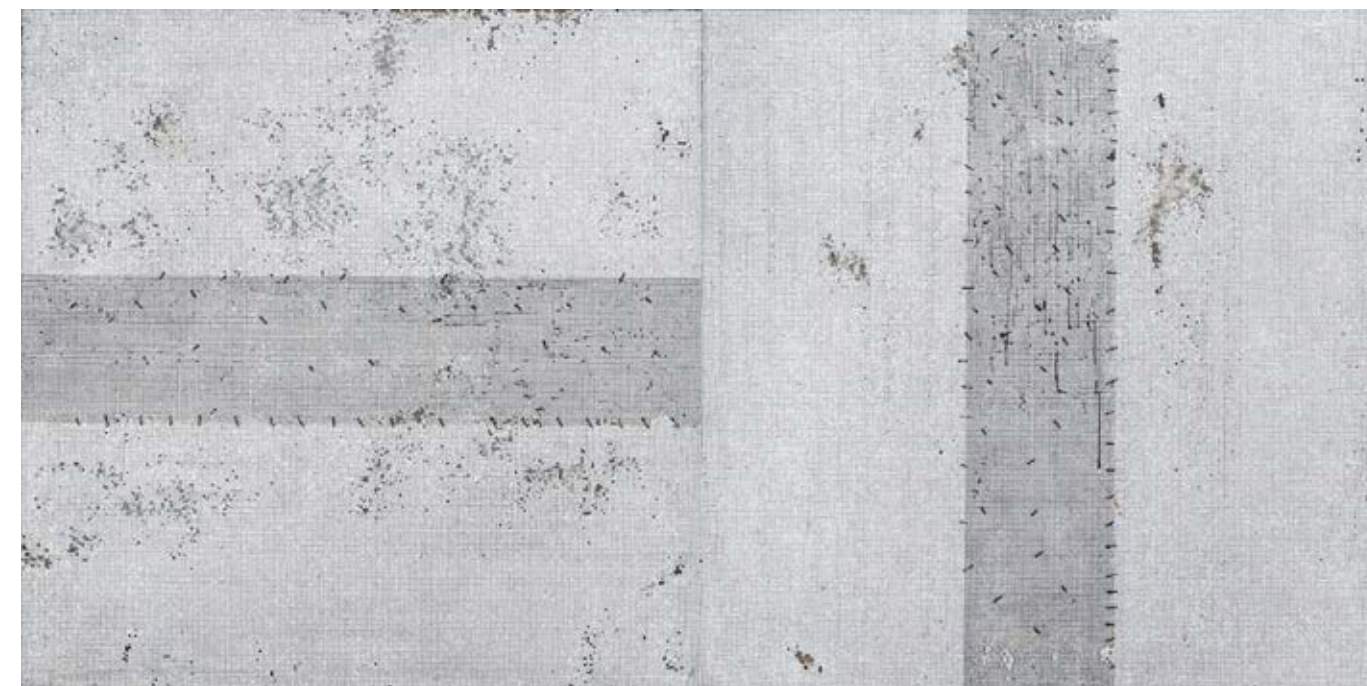
Serenity (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh and board
152cm x 153cm x 5cm



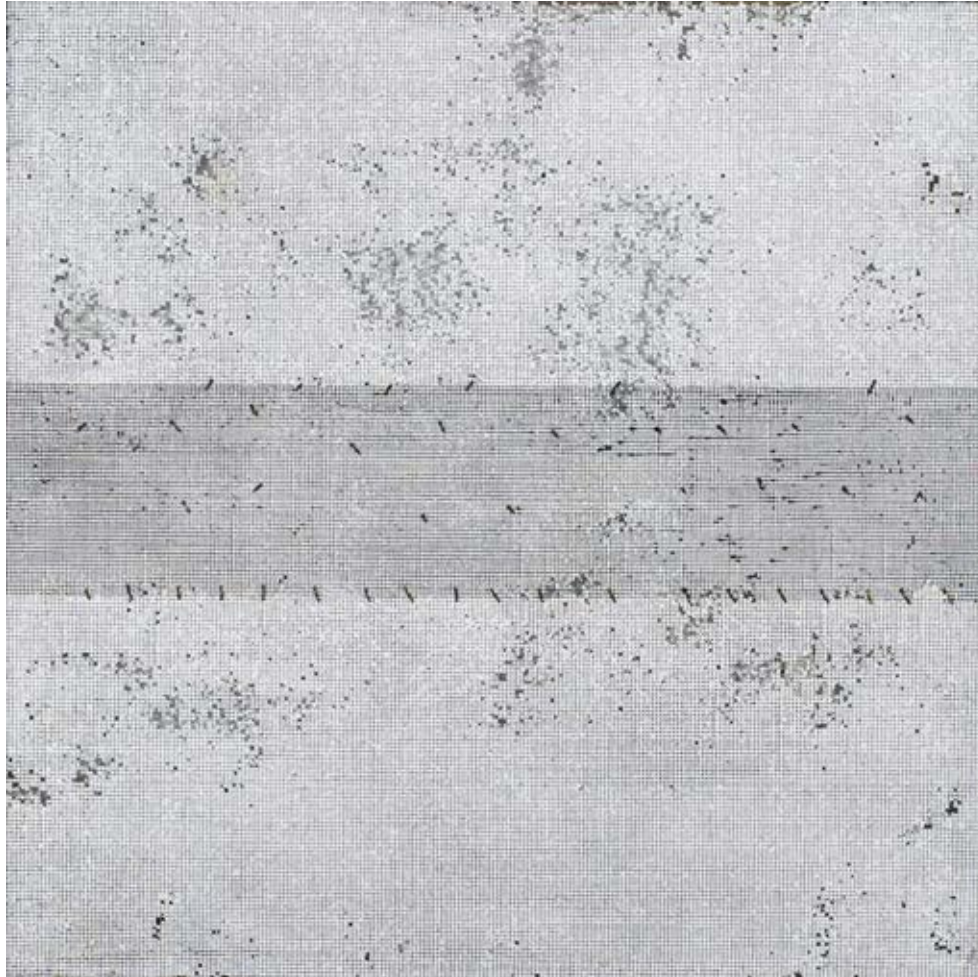
Bathe: Shower Rain (2018)
Recycled paper, resin, wire mesh and board
153cm x 153cm x 5cm



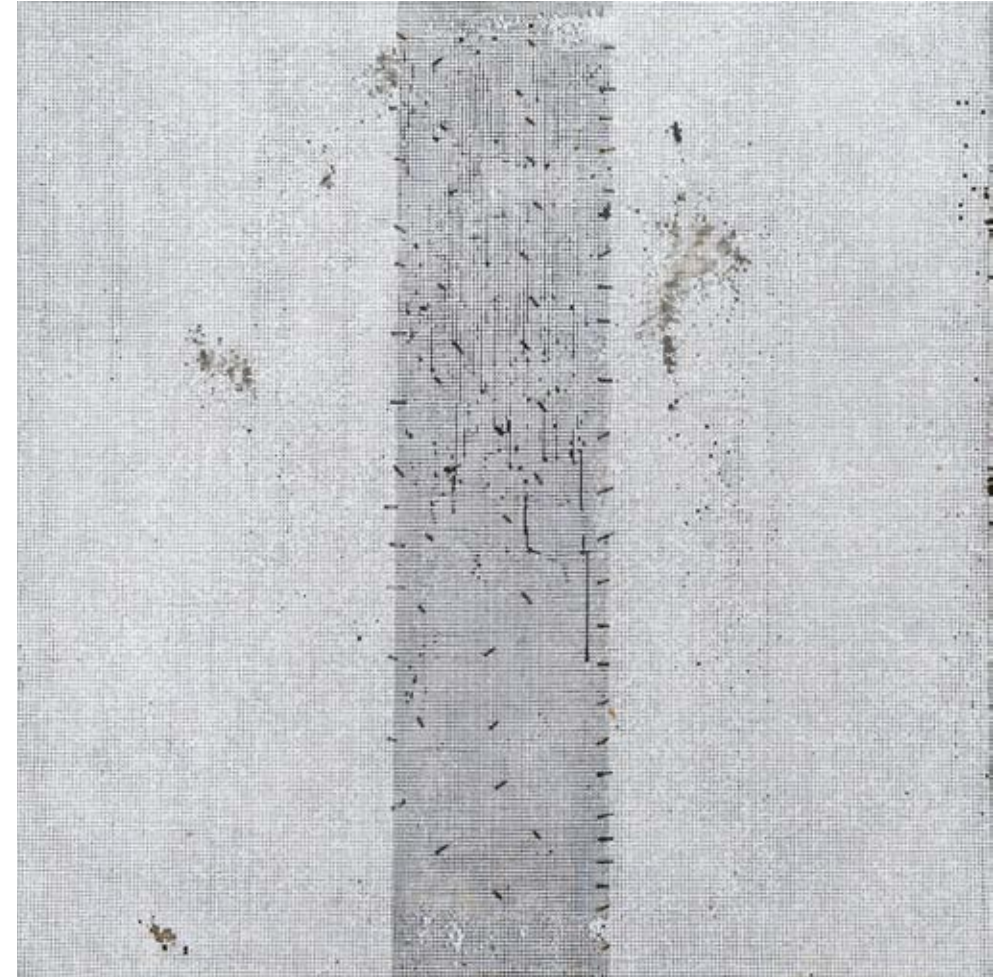
Bathing / Ablution III (Close up)



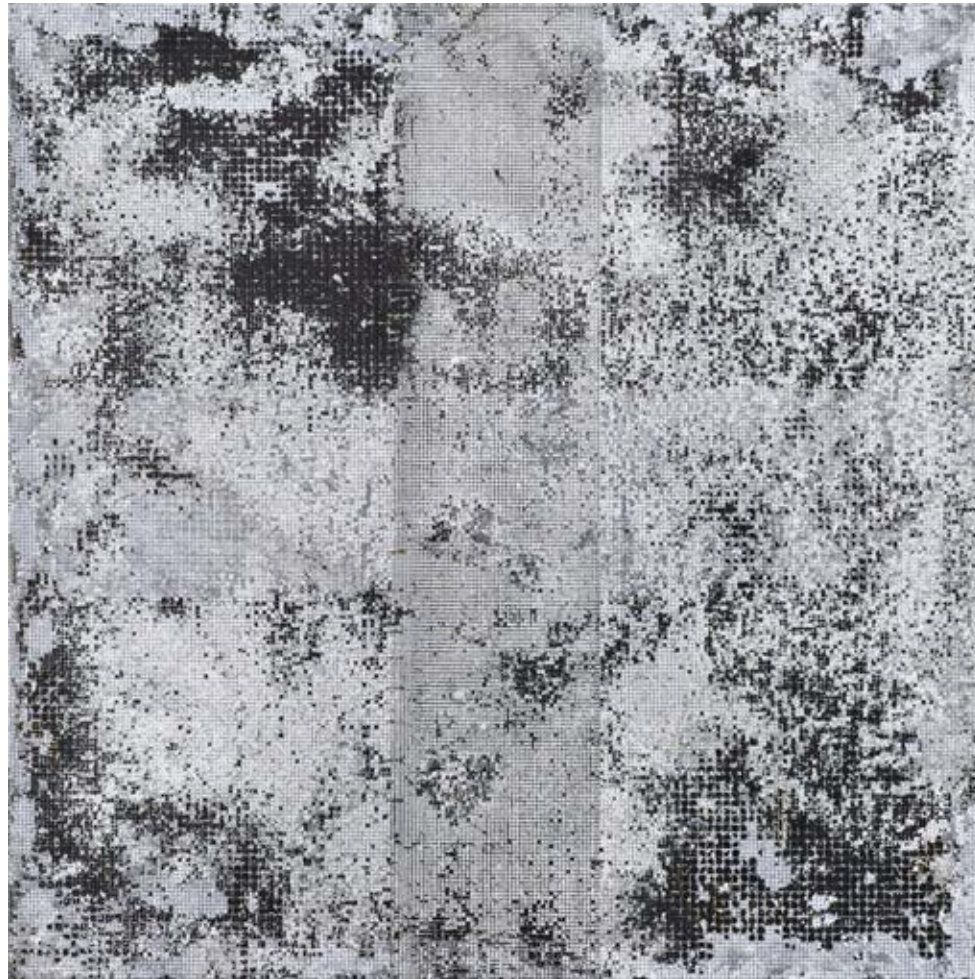
Bathing / Ablution III (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh, bandage and board
153cm x 306cm x 5cm (Diptych)



Bathing / Ablution III (Left)



Bathing / Ablution III (Right)



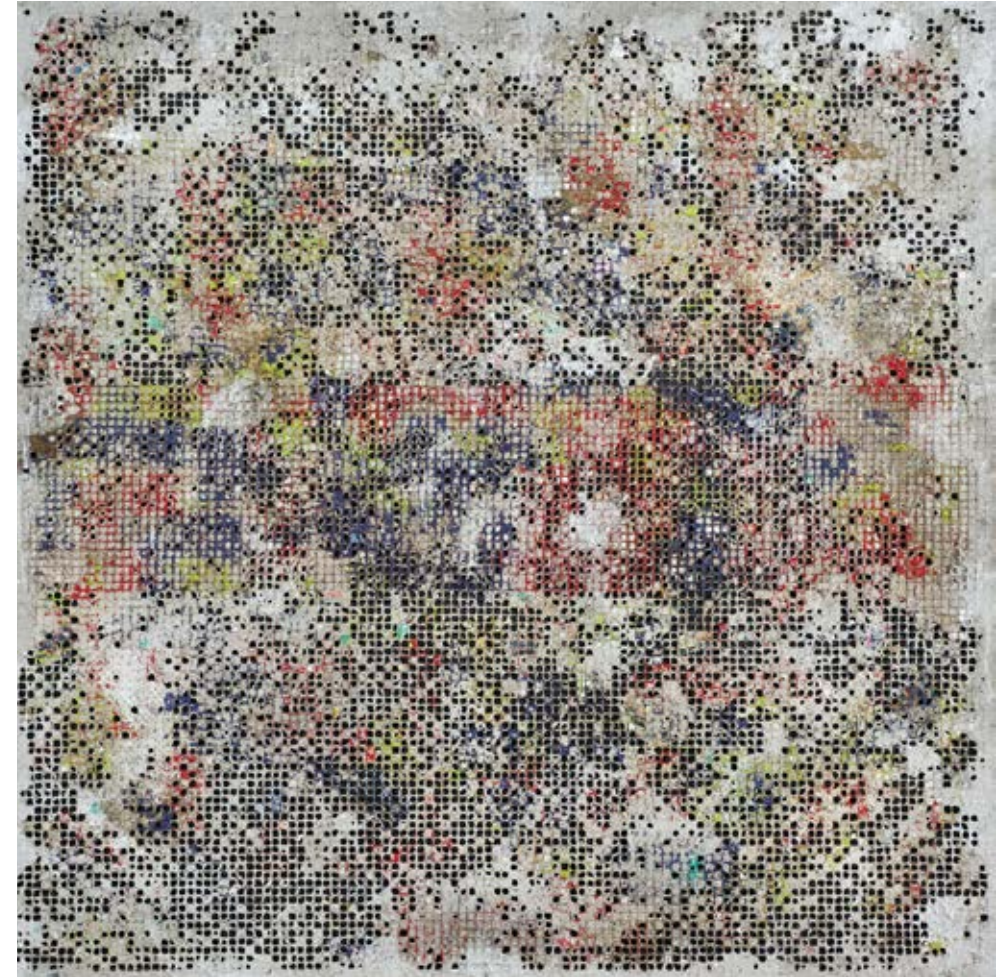
Unforeseen (2018)
 Recycled paper, wire mesh, bandage and board
 154cm x 154cm x 9.5cm



Glimpse (2018)
 Recycled paper, wire mesh, enamel paint and board
 153cm x 306cm x 6cm (Diptych)



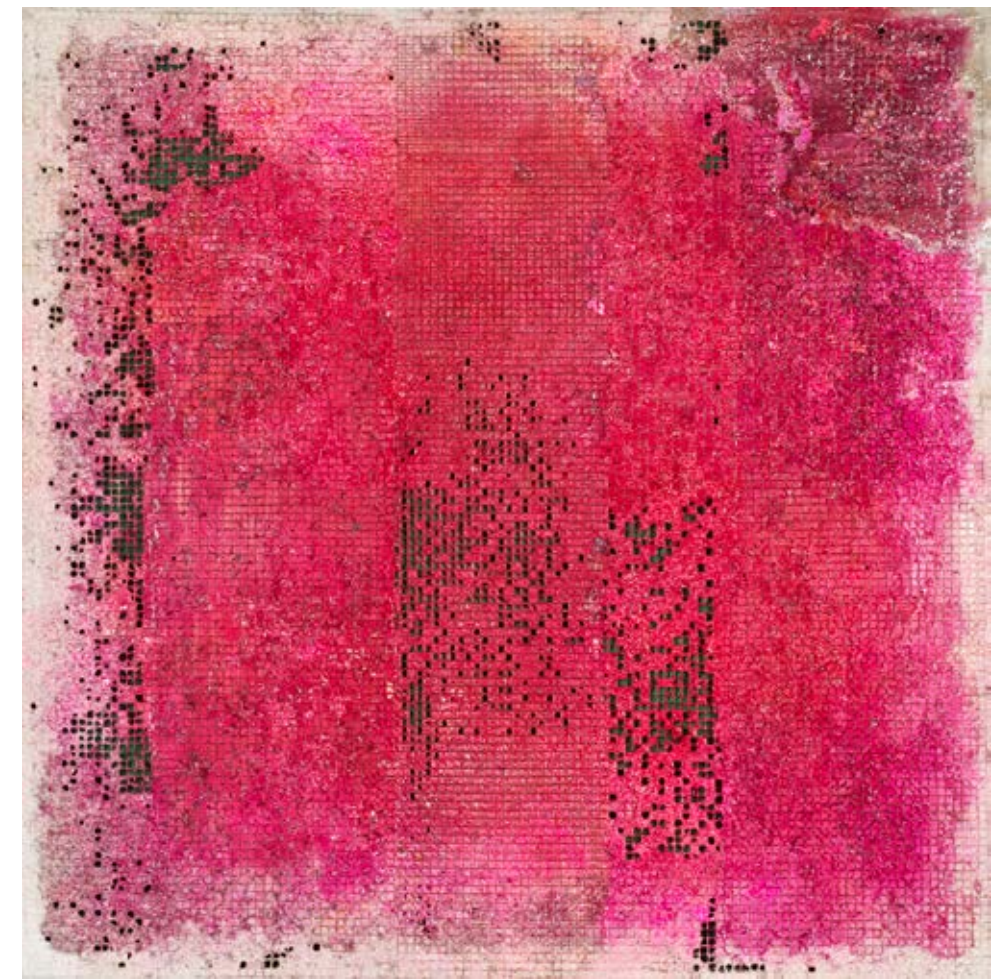
Glimpse (Left)



Glimpse (Right)



Sarira: Body of Soul (2018)
 Recycled paper, bandage, water color, wire mesh and board
 152.5cm x 153cm x 5cm



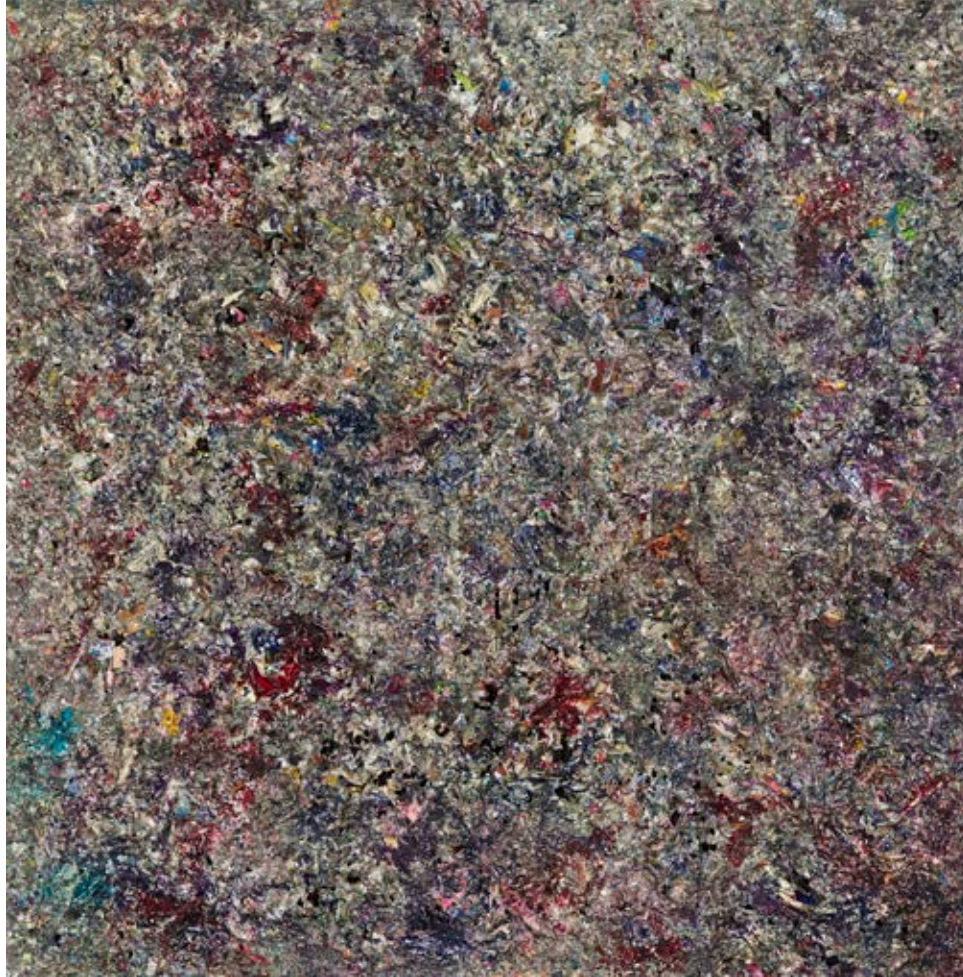
Lover (2018)
 Recycled paper, wire mesh, ink and board
 152.5cm x 152.5cm x 5cm



Return (Close up)



Return (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh, enamel, bandage and board
153cm x 306cm x 6cm (Diptych)



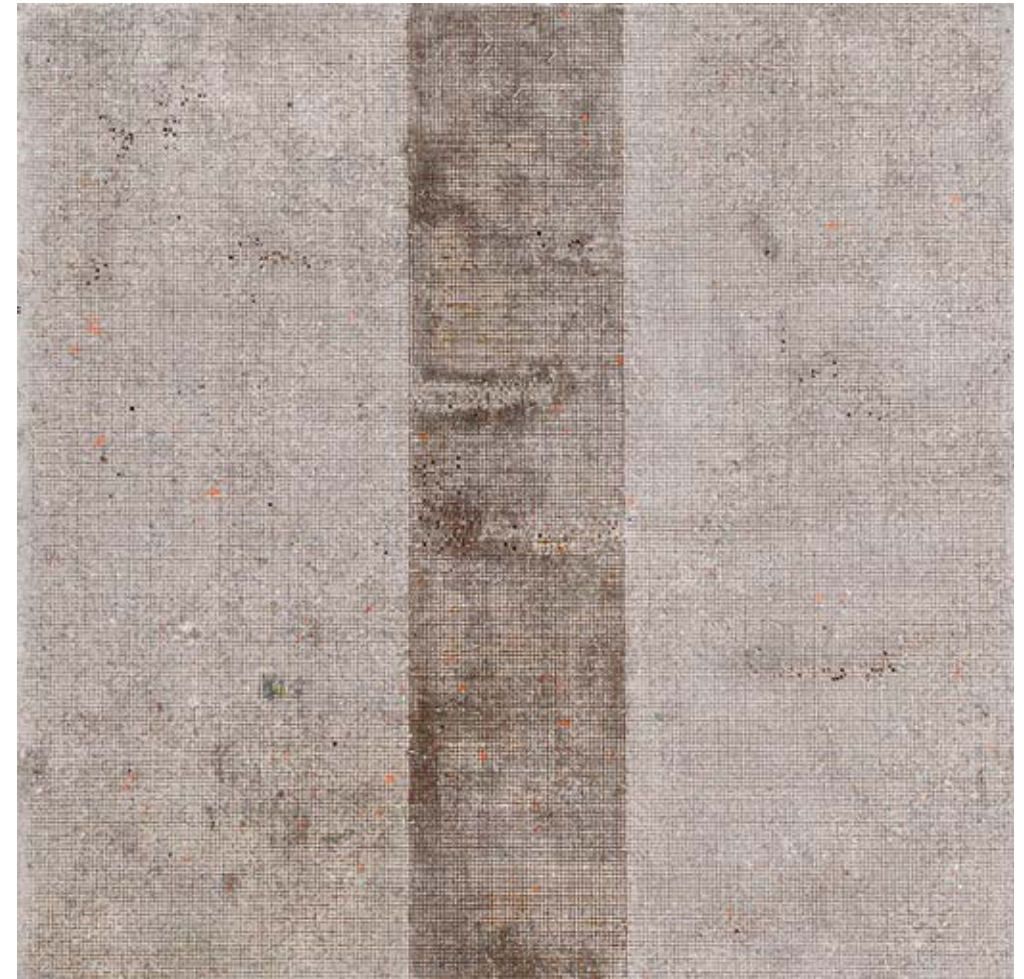
Return (Left)



Return (Right)



SARING: Witness (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh, bandage and board
153cm x 459cm x 5cm (Triptych)



SARING: Witness (Left)



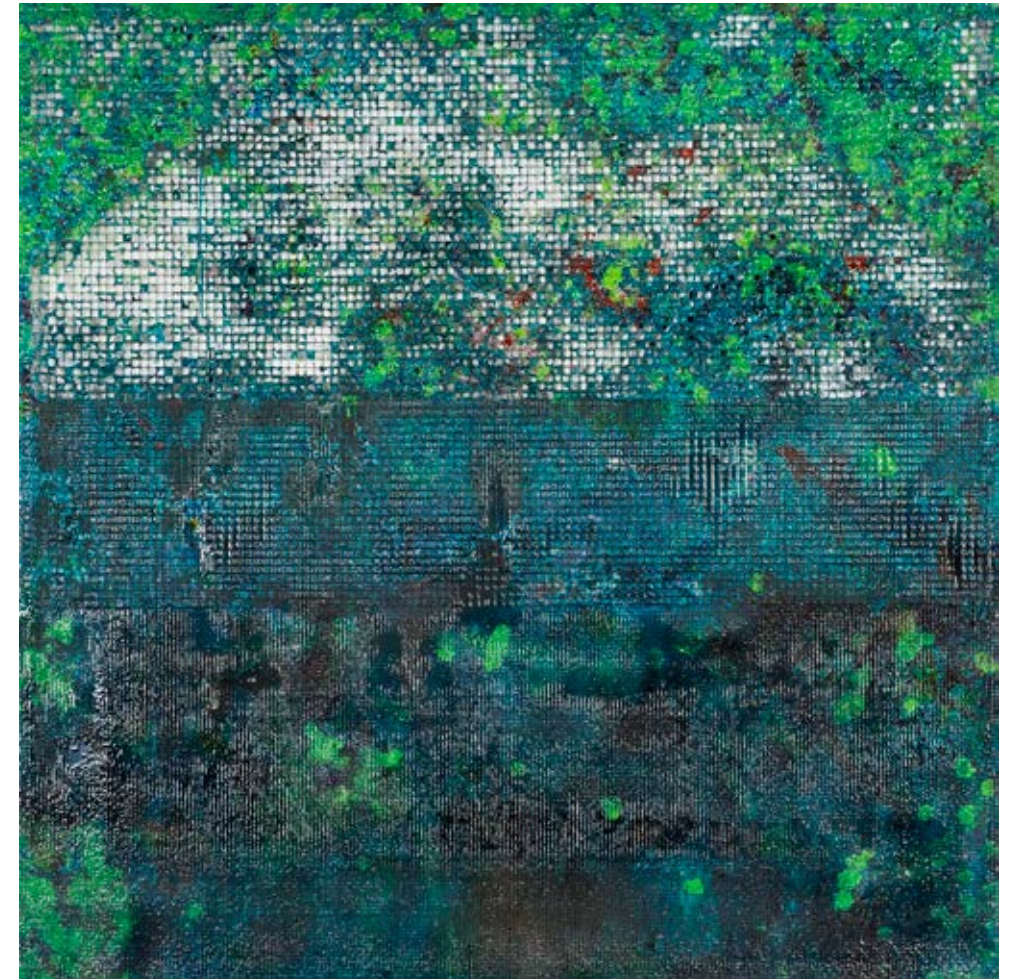
SARING: Witness (Middle)



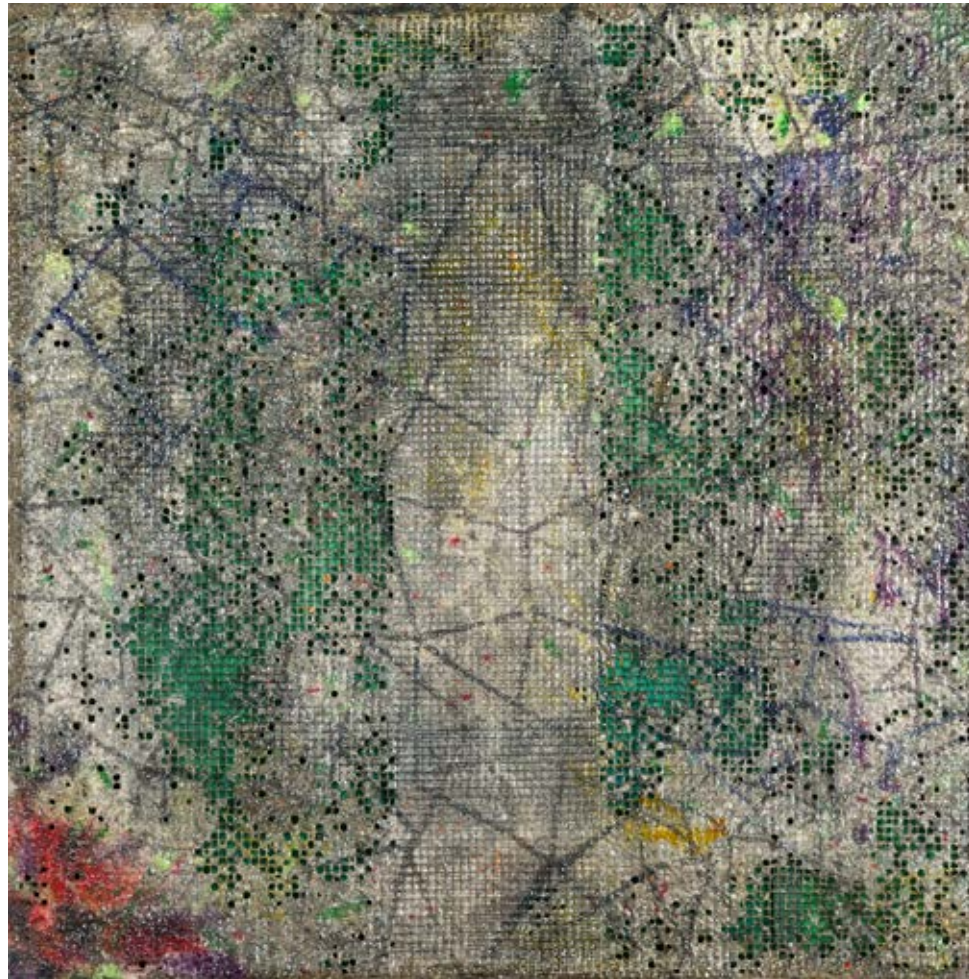
SARING: Witness (Right)



Imagining Green II (2018)
 Recycled paper, wire mesh, resin, ink and board
 152.5cm x 152.5cm x 5cm



Imagining Green III (2018)
 Recycled paper, ink, acrylic, wire mesh, resin and board
 153cm x 153cm x 5cm



Imagining Green (2018)
Recycled paper, resin, enamel, wire mesh and board
153cm x 153cm x 5cm



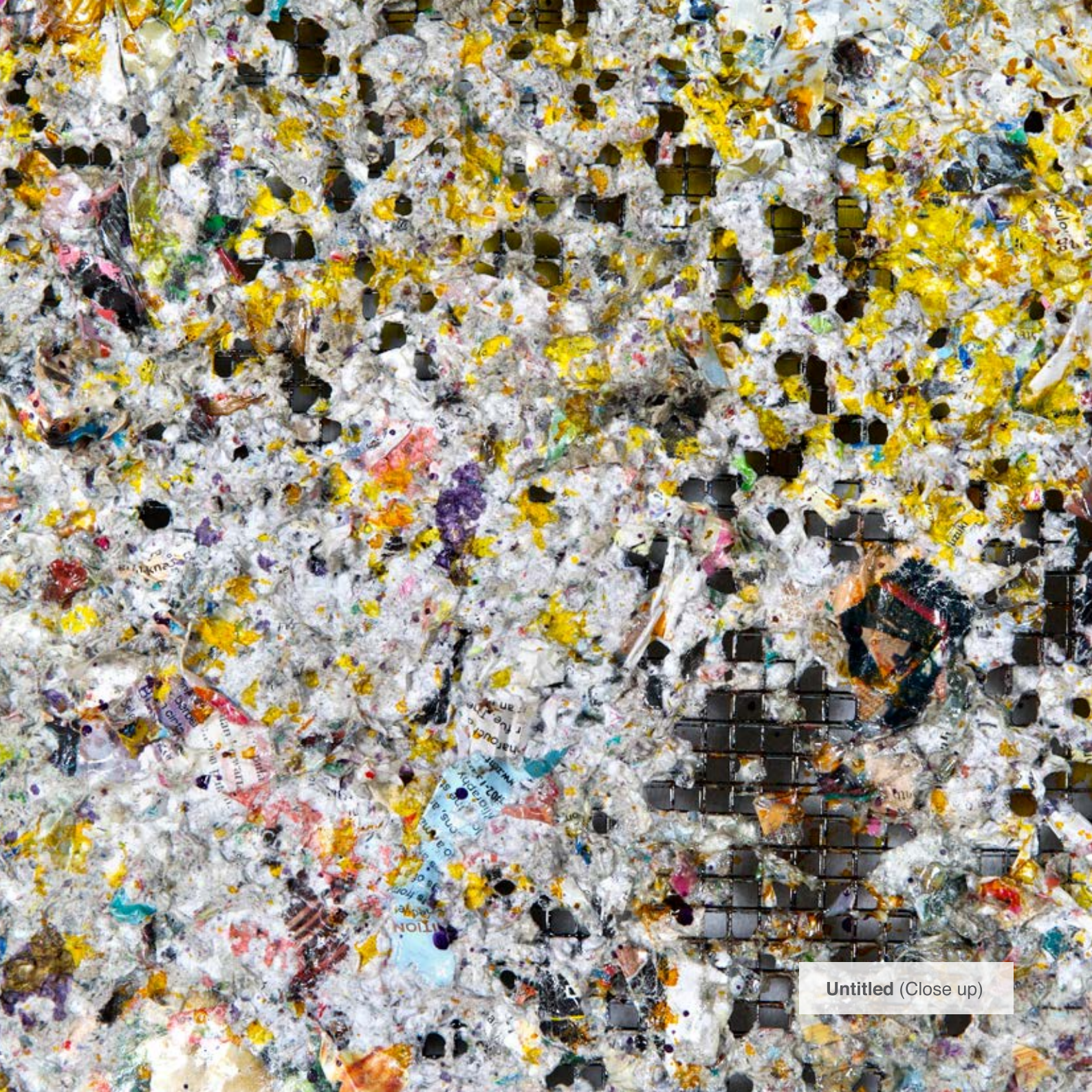
Sublime (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh, bandage and board
153cm x 306cm x 5cm (Diptych)



Sublime (Left)



Sublime (Right)



Untitled (Close up)



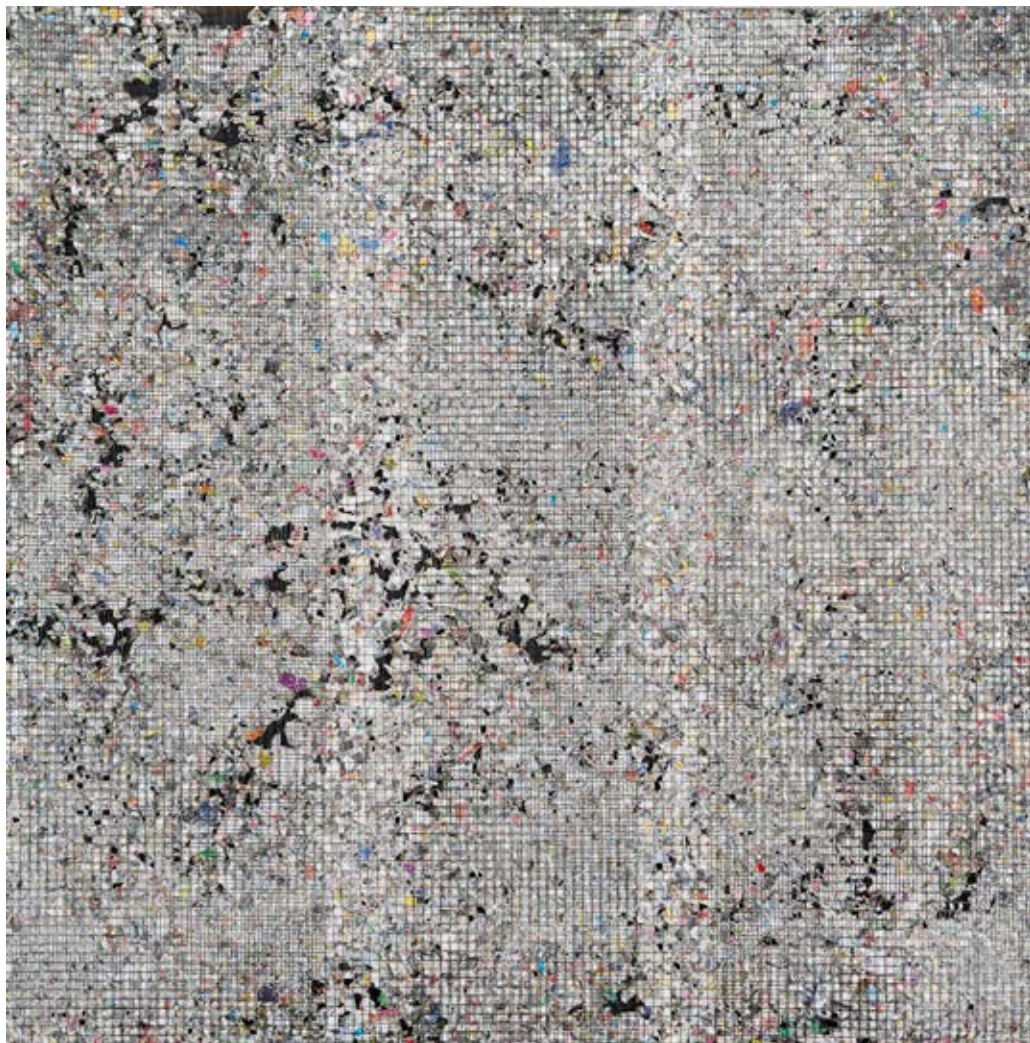
Untitled (2019)
Recycled paper, wire mesh and board
153cm x 153cm x 6cm



VEIL (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh and board
153cm x 153cm x 6cm



SYNC (2018)
Recycled paper, wire mesh, enamel, bandage and board
153cm x 306cm x 5cm (Diptych)



SYNC (Left)



SYNC (Right)





Hamidi Hadi is regarded as one of the most prominent abstract artists of his generation, well known for his experimental use of material. Hamidi's practice as an artist has formally migrated from pictorial representation of the objective world into abstraction and the synthesis of complex materials and methods, to describe his emotional and spiritual responses to being in the world. He investigates the natural phenomena of the world and uses this in his imaginary landscapes, through the use of industrial paint, resin, wax, marks and blends, in pools of material, gravity and surface tension. As we contemplate his abstract works, we begin to connect the reference points that give us clue to Hamidi's inner landscape and his contemplation of his places in the world.

Hamidi Hadi received the 2018 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia) - Bronze Award, Established Artist Category, the Bank Negara's Kijang Award in 2004 and the Philip Morris ASEAN Biennale Art Award in 2000. His works have also been collected by both public and private institutions and corporations. Amongst them are the Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur, Setia Berhad, and the National Art Gallery of Malaysia. He has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions internationally, namely in Singapore, Indonesia, China, the Philippines and the United Kingdom, and his works were recently auctioned at Sotheby's Hong Kong.

HAMIDI HADI (B. 1971)

EDUCATION

- 2002 MA Art & Design Network (Painting), University of Wolverhampton, Midlands, UK
- 2001 Wolverhampton College, Northampton West, Wolverhampton, UK
- 2000 Bachelor of Arts, School of Art & Design, MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam, Malaysia
- 1995 Diploma in Art & Design (Fine Art), UiTM, Shah Alam, Malaysia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Saring, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2016 Dari Langit dan Bumi, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 BALAM, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2012 Antara, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2009 Timang-Timang, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2007 Alun, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2005 Indelible Markings, Townhouse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Patriots: By Malaysians for Malaysians, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Teh Tarik with The Flag, curated by Wei-Ling Gallery, The National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2017 Art Stage Jakarta 2017, Sheraton Grand Jakarta Gandaria City Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia
Sotheby's Auction (Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings), 3rd April 2017, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong
- 2017 18@8 RIGHT HERE! RIGHT NOW!, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2016 Art Stage Jakarta 2016, Sheraton Grand Jakarta Gandaria City Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia
Art Expo Malaysia 2016, Matrade, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2015 18@8 Heirlooms, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
SUARA RASA, Segaris Art Center, Solaris, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Art Expo Malaysia 2015, Matrade, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 Ho Mia, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2013 18@8 Mirror, Mirror on the wall, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- 2012 18@8: KUL-SIN, ION Art, Singapore
18@8: KUL-SIN, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Kembara Jiwa; The Travelling Soul, Galeri Chandan @ Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Kembara Jiwa; The Travelling Soul, Selasar Sunaryo, Bandung, Indonesia
Kembara Jiwa; The Travelling Soul, Taman Budaya, Jogjakarta, Indonesia
Timeless, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Kami Respon, Galeri FSSR UiTM Perak, Perak, Malaysia
Transit-A4, House of Matahati, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2011 The 8th Asia Fiber Art (AFA 2011), Galeri UiTM Perak, Perak, Malaysia
1Malaysia Art Festival 2011, KL Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur
Malaysian Rice Plates Project, Wei-Ling Gallery and Ministry of Tourism, KL Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2010 Absolut 18@8, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Matahati & Friends, House of Matahati, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Celebrate Malaysia, Petronas Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Malaysia Artists: NEW OBJECT(IONS), Petronas Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2009 The 24th Asian International Art Exhibition, Balai Seni Lukis , Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2008 Mind, Body & Soul III, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Treasure Box, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Art Triangle Malaysia-Philippines-Indonesia, Soka Gakkai, Kuala Lumpur
TENGGARA - Recent Paintings from Malaysia, Indonesia & Philippines, Novas Gallery, Liverpool, United Kingdom
The 23rd Asian International Art Exhibition, University Art Museum Guangzhou, China
Heart to Heart - Asian International Art Show, YUGE Gallery, Guangzhou, China
- 2007 The 9th International Seminar & Art Exhibition, Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand
The Force of Nature, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Kami III, Museum Negeri Pulau Penang, Malaysia
- 2006 18@8: Kuala Lumpur - Karachi, The Amin Gulgee Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan, in collaboration with Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Malaysia - Poland Art Exchange Workshop, UiTM Shah Alam Gallery, Malaysia
2005 Malaysia - Japan Art Exchange Workshop, Gallery Seni, UiTM Perak, Malaysia
2004 Kami II, Shah Alam Gallery, Malaysia
Imajan, Taman Warisan Gallery, Malaysia
2003 3 Men & A Woman, Shah Alam Gallery & Pelita Hati Gallery, Malaysia
2002 MA Show, University of Wolverhampton, Midlands, UK
2000 Philip Morris ASEAN Art Exhibition, National Art Gallery, Singapore
Philip Morris ASEAN Art Exhibition, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
1999 Malam Puisi, KOSOVO, Dewan Bandaraya, Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia
Pekan Seni Ipoh IV, Dewan Bandaran, Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia
Shah Alam Open Art Exhibition, Shah Alam Gallery, Malaysia
1998 Pekan Seni Ipoh III, Dewan Bandaran, Ipoh, Malaysia
1997 Malaysian Drawing, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
Bakat Muda Sezaman, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
1996 Young Contemporaries, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
National Day Art Competition, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
Islamic Fibre Art, Pengucapan Islam Dalam Kesenian, Petronas Gallery, Malaysia
New Artist, Petronas Gallery, Malaysia
1995 Degree Show, KSSR Gallery, ITM Shah Alam, Malaysia
Alternative Print, Petronas Gallery, Malaysia
ILHAM Diploma Collection, Petronas Gallery, Malaysia
1994 Kenyir Ecofest, Kenyir, Terengganu, Malaysia
1993 Cactus Drawing Exhibition And Exhibition, Bukit Cahaya, Shah Alam, Malaysia

AWARDS

2018 2018 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia) - Bronze Award, Established Artist
Category, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2004 Bakat Muda Sezaman (Finalist), Balai Seni Lukis Negara
Seni Kijang Bank Negara Malaysia Award, (Consolation Prize), Balai Seni
Bank Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2000 Top 5 Winners, Philip Morris
ASEAN Biennale Art Award, Malaysia

Consolation Prize, Prize Morris
ASEAN Art Award 2000, Singapore
Artist Interaction, Formula Malaysia
Art Competition, Malaysia
1996 Honorable Mention, Philip Morris
ASEAN Biennale Art Award, Malaysia
1995 Deans List, School of Art & Design, MARA (UiTM), Malaysia
1994 Consolation Prize, Kenyir Eco-Fest 94'
International Art Competition, Malaysia

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

National Art Gallery, Malaysia
Galeri Petronas, Malaysia
Aliya & Farouk Khan Collection, Malaysia
Parkroyal Hotel, Malaysia
Wong & Partners, Malaysia



To accompany the exhibition entitled '*Saring*' by Hamidi Hadi
from 5 April - 11 June 2019

Wei-Ling Contemporary

RT01, 6th Floor , The Gardens Mall,
Mid Valley City, Lingkaran Syed Putra,
59200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
T: +603 2282 8323
E: weilingcontemporary@gmail.com

Wei-Ling Gallery

No. 8 Jalan Scott, Brickfields
50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
T: +603 2260 1106
F: +603 22601107
E: weilinggallery@gmail.com
W: www.weiling-gallery.com

PROJECT DIRECTOR | Lim Wei-Ling

DESIGNED BY | Lim Siew Boon

EDITED BY | Amanda Ariawan & Noel Tan

COVER | ***SARING: Witness*** (2018) (Close up)

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