

RU Exhibition

# Reimagining Naturescapes

Fall-Winter 2023 Group show with RU resident artists



**Location:** Residency Unlimited

**Opening Reception:** Wednesday Nov 15, 2023 | 5 - 8pm

**On View:** Nov 15 - Nov 17 and Nov 20

**Friday Nov 17:** Happening by Catarina Real and Peter Kaspar at RU

[Link to webpage](#)



*This program benefits from the support of*



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# Opening and Installation Shots



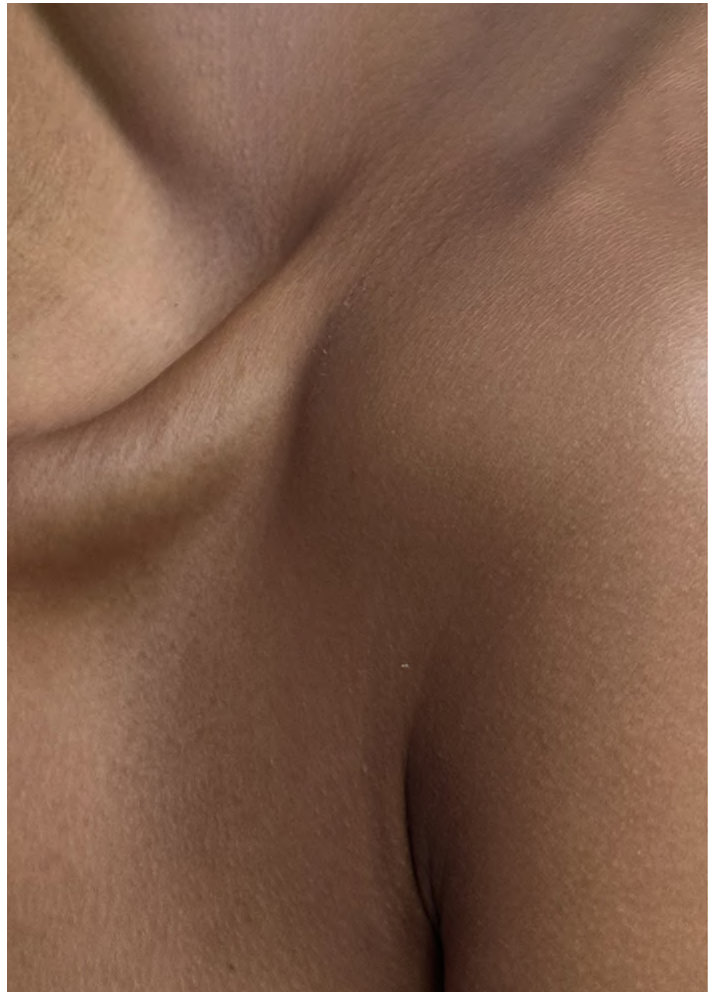


Opening and Installation Shots



## Works on view by Haoua Habré

***Fragments of Self*** was realized by Haoua Habré (Senegal-France) in her studio at Artists Alliance. Here the artist experiments with the idea of expanding the vision of the human body by giving it more than a physical function. Through photography and textiles that she applies on a single grid, Habré offers a body-mind integrated framework that contributes to the creation of our identities. "Identity is often thought of in psychological terms. Yet the body carries within it the memory of our history, the trace of our past. Its colors, folds, scars, and shapes all hint at a part of the self."



*Haoua Habré, "Fragments of Self" 2023, photography and textiles, 67.7 x 69.7 in (177 cm x 172.5 cm)*

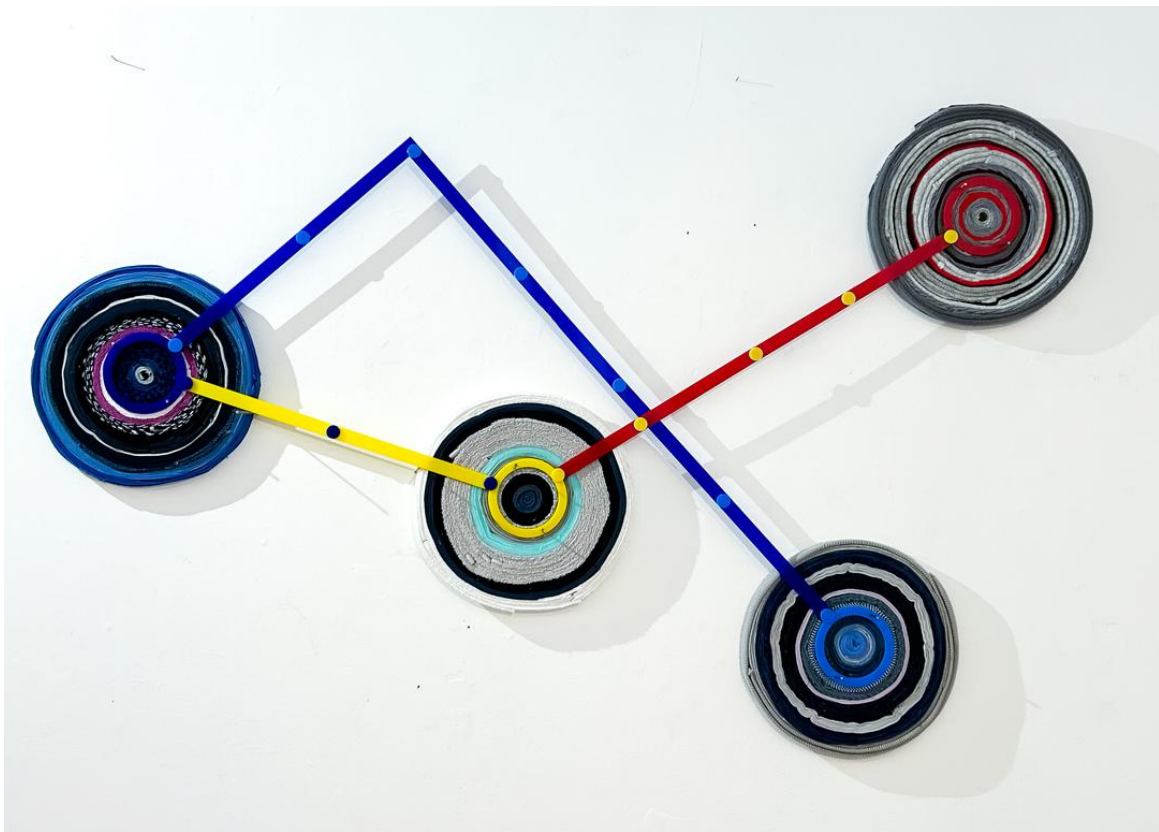
### About the artist

Haoua Habré is a visual artist who in her artistic research addresses the subject of identity through themes such as childhood, travel and memory. Growing up between Chad, Dakar and France, the subject of identity has always been present in her life, and the artist believes it is what makes us unique and distinguishes us from others.

Habré started her career as a painter and then transitioned to sculpture and installation where she began to focus on textiles. This medium, which can take on infinite forms and colors, is a living material which Habré views as a "double skin" or a cultural tribute that allows her to share stories through it.

## Works on view by Nicholas Milkovich

***This Line Serves...*** is a site-specific piece by Nicholas Milkovich (USA), realized by the artist in the RU space. Integrating rapid precision and patient craftsmanship, Milkovich merges synthetic laser-cut acrylic sheets with meticulously weaved, wrapped, and sewed shreds of his own clothing that he sews together manually. The artist portrays the human mind as a delicate and susceptible organic entity, riddled with interstitial spaces, lost thoughts, and uncertain connections, ultimately erasing the notion that there is a distinction between right and left brain.



*Nicholas Milkovich, "This Line Serves...", 2023.*

### About the artist

Nicholas Milkovich is an emerging American installation sculptor based in Brooklyn. He is also a mechanical engineer with research in soft-tissue biomechanics. He draws inspiration from biological features found in the human body to create installations meant to invade spaces. Using colorful synthetic materials and repeated form, Milkovich generates work that balances between deadly serious and whimsical.

## Works on view by Gema Rupérez

***Espacio Personal (Personal Space)*** is a video work by Gema Rupérez (Spain) reflecting upon the tension between subjects and their (in)capacity to establish a real and advantageous dialogue with each other. Rupérez films two balloons that compete for space and seem to confront each other, move and remove each other's air until both finally end up succumbing to an unsustainable competition for supremacy and the hoarding of available resources. This work is part of an on-going series of *Conversaciones (Conversations)*, launched by the artist in 2015.



*Gema Rupérez, Still from "Espacio Personal (Personal Space)", 2017, Video, 3'52".*

### About the artist

Gema Rupérez is a Spanish multidisciplinary artist who works with different media such as installation, photography, video, and drawing. Rupérez questions the viewer about the different realities that stress our contemporary society and addresses a global context of multiple mutations where technology is present, with its tempos, timings, and hegemonies. She highlights the structures of domination and the defiance of such, based on resistances, highlighting the frustrations, fears, and fragilities of humankind.



## Works on view by Eda Şarman

Eda Şarman (Turkey - USA) researches innovative ways to look at nature in response to our changing environment. The clay sculpture ***“I hear bubbling, see rippling, a work in progress”*** - mirrors the artist’s explorations on tides and landscapes which she considers temporal rather than places of stability. During her residency, Eda developed speculative clay landscapes which unearth the natural diurnal rhythm of rivers of New York.



*Wip wetland textures for "I hear bubbling, see rippling", 2023.*

### About the artist

Eda Şarman observes nature as a guide in her practice, where she examines methods of being, sharing and coming together. Combining architecture with philosophy, she grounds her practice on bodily perception. Seeking ways to grasp rhythms surrounding us, she uses technology – the way we weave nature – in moving images, kinetic sculptures, sound works and installations.

## Works on view by Adam Vačkář

***Heracles of Hogweed*** is a video by Adam Vačkář, (Czech Republic) that delves into the complexities of human interaction with Giant Hogweed, an invasive plant originating from the Caucasus. Challenging the traditional perspective on migrating plants and the narrow human approach to these organisms, the film traces the plant's migration from Central Asia to Europe and the Americas. It explores the fear instilled by media portrayal and the filmmaker's own artistic and spiritual connection with the plant. Emphasizing a non-human perspective, the film raises thought-provoking questions about our relationship with the natural world.



*Adam Vačkář, "Heracles of Hogweed", HD Video, 2021- 3, work in progress.*

### About the artist

Adam Vačkář is an artist and researcher based in Prague who is currently working on a doctoral thesis on the understanding of art as a part of biological evolution. His projects address various aspects of human interaction with nature. Vačkář currently writes a scholarly book focused on the relation between invasive plants and alternative spirituality, botany, history and human migration.



## Works on view by Talita Zaragoza

Talita Zaragoza (Brazil- USA) presents **“Sleepy Mountain XXIX”**, a large work on linen likened by the artist to an expansion of the landscape genre. In an attempt to reorganize and recategorize shapes, forms and lines, Zaragoza fabricates map-like landscapes. An interplay of geometrical and organic vocabulary, collected from memory and observation. Her work attempts to articulate a lyrical connection with the passage of time, with the impermanence of the landscape and the ever changing perception and the shifting memory.



*Talita Zaragoza, "Sleepy Mountain XXIX", 2023, acrylic, colored crayon, pencil and graphite on linen, 40 x 82 in (101.6 x 208.28 cm).*

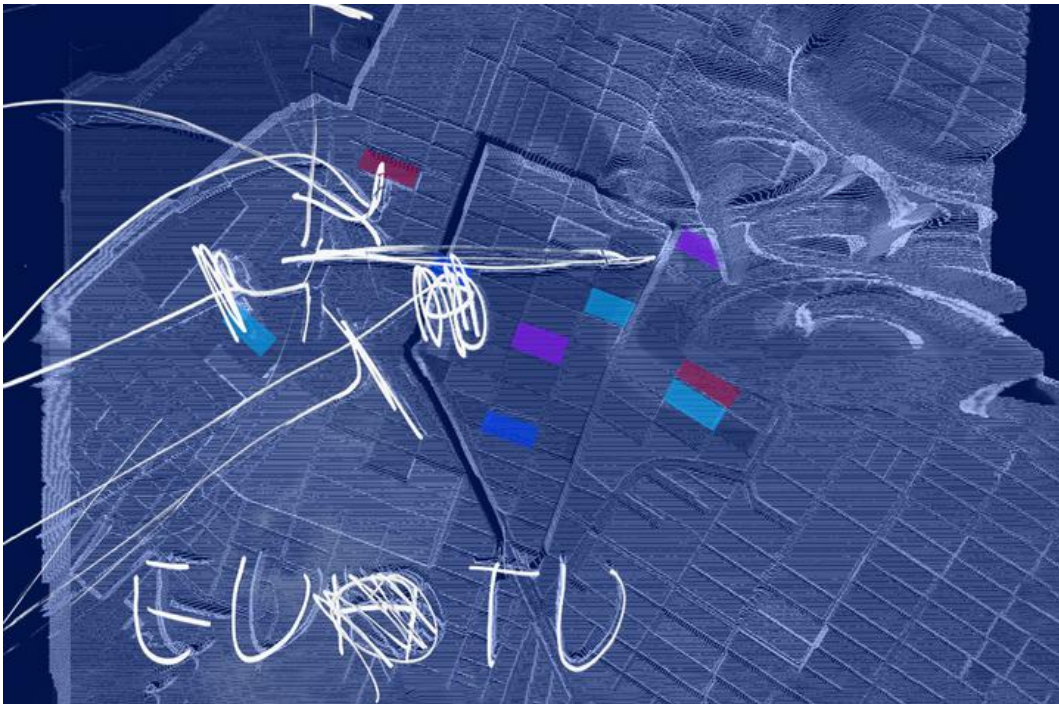
### About the artist

Talita Zaragoza is an artist based in New York who mainly works with painting, drawing, and photography. Her inspiration derives from the relationship between men and nature and its will to dominate and reshape the landscape leaving its mark.

In her paintings and drawings, the artist combines a collection of landscape memories, recreating one that refers to imaginary maps. Maps that are constantly changing adapting to a new political or environmental situation, or more importantly, a different perception from the observer.

## ***Friday, a Happening by Catarina Real and Peter Kaspar at RU***

***Friday*** is a collaborative effort by Catarina Real and Peter Kašpar sparked by a mutual interest in social practice which they both actively pursue in their home countries. In New York, their collaboration will take the shape of a choreographed happening that revolves around common daily life actions and unexpected events performed in the Carroll Gardens neighborhood where RU is located.



*Collaborative work by Catarina Real and Peter Kaspar developed during their residency*

### **About the artists**

Peter Kašpar's work is based on the imagination of the "future" which the artist brings in subtle clues. He reflects incomprehensible and uncertain feelings from the future in which the biological has become an integral part of the technological—a world where there are no binary divisions and everything is inherently connected. Currently, Kašpar is interested in research of the alternation of human consciousness and its possible connections with technologies in intangible meta-spaces.

Catarina Real works in the intersection between artistic practice and theoretical research in the expanded fields of painting, writing and choreography, mostly in long-term collaborative projects that address the question of how we can live better collectively. She is currently a PhD student at the Center for Humanistic Studies at the University of Minho with a research that crosses art, love and capital. She is currently developing Color Therapy, a practice applied between color theory, postal art and choreographic intuition.