

Eszter Metzing

selected portfolio / 2022- 2026

Statement

My artistic practice centers on skin consciousness and material memory. I interpret the skin not merely as a biological boundary, but as a symbolic and material surface: a kind of "moving wall" that simultaneously separates and connects, while carrying within itself the layers of the body and collective memory.

In my work, I interpret cognition not as representation but as a direct, embodied interaction with matter, grounded in the perspectives of somaesthetics and enactivism. I have moved from a graphic starting point toward spatial configurations of textiles and hybrid materials, where fraying structures, seams, and layering appear not as closed compositions but as parts of a constantly evolving, body-bound narrative.

I interpret the body not only as a vessel of memory but also from the perspective of the future: as a sensitive surface onto which, alongside past experiences, anxieties and anticipations regarding the future are inscribed. I am particularly interested in childhood perception, that direct, intense state in which the body and the world are not yet sharply separated and its transformation in a present burdened by ecological and social crises.

My use of materials is based on the tension between organic and inorganic qualities. I combine the fragile strength of borosilicate glass with raw linen, natural latex, leather and other fabrics. For me, textiles function as an extension of the skin: a fabric that connects generations, carrying within it the imprints of touch, use, and inherited gestures. The used and found materials are thus not merely formal elements, but active carriers of material memory.

My installations, spatial textiles, and soft sculptures are hybrid structures that explore states of vulnerability, transformation, and adaptation. These works do not represent closed forms, but rather constantly changing, intertwining bodies and surfaces where the boundaries between the human and the non-human, the past and the future, become blurred.

The source of my work stems from biographical threads. Mohács in southern Transdanubia, often evoked as the setting of my childhood, with the marshy tributaries of the Danube, the imprint of early childhood fantasy and tinkering, and the emotional and technical legacy of my seamstress grandmothers, all nourish my work. For me, this personal genealogy is linked to the neo-avantgarde approach.

The goal of my artistic and research program is the rehabilitation of tactile empathy. The threads of fabric carry the histories of countless individuals and cultures across generations, weaving us into the network of the roots of the past world and the origins of the new social fabric to come. I create my works as sensory situations that activate the viewer's physical presence and skin awareness, making visible the subtle, material connections that bind generations together and point toward an emerging future.

Eszter Metzing (1992)

visual artist, researcher, illustrator
Represented by Inda Gallery
currently lives and works in Budapest, Hungary

Education
2012 – 2018 – Hungarian University of Fine Arts / Graphic Design Department MA/ Msc

Memberships
2024 – Secondary Archive – Platform for women artists from Central and Eastern Europe
2022 – FKSE – Studio of Young Artist Association
2022 – MGSZ – Hungarian Graphic Artists Association
2024 – Art Quarter Community

Scholarships/Residencies/Awards
2026 – BGSW - The Baltic Gallery of Contemporary Arts / AiR – 2 Month, Slupsk/Ustka, PL
2026 – Kair Artist in Residence – 3 Month, Kosice, SK
2026 – Academie Schloss Solitude – Finalist
2026 – Derkovits Scholarship – Finalist
2025 – Styrian Artist in Residence – 2 Month, Graz, AT
2025 – Salzburg Artist in Residence – 1 Month, Salzburg, AT
2020 – 2021 – Budapest Art Mentor Scholarship
2019 – Tamás Lossonczy award

Selected solo and duo exhibitions
2026 – Archive of Contact / duoexhibition withAsztrid Csatlós, curatedby Bence Bettina, Liget Gallery, Budapest,HU
– I surfaced from a deep swampy sleep / duo exhibition with Stella Koleszár, curated byJúlia Salamon, LajosVajda Studio, Szentendre, HU
2025 – We are the essence of it.We construct it.It falls apart. / duo exhibition with Zita Borbély, curated by Júlia Herman, FKSE, Budapest, HU
2024 – The skin sees when the eyes touch/ curated by Annamária Szabó, Zsolt Kozma, Inda Gallery, Budapest, HU
2023 – We are the unthinkable dreams of matter / curated by Borka Csejdy, Bánk, HU
2022 – Born of slime and decay / duó exhibition with Stella Koleszár / curated by Annamária Szabó, ISBN Gallery, Budapest, HU
2021 – Fabric of childhood / curated by Zsolt Kozma/ Inda Gallery, Budapest, HU
2020 – I let it to... / Dorottya Kanizsai Múzeum, Mohács, HU
2020 – Please come in / curated by Réka Pócsi, Kata Szeder / Hybridart Space Gallery, Budapest



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Selected group exhibitions

2026 – International Exhibitionof Leather Forms / curated by Tomek Pawlowski - Jarmolajev, Romuald Demidenko, BGSW, Slupsk/ Ustka, PL
– At The Threshold Latent Desire / curated by Rena Furui, Matt Ford Studio, London, UK
– Interrogated Land / curated by Kíra Antman,Tér-Kép Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Elective Affinities / curated by Kató Somos, Aqb Project Space, Budapest, HU
2025 – Access is off the beaten track / curatedby ZsófiaMáté, Patrik Steinhauser, Hungarian Art & Business, Budapest, HU
– TEXTURE / curated by Marianne Csáky, Streetviewanderlecht, Brussels, BE
– After Laughter / curated by Krisztián Kukla, Keyvan Paydar, Schaumbad, Graz, AT
– Carnivores - with Andrea Szilág and Zsófia Antalka,Medium Gallery, Bratislava, SK
– Initiation - Contemporary textile art narratives / curated by Judit Kallós, Annamária Szabó, Hegyvidék Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Intertwined / curated by Linda Tarr, Sára Majoros, Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Only Friends / curated Lilla Lőrinc, Krisztián Kukla, AQB Projekt Space, Budapest
– Constellations: Contemporary Positions from Hungary / curated by Róna Kopeczky, Paris-B Gallery, Paris, FR
– Monstrous / A collective refusal to be small, Keil Gallery, Graz, AT
2024 – Parallel Worlds / curated by Zsolt Kozma, Inda Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Beyond the paper / curated by Anett Czifra, Deák 17 Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Everyone was a child / curated by Inemesit Etentuk, Kastner Kommunity, Budapest, HU
– Dissilutionem Patompticon / Margaret Island Water Tower, Budapest, HU
– Kamalect: Kőbánya S1 Inverse / curated by Laura Fedics, Dreher Antal Historical Brewery, Budapest, HU
– Lament / curated by Bettina Bence, Art Quarter Budapest – 4D Space, Budapest, HU
– MAJÁLIS / curated by Júlia Kerekes, Valentina Várhelyi, Art Quarter Budapest, HU
– The dormant, the wandering, and the amnesiac nature / curated by Zsófia Máté, Tokaj Art Wine Gallery, Budapest, HU
2023 – Spooky action at a distance / Here - There – curators: László Százados, Zsolt Koma, LOKART International Art Festival, Zsolnay Quarter, Pécs, HU
– Through the ages – curator: Délia Vékony – HAB art centre, Budapest, HU
– First half ‘23 – curator: Zsolt Kozma – Inda Gallery, Budapest, HU
– DEMO / This is not an organic community - The 2023 Studio of Young Artists’ Assciation (FKSE) new members exhibition –Studio Gallery, Budapest, HU
– New horizons - Association of Hungarian Graphic Artists new members debut exhibition, curated by Emese Révész, Vízivárosi Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Partial shade – Zsófi Faur Gallery, Budapest, HU
2022 – Patterns / Embroidery in contemporary art – curator: Zsófia Ványa, Deák 17 Gallery, Budapest, HU
– Have you ever asked the fish what the water is? –Víziváros Gallery, Budapest, HU
– meltdown / curated by Bettina Bence, NyolcésFél, Budapest, HU
– The man who stepped in paint / curated byJúlia Salamon, MKE Profil, Budapest, HU
– Vulnerability practices / 11_11 Gallery, Budapest, HU
2021 – Explorers 4.0 /curated by Linda Bérczi, Képező Gallery, Budapest, HU
2020 – ’Not at all, doctor sir, I can’t get a good nights sleep’ / curated by Dalma Eszter Kollár, Petőfi Museum of Literature, Budapest, HU
2019 – The picture of a floating world / UKIYO-E effect - Danube Museum, Esztergom, HU
2018 – Entrée 2018 / Mikve Gallery, Budapest, HU

Selected publications

2026 – I surfaced from a deep swampy sleep - Life and Literature magazine, Barbara Nagy
– Kunst TV Show broadcast, interview and studio visit by Edina Báló, Mediaklikk
– Paris Budapest Metro, video interview by Balázs Kulcsár
– Anno Theutis - The Tentacle as a Form of Pathos, Tempevölgy Journal, Issue 1, 2026, Márió Z. Nemes
– A Post-Human Landscape kultura.hu, Katica Kocsis
– Graveyard slot: Contemporary Gothic III., Lachmachun Radio Podcast
– Eerie flashes of light - Access is of the beaten track, orszagut.com, Márk Horváth
2025 – Cheerful materialism / About the exhibition by Zita Borbély and Eszter Metzing, ujmuveszet.hu, Tillmann Ármin
– The softness of hungry objects - kontur-art.com, Zsuzsanna Somogyi
2024 – Look closely - Metzing Eszter, orszagut.com, Katica Kocsis
– Forest of Intense - Reflections - The skin sees when the eyes touch/ Bőrlátás, prae.hu, Éva Freund
– In Da Studio 4 - Eszter Metzing, Artkartell.hu, Katica Kocsis
– The skin sees when the eyes touch / saliva.live
2023 – Giving flesh to feelings with stitches, nepszava.hu, Dénes P. Szabó
2022 – Born of slime and decay / The constructed reality, interview and podcast, Radio Tilos
– Against the fooding – Born of slime and decay, Endre Balogh, pirkheimer.prae.hu
– Creation epic of heroins born of decay and slime, kollektivmagazin.hu Kamilla HuYang
– Born of slime and decay / Kubaparis / ÚjMűvészet
– The man who stepped in paint / Kubaparis
– Vulnerability Practices – The FŰZ Artgroup’s debut exhibition, Újművészet.hu, Délia Vékony
– Allegories of vulnerability, PRAE art portal, Bíborka Emese Szakács
2021 – I remember not only the beautiful / kultura.hu
– Between flesh and shadow, Magyar Narancs, Attila Sirbik, 2021
– Textile works by Eszter Metzing in the Inda Gallery, Magyar Nemzet, Csilla Breuer



Skin to water / Skin to skin

Ephemeral and group exhibition installations

International Exhibition of Leather Forms
Curated by Tomek Pawłowski-Jarmołajew, Romuald Demidenko

Baltic Sea coast / BGSW - The Baltic Gallery of Contemporary Art,
Ustka / Slupsk, Poland, 2026





Skin to water - ephemeral installations along the Baltic Sea coast / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, transparent thread, cotton whool, variable sizes, 2026















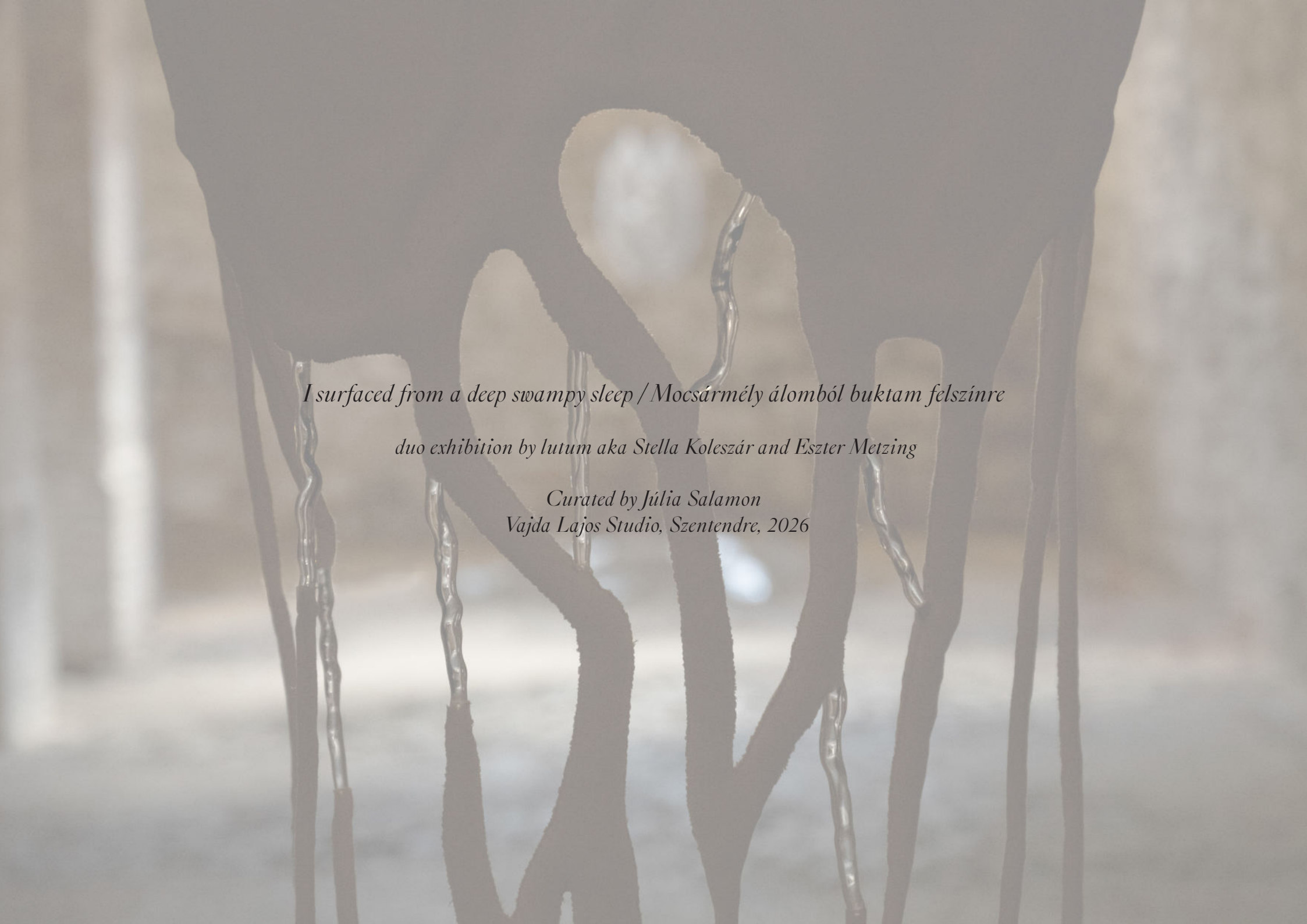
Skin to skin / installation
International Exhibition of Leather Forms / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, leather, leather thread, cotton whool, pen, 65 x 100 x 15 cm; variable sizes, 2026







Skin to skin / installation / International Exhibition of Leather Forms
/ borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, leather, leather thread, cotton whool, pen, 55 x 85 x 10 cm; variable sizes, 2026



I surfaced from a deep swampy sleep / Mocsármély álomból buktam felszínre

duo exhibition by lutum aka Stella Koleszár and Eszter Metzing

Curated by Júlia Salamon
Vajda Lajos Studio, Szentendre, 2026



Artifact to come (Seaweed and Sternum)/ borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, pencil, stainless steel wire, cotton whool, 55 x 72 x 25 cm, 2026







Behind me installation / Stydliva's cloak / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, pen, acrylic, varnish, stainless steel vire, cotton whool, 18 x 35 x 8 cm, 2026













Bodyscorr / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, latex, thread, pen, stainless steel wire, cotton whool, 70 x 180 x 70 cm, 2025







Shy star / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, surface treated fabric, cotton whool, 18 x 35 x 8 cm, 2025







Archive of Contact
duo exhibition

Co-artist: Asztrid Csatlós
Curated by Bettina Bence
Liget Gallery, Budapest, 2026



Subcortical Memory / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, cotton thread, transparent thread, drawing pen, pigment, watercolor, ink, varnish, stainless steel wire, batting, synthetic fur, 84x145x45 cm, 2026









Drop catcher / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, drawing pen, transparent thread, stainless steel wire, batting, 42x42x40 cm, 2025





Fragile remains beneath the skin / borosilicate glass, latex, cotton canvas, transparent thread, drawing pen, pigment, acrylic, wadding, 110x38x32 cm, 2025







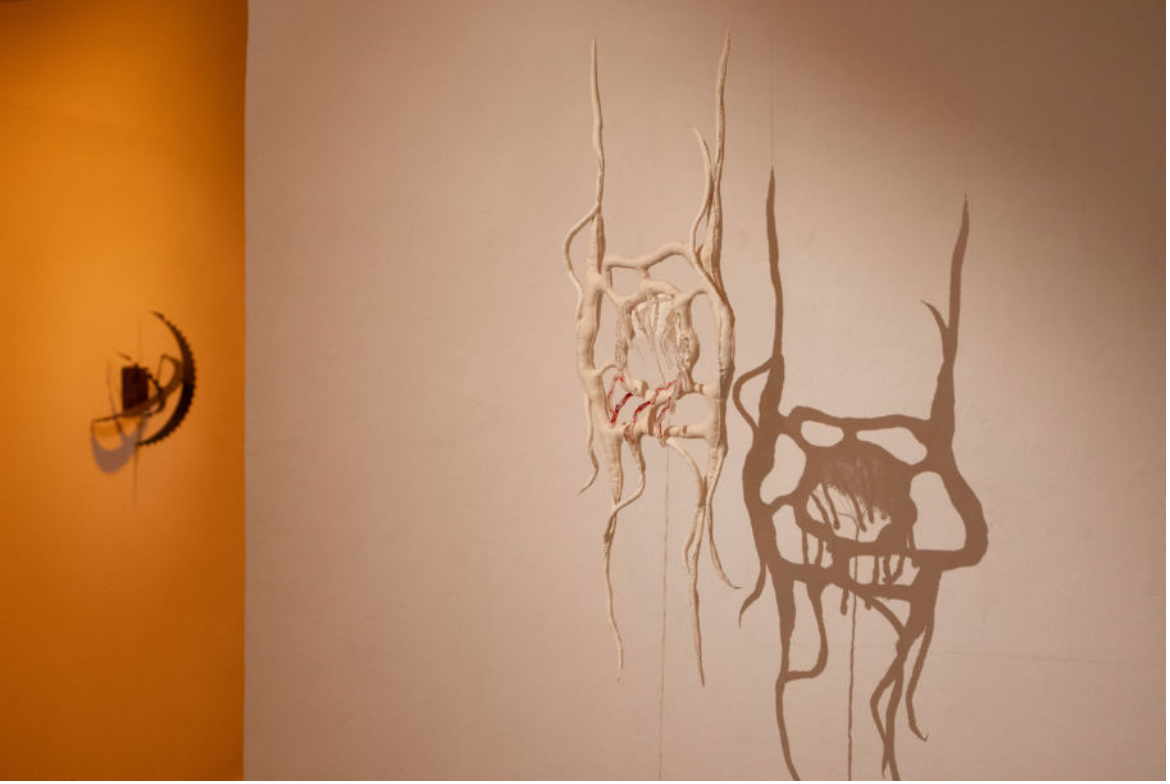


Ingrained Contact (detail) / borosilicate glass, cotton canvas, latex, transparent thread, acrylic, ballpoint pen, watercolor, 52x80x15 cm, 2026



Carnivores / Húsevők
exhibition

Co-artists: Andrea Szilák, Zsófia Antalka
Curated by Urbanova Miroslava
Medium Gallery, Bratislava, 2025







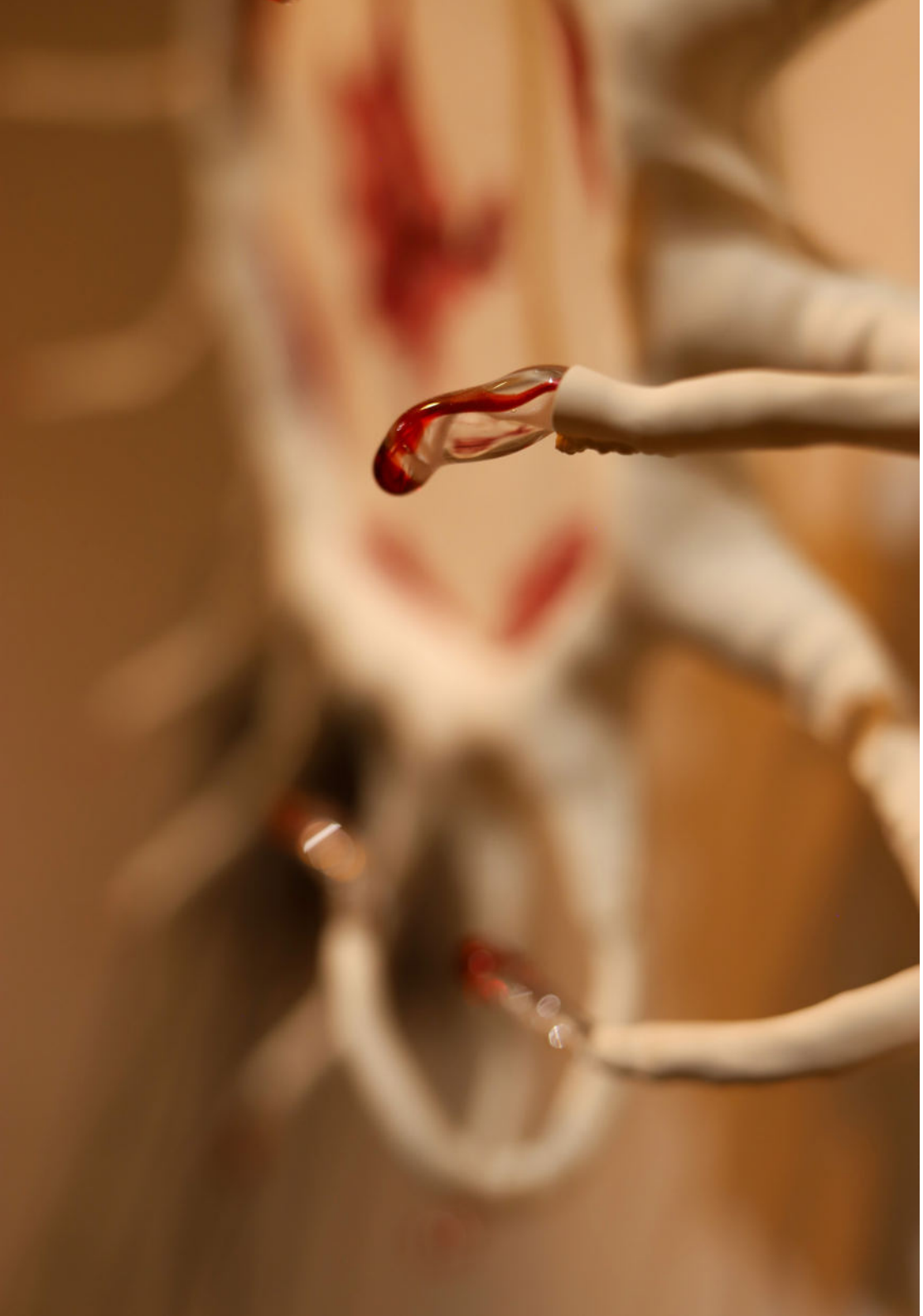
Resting Tissue / latex, transparent thread, canvas, borosilicate glass, wadding, 35x75x15 cm, 2025







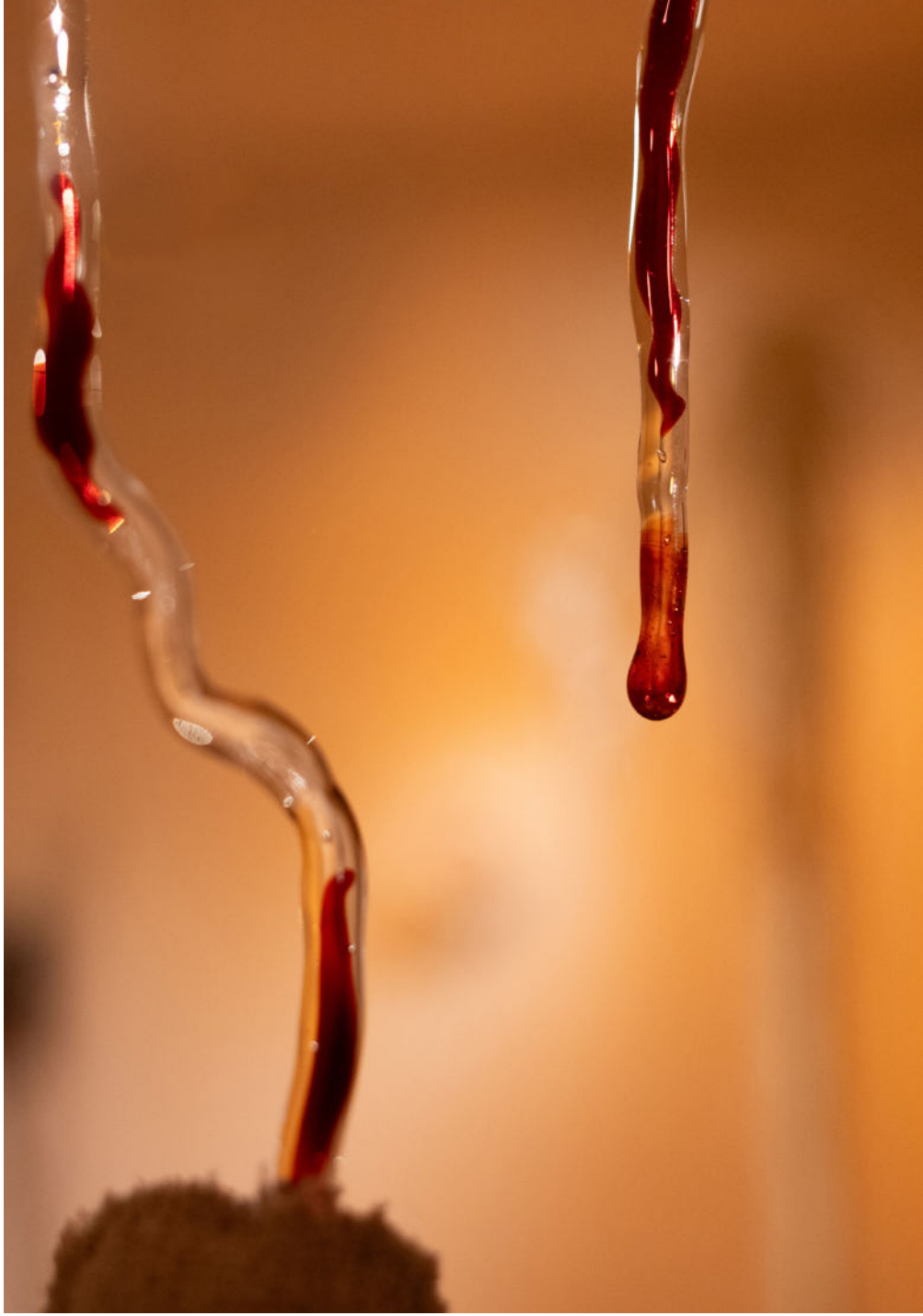
Boneless system (Mayflower) / latex, transparent thread, borosilicate glass, acrylic, canvas, batting, varying dimensions, 100x250x100 cm; 140x75x35 cm, 2022–25





Self-Defence Bite / latex, transparent thread, borosilicate glass, stainless steel wire, pen, acrylic, canvas, batting,
variable dimensions, 60x60x25 cm, 2025





Internal matter / latex, transparent thread, borosilicate glass, acrylic, canvas, hand-woven fabric, batting, 55x110x10 cm, 2025



Fragile sanity
installation

Co-artist: Stella Koleszár
After Laughter international group exhibition
Curated by Keyvan Paydar, Krisztián Kukla
Schaumbad Atelier, Graz, 2025









Synapse / Fragile Sanity / transparent thread, borosilicate glass, stainless steel wire, canvas, batting, 80x180x60 cm, 2025







Stella Koleszár, Neurosis, cast glass, 23x22x10 cm, 2025



Body score / Testanyag partitúra
installation

In connection with Katalin Ladik's work titled "Poemask,"
Intertwined exhibition
Curated by Zsolt Petrányi, Linda Tarr, Sára Major
Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, 2025





Body Score / latex, transparent thread, borosilicate glass, stainless steel wire, pen, acrylic, canvas, batting, variable dimensions, 60x60x200 cm; 90x90x120 cm, 2025




but in my own, personal struggle for freedom I was willing
to work with elements that surrounded me.











We are the essence of it. We construct it. It falls apart. / Túlömlünk. Elrendezzük. Szétesik.

duo exhibition

Co-artist: Zita Borbély
Curated by Júlia Hermann
Contributors: Ryu Fukui, Soma Kazsimér, Ármin Tillmann
SYAA - Studio of Young Artists Assotiation, Budapest, 2025


FHHH



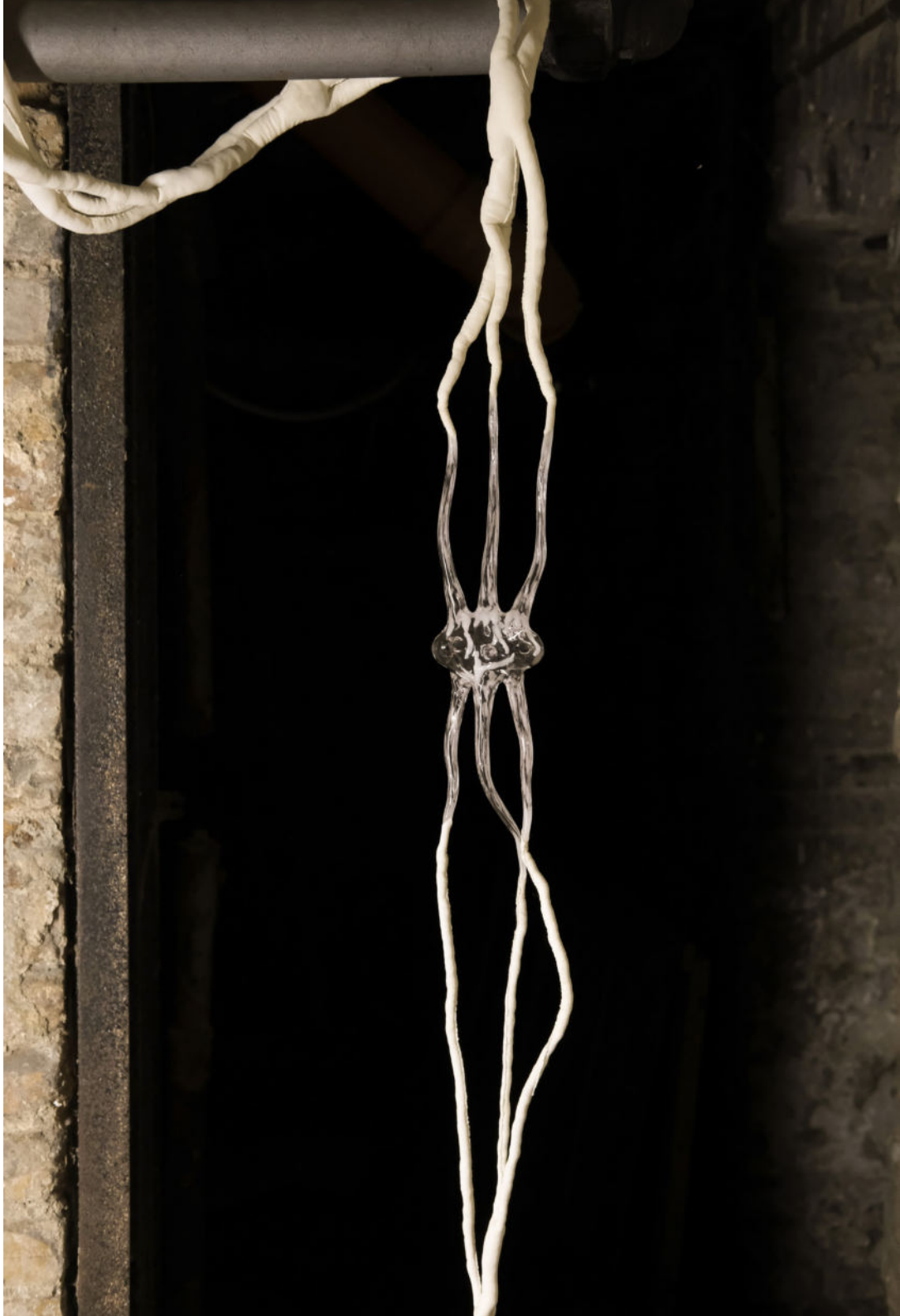






















The duo's exhibition also features an interactive textile piece that Zita and I created together, titled "Az irhája / The pelt."
Made from wool yarn, the piece responds to touch by emitting different sounds.
The installation was realized in collaboration with Fukui Ryu.







The skin sees when the eyes touch / Bőrlátás

solo exhibition

Curated by Zsolt Kozma Zsolt, Annamária Szabó

Contributors: Anikó Illés, Márió Z. Nemes, Andrea Mészöly Mészöly, Eszter Porkoláb

Inda Gallery, Budapest, 2024



The first room / Mirror





Mirror / borosilicate glass, hand-woven found textile, latex, stainless steel wire, batting, 82x210x55 cm, 2024



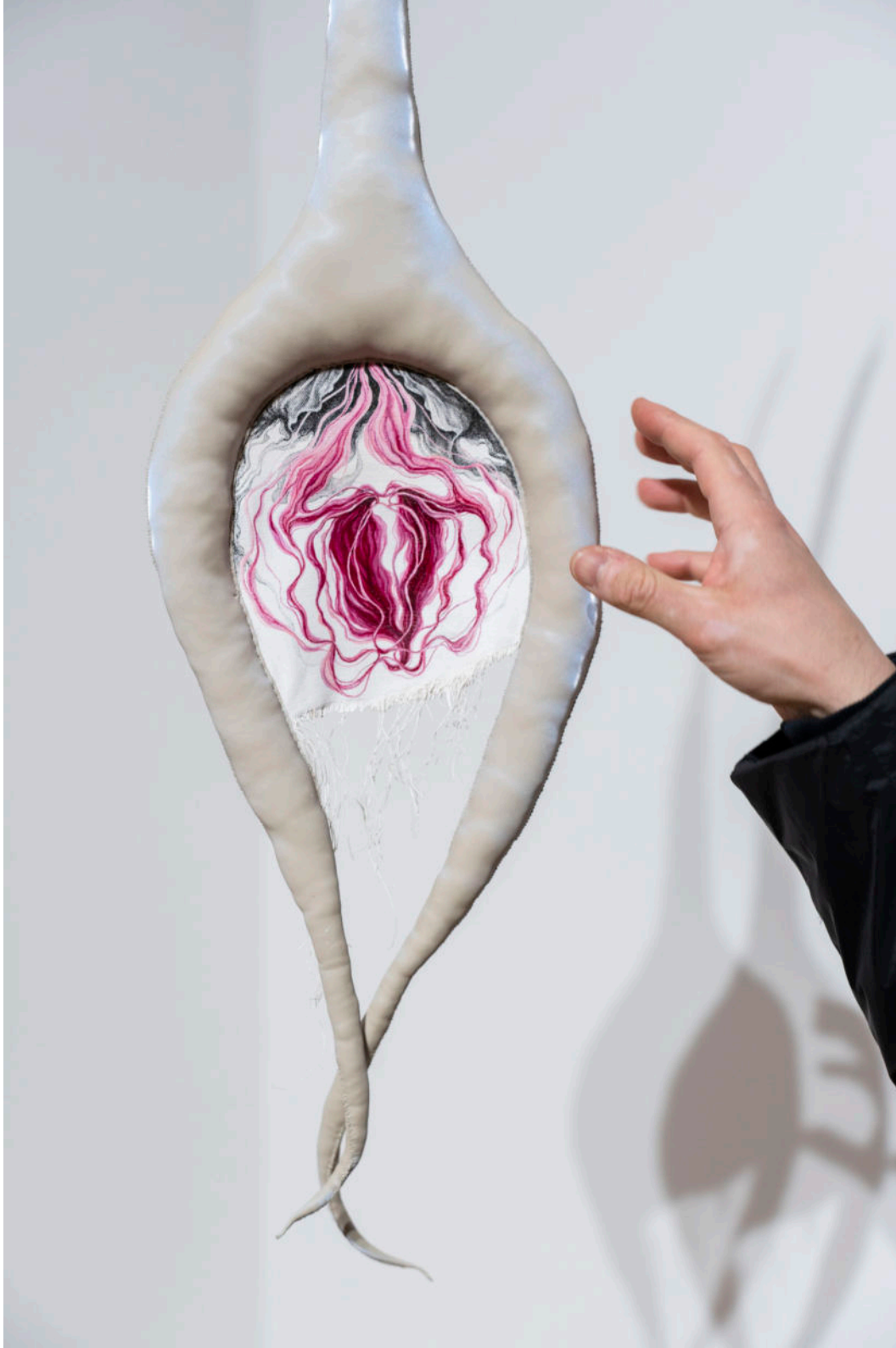
The first room / Anemone, Flesh fragments



Anemone / latex, cotton thread, canvas, varnish, pen, cotton whool, 65x120x5 cm, 2023



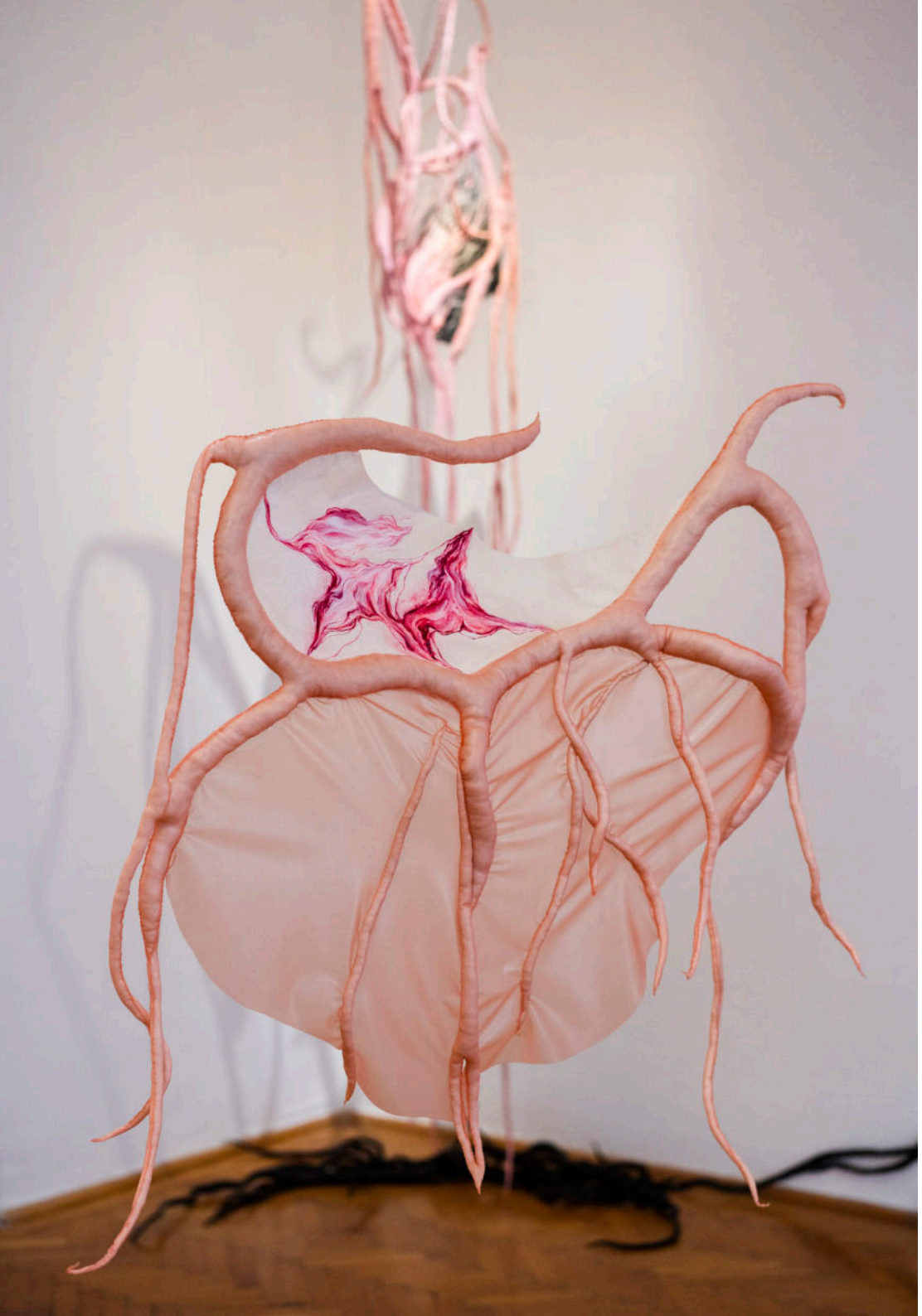


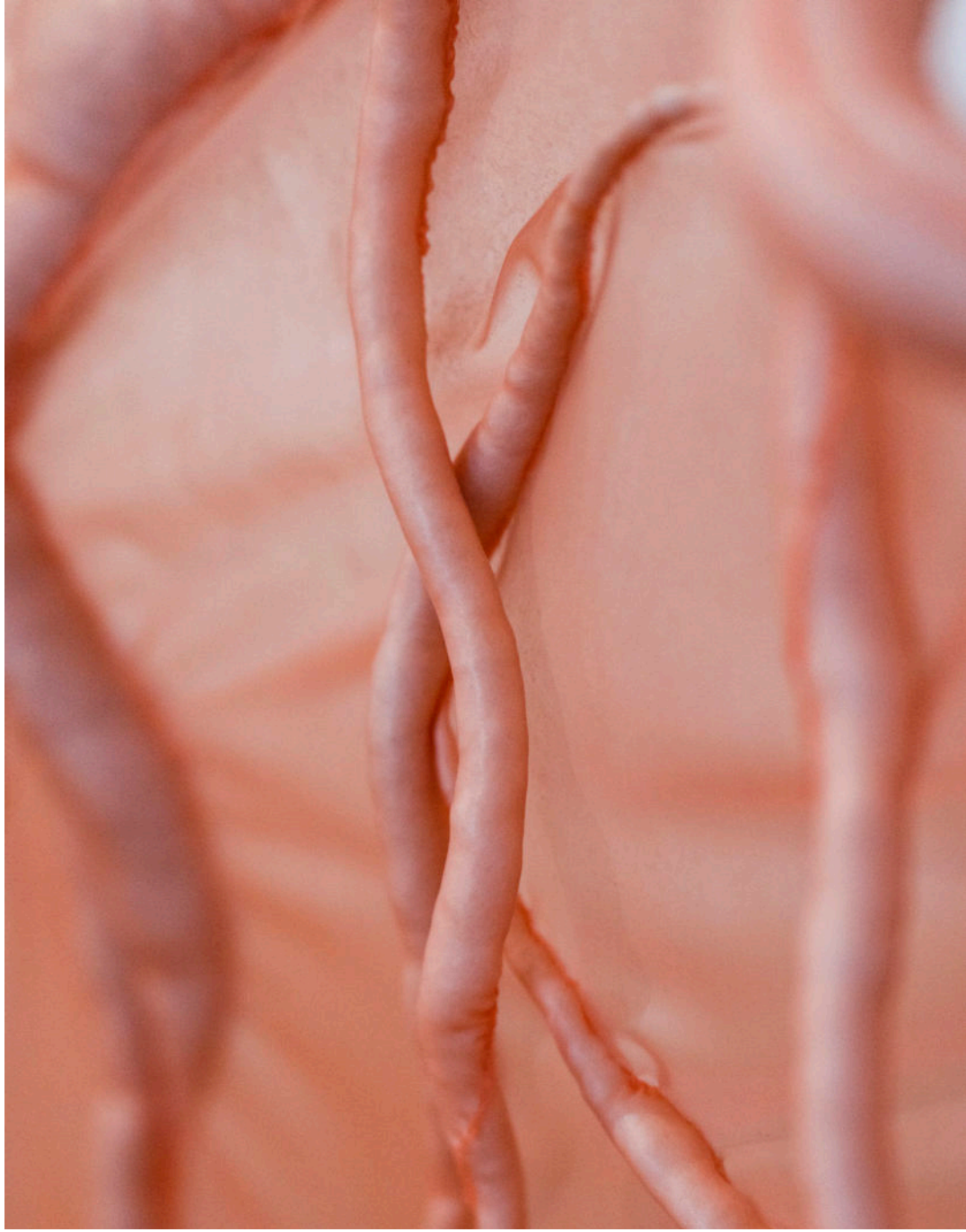


Flesh fragments/ treated fabric, canvas, pigment, pen, acrylic, transparent thread, cotton whool, variable dimensions, 2024



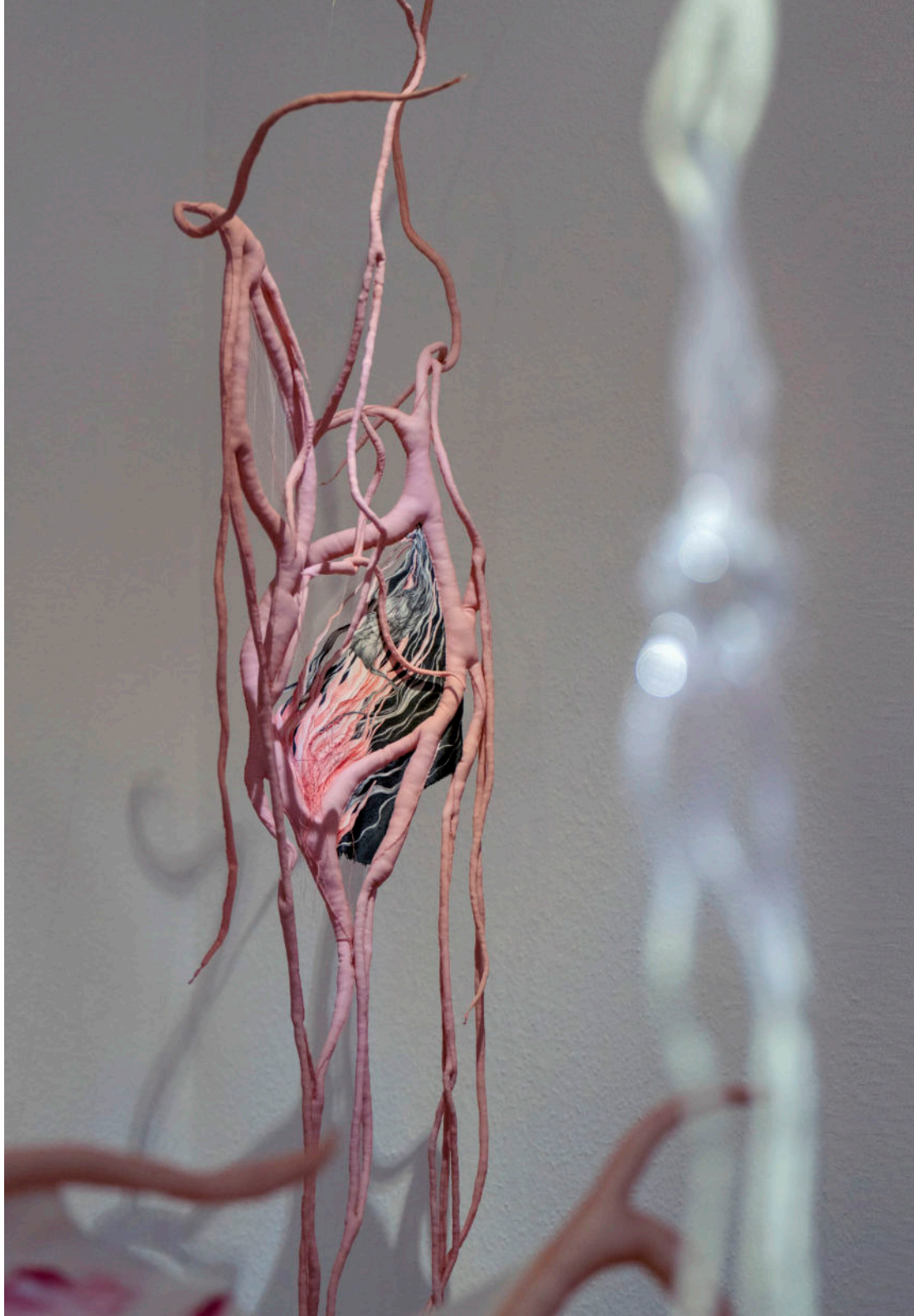
The second (middle) room





Neonatal skin / latex, canvas, pigment, transparent thread, varnish, cotton whool, 90x65x7 cm, 2024





Pink altering / canvas, tulle, thread, pen, acrylic, cotton whool, various sizes, 2024













Third room / Rebirth at the end





Tactile Forms – Spatial Installation (ensemble) / canvas, thread, cotton whool, variable dimensions, 2024

In the third space, the welcoming atmosphere was created through a combination of the space itself and a sound installation composed by composer Rozi Mákó; this space hosted movement therapy workshops during the exhibition.







Mayflower
installation

A one-night pop-up event organized by the Dialect Collective
Curated by Laura Fedics
Antal Dreher Historic Brewery, Stable, Budapest, 2024





Mayflower - installation / latex, transparent thread, borosilicate glass, cotton whool, variable dimensions, 2024









We are the unthinkable dreams of matter
solo pop-up exhibition

Curated by Borka Csejdy
Bánkitó Festival, Engine Room, Bánk, 2023



Engine Room on the Lake Stage bleachers at the Bánkitó Festival









The unthinkable dreams of matter / latex, patent leather, canvas, acrylic, pen, varnish, pigment, wadding, variable dimensions, 2023



Born of slime and decay
duo exhibition

Co-artist: Stella Koleszár
Curated by Annamária Szabó
Contributors: Ildikó Boldizsár, Márió Z. Nemes, Imola Julianna Szabó
ISBN Gallery, Budapest, 2022







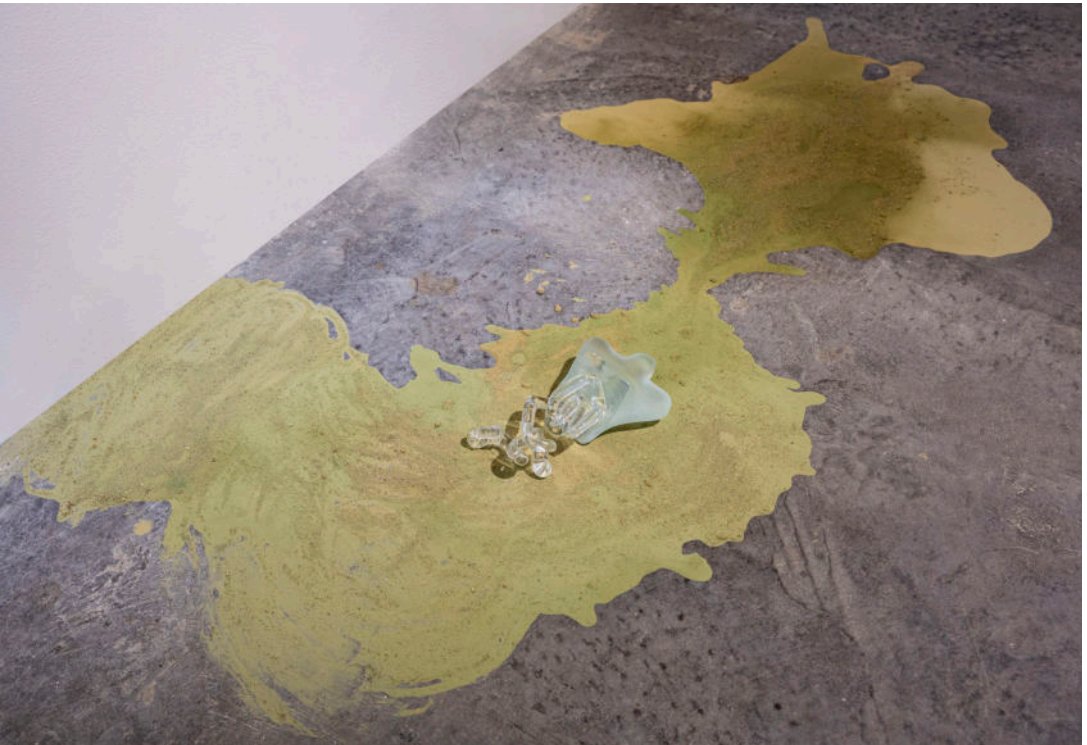


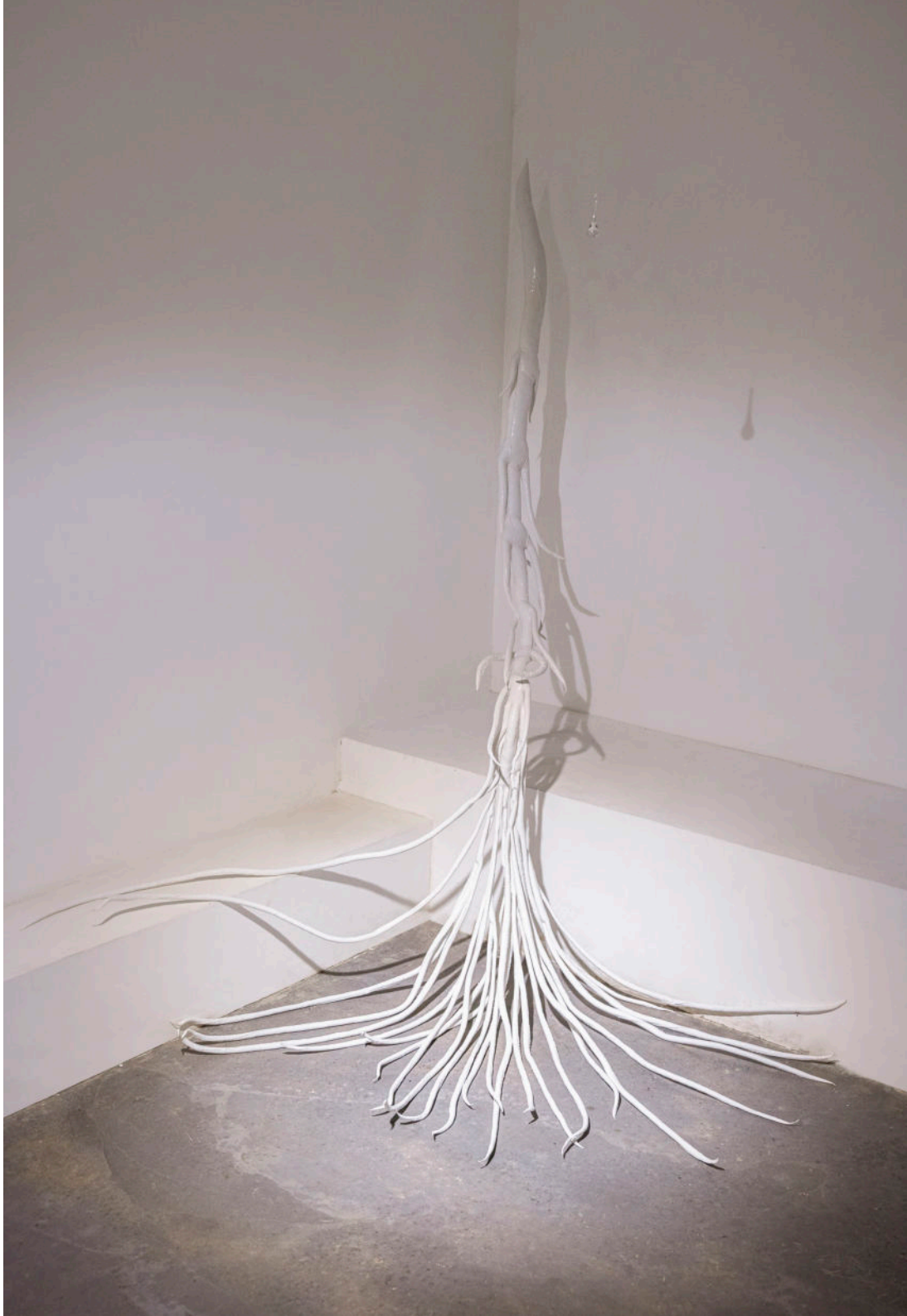
The possibility of growing an inner skin / latex, transparent thread, canvas, pen, cotton whool, 100x220x40 cm, 2022













Thank you!

esztermetzing.com

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