

BIB FRROKAJ

Bib Frrokaj (1992, Lezhe, Albania), lives and works in Albania.

Graduated from the University of Arts in Tirana, Painting Degree in 2016. His artworks and artistic projects recently are focused on photography and film. His projects are an attempt to discover how this complex world interacts to us in different ways and contexts - both visual and spiritual - creating a metaphysic or visual connection between different images and situations with a sensitive attention toward social problems. Since 2017 he has been working as art teacher in his own town Lezhe, Albania.

He has been artist in residence at Art House, Shkoder, Albania 2016 and 2019 with Summer School 3, "Regard Sur Mon Voisin" Bosnia & Hercegovina 2017, "CittaDellArte" – Fondazione Pistoletto, Biella, Italy, 2016.

Collective exhibitions at Marubi Museum of Photography, with "Seven Albanian Photographers. One Residency", - Curated by Fracois Cheval - Shkoder, Albania 2019-2020, "30YEARSOLD" – FAB Gallery, Tirana – Curated by Eugenio Tibaldi, 2019, "Idromeno" Prize – 5-Th edition – Curated by Zef Paci and Artan Dracini, "Regard Sur Mon Voisin – View on my Neighbour" – Gallery of the French Institute, in Belgrade, 2017 and Pertovic Krusovci Palace, Podgorica, 2017, "World Biennial Exhibition of Student Photography" - Serbia 2015, etc.

Awards: Urban Photo Fest – On top 30 images – London, 2017, "Only In The Mediterranean" (Finalist) Slovenia 2017, "Shkrepe", - First Prize, Albania 2015, "Bonk Magazine" #3 - Artist selected, Estonia 2017, "PreFoto" – Finalist, Presevo / Serbia, 2016 and 2015.

Workshops and Summer School: "Art House School 3" Albania 2019, "Photography as a tool of encounters" - Austria 2016, "Fleeting Drawing" – Workshop, Albania 2018, "Summer School as School", Pristina, 2015, "Resolving Post-Conflictual Situations Through Visual Arts" – Romania 2015, "All Night Long" - Shkoder, Albania. 2016

Statement

My currently artistic researches are focused in investigation of a complex relationship between human being as a transitory one, and nature as an inevitable presence placed in a habitat which attempt to give and take through their mutual behaviors treating spontaneous subjects from urban spaces and beyond it. My images pretend to set in crises this relationship of habitats trying to discover how they interact against complexities of human behavior in different relation contexts, whether in a spiritual or visual connection with a dose of sensitivity in social problems. So, sometimes my subjects bring a non-narrative story between images coming from different places and through their subjects insist to determine against an environment which depends by our reactions and vice versa.

Films

The Big Snake

Video, 07'38", sound, color, 2019

The Big Snake is a pure example of an encounter conflict between human and nature with all its biodiversity. This short "guide" into the landscape paths doesn't purpose to take us to a final conflict point, but exactly this black structure generates the potentiality to become the main conflict. Since the starting industrialism epoch, human has continued to transform the landscape through their technologies and exploitation policies that had indicate to the nature in different ways. And this is the case when the human hand becomes disturbing throughout the natural habitat that permeates the whole video.

*Exhibited at "Seven Albanian Photographers. One Residency" at Marubi Museum of
Photography - Curated by Fracois Cheval,*

Shkoder, Albania 2019-2020

Link: <https://youtu.be/4-9pOr9rTNY>





Installations

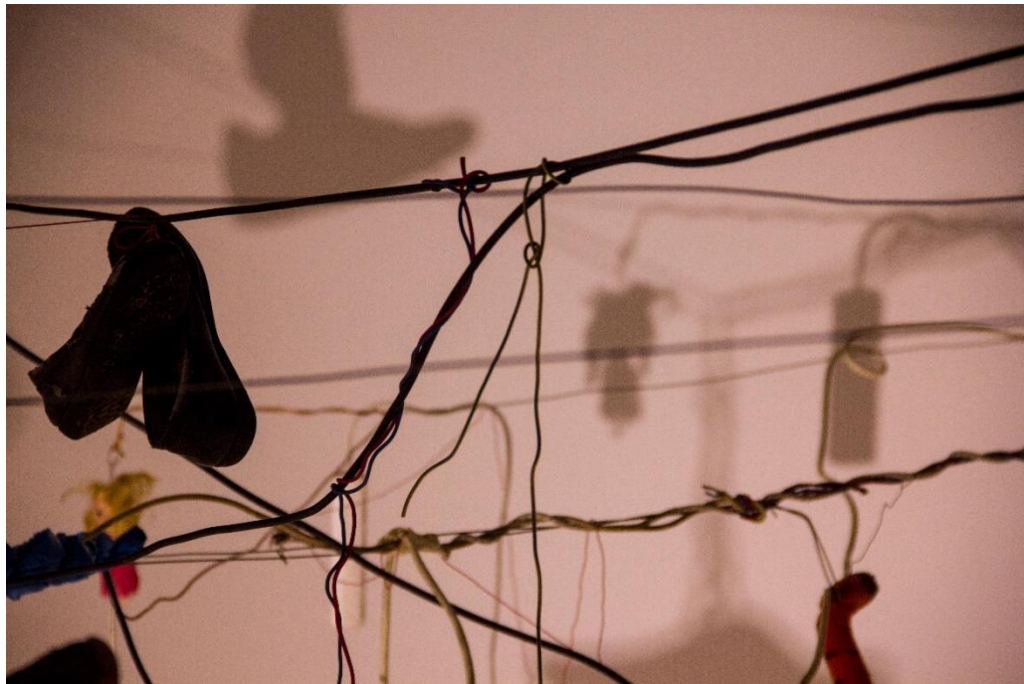
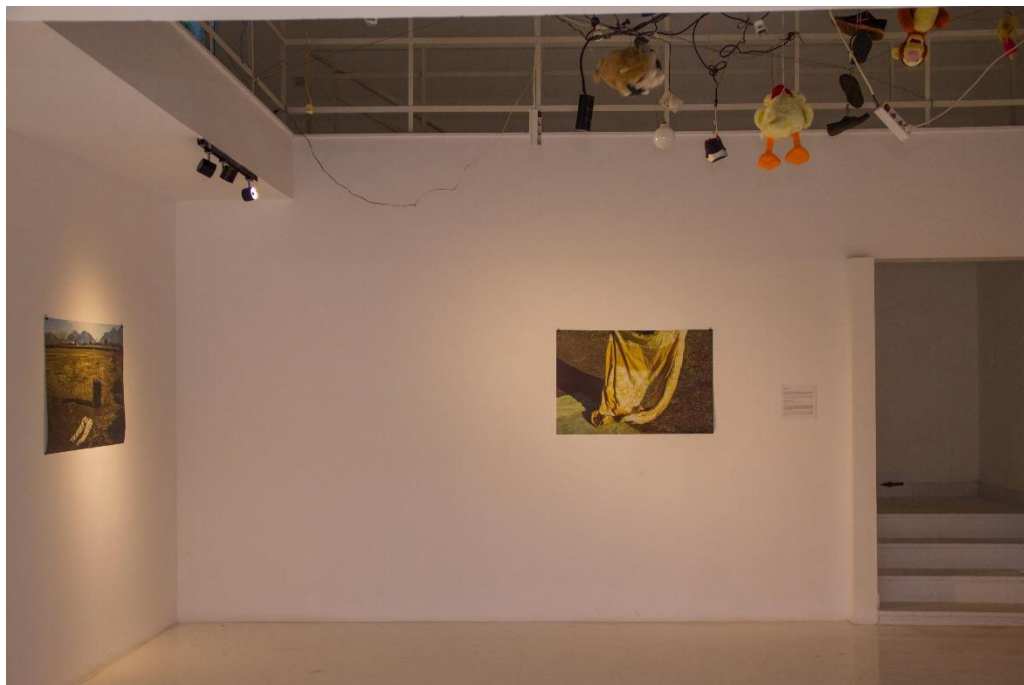
Tirana, That City I couldn't Sell

(Installation, 2019)

This project intends to contrast a situation of lawlessness where retailers also trade personal belongings under the shadows of beautiful facades of government propaganda. In these delicate situations their gestures become somehow part of the chaos of our urban space. So, the installation aims to legitimize this illegal action, going beyond the spatial and temporal context.

This project was exhibited at "FAB Gallery" Tirana, Albania at "30YearsOld" Exhibition, 2019. Curated by Eugenio Tibaldi





Photographs

Reflective Walls

(Digital Color Photographs, 2017)

"Reflective Walls" is a photographic project as artist in residency-based, researching in Bosnia and Herzegovina where the entire project is an approach to reflection of light in buildings, streets and houses that preserve carved on them the sad past of this country.

The project was exhibited in 2017 at the gallery "Dvorac Petrovica na Krusevcu" Podgorica, and later at the hall of French Institute in Belgrade, Serbia.



*Displaying view of the "Reflective Walls", Podgorica, Montenegro.
Dim. 35x50cm*



From the photography series of "Reflective Walls" 2017



From the photography series of "Reflective Walls" 2017



From the photography series of "Reflective Walls" 2017

Beyond the Line

(Digital Color Photographs, 2016)

These are a series of photographs where I deal with urban spaces how it interacts with people and vice versa through signs, road lines or surrounding spaces with all its complexity of random components. My characters sometimes are waiting for something, sometimes are hurry up to go somewhere we don't know.

*"Beyond the Line" exhibited in "Hohensalzburg Fortress", Salzburg, Austria, 2016,
later at "Idromeno Prize" (5th edition), Shkoder 2017 – 2018.*



From the series "Beyond the Line" 2016



From the series "Beyond the Line" 2016



A Background for a Tree

(Digital Color Photographs, 2015-2017)

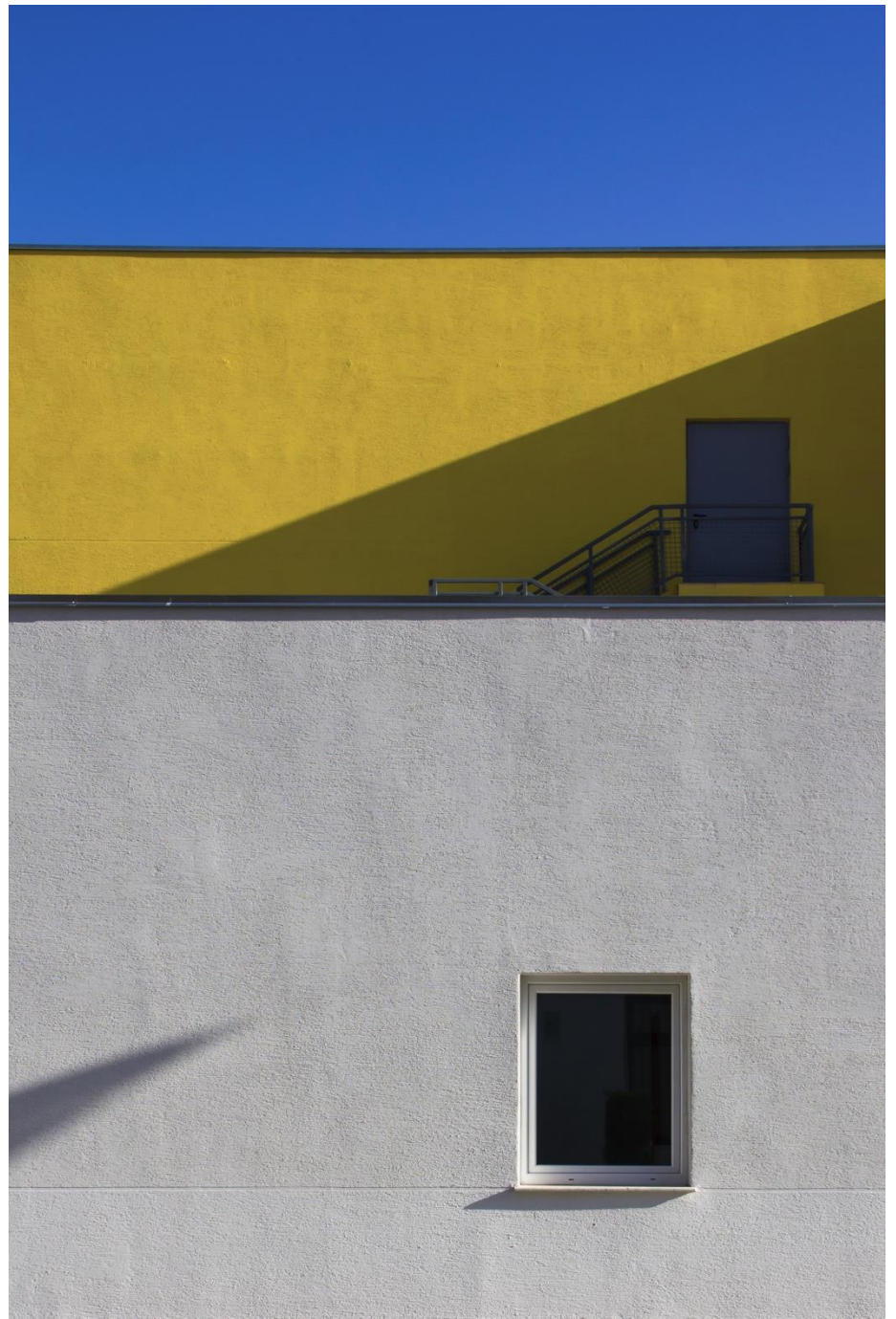
In developing urban sites, where city landscape changes every day, I try to find some quiet and frequently photograph trees as a sort of mediators between a regressing organicism and building facades. My focus it's to compose visual and graphic situations combining different lines, shadows, colors and textures, while also excluding any visual noise. It's interesting how the subject change its mass and contour, adapting to the surrounding spaces.

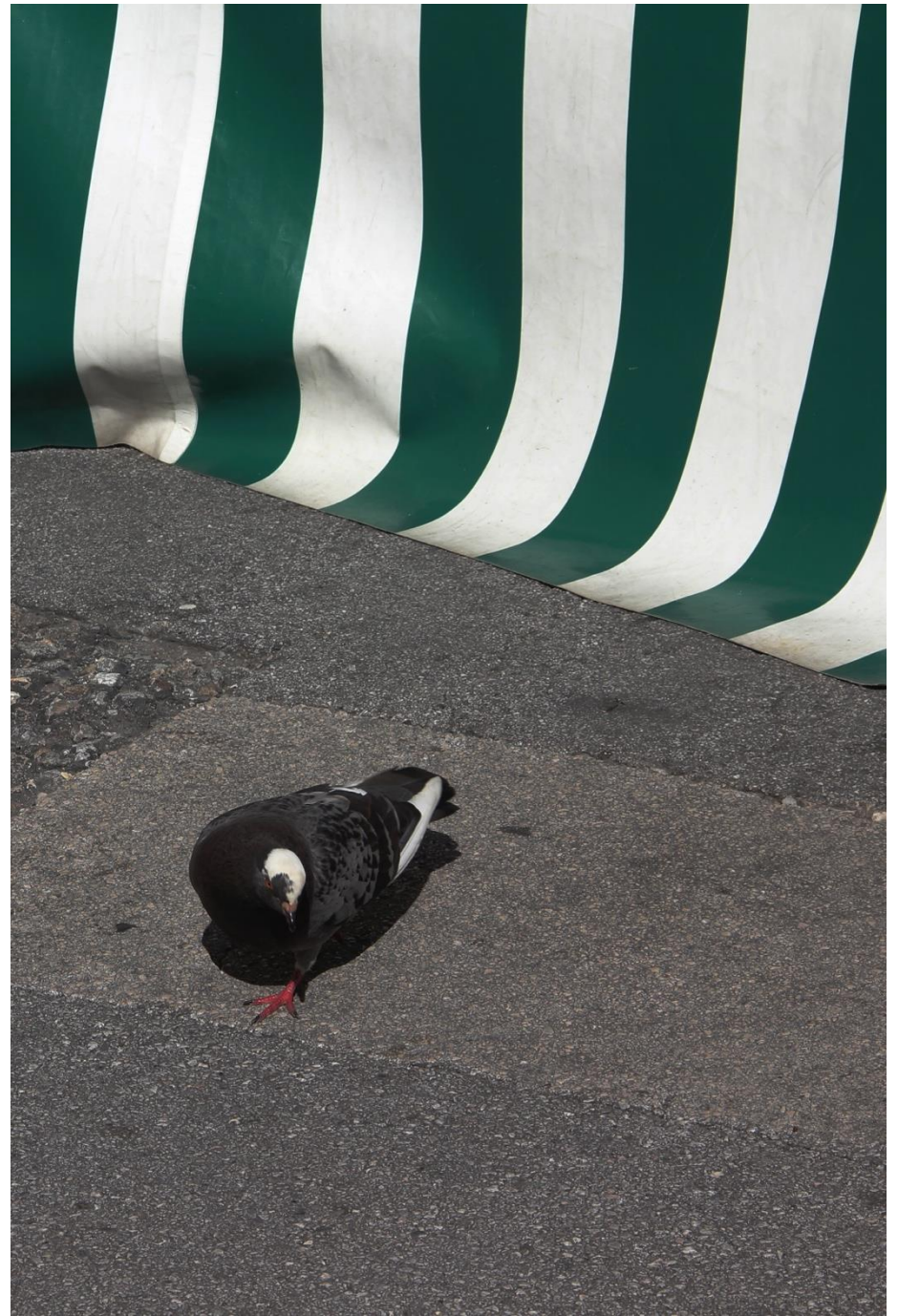


*Installation view at the "Idromeno Prize" Exhibition (5th edition), Shkoder, Albania 2017 – 2018
Curated by Zef Paci*



From the photography series "A Background for a Tree" 2017



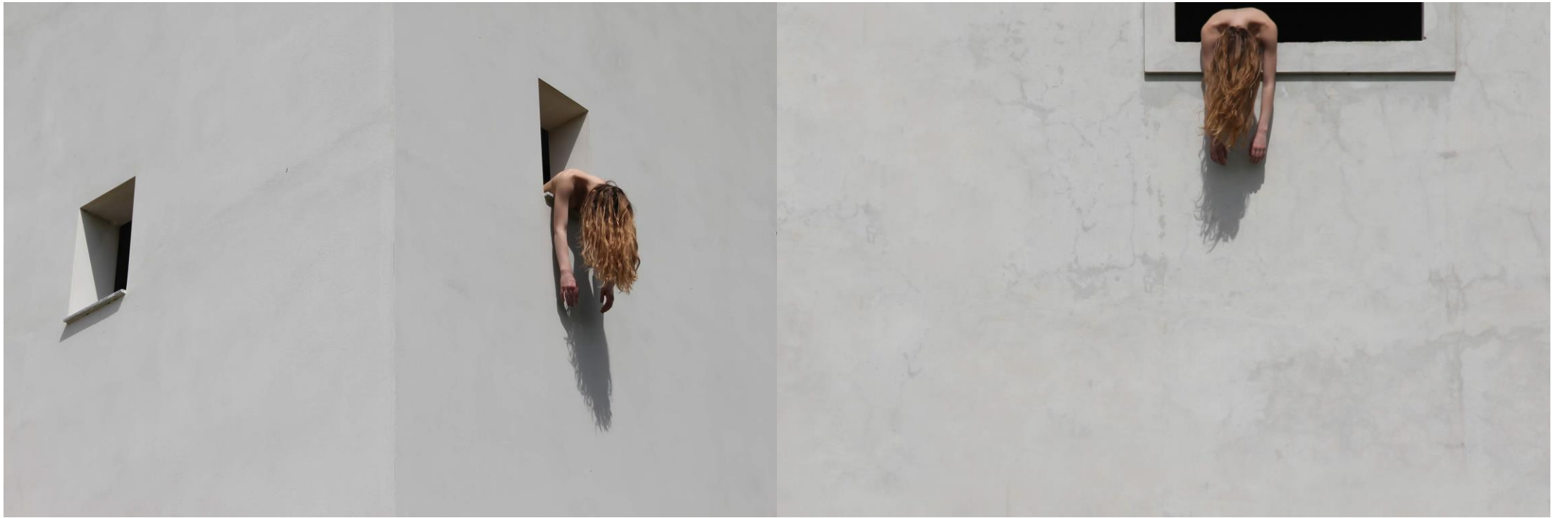


Dependent

(Digital Color Photographs, 2016)

There is a series of photographs under the motto "Home it's a boring place, go out!" where I explore the conditions of getting bored at home, while aiming to portray the crucial role that Albanian women play in the household.

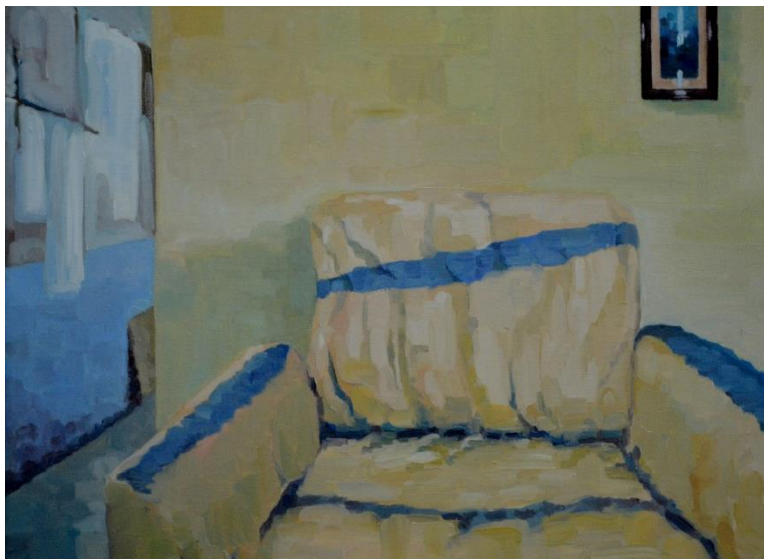
*This project was presented as a Diploma Thesis at FAB Art Gallery, Tirana, Albania
2016*



From the photography series "Dependent" 2016



Paintings and Drawings



*From the series "Meditation above Modern Communications" 2014
Oil on canvas, 40x60cm*



From the series "Heavy Breath" 2013, Oil on canvas, 70x90cm



*From the series "Heavy Breath" 2014
Carbon on paper, combined technique,
100x70cm*



*From the series "Heavy Breath"
2014, Carbon on paper,
combined technique,
199x137.5cm*

