

Portfolio

**Nicole Urban**

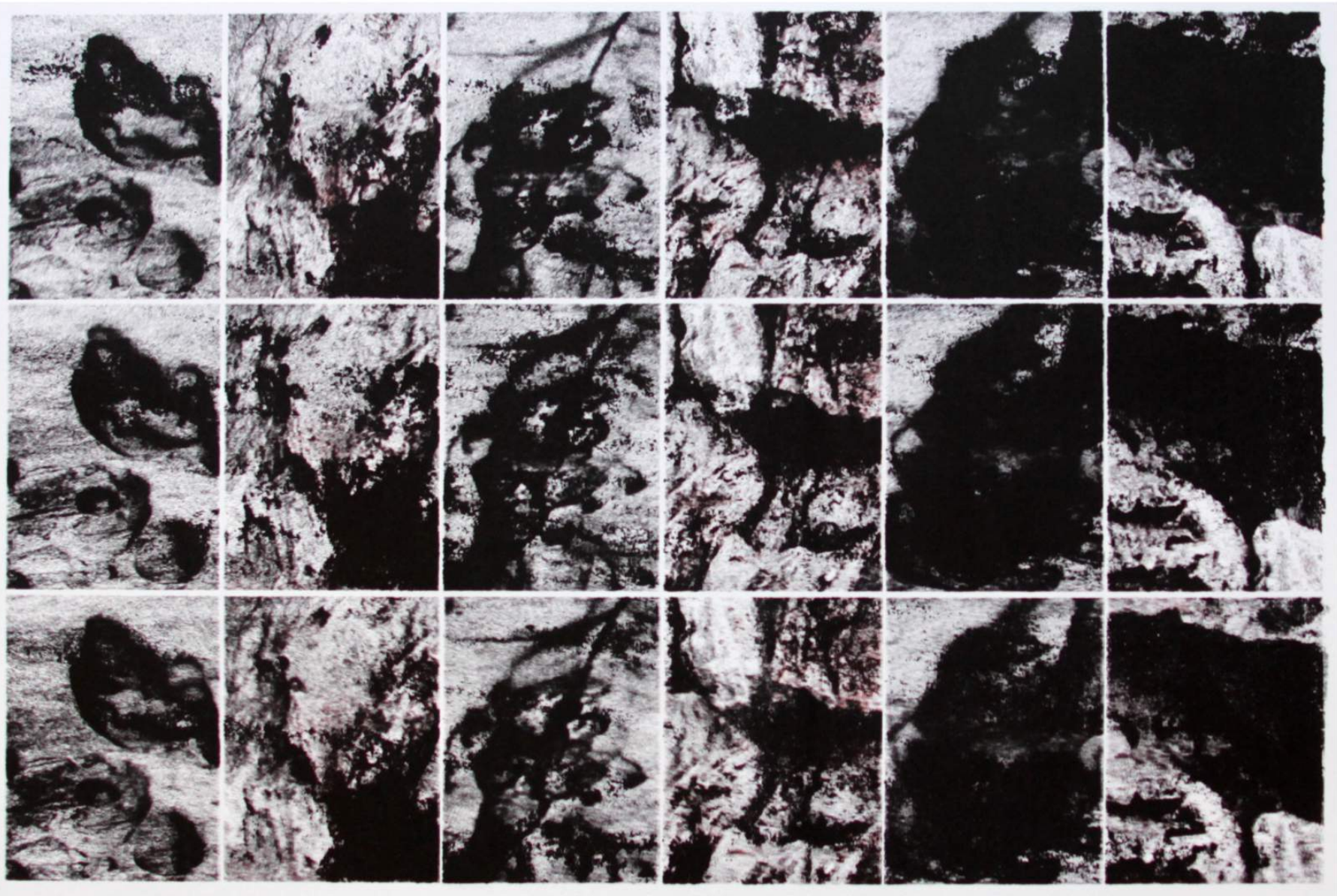


## μυθωσμη

ongoing solo project  
electronic / electro-acoustic / noise performance

modular synthesizer, bass clarinet, saxophone, voice, ceramic filters

Live performance at Cabott, Yogyakarta ID: <https://tinyurl.com/mudwomanlive2>  
soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/niiiurban>



## Sequence

*(from the AMALGAM series)*

2023

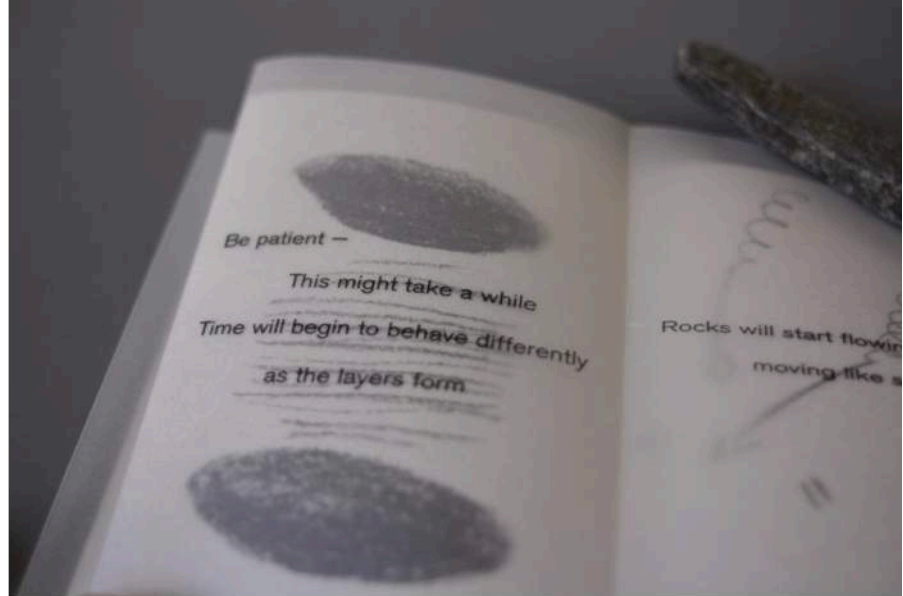
Risograph monotype (2 colours) on Munken paper, 66 x 45 cm

developed during AIR at Frans Masereel Centrum

With a nod to the basic structure of cinema, **Sequence** refers to geologic processes undergoing perpetual change. The geologic face of the Earth is in a never-ending state of flux. Continental plates push and shift, the planet's core melts and combusts.

Unless the ground is literally shaking beneath our feet, we are unable to witness the enormous scale and slowness of lithic temporality using human senses alone. Scientific data can give us an idea, but it needs interpretation and translation.

The imperfection and repetitiveness of printing techniques plays with the idea that data still needs imagination and poetry to bring us closer to understanding, and yet we might never fully grasp the implications of temporalities different to ours.



## Becoming Fossil

2023  
Leporello instruction booklet / field guide  
Risograph and UV print on Munken, cardboard and transfer paper  
Edition of 45  
Developed during AIR at Frans Masereel Centrum

This instruction booklet includes drawings, photographs and text. It is meant to be used as an intimate field guide to open up one's mind to more-than-human processes and temporalities, in this case, fossilization. The typography becomes increasingly flattened as the text proceeds, dreaming of a great weight. Questions that lead to the making of this guide: How to imagine timescales that differ greatly from our own? How can we approach an overwhelming, distant topic and foster a more intimate, gentle understanding? How might we think ahead by stretching our minds and bodies into the distant past?



**Chronoconceptual Parallax** (working title)

2023

Set of 2 photopolymer etchings on Hahnemühle paper

Edition of 2

Developed during AIR at Frans Masereel Centrum

The work consists of 2 prints based on an image of the same stone. The prints are to be hung exactly opposite each other. One image is a sharp representation of the stone, the other shows a mirrored, distorted version of it, as if the boulder were seen vibrating at an unknown frequency. The title refers to the sense of passing of time (chronoception), and the perceptual shift of an object's position depending on which eye you use to look at it (parallax).



**A M L G and L G**  
*(from the AMALGAM series)*

2023

Layered risograph (4 colours) on Munken paper, 42 x 30 cm  
edition of 30 (A M L G) and 5 (L G)

developed during AIR at Frans Masereel Centrum

**A M L G**, and its sister **L G**, originate from an interest in geology, fossilization, and different temporalities criss-crossing each others' paths. The work stems from 15 individual aquarelles layered on top of each other like fossils, or strata: layers of petrified time.

The word *amalgam* is made up of four distinct letters of the alphabet: A, M, L and G. In this work, the individual letters stand for the respective four or two colours used in the Riso prints. Like all matter, our words are made up of individual, but repeating components, that influence each other, separate, merge and change over time.



Vibrant matter

2022 - ongoing

series of aquarelles (30 +), based on Jane Bennett's political ecology/philosophy by the same name

dimensions vary (15 x 10 cm - 50 x 30 cm)



## Body as archive

2017

Performative research and instructions

Commissioned by CLOUD At DANSLAB, The Hague

Initiated in 2017 and expanding since then, *Body as archive* is an instructive score as well as research workshop for embodying and composing through observation, interaction and movement. It uses elements of Butoh, Noguchi Taijō and other physical movement practices, learning to move with and be moved by both human and more-than-human bodies.





**Something sleeping, waiting, longing**

2013 - 2017

Performative sculpture

Tea, cotton-silk, custom electronics  
ca. 210 x 120 cm (dimensions vary)

The sculpture depicts an undefined landscape, reminiscent of leather. At first glance lifeless if it weren't for a slow breathing sound and motion, it invites the audience to pay closer attention to beings that exist in other-than-human realities.

Video documentation: <https://vimeo.com/145785671>



**proto zoe**

2021

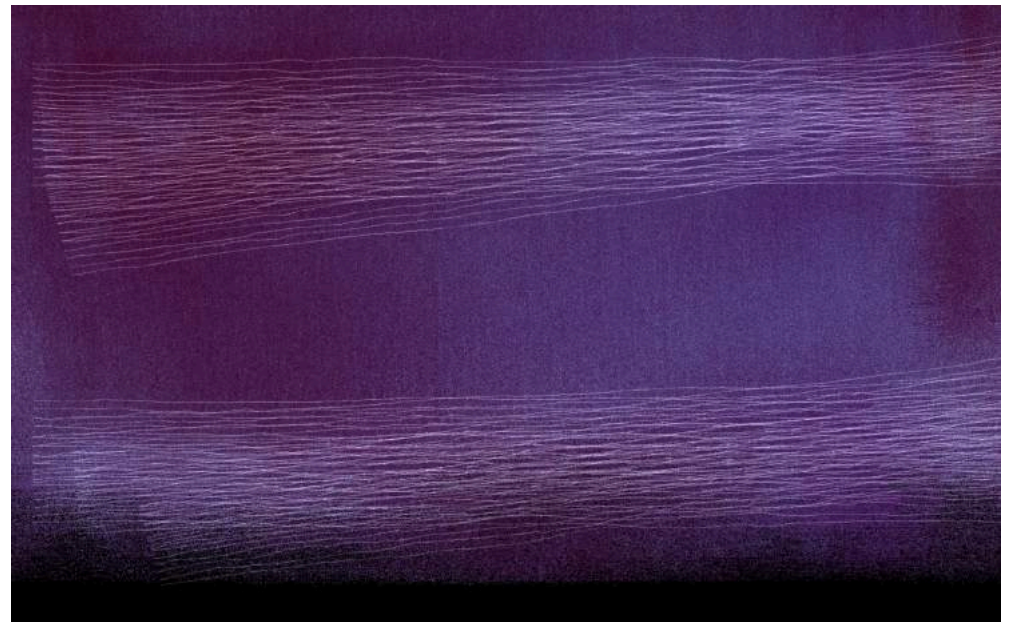
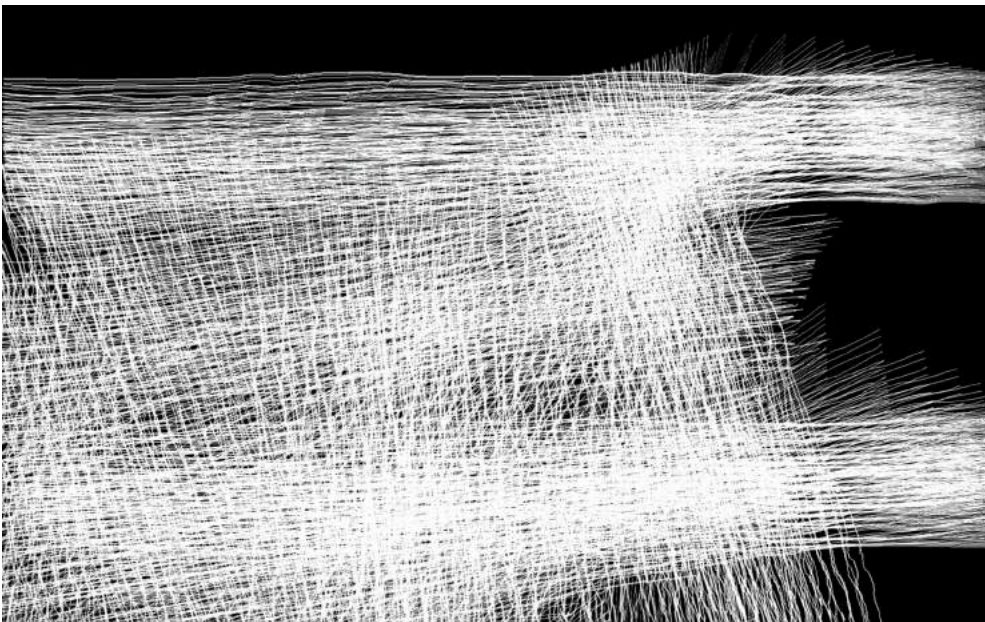
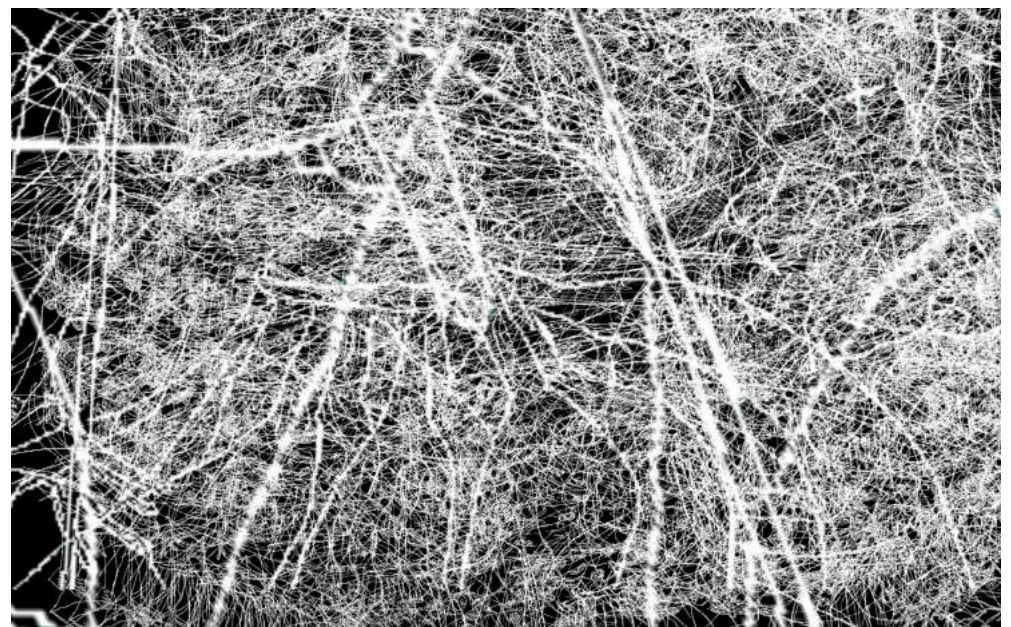
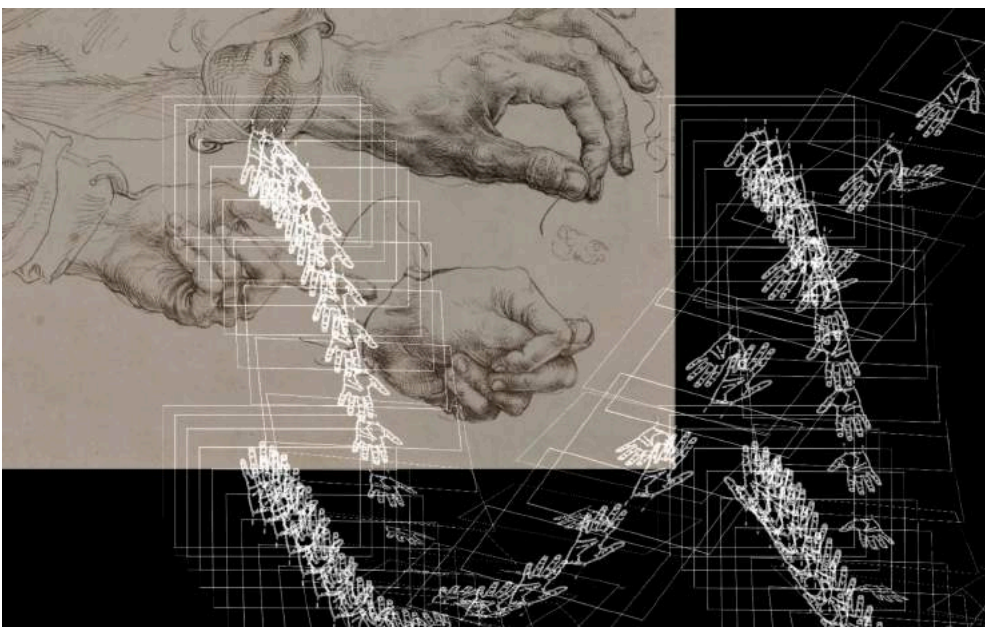
Partially glazed ceramic sculpture  
31 x 30,5 x 17,5 cm

The title of this sculpture is based on posthuman philosopher Rosi Braidotti's distinction between *bios* (mostly human life) and *zoe* (all life).



**ongoing series of pagan masks**  
2021 - ongoing  
slab-built and glazed ceramic

*clockwise from bottom left:*  
sprite, 32 x 21 x 9 cm  
folded bark spirit, 27,5 x 16 x 7 cm  
haunting one, 20 x 17,5 x 9,5 cm  
wyrd sweet talker, 20 x 14,5 x 6 cm  
greenman, 40 x 30 x 5 cm



***Audiovisual work***

2017 - ongoing

Stills from visuals for experimental live concerts at various venues in the Netherlands such as at Worm, Rotterdam and De Helling, Utrecht