DISRUPTIVE FORCES

MICHAEL CHERNISHOV IN DIALOGUE WITH AROCHA & SCHRAENEN, MARC MING CHAN AND THOMAS FOUGEIROL

3 DECEMBER 2026 – 13 FEBRUARY 2027
11 RUE PASTOURELLE, PARIS 75003

ALINA PINSKY

Organised around the idea of engagement in art, the exhibition **DISRUPTIVE FORCES** stages an unprecedented dialogue between a group of paintings and works on paper by **Michael Chernishov**, one of the major figures of the Russian avant-garde of the 1960s–1980s, and a selection of works by the contemporary artists **Arocha & Schraenen, Marc Ming Chan** and **Thomas Fougeirol.**

Guided by the succession of each artist's proposals, the viewer thus enters the very heart of the pictorial or sculptural space – from distant view to close-up, from outer form to inner depth, from opacity to transparency – and there experiences, in a disruptive manner, the forces and tensions at work – **from uniqueness to multiplicity, from stability to disorientation, from fullness to emptiness** – along a path unlike any other.



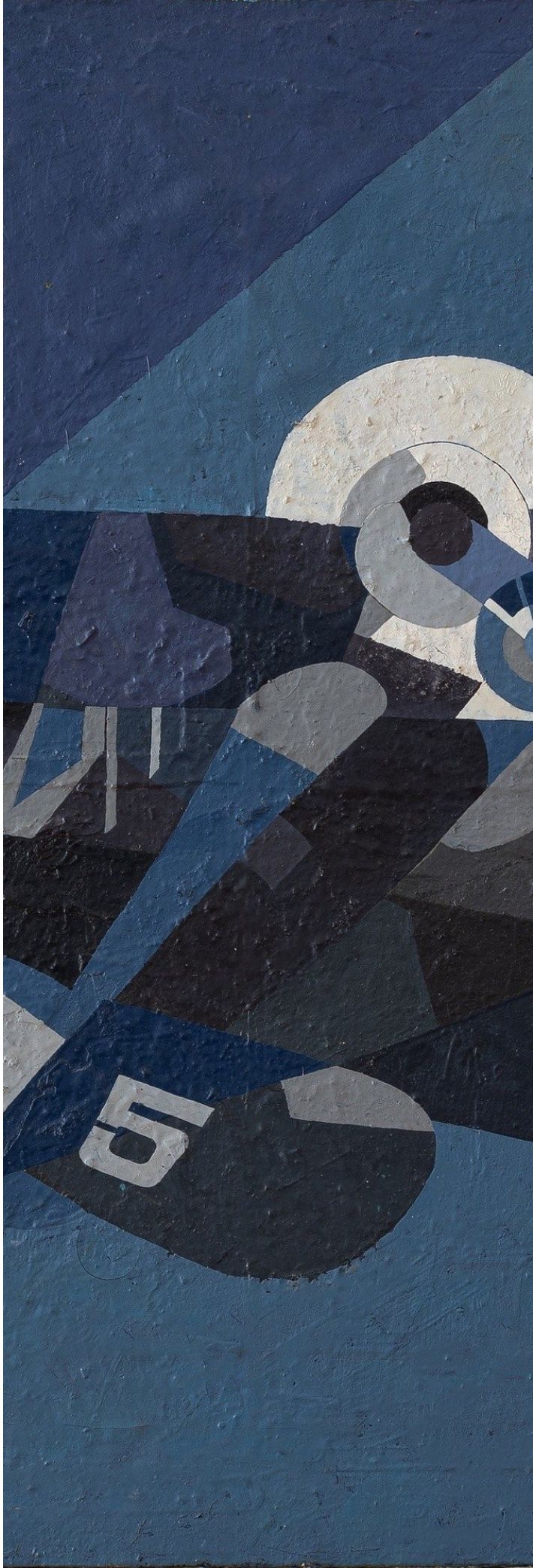


Michael Chernishov (born in 1945 in Russia, lives and works in New York) develops a body of work in which geometry becomes a veritable **field of perceptual experience.** Starting from simple units, he constructs **modular ensembles** whose rhythms and shifts generate a constant tension between order and movement, compelling the eye – in its search for balance – to oscillate incessantly between the different planes of representation.

Carla Arocha (born in 1961 in Caracas, Venezuela) and **Stéphane Schraenen** (born in 1971 in Antwerp, Belgium) have collaborated as an artist duo since 2006, after each pursuing a distinct individual career. Across their many projects in immersive installation, sculpture, painting, photography and graphic work, Arocha & Schraenen are today concerned with our **modes of perceiving the artwork,** the exhibition space and, ultimately, reality itself, casting a critical eye on the very nature of our **contemporary visual culture.**

Of Hong Kong descent, **Marc Ming Chan** (born in London in 1967, lives and works in Paris) draws on **Suprematist and Futurist** legacies as much as on the aesthetics of the cinema of the 1980s and 1990s to create strange and fascinating worlds. Immersive installations, neo-Brutalist sculptures and almost meditative paintings take shape there as austere, post-apocalyptic, almost Cronenbergian forms, figures or territories.

Thomas Fougeirol (born in 1965, lives and works in Ivry-sur-Seine) regards the painting as a single, simple surface on which to act. For several decades now, he has accordingly dispensed with all traditional tools, considering the act of painting solely as a **pure event**; his gesture grows ever finer and more precise through repeated experimentation, in pursuit of a perfect fit between a given process and the intended result.



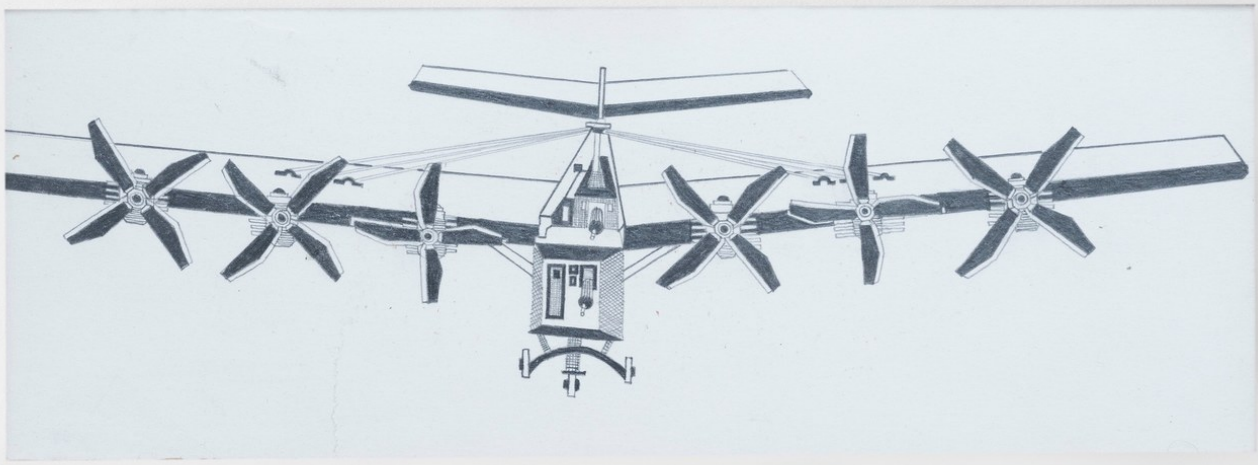
WORKS
BY MICHAEL CHERNISHOV



MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
BOMBER U15 981, 1979
Oil on plywood
103 × 103 cm
© Courtesy the artist



MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
BOMBER U800 5, 1979
Oil on canvas
72 × 92 cm
© Courtesy the artist



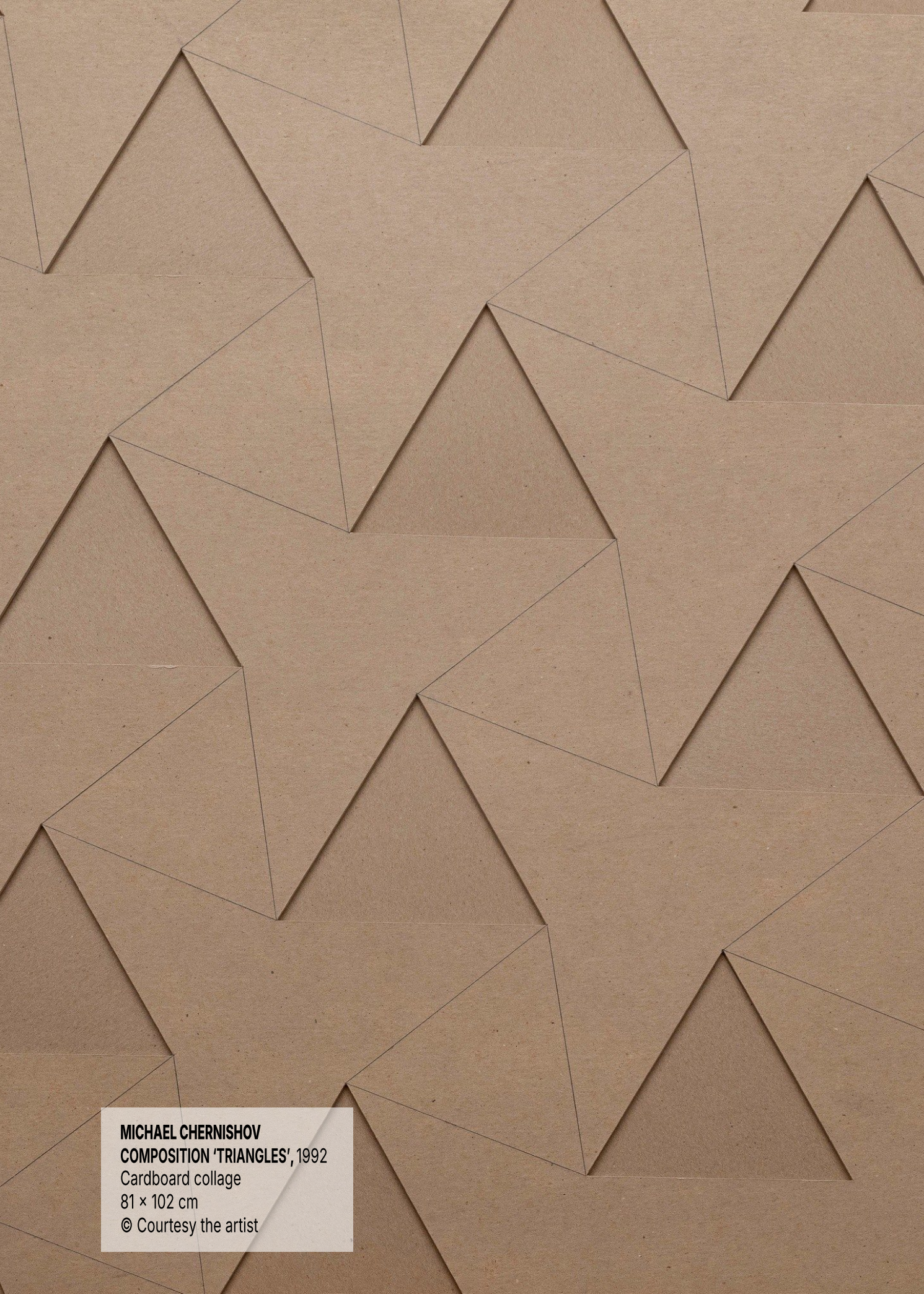
MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
AEROPLANE, 1966
Pencil on paper
20 × 33 cm
© Courtesy the artist

‘I don’t make art, I solve a problem.’

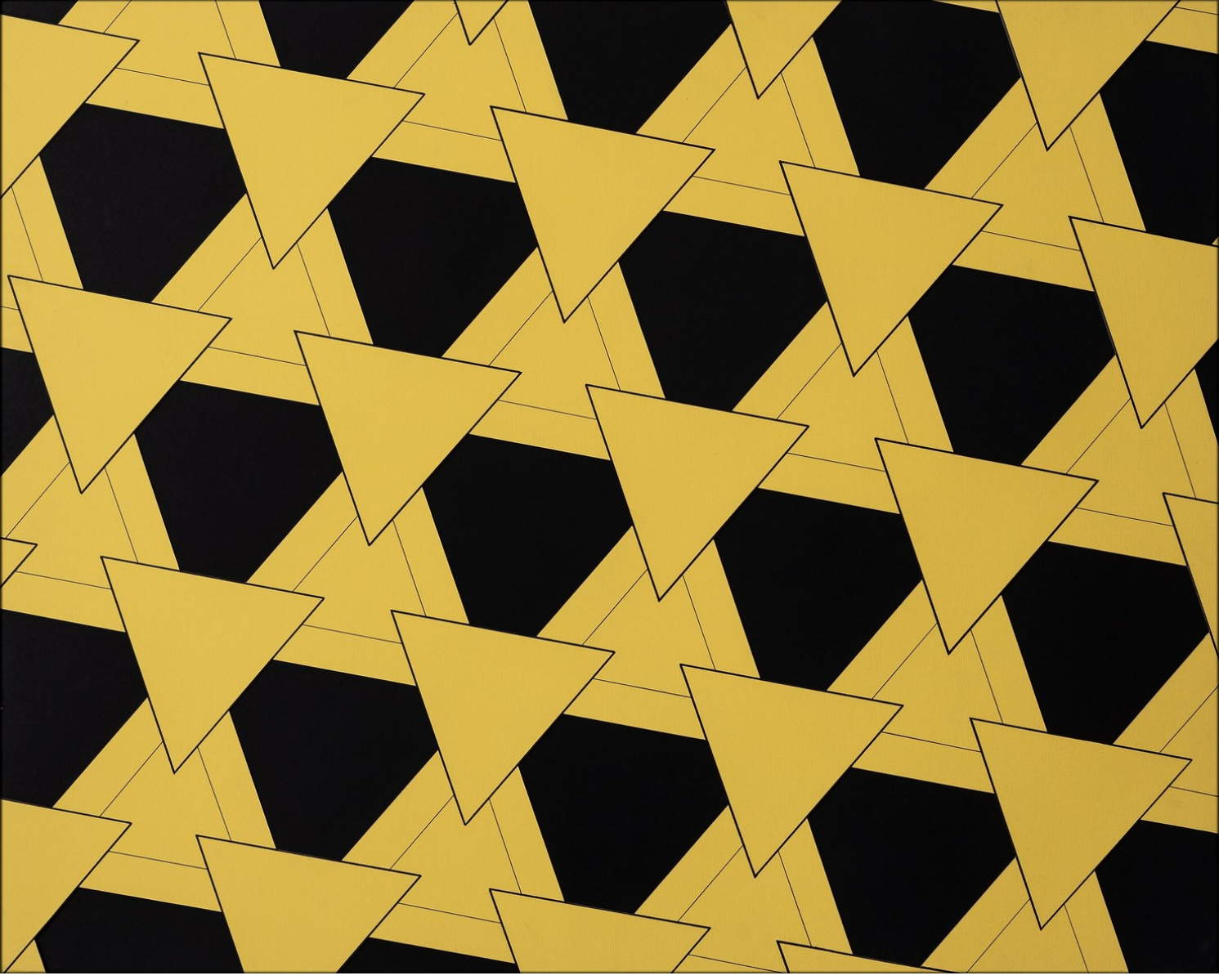
— Michael Chernishov



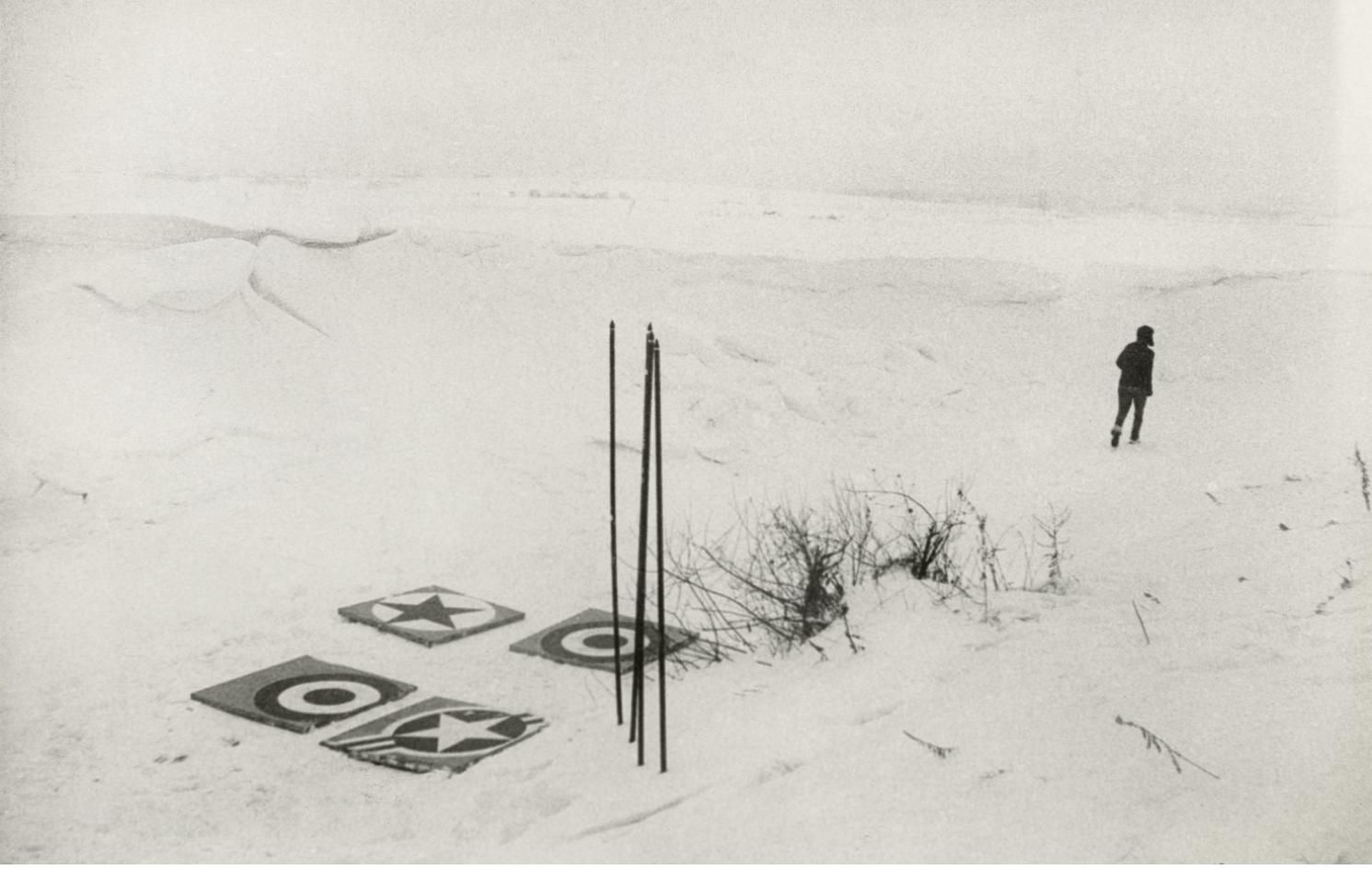
MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
DOUBLING, 1974
Gouache on cardboard
36 × 45 cm
© Courtesy the artist



MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
COMPOSITION 'TRIANGLES', 1992
Cardboard collage
81 × 102 cm
© Courtesy the artist



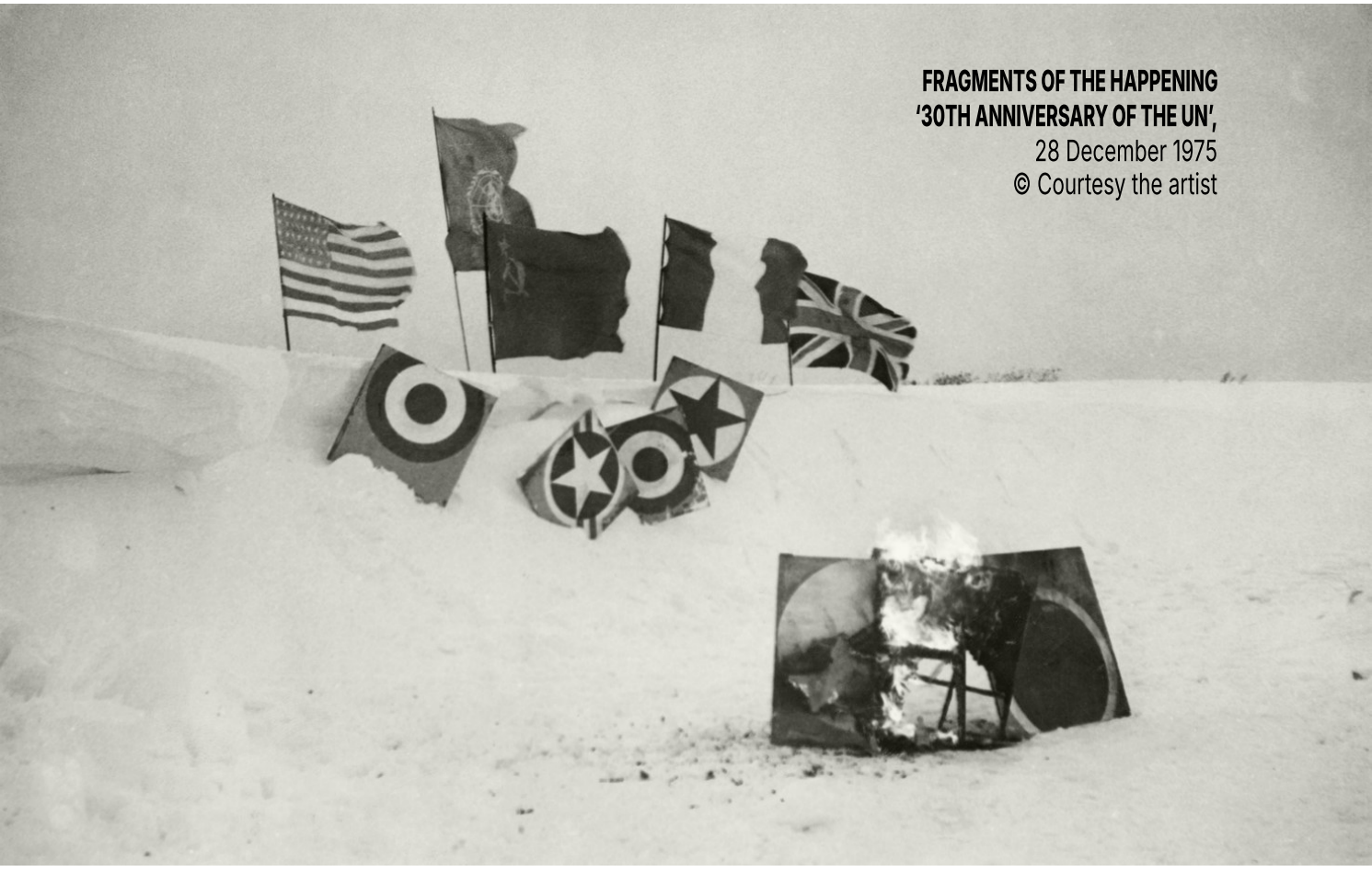
MICHAEL CHERNISHOV
YELLOW TRIANGLES AND BLACK HEXAGONS, 1992
Cardboard collage
82 × 102 cm
© Courtesy the artist



FRAGMENTS OF THE HAPPENING
'30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN',
28 December 1975
© Courtesy the artist







FRAGMENTS OF THE HAPPENING
'30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN',
28 December 1975
© Courtesy the artist

MICHAEL CHERNISHOV'S SHIRT FOR THE
HAPPENING '30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN'
© Courtesy the artist



MICHAEL CHERNISHOV'S SHIRT FOR THE HAPPENING '30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN'
© Courtesy the artist

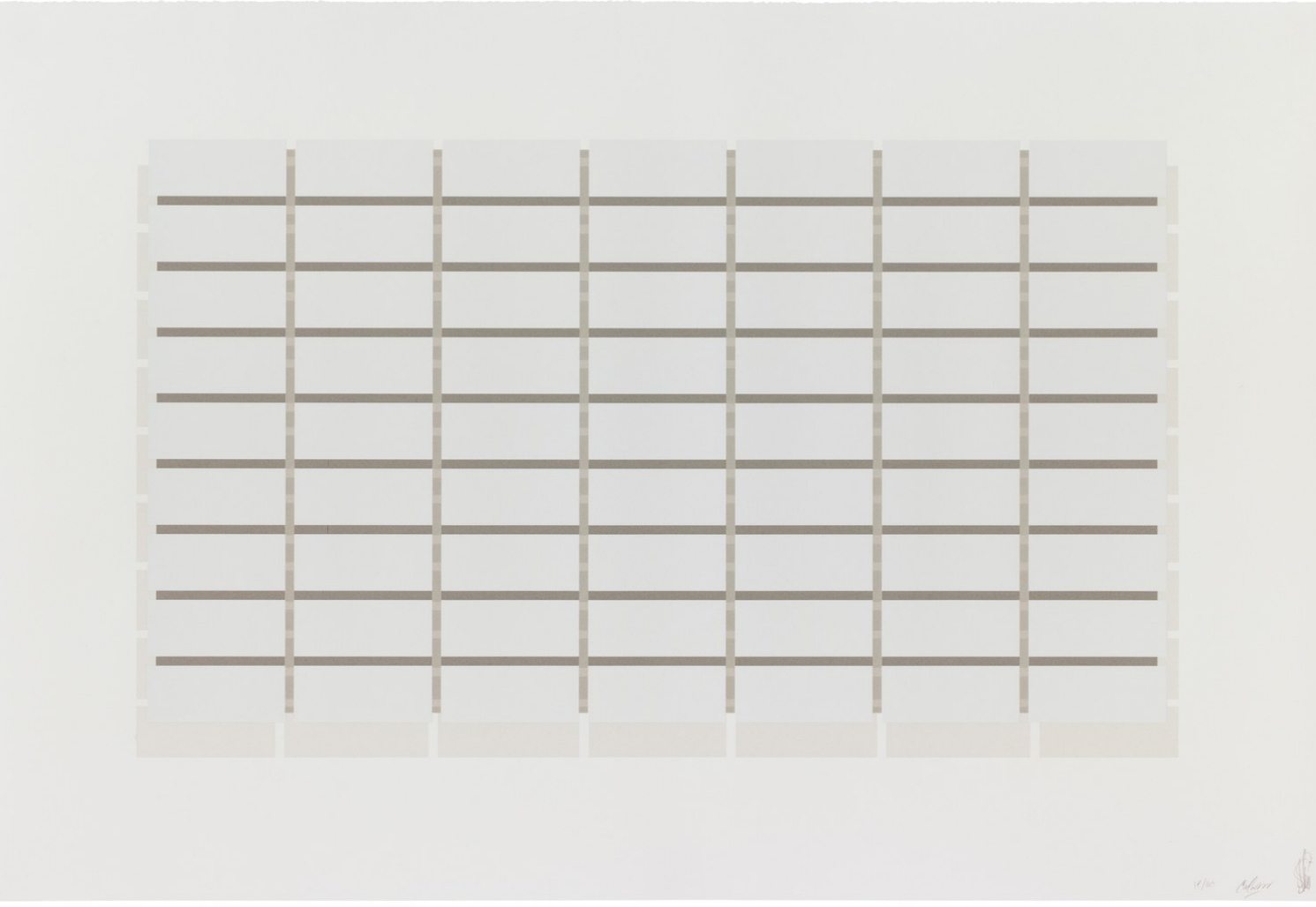




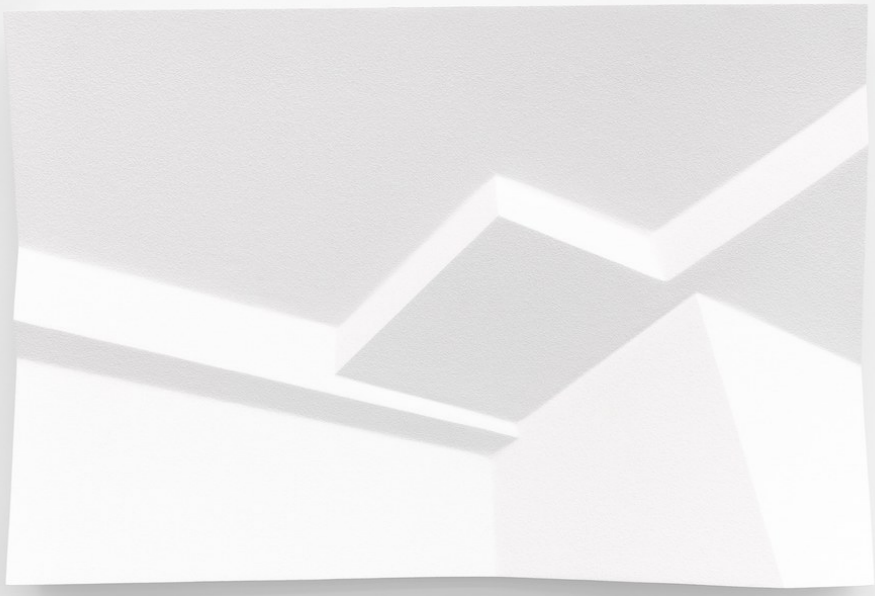


MICHAEL CHERNISHOV'S SHIRT FOR THE HAPPENING '30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN'
© Courtesy the artist

WORKS
BY AROCHA & SCHRAENEN



CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
PERSIANA, 2014
5-colour screenprint on BFK Rives wove paper, 300 h
Screenprint dimensions: 54.5 × 92 cm
Sheet dimensions: 80 × 120.5 cm
Edition of 30, plus 5 artist's proofs (AP)
© Courtesy the artists

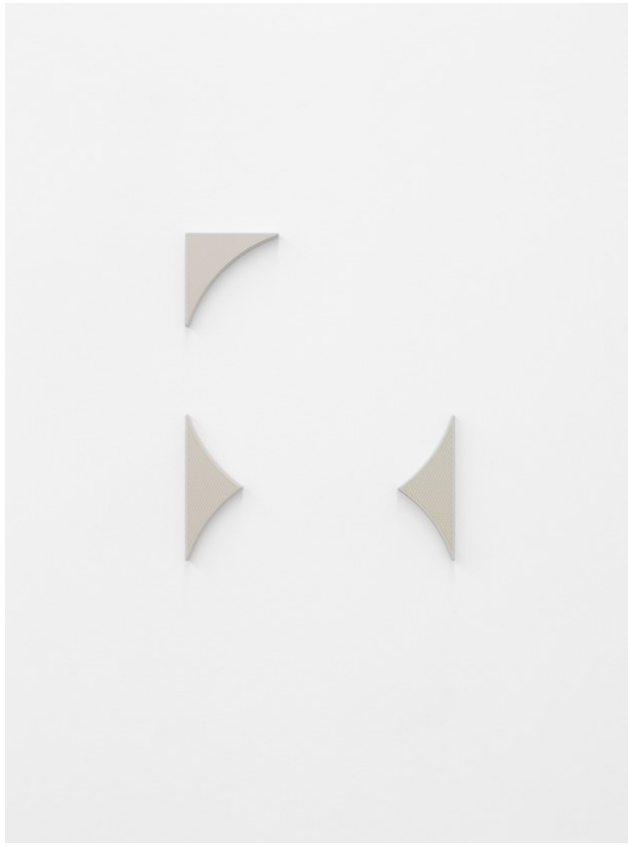


CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
UP 6, 2013
Polyurethane, wood and latex paint
80 × 120 × 18 cm
© Courtesy the artists

CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
UP 7, 2014
Polyurethane, wood and latex paint
80 × 120 × 18 cm
© Courtesy the artists

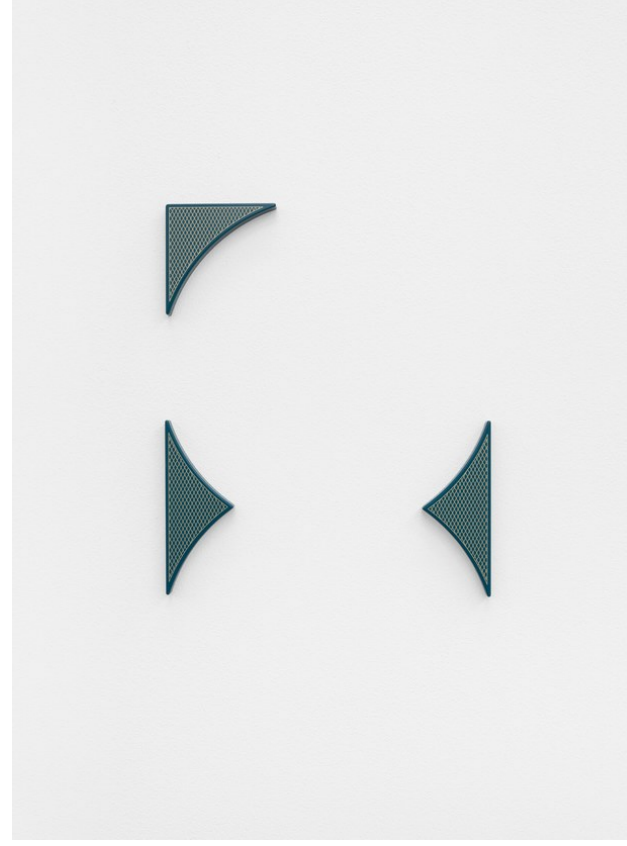


CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
UP 8, 2016
Polyurethane, wood and latex paint
80 × 120 × 18 cm
© Courtesy the artists



CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
ENCADRÉ (GRIS), 2011
Screenprint on enamelled Plexiglas
15 unique works
29.5 × 24.5 × 1 cm
© Courtesy the artists

CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
ENCADRÉ (VERT FONCÉ), 2011
Screenprint on enamelled Plexiglas
15 unique works
29.5 × 24.5 × 1 cm
© Courtesy the artists





CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
ENCADRÉ (ROUGE), 2011
Screenprint on enamelled Plexiglas
15 unique works
29.5 × 24.5 × 1 cm
© Courtesy the artists

CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
WINDOW SET (3), 2022
Mirror and aluminium
2 panels, various dimensions, approx.
150 × 145 × 25 cm
© Courtesy the artists





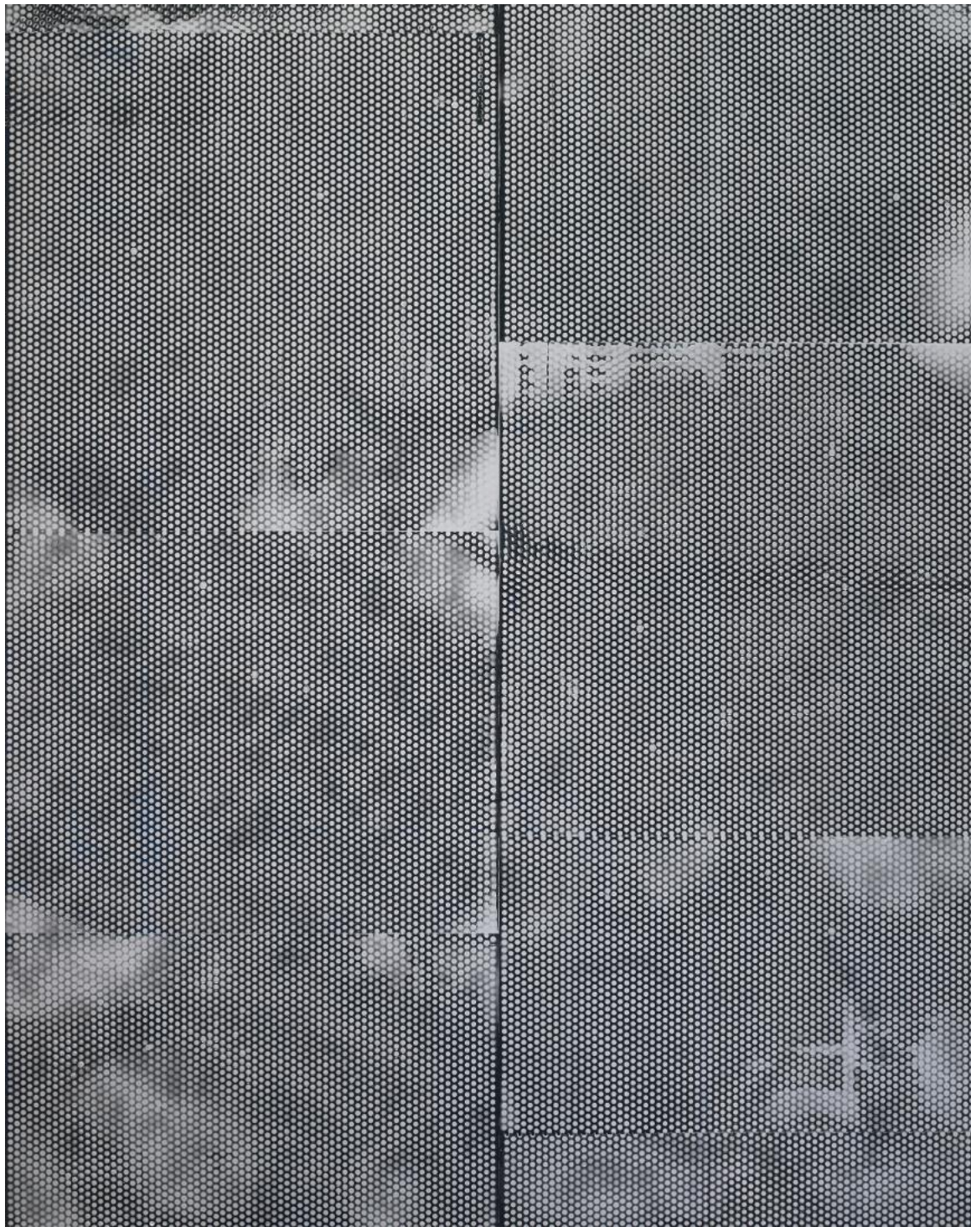
CARLA AROCHA & STÉPHANE SCHRAENEN
BLIND, 2017
Translucent Plexiglas and stainless steel
3 panels, variable height.
Blind dimensions: 200 cm
Overall dimensions: 300 × 600 cm
© Courtesy the artists

WORKS
BY THOMAS FOUGEIROL



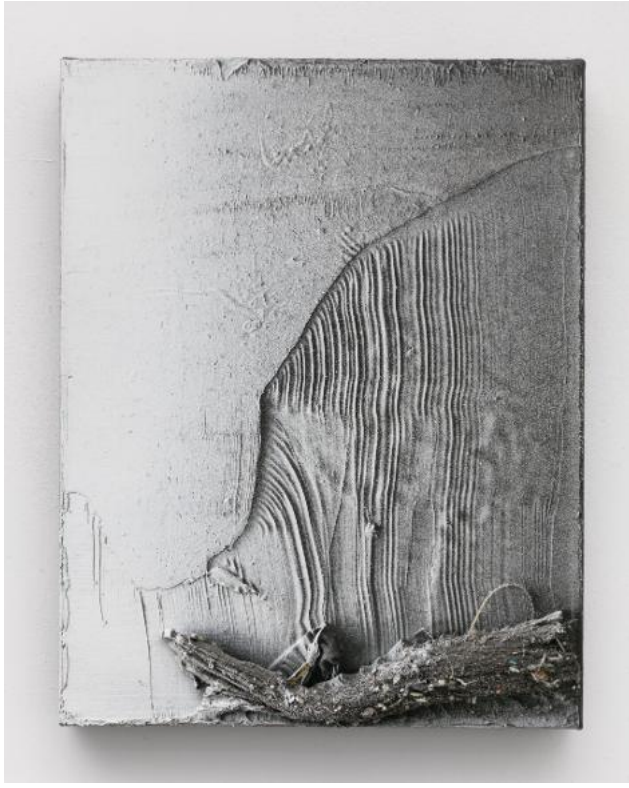
THOMAS FOUGEIROL
ROBE DU SOIR HQG, 2018
Oil on wood
101 × 76 cm
© Courtesy the artist, 2026

THOMAS FOUGEIROL,
GRILLE BNR, 2009
Oil and spray paint on canvas
250 × 200 cm
© Courtesy the artist, 2026



THOMAS FOUGEIROL,
PEINTURE DE POUSSIÈRE N°084,
2009
Oil and spray paint on canvas
196 × 153 cm
© Courtesy the artist, 2026



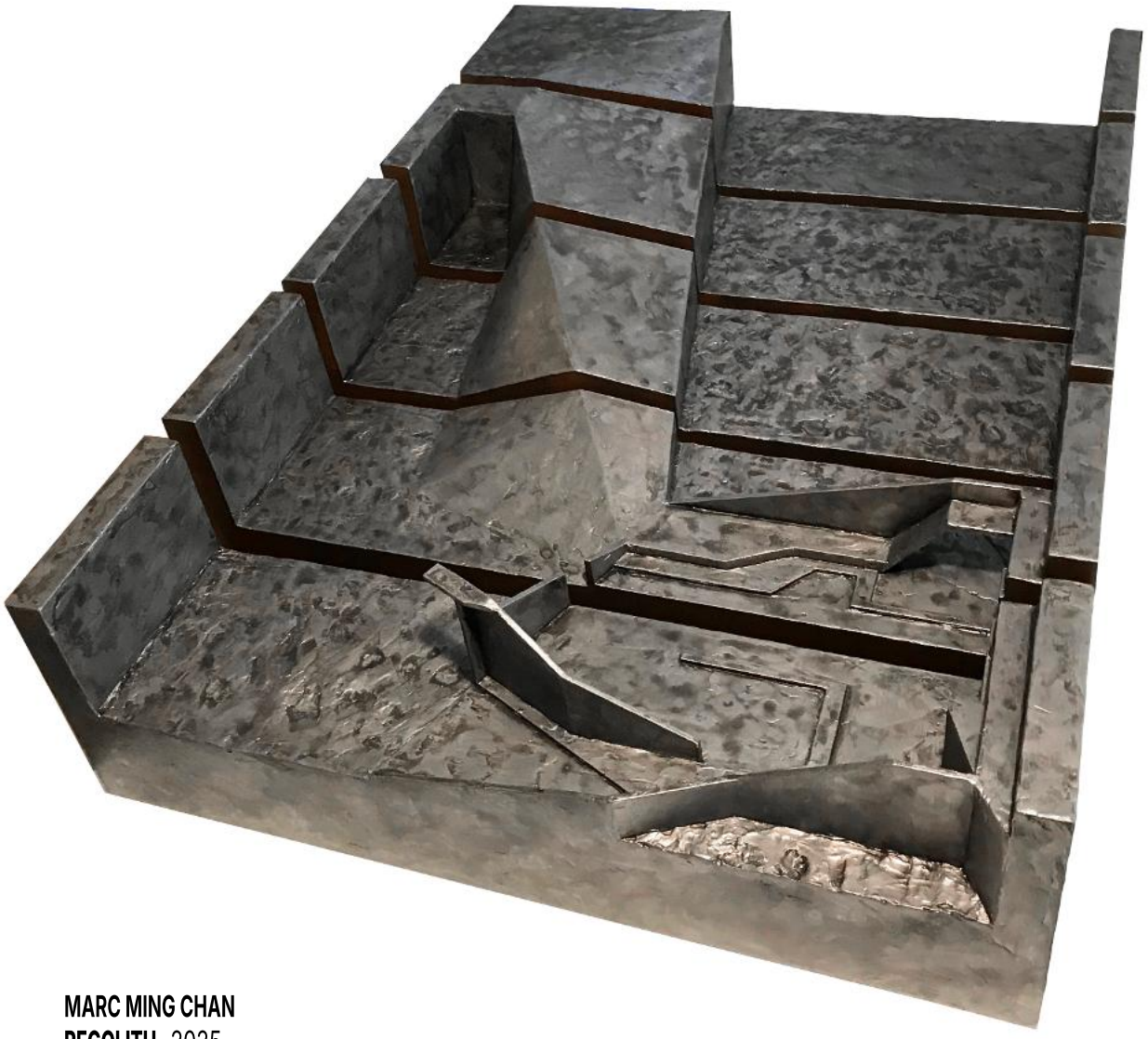


THOMAS FOUGEIROL,
PEINTURE DE POUSSIÈRE N°028,
2016
Oil and spray paint on canvas
35 × 27 cm
© Courtesy the artist, 2026



THOMAS FOUGEIROL,
PEINTURE HORIZONTALE DQR,
2013
Oil and spray paint on canvas
33 × 41 cm
© Courtesy the artist, 2026

WORKS
BY MARC MING CHAN



MARC MING CHAN
REGOLITH, 2025
Wood, wood-pulp board, graphite and acrylic
17.8 × 55.8 × 72.2 cm
© Courtesy the artist



MARC MING CHAN
REMAINS 1, 2025
Acrylic and pencil on wood-pulp board
30 × 40.5 cm
© Courtesy the artist



MARC MING CHAN
STATION 1, 2025
Graphite and wood-pulp board.
Series of 5 wall sculptures.
37.7 × 11 × 9.5 cm
© Courtesy the artist

MARC MING CHAN
STATION 5, 2025
Graphite and wood-pulp board.
Series of 5 wall sculptures.
29.7 × 10.7 × 12 cm
© Courtesy the artist



BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTIST



Born in 1945, Michael Chernishov, a Russian and later American artist, is regarded as one of the most emblematic figures of the Soviet underground. He is recognised as one of the pioneers of performance art in the USSR, while his pictorial research can be linked to geometric abstraction as much as to Pop Art.

Chernishov committed himself to art from the age of 15, after discovering Abstract Expressionism at the American National Exhibition held in Moscow in 1959. He went on to study at the Zagorsk College of Art and Industry, where he trained in toy design, before enrolling in the Department of Art History within the Faculty of History at Moscow State University. After two years, he lost interest and was expelled.

His principal interests thus took shape in complete independence from the other movements or schools of his day.

In 1962, he organised his first exhibition, entitled 'Red Truck', at the home of the nonconformist artist Mikhail Roginsky. Two years later, Roginsky and Chernishov organised a joint exhibition at the Disk cinema in Moscow.

In 1974, he took part in the Second Fall Outdoor Exhibition of Paintings, held in the Izmailovo forest park in Moscow – an event known as the Izmailovo Exhibition. A year later, with a group of artist friends, he staged the happening '30th Anniversary of the UN' in Moscow, followed in 1976 by 'Doubling I', produced with Boris Bich, and in 1978 by 'Doubling II'. That same year, the Moscow City Committee of Graphic Artists organised a retrospective of his works produced between 1961 and 1978.

In 1980, Chernishov left the USSR for good. In 1987, he wrote the autobiographical account 'Moscow 1961–1967', in which he looks back on the early years of his artistic career.

Michael Chernishov ceased all activity in the 2000s and today lives in New York.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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DISRUPTIVE FORCES
Exhibition from 3 December 2026
to 13 February 2027

Opening on 3 December from 6.30 pm to 9 pm

ALINA PINSKY