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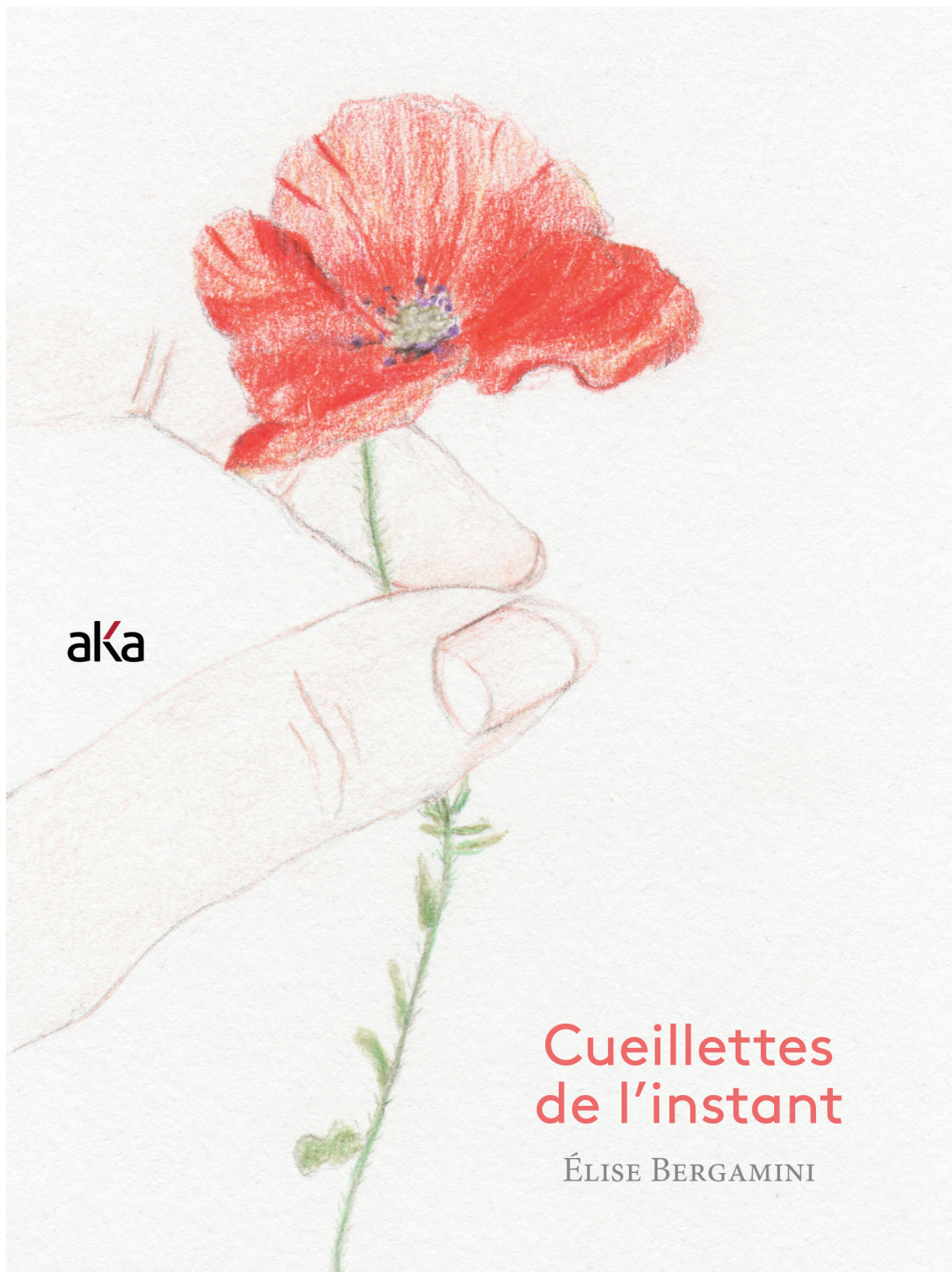
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COLLECTION

aKa

aKa is a collection of books on drawing, a mode of expression not enough put in the spotlight, despite the great freedom it offers to artists and a renewed interest from the audience. Pencil, charcoal, ink...

Collection aKa takes the reader through the multiples faces of drawing, in a world full of surprises and emotions.



aka

Cueillettes de l'instant

ÉLISE BERGAMINI

LAST RELEASES

JUNE 2021



SABINE PIGALLE

BLOOD AND FIRE

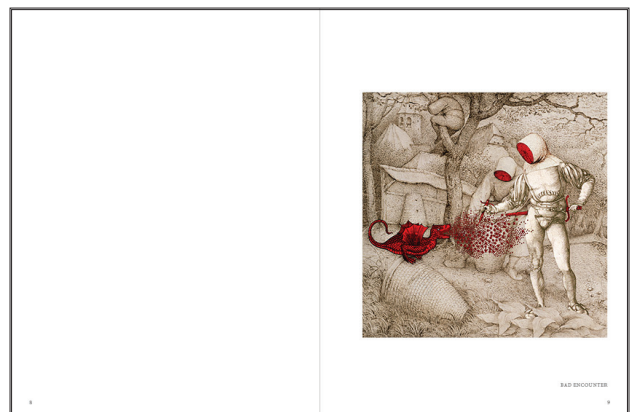
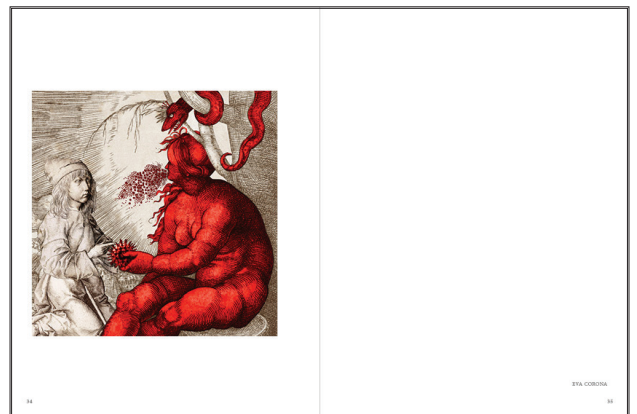
Works by Jacopo Bellini, Leonardo da Vinci, Pieter Brueghel the Elder, Albrecht Dürer, Martin Schongauer, Pieter van der Heyden, Lucas van Leyden and other masters of the past form the raw material for the cycle entitled 'Blood and Fire'.

Mettre Feu et Sang: to devastate, to commit atrocities by warlike actions. This expression is attested since the first half of the 19th century. The term fire is used as an incendiary torch and blood evokes murder. The expression is used here as an allegory of the devastation caused by the Covid pandemic 19. Thus, through an epic narrative, the series puts the world at the time of the belief in the marvelous into perspective with our contemporary experience.

In these images, in which bright red serves as a warning of danger, a hero recurs; formerly depicted as Saint George or Saint Michael, he courageously overcomes a new evil: the dragon once stood for the forces of evil and the Devil, this time he embodies the epidemic. The view shifts from a moral interpretation to a contemplation of our mythical structures. According to Paul Veyne, "To criticize a myth is not to demonstrate its falsity, but rather to rediscover its core truth".

SABINE PIGALLE

METTRE À FEU ET À SANG



VESTIAIRE DE L'ENFANCE

I have known Yu Hirai's photography for some time now and am fascinated by her ability to create original and clearly identifiable worlds. Her mastery of colour in her photographs takes us towards the limits of reality, questioning our most fundamental beliefs and who we are.

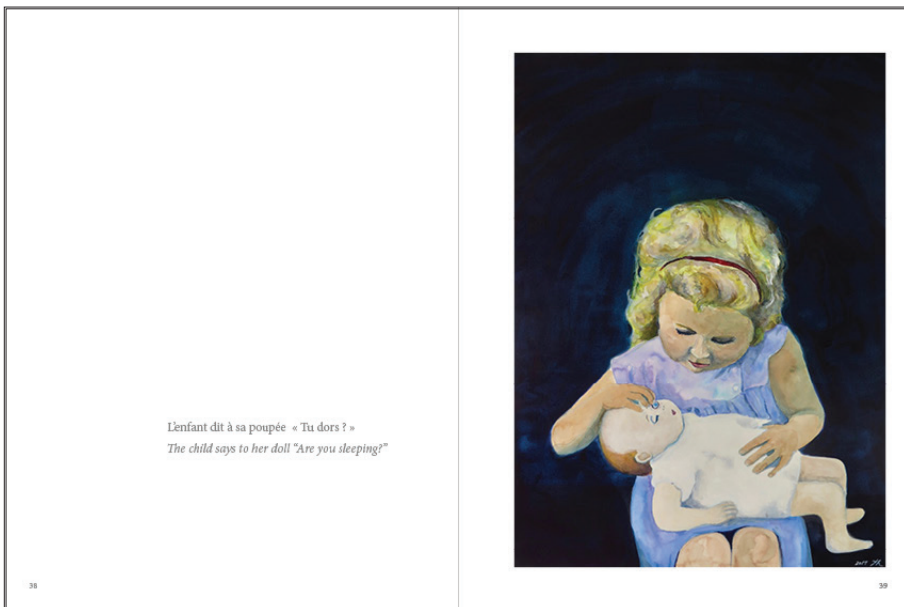
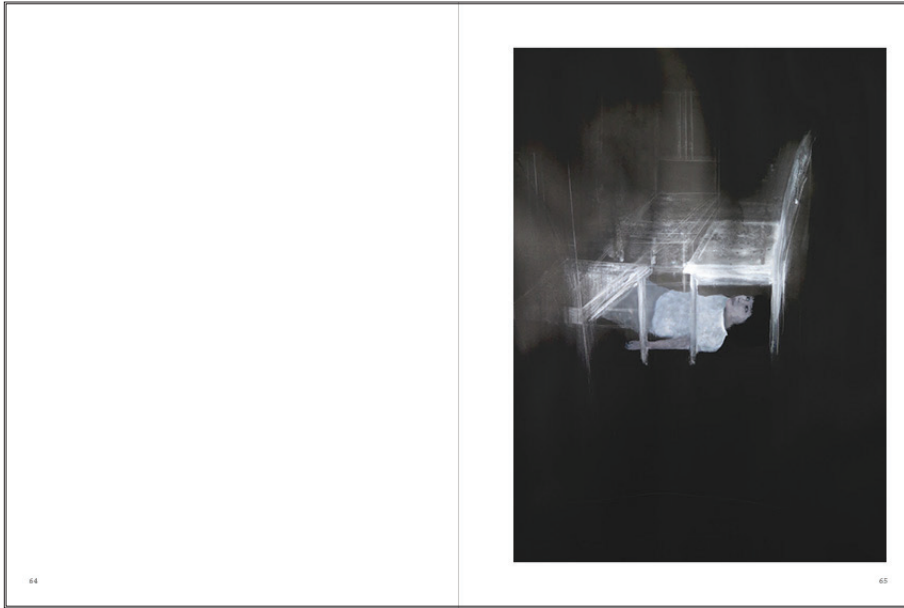
And one day I discovered Yu Hirai's drawings.

I remember lying under a chair listening to the conversations of adults as if I were in another world. This was my first thought when I saw the drawing shown page 65. I understood where Yu Hirai got this ability to visually tell stories and to touch the deepest part of us. Yu Hirai succeeds in creating a body of images strongly evocative of our childhood, from our first emotions to our repressed desires, from our first games to that moment of no return when we are no longer a child. Her watercolours offer a splendid palette of bright colours reminding me of Fauvist painting. The drawings are figurative but full of shadows that disturb our certainties about what we see. Observing those drawings put me in a form of uneasiness which collides with the happiness of losing oneself into colour. I then feel voyeur and intrusive. The girl plays with the doll. The doll is a woman and transforms the child into an adult to better ask this question: when did you leave the locker room, the locker room of childhood?

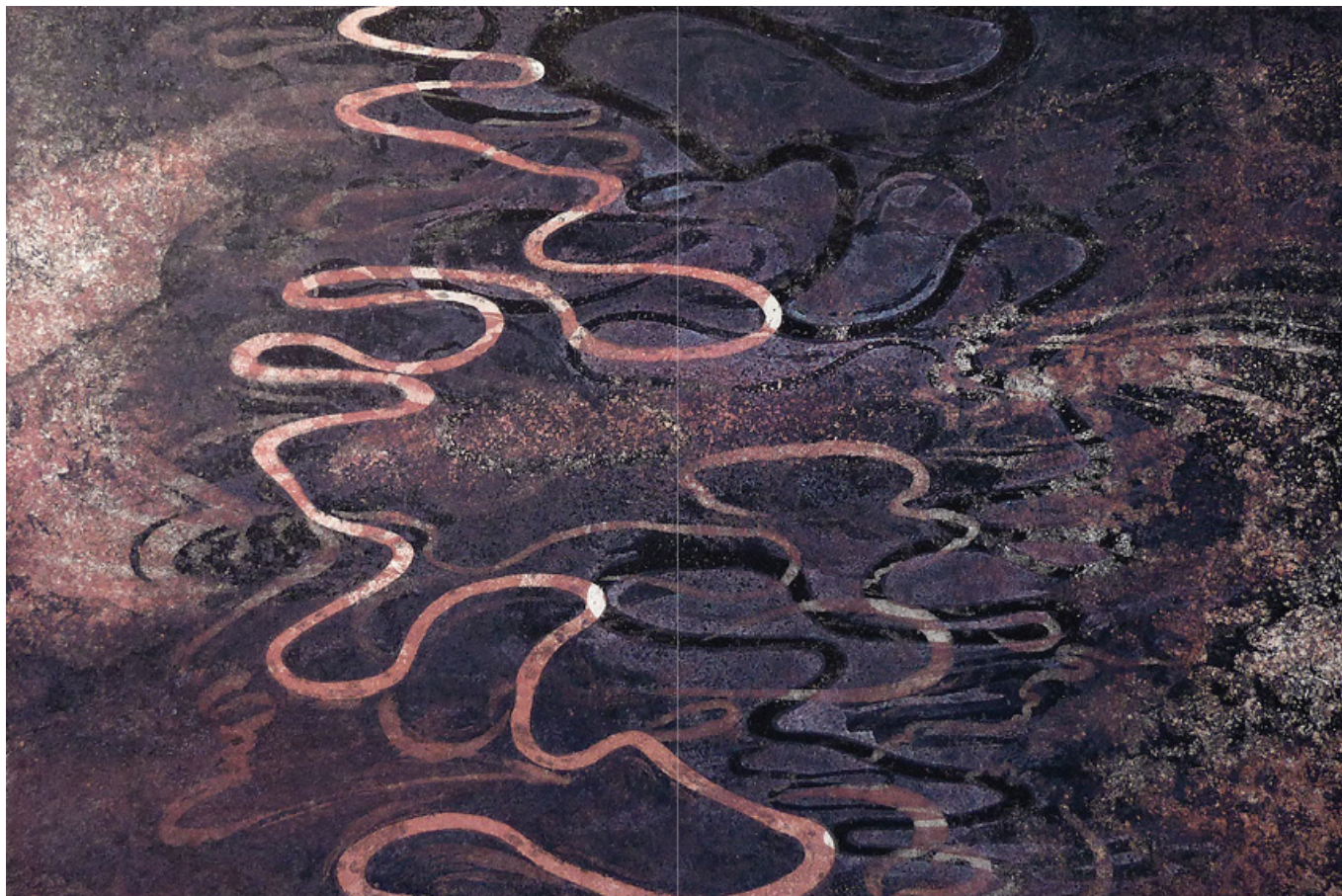
Sophie Cavaliero



YU HIRAI



L'AMOUR DU TRAIT



JOLANTA ANTON

At the frontier of abstraction and figurative art, of reality and dreams, Jolanta Anton invites us to take a fresh look at the world, to rediscover the creative powers of nature. With a meticulousness that can be surprising in an era dominated by speed, her drawings nevertheless allow a sort of vital impetus to flow out. The line winds its way along the pages, from the infinitely large to the infinitely small, from landscapes infused with telluric power to the depths of realms invisible to the naked eye. Bonding the artist with the universe, this line acts like a thread; it takes us in its wake, unfolds, winds itself, like a breath, free but also rigorously controlled.

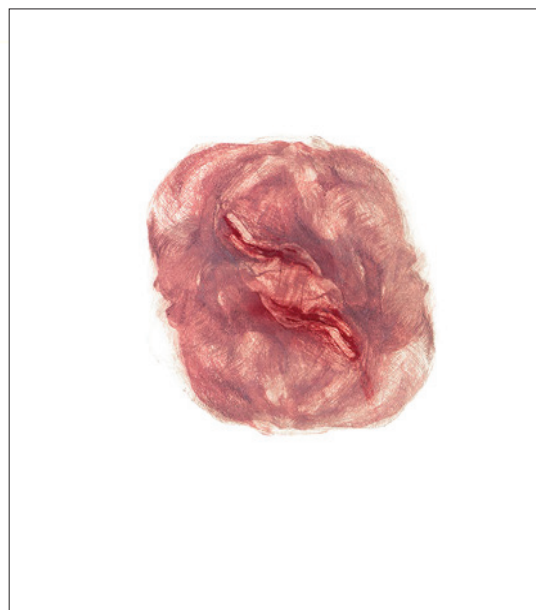
Drawing is the core of Jolanta Anton's art. It is a primordial first step of preparation for engraving, but also exists for its own sake. The pencil delivers its thoughts, before the artist starts working on the copper plate, to give birth to prints whose subtle nuances go from deep black to bright red, as Jolanta Anton's love for line does not mean that she has abandoned the potentialities and richness of color.

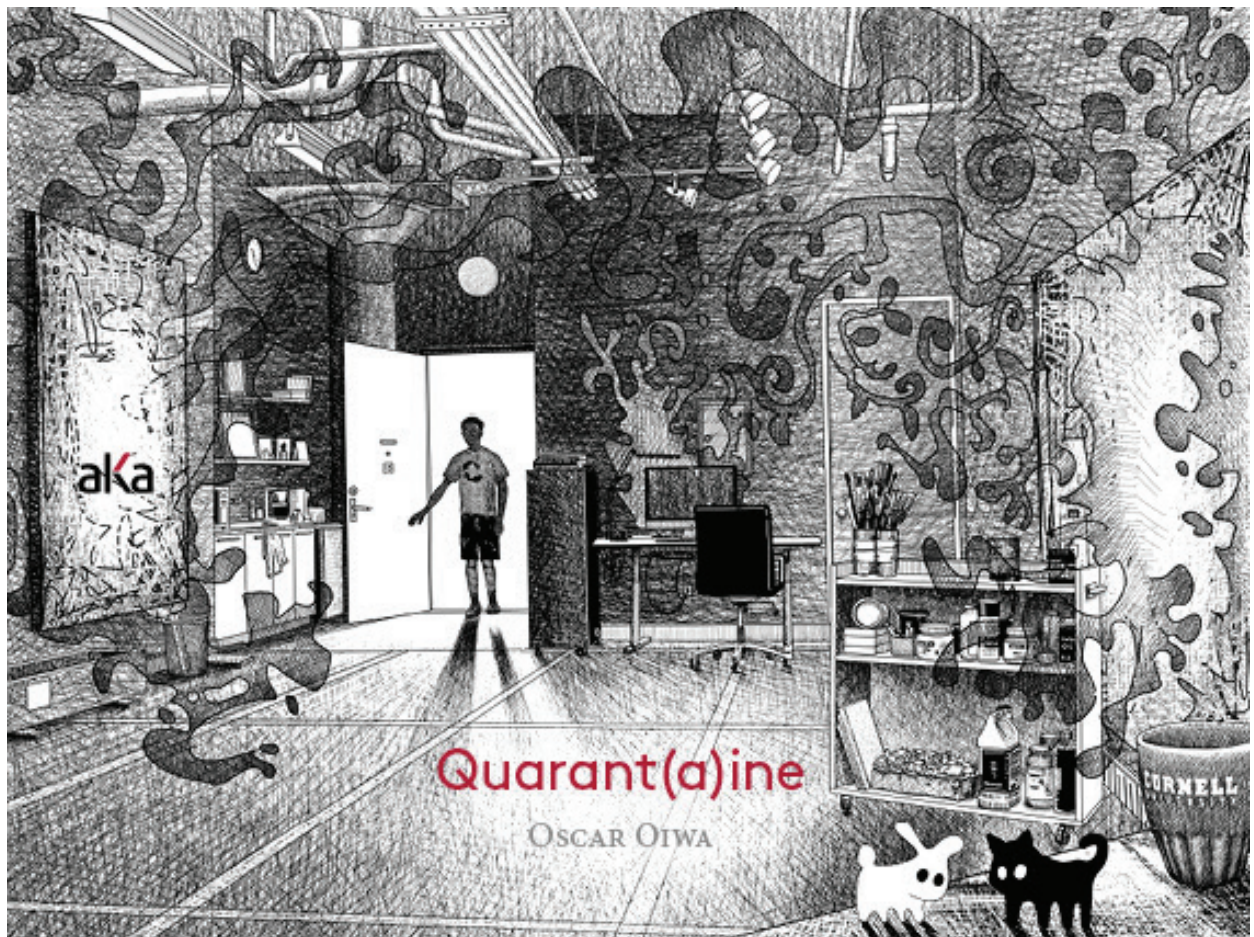


THE LINE WINDS ITS WAY ALONG THE PAGES, FROM THE INFINITELY LARGE TO THE INFINITELY SMALL.

Jolanta Anton considers her works as fragments of her thoughts and memories. In a gesture of sharing, she wishes to offer a welcome breath of fresh air to those who take the time to look at them. Let's follow her on the ever-changing paths of our universe, to discover the wonders that surround us.

Valérie Douniaux





QUARANT(A)INE

Let's go on a trip!

Suddenly, life has changed. I have stopped taking the subway, going to my studio, walking around the city, seeing movies at the theater, and meeting up with my friends. I spend my days in quarantine, going outside only to shop for food or to get a little fresh air.

Projects and trips have all been postponed. The city has become the new epicenter of the pandemic and life has been made more difficult for all of its inhabitants. Many people have lost their jobs and are getting desperate about paying bills. News from the world outside is far from encouraging. Entire countries have closed their borders. The US presidential response in itself has been a disaster.

I think about what I can do to remain as mentally creative as usual while stuck in my Manhattan apartment. God gave me the

gift of transforming feelings into visual art. And using this power, I have started to make a new series of drawings: an imaginary trip in the midst of life under quarantine. The result is like a diary of insights about my past, my present daily life, and the future.

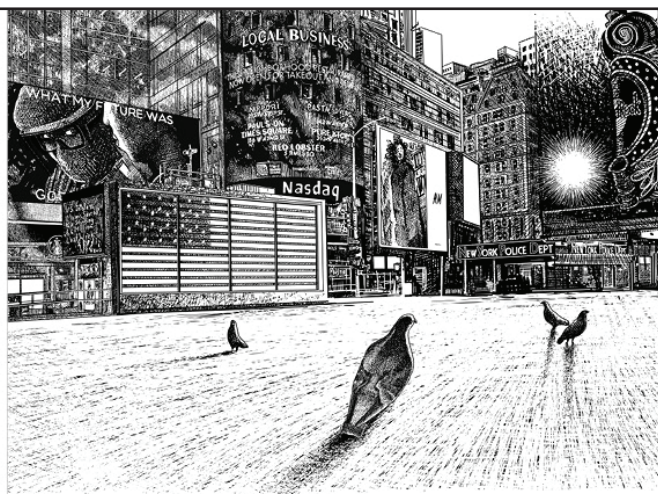
I have been experimenting with complex digital techniques to produce simple black-and-white drawings. These original artworks will hopefully be exhibited at the end of the year in a physical museum. In the meantime, enjoy this little preview!

Oscar Oiwa
Printemps 2020

OSCAR OIWA

9. Times Square, New York

Autrefois endroit bondé de touristes du monde entier, Times Square est devenu un espace complètement vide. Tout est fermé. Pourquoi n'éteignent-ils pas les lumières des enseignes pour économiser de l'énergie ?
(10/4/2020)



24

12. Shōwa Nihon

La quarantaine est un bon moment pour voir des films sur Internet. J'aime regarder les vieux films japonais en noir et blanc des années 50 et 60, l'âge d'or du cinéma japonais.

À l'époque, le pays se remettait de la Seconde Guerre mondiale et les téléviseurs n'étaient pas encore accessibles à tous. Comparé à la technologie d'aujourd'hui, c'est simple mais je peux sentir la créativité de l'équipe derrière la caméra. Ces films sont comme mes dessins, plus le support est simple, plus il est difficile de produire une bonne œuvre et d'exprimer quelque chose d'intéressant.
(20/4/2020)

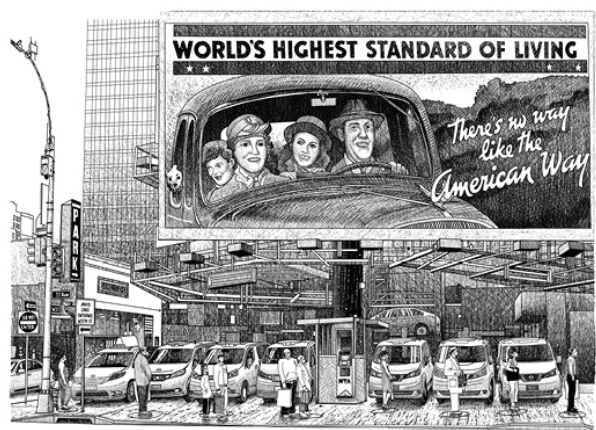


30

31

16. La Grande Dépression

La pandémie est désormais un peu mieux maîtrisée dans l'État de New York. Le taux de mortalité est passé d'un pic de 1000 morts par jour à environ 200. Une deuxième crise se profile à l'horizon. Selon les journaux, 33 millions de personnes aux États-Unis ont demandé des allocations de chômage au cours des six dernières semaines. Cela signifie qu'un travailleur américain sur cinq est soudainement sans emploi. Les écoles publiques et les banques alimentaires de toute la ville se sont battues pour distribuer suffisamment de nourriture. Ce dessin est une version moderne d'une photo emblématique prise par Margaret Bourke-White lors de la récession de 1937.
(12/5/2020)



38

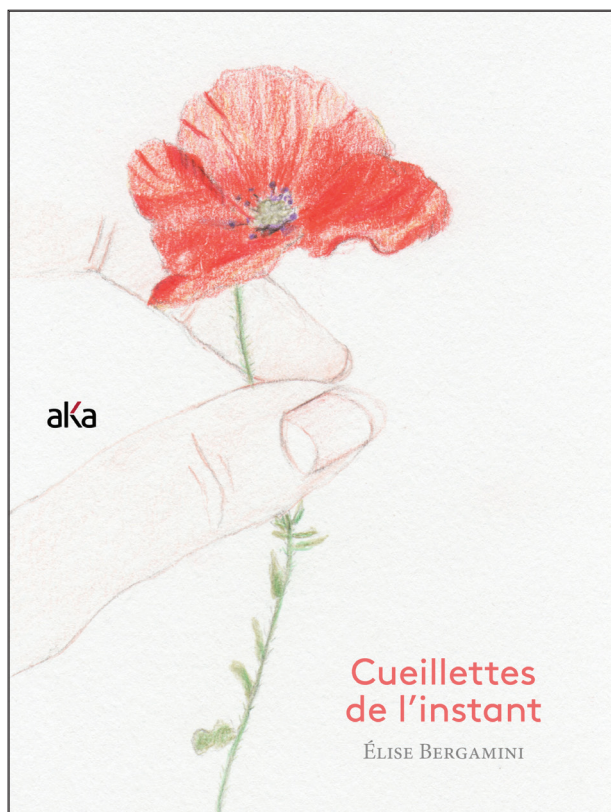
39

LE CATALOGUE

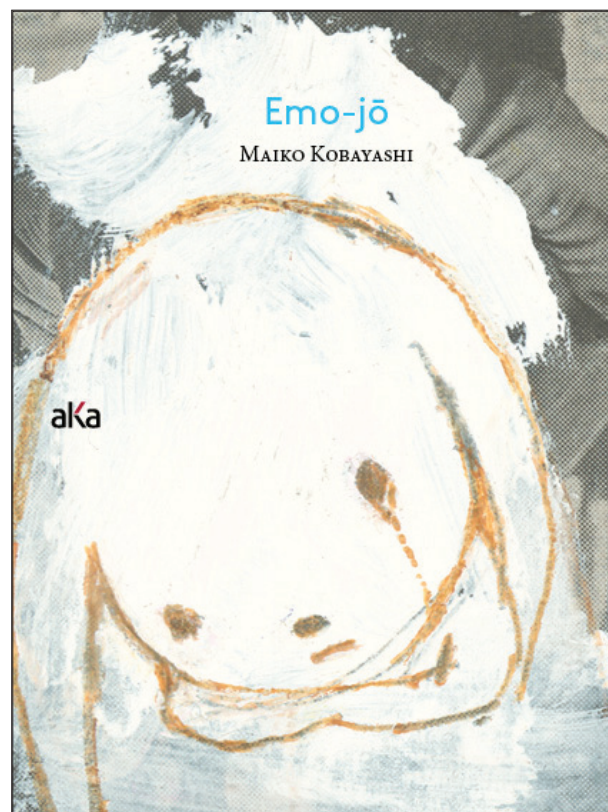
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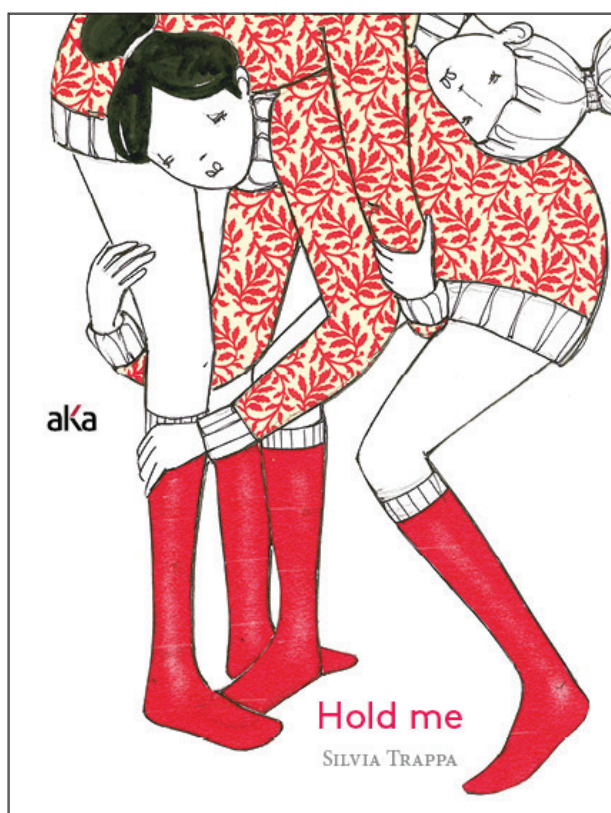
**N°1 - SPLENDEUR ET DÉCADENCE DE LA VIE
DE JEAN-MARC FORAX**



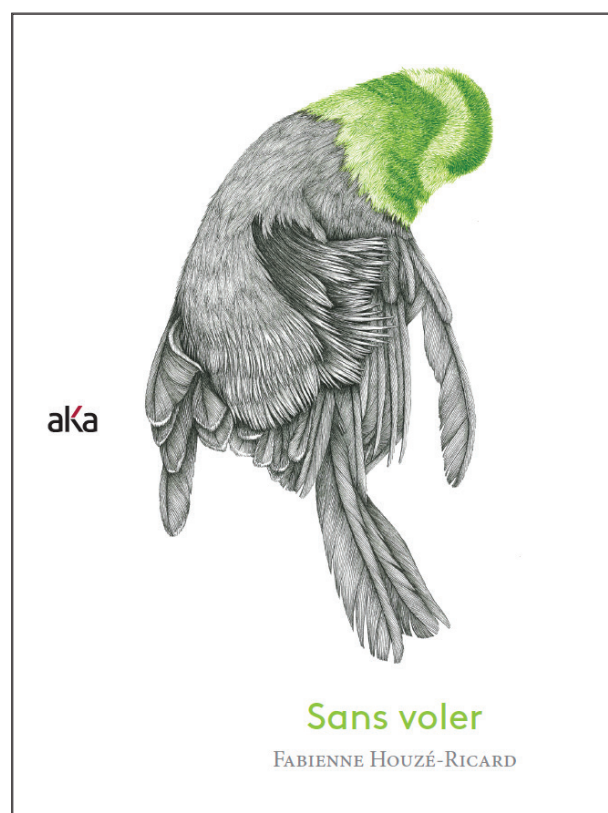
**N°2 - ELISE BERGAMINI
CUEILLETES DE L'INSTANT**



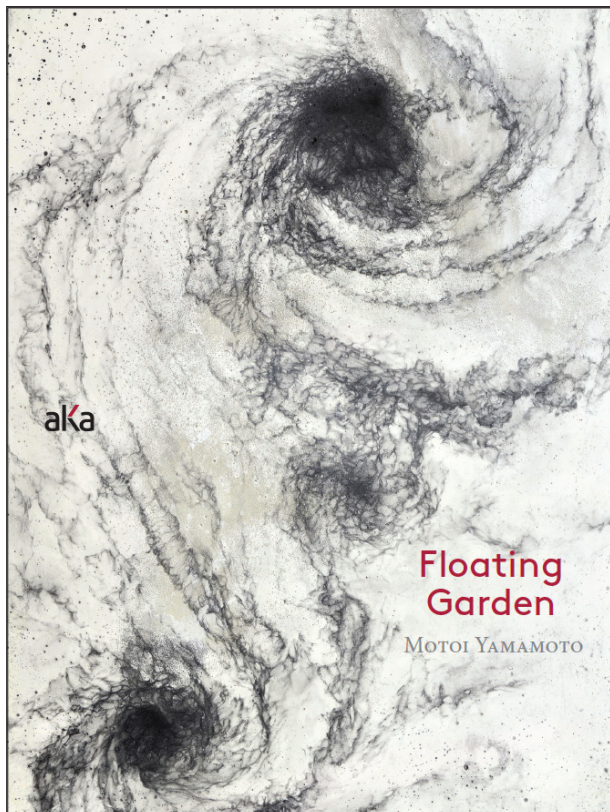
**N°3 - MAIKO KOBAYASHI
EMO-JŌ**



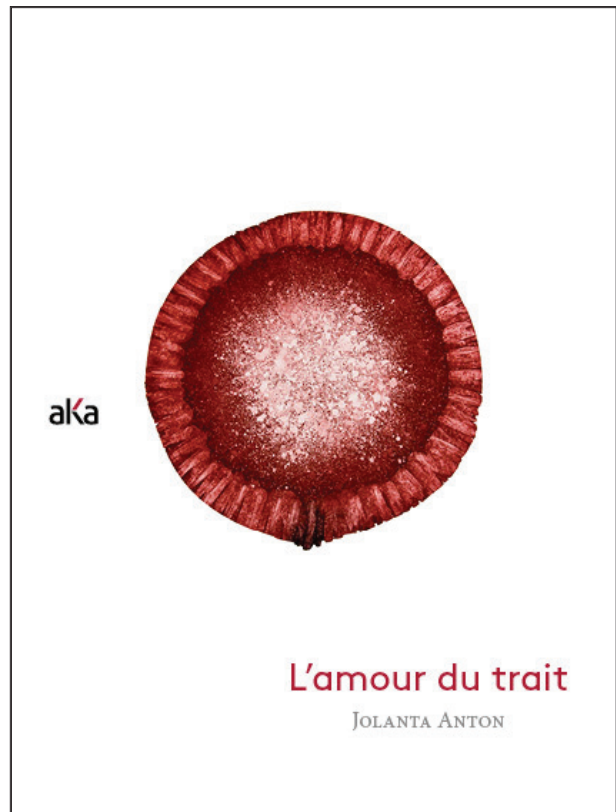
**N°4 - SILVIA TRAPPA
HOLD ME**



**N°5 - FABIENNE HOUZÉ-RICARD
SANS VOLER**



**N°6 - MOTOI YAMAMOTO
FLOATING GARDEN**



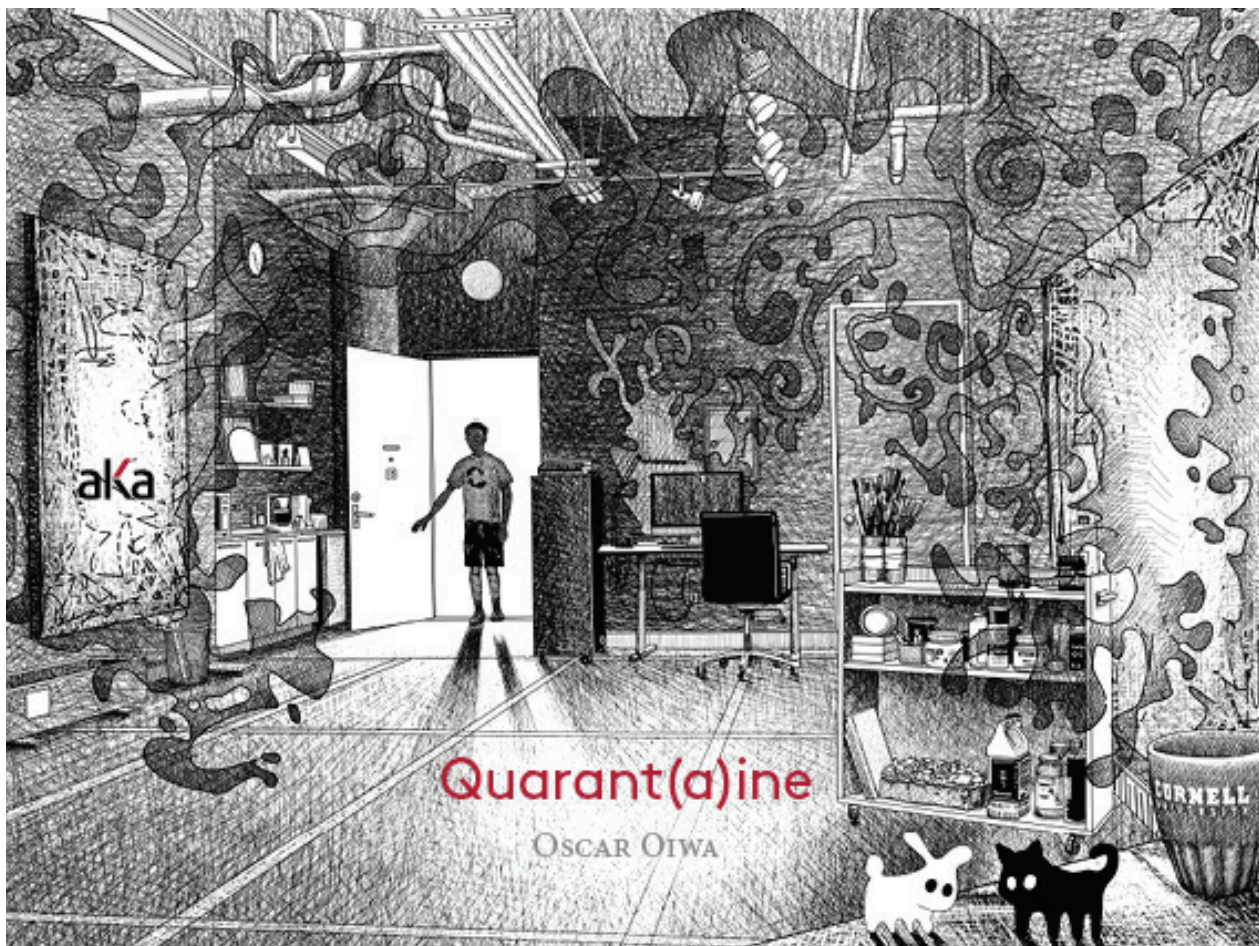
**N°8 - JOLANTA ANTON
L'AMOUR DU TRAIT**



**N°9 - YU HIRAI
VESTIAIRE DE L'ENFANCE**



**N°10 - SABINE PIGALLE
BLOOD AND FIRE**



N°7 - OSCAR OIWA
QUARANT(A)INE

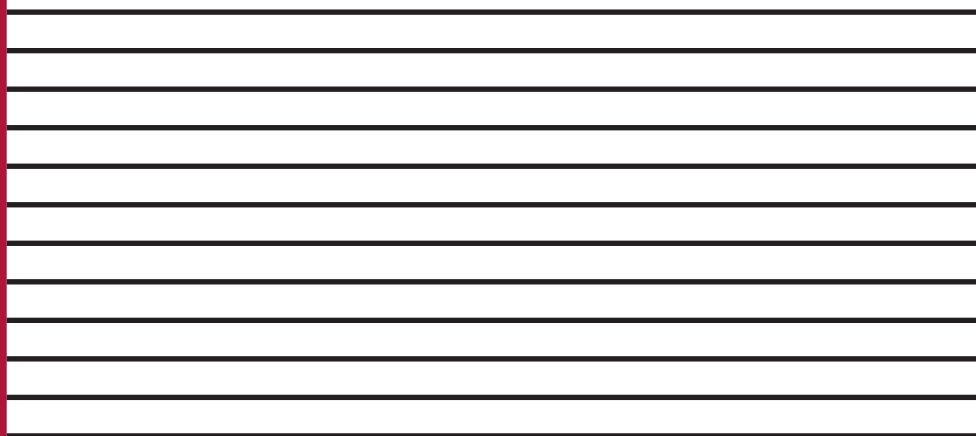
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Collection aKa



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