

It's About Time ...

OLIVIER CHAULIEU  
TimeCoded paintings





slee gallery  
14th - 26th february 2016  
stellenbosch - south africa

Olivier Chaulieu - Time Coded Paintings - Catalogue

# It's in A b o u t T i<sup>2</sup>m<sup>6</sup>th...

## Serendipity and Inevitability

*This art exhibition opens on Valentine's Day, purely by chance, because it's not about love - according to the artist - it's about Time.*

*True, these paintings are about Time and transience, passing moments and mortality, and the inevitability of endings.*

*But for some of us who admire Olivier Chaulieu's work, the opening date is a perfect example of serendipity,  
because love is all about Time, isn't it?*

*We value love, as we value life, because we know it is not eternal.*

*So for us, these paintings are also about love:  
the possibility of love despite the inevitability of its ending.  
It's about love, it's about life, it's about Time, indeed.*

Marita van der Vyver



# *Vanités Végétales*

Painting the fugitive moments

*To record Time is a vain attempt to freeze and capture moments,  
those very fugitive moments that will never come again.*

*One can merely hope to catch them for they are like running water ;  
always flowing, always further down and never again in the same place, just one step beyond.*

*Animal or vegetal vanities: bones and dead flowers, landscapes, forever stopped in the run of Time.*

*Playing with the mark of a TimeCode,  
dramatisation of colours, evocation of mist, fuzziness or disappearance ;  
to lead us from reality to dreams...  
to "deepen the mystery"...*

*Vanité Végétale*

Oil on canvas  
50cm x 120 cm - 06-2014  
(background : detail)





*Vanité Végétale 2*  
Boxed  
oil on wood  
30 x 30 - 07-2014



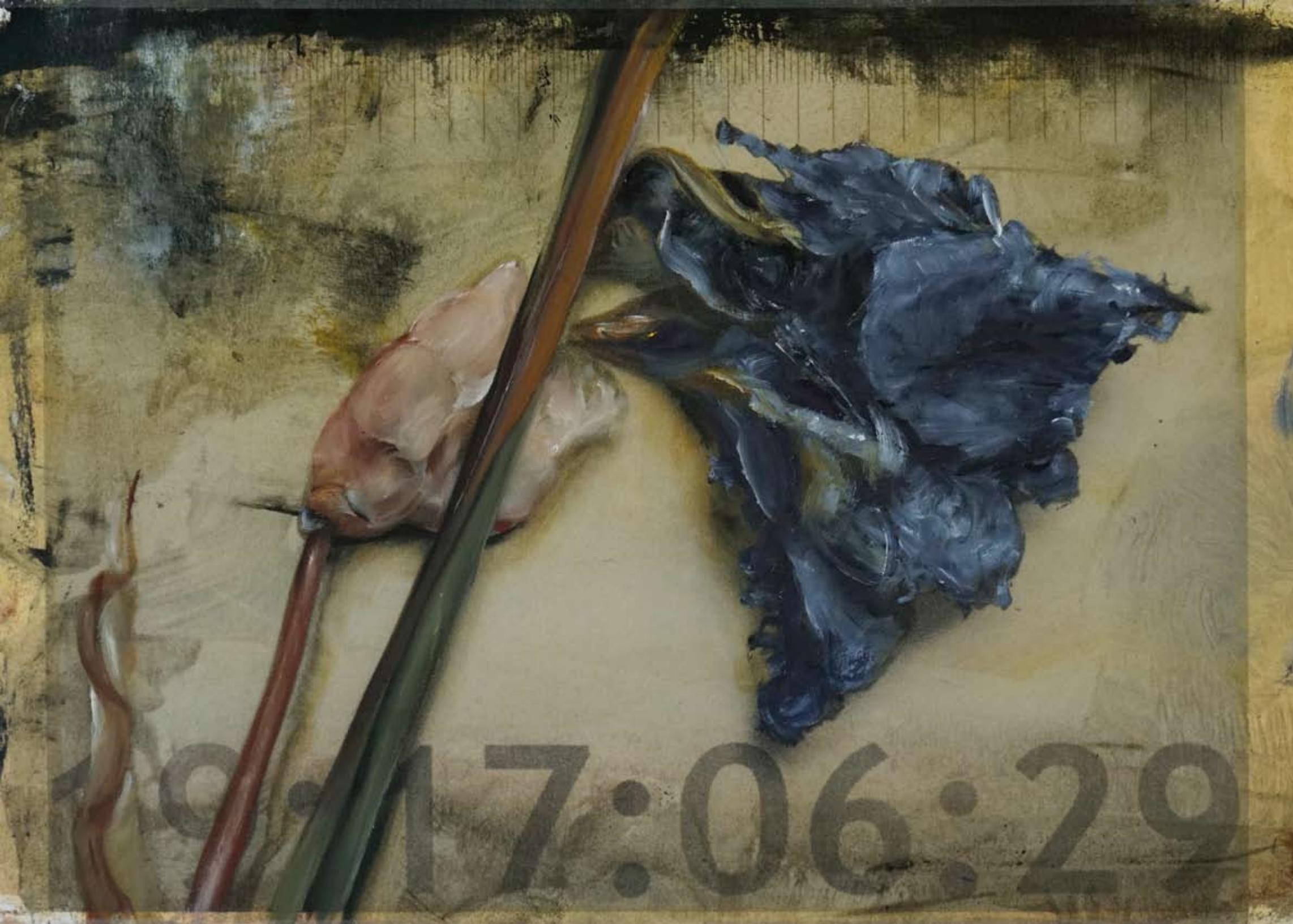
*Vanité Végétale 3*  
Boxed  
oil on wood  
30 x 30 - 07-2014



*Vanité Végétale 4*  
Boxed  
oil on wood  
30 x 30 - 07-2014



*Vanité Végétale*  
oil on canvas  
50cm x 100 cm - 06-2014



7:06.20

*Vegetal Vanity 3*

TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print 40cm x 30cm - 07-2015



*Vanité Végétale 1*

TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print  
30 x 60 - 07-2015



*Vanité Végétale 2*  
TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print  
30 x 60 - 07-2015

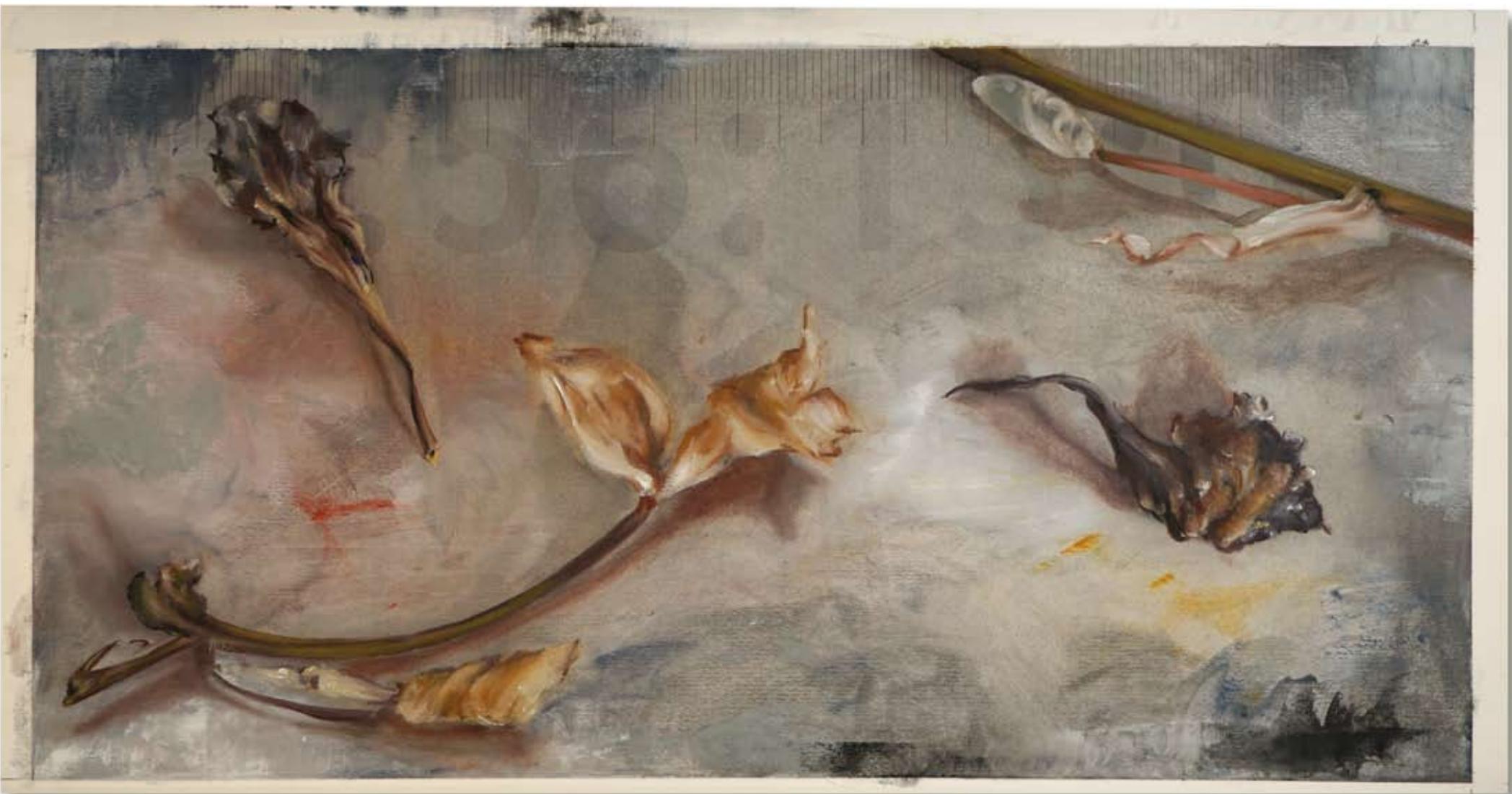


*Vanité Végétale 8*

TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print  
30 x 60 - 07-2015



*Vanité Végétale with Broken Glass*  
TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print  
62 cm x 30 cm · 10-2015



*Vanité Végétale 6*

TimeCoded  
oil on inkjet print  
30 x 60 - 10-2015

*Vegetal Vanity 4 >*  
TimeCoded

oil on inkjet print 40cm x 30cm - 08 2015



*Vegetal Vanity 5*  
Time-coded

oil on inkjet print  
70cm x 32cm - 08 2015



*Vegetal Vanity 7*  
timeCoded



oil on inkjet print 40cm x 30cm - 12.2015

A painting of a skull and bones on a textured surface. The skull is the central focus, rendered in shades of white, grey, and black, showing intricate details of the cranium and teeth. It rests on a dark, textured base that appears to be a piece of wood or bark. The background is a light, mottled green and yellow, suggesting a natural, possibly outdoor setting.

# *Vanités Animales*

TimeCoded

Bones,

hidden but fundamental.

For the painter a subtle infinity of colored whites,  
for everyone fascination for what will stay after life goes.

Skull 5  
TimeCoded



"Tête-à-tête"  
oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 12.2015

Jaw 4  
TimeCoded



oil on inkjet print 55cm x 33cm - 12.2015

*Skull 9*  
TimeCoded



"Petite Tête"  
oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 12.2015

*Skull 6*  
TimeCoded



oil on inkjet print 55cm x 30cm - 12.2015

Skull 7  
TimeCoded



oil on inkjet print 52cm x 32cm - 12.2015

Jaw 3  
TimeCoded



oil on inkjet print 40cm x 30cm - 10/2015

*Skull 3* >  
TimeCoded

oil on inkjet print - 40cm x 30cm - 03 2015

*Skull 4*  
TimeCoded



oil on inkjet print - 60cm x 30cm - 07 2015

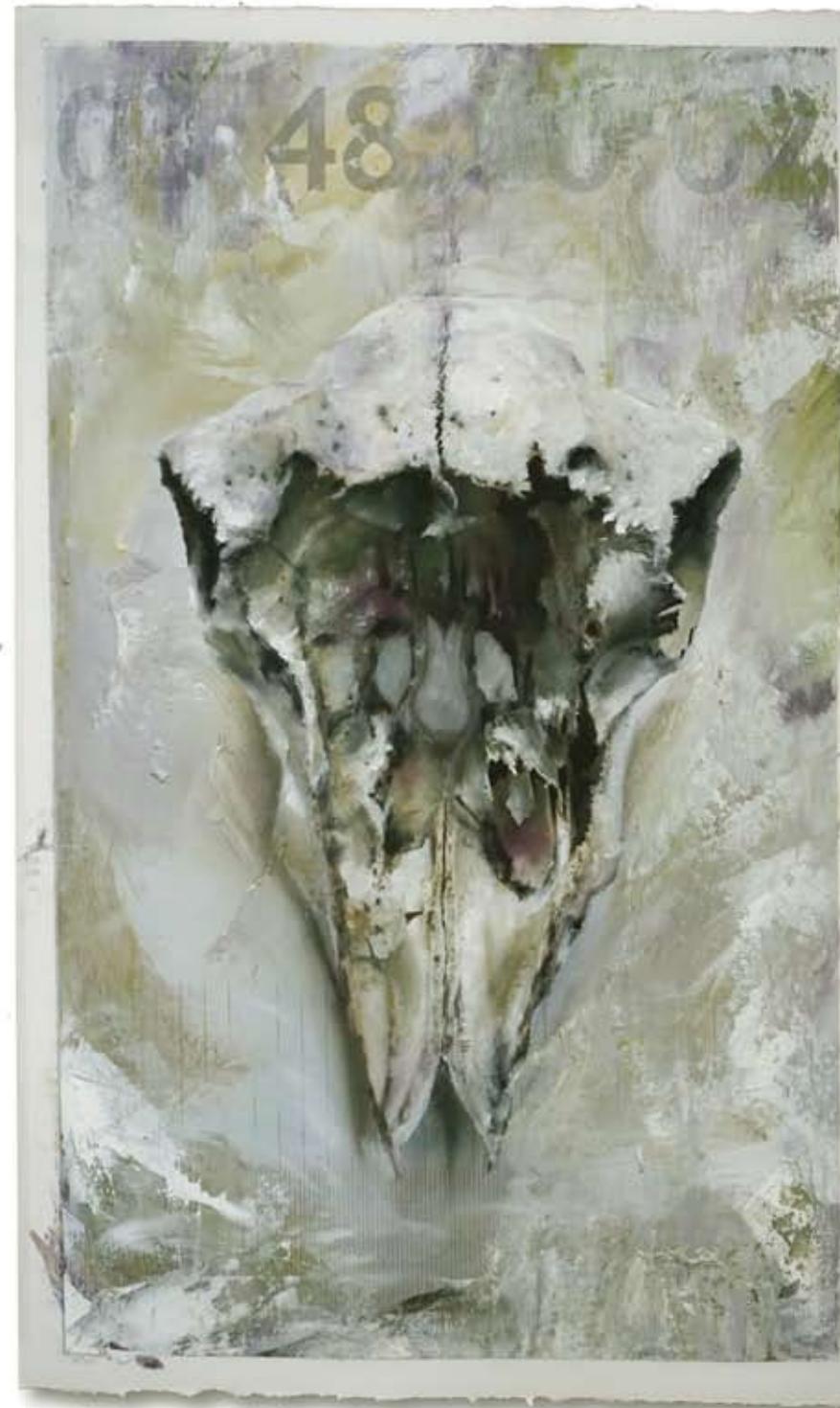


*Bone 1*  
timeCoded

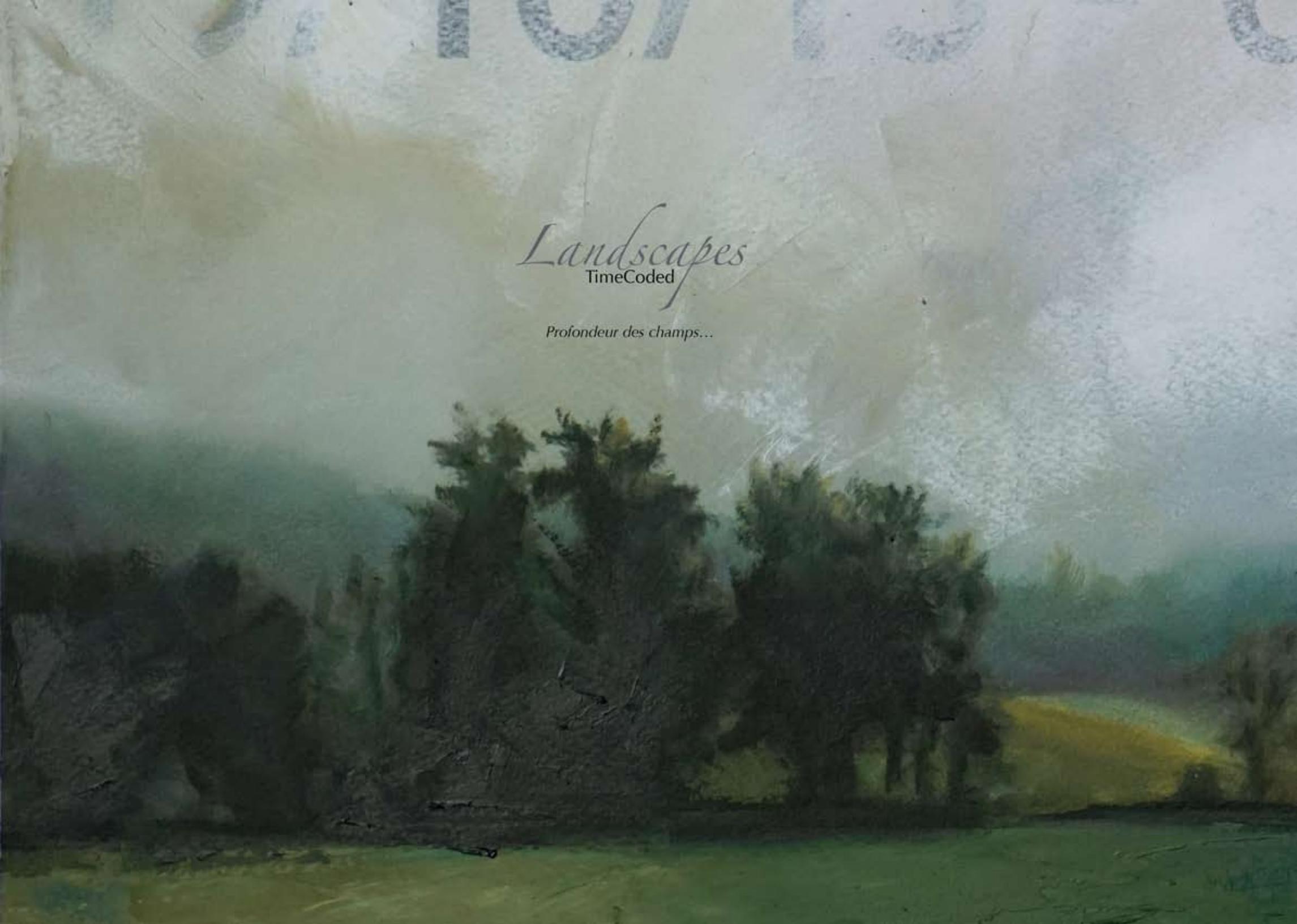


oil on inkjet print 30cm x 30cm - 04.2015

Skull 8  
TimeCoded



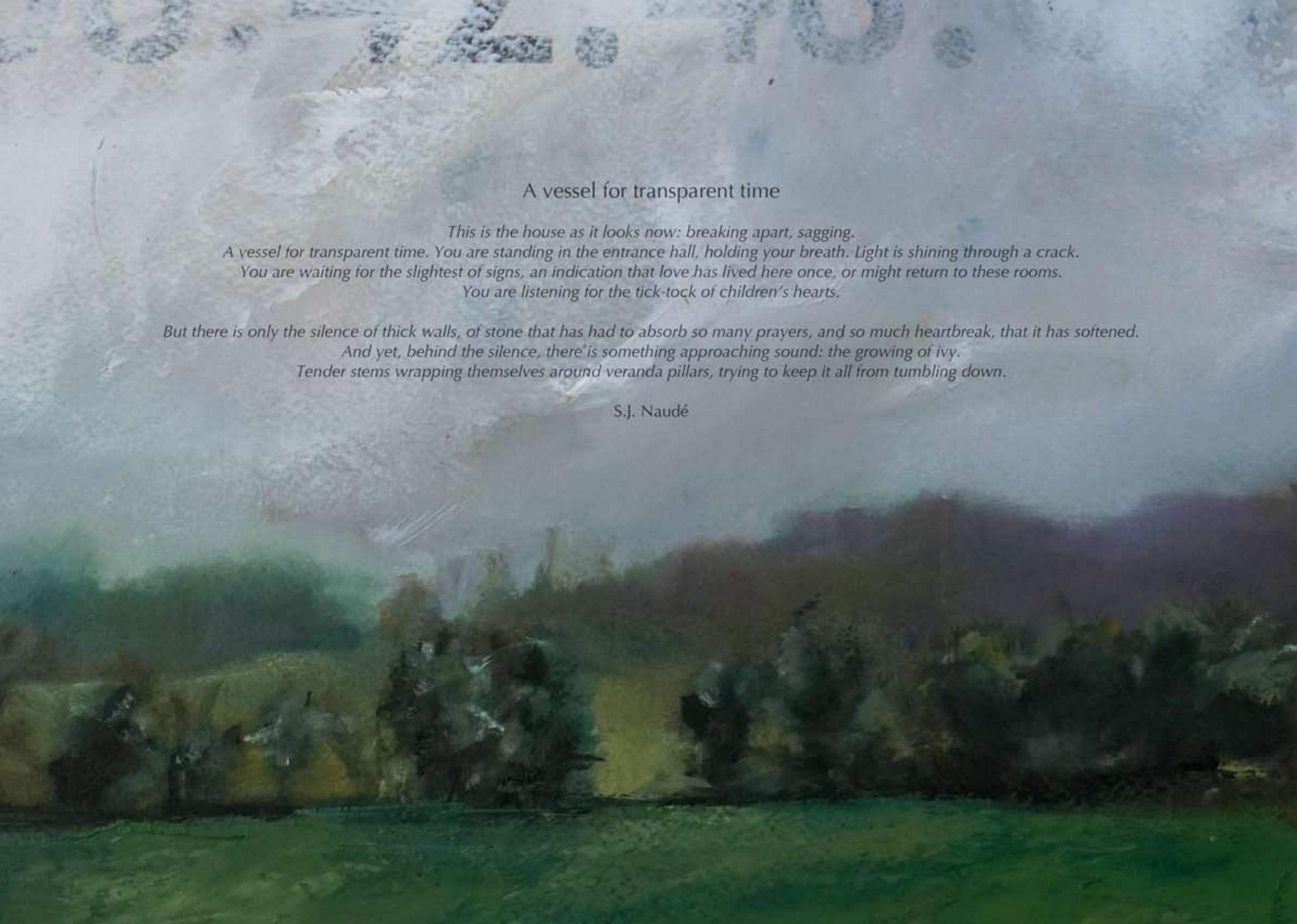
"Casse-Tête"  
oil on inkjet print 50cm x 30cm - 12 2015

A landscape painting featuring a foreground of green grass and a dark, dense thicket of bushes or trees. In the background, a line of trees stands along a hillside under a sky filled with soft, white clouds.

# Landscapes

TimeCoded

*Profondeur des champs...*



## A vessel for transparent time

*This is the house as it looks now: breaking apart, sagging.*

*A vessel for transparent time. You are standing in the entrance hall, holding your breath. Light is shining through a crack.*

*You are waiting for the slightest of signs, an indication that love has lived here once, or might return to these rooms.*

*You are listening for the tick-tock of children's hearts.*

*But there is only the silence of thick walls, of stone that has had to absorb so many prayers, and so much heartbreak, that it has softened.*

*And yet, behind the silence, there is something approaching sound: the growing of ivy.*

*Tender stems wrapping themselves around veranda pillars, trying to keep it all from tumbling down.*

S.J. Naudé

Landscape  
TimeCoded/01



oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 10-2015



Landscape  
TimeCoded β2

oil on inkjet print 65cm x 30cm - 10-2015

Landscape  
TimeCoded/03



oil on inkjet print 65cm x 30cm - 10-2015

*Landscape*  
Time-coded/04



oil on inkjet print 65cm x 30cm - 10-2015

Landscape  
TimeCoded /05



oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 10.2015

Landscape  
TimeCoded/07



oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 10-2015

Landscape  
TimeCoded/06



oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 10-2015

Landscape  
TimeCoded/08



oil on inkjet print 60cm x 30cm - 10.2015

*C'est à travers tous les thèmes classiques que je cherche à faire le lien avec cette abstraction qui me fascine.  
Trouver l'étroit passage entre figuratif et abstrait, fuir la facilité de la narration tout en évitant de tomber dans l'écueil de l'abstrait décoratif.*

*Le fugitif, les failles, les défauts tout ce qui peut rapprocher du mystère de l'humain  
constituent ma nourriture, mon vocabulaire pour rappeler la fragilité et l'intensité du passage.  
Trouver, recréer ce lien qui nous mène, au plus profond de chacun, à ce qui précède l'émotion.*

*Au delà des mots, de ceux que l'on ne peut dire : peindre l'indicible.*

*Au delà de la chair, jusqu'à l'os : tenter de révéler la fragilité intérieure de l'homme.*

*Au delà du motif, par le subtil jeu des valeurs et des couleurs, par la rupture des masses colorées, les potentiels ouverts par l'évanescence d'un dégradé ou la fuite que propose une ombre, évoquer les peurs, les fascinations, au delà, un pas plus loin.*



*Classic themes serve me in my search for that elusive link with the Abstract which has fascinated me for so long ; finding that narrow bridge between the Figurative and the Abstract - avoiding the easy way of traditional narrative and lapsing into mere decorative abstraction.*

*Fleeting moments, defaults and flaws, and all that which brings us closer to the mystery of human existence, augment my creative vocabulary and nourish me as an artist also serving as a reminder of the fragility and intensity of this passage. To find, to recreate this link that leads into the existential depths of each one of us, to that which precedes emotion itself.*

*Beyond words, to that which we cannot say ; painting the inexpressible.*

*Beyond the skin, onto the bone itself ; attempting to reveal the interior fragility of man.*

*Beyond the subject, by the subtle play of values and colours, by the rupture of masses of colours, the potential open by the quick fading of a gradient, a flight suggested by a shadow ; evoking fears, fascinations, one step beyond.*



Painting  
the fugitive moments

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