

# CHRISTIAN DURANTE





# ARTISTIC APPROACH

Christian Durante is a visual artist.

He regularly wonders about the notion of “being alive” by considering the life cycle.

His work attempts to make the invisible or the almost visible, the essential, perceptible by working on ordinary matter.

All of his research emphasizes the impalpable, apprehending the subtle and attempting to reveal its essence.

His work, through the multiplicity of mediums, thus seeks to express the power and the fragility of the living state, earning him a connection to total artwork, but also to Arte Povera and Art Brut. He composes with living materials: latex, tar, Indian ink, walnut stain, wax, wood, plants...

Each one of his works can be identified, but their meaning is only partial if taken without consideration of the whole. The work is expressed through free and unpredictable compositions, depending on the architectural surroundings.

For this reason, the installation and scenography are also part of the realization of his artistic creations.

Christian Durante places the spectators at the center of his work, making them an integral part, so that they experience resonances in the face of matter and installations, in that space where words do not suffice.



Photo : © Dominique Clévenot

Installation, *Poppies, the end of something, the beginning of something*, 7 m x 4 m, 2022



Installation, *Poppies*, 2021-2022



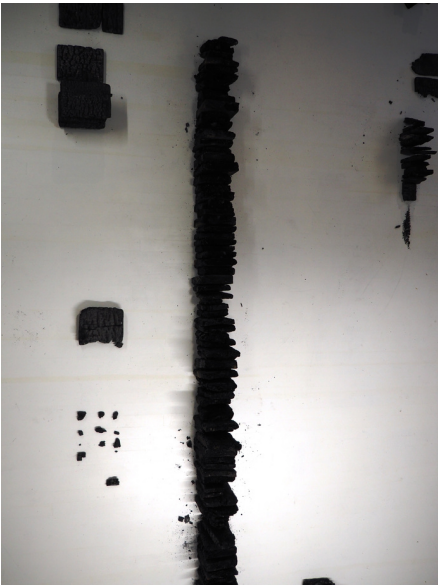
Installation "Untitled", Set of boxes containing poppies, 2021



Installation, *Live the unknowing #1*, Wood, Latex, Stockings, Talc, 2021

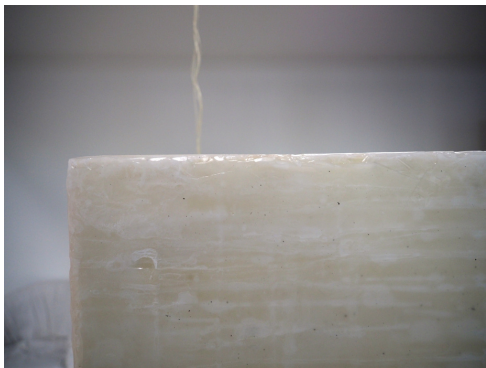


Installation, *Live the unknowing #2*, Burned wood, 2021



Installations, *Live the unknowing #2*, Burned wood, 2021





Installation, *Missing body*, paraffin, plywood, tacky thread, 2022



Installation, *Foyer, Soot*, 2020



Installation, *Tumulus*, lead from molten printing characters, 2015



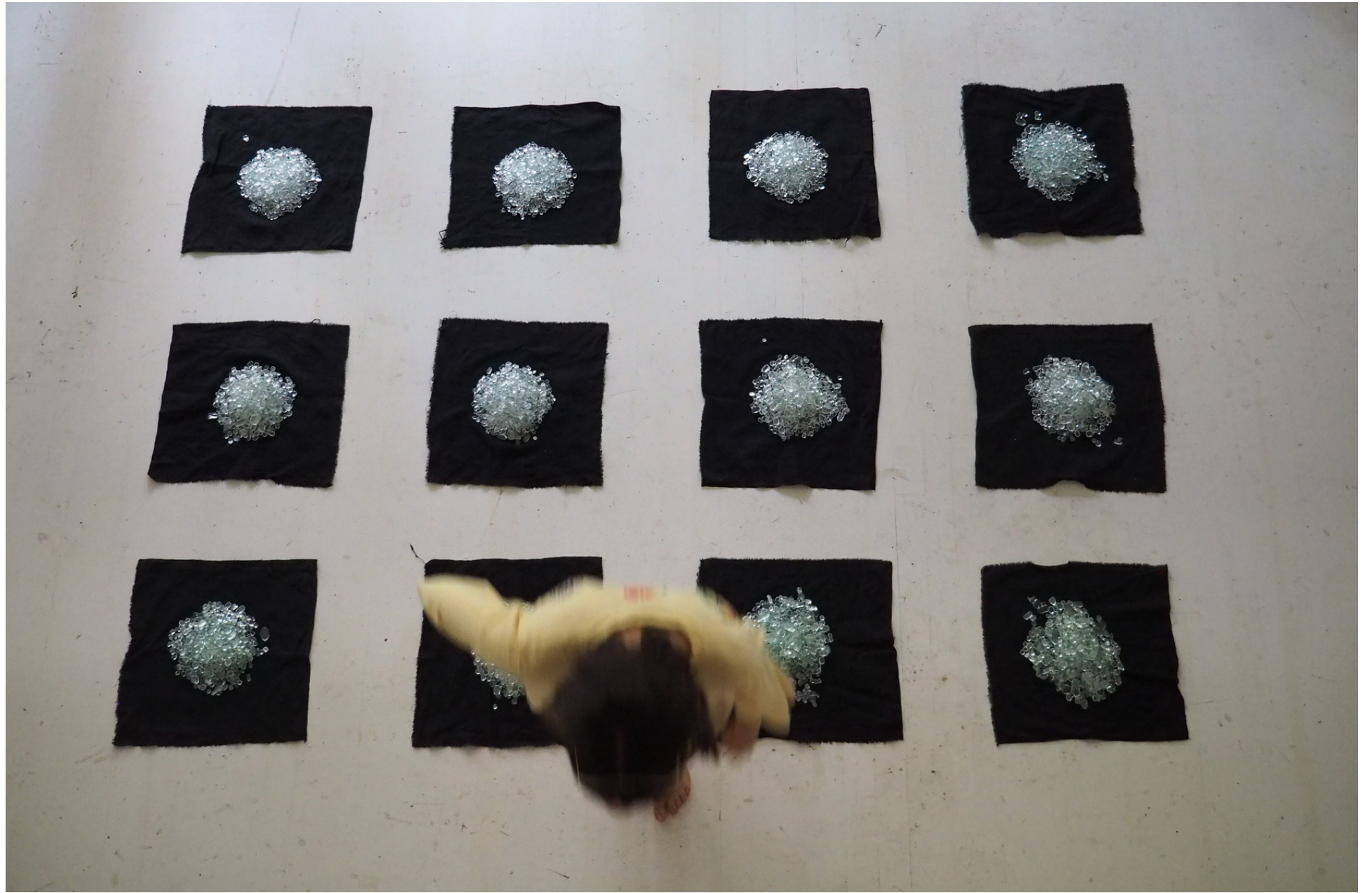
Installation, *Indoor garden*, 2020



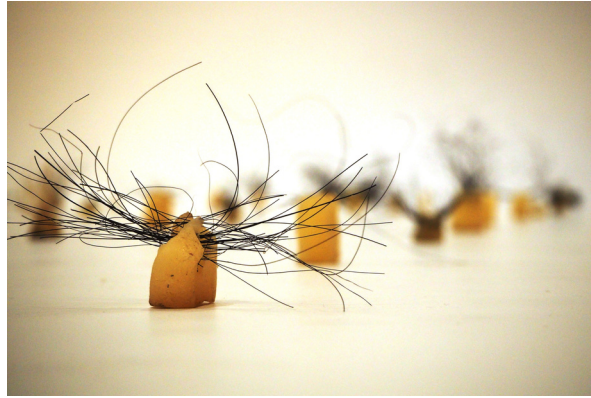
Installation "Untitled", Set of fitted wax or paraffin receptacles, 2021



Installation, *Untitled*, tissue, glass, 2022



Installation, *Untitled*, tissue, glass, 2022



Installation details, *Particular signs*, wax, horsehair, 2019



Installation, *Particular signs*, wax, horsehair, 2019





Installation, *The fall*, clay, porcelain, thread, 2019



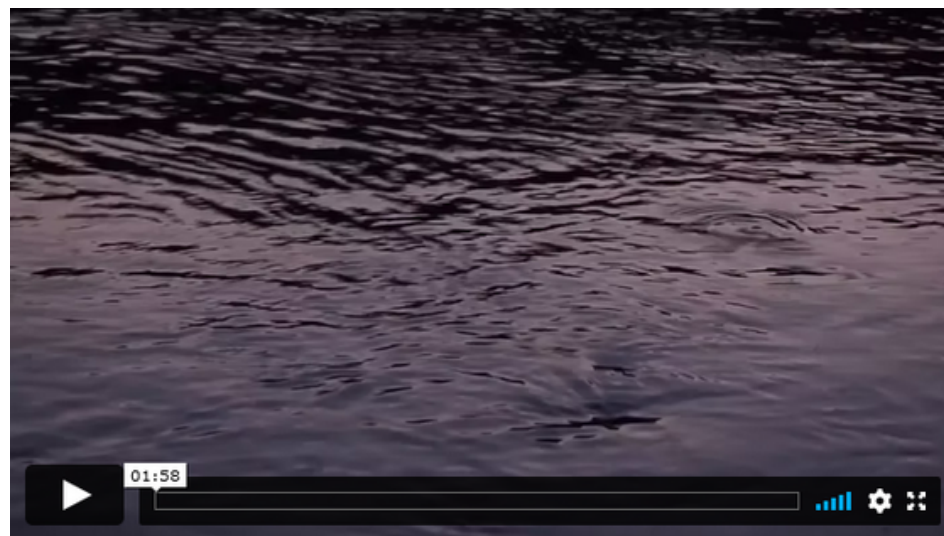
Installation details, *The fall*, clay, porcelain, thread, 2019



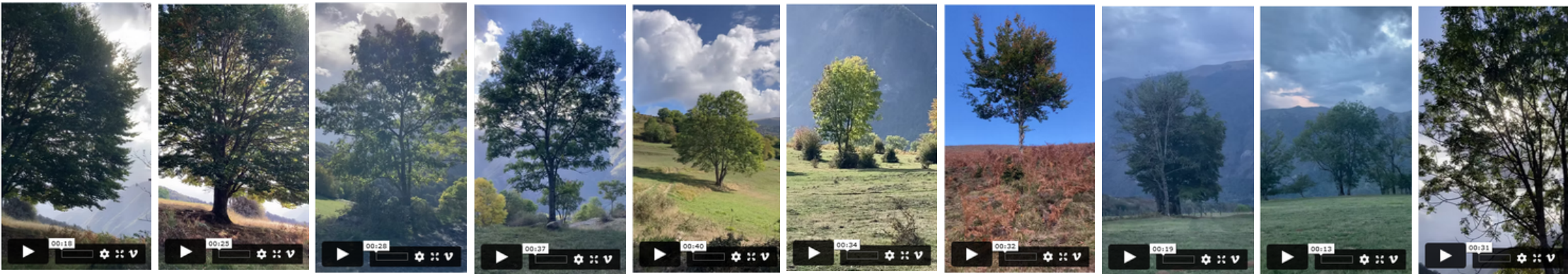
Installation, *Floats*, Floating of wooden bodies in their verticality, Wood, Clay, Cord  
H 3,15 m Ø 0,35 m - H 2,35 m Ø 0,27 m - H 2,20 m Ø 0,20 m - H 1,90 m Ø 0,40 m - H 1,75 m Ø 0,22 m - H 1,10 m Ø 0,15 m, 2012



Vidéo, Water#04, 2018



Vidéo, Water#01, 2018



Installation, Vidéos, *33 trees on the way...*, 2022

# BIOGRAPHY



Christian Durante is a visual artist. He uses various materials as tools of language. In 1980, alongside his studies at the École des Métiers d'Art de Revel, he began a sculptor's career. Already at the age of 16, he presented his first exhibitions as part of a group of artists in different parts of Toulouse, Poitiers, Montauban and Paris.

In 1985, at the end of this experience, he decided to engage in a more introspective approach. This meant working alone in a new space, self-taught, away from external influences and compromise, to find his own path, experiment with different materials, clarify his intention. The subject of the living world seemed to impose itself, nourished by the experience of different practices aimed at developing perceptual and sensory sensitivity.

In 2010, Christian Durante transformed one of his workshops into a large structure which he called La Baleine, a monumental sculpture which brings together the fruits of his previous research and experience. La Baleine became an "Entre", an intermediary space, a place of residence, a creative space open to the outer environment where the viewer, in the act of beholding, became part of the work. A new relationship to the world was thus established, giving rise to a succession of exhibitions and installations both in La Baleine and in the public space. In 2020, this modern legend presented a retrospective in its many buildings before their planned demolition.

The final, retrospective exhibition traced 25 years of artistic creation invariably produced with the objective of autonomy. It is a total work which, through the multiplicity of mediums, seeks to express the power and uniqueness of life. The success of the exhibition made it possible for him to become better known in the contemporary art scene.

He created an exhibit for a gallery in Paris (Le Pavé d'Orsay) in 2021, then another in a Center of the Arts (Le Quai des Arts) in Toulouse in 2022 and participated in the WEACTION#13 event with PingPong, the contemporary art network of Toulouse and its environs.

A new project will take shape in a major contemporary art center in Toulouse in 2024.

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