

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a horse's head, focusing on its eye. The horse's coat is a light, dusty blue-grey. The eye is a striking, vibrant blue with a dark, reflective pupil. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows on the horse's face and neck, emphasizing the texture of its fur and the intensity of its gaze. The background is dark and indistinct.

Nos vies sauvages

Ayline Olukman

Opening on March 12
Exhibition from March 12 to April 30

 galerie
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Nos vies sauvages (Our Wild Lives)

Nos Vies Sauvages is part of a poetic reflection on the vulnerability of existence. Through a sensitive portrayal of living beings, the series establishes an intimate dialogue between physical forms—human and animal—and the elements of nature.

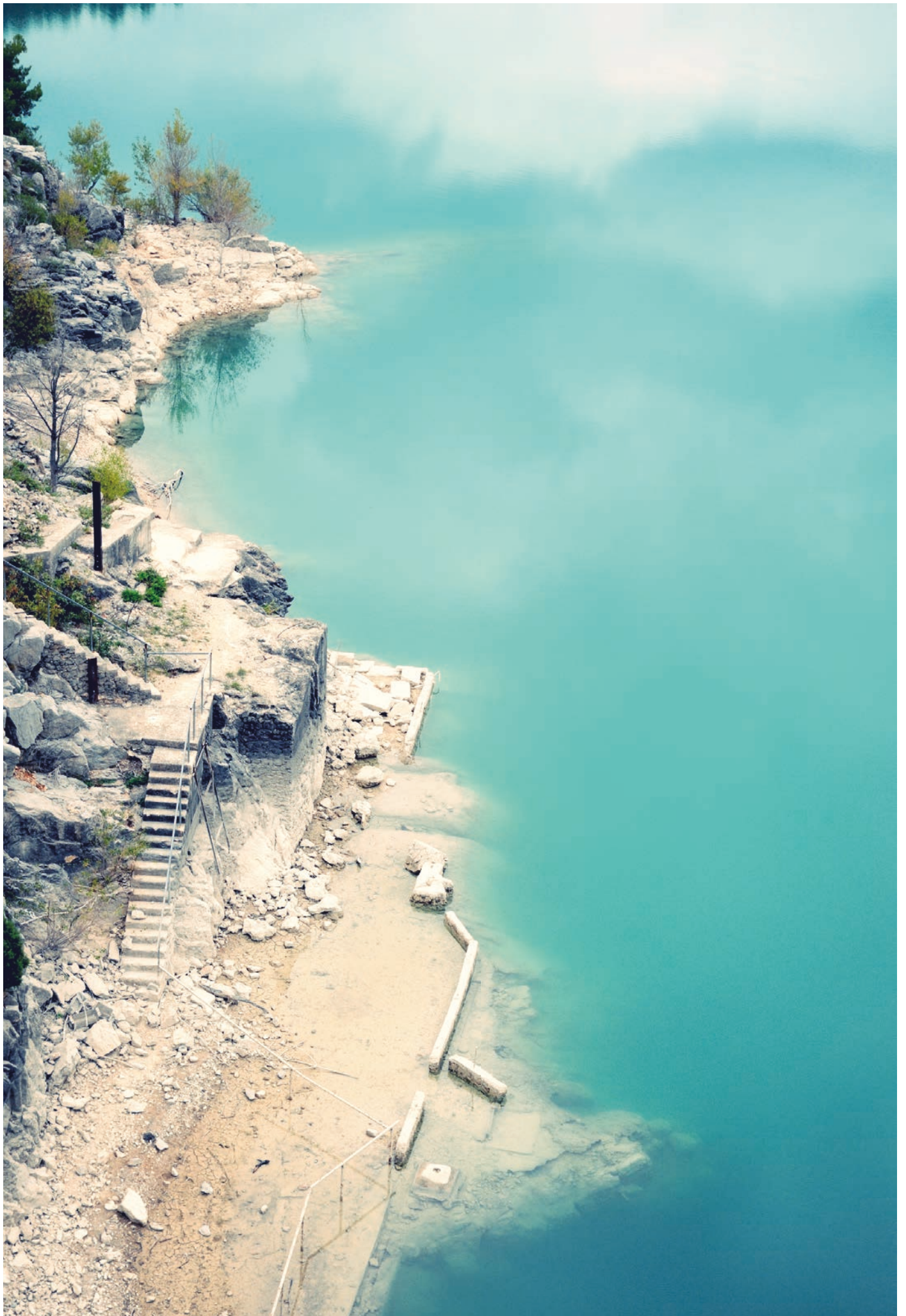
In this dreamlike universe, the body seems to dissolve into matter (stones, foliage, clouds, liquid elements, etc.), until it becomes one with it.

In this discreet fusion, a feeling of desire emerges, an aspiration to belong to a larger, older order of life.

The figure is not considered as an isolated subject, but as a medium of expression, conveying a language in which gestures and textures intertwine.

From this perspective, Nos Vies Sauvages opens up a liminal space where human beings, far from exercising control over nature, make themselves available to its otherness, to its discreet but insistent presence, and in so doing, gain a broader awareness of their own condition within the living world.





Biography

Ayline Olukman is a multidisciplinary artist whose work explores the notions of vulnerability, the unconscious, and wandering.

Through photography, painting, writing, and drawing, she composes sensitive and introspective works marked by a strong emotional anchor.

Born in Strasbourg in 1981, she graduated from the Strasbourg School of Decorative Arts in 2005. Since 2006, she has divided her time between her Strasbourg studio and numerous trips, which she considers essential research phases, during which she photographs and writes.

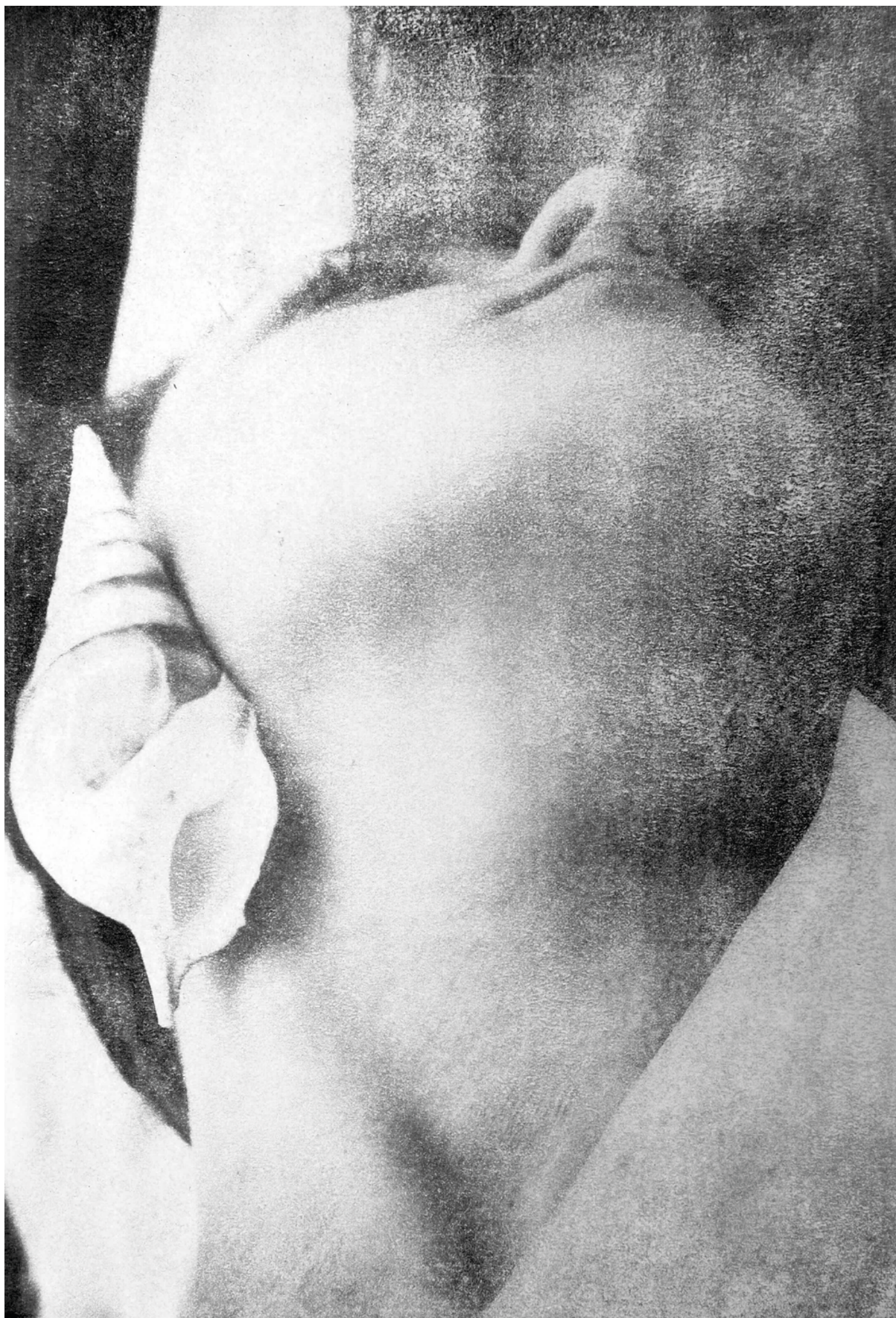
In 2013, a residency at Point B in Brooklyn marked a turning point in her career. She then moved to New York, where she lived and worked until 2018. This period was marked by an intensification of her photographic practice and growing international recognition of her work.

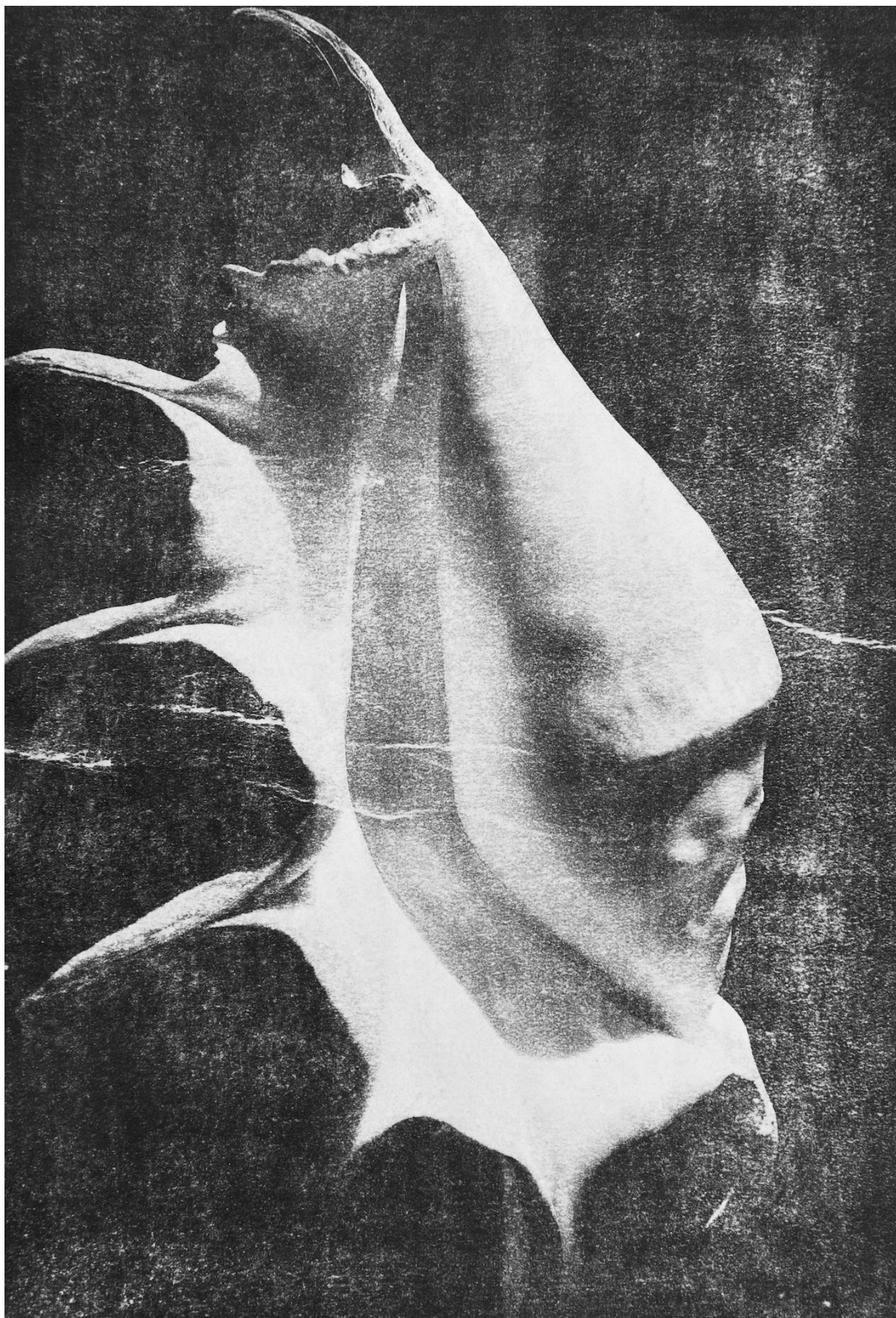
In 2018, she was invited to take up residence at the Shangjin International Art Center in China. This immersion in a radically different cultural and landscape environment deeply nourished her reflections on displacement, otherness, and inner transformation.

Through her contact with the region, its rhythms, and local traditions, she has developed a body of work imbued with a heightened awareness of silences, spaces, and extended temporalities. This experience has reinforced the contemplative dimension of her work and deepened her exploration of wandering as both a physical and mental state.

Her work has since been recognized on several occasions and presented in various artistic contexts in Europe, the United States, and Asia. Alongside her exhibitions, she has developed a significant body of editorial work. Her book *Elysian Fields*, published in 2021 by Médiapop, traces fifteen years of pictorial creation.

In 2024, she published *Nos vies sauvages* (Our Wild Lives), her fifth book, an editorial project that continues today in this exhibition at the Madé Gallery.





Exhibitions and awards

Exhibitions

November 2025: OD Photo Prize 2025 Exhibition, London

October 2025: Incadaquès Festival, Spain

April 2024: Idyll, solo exhibition, Nicolas Auvray Gallery, New York

2023: Un jardin secret, Maison des Douanes, Saint-Palais-sur-Mer

2019: Exhibition at the Verzasca Foto Festival, Switzerland

Awards and distinctions

November 2025: Finalist, OD Photo Prize, London

October 2025: Special mention from the jury, Incadaquès Festival, Spain

July 2025: Finalist for the Mentor Prize, Arles

2020: Nominated for the Mentor Award, Freelens

2019: Winner of the Verzasca Foto Festival, Switzerland

2019: La Mue selected among the best photo books of the year by the PH Museum

2018: Finalist for the Voies-Off Prize, Rencontres de la Photographie d'Arles

Publications

2024: Nos vies sauvages (Our Wild Lives), Médiapop Publishing

2021: Elysian Fields, Médiapop Publishing

2019: La Mue (The Moulting)

Residencies

2018: Residency at Shangjin International Art Center, China

2013: Residency at Point B, Brooklyn (United States)

