

# collection croisée



collection 04  
01.02 – 30.04.22

arisa odawara (JP)  
andré derainne (FR)

## arisa odawara (JP)

My Diary is an illustrated, fictitious journal by the artist Arisa Odawara. The perspectives represented in this work evoke memories of a past one would hope does not only exist in dreams. Bringing together more than 2,000 watercolor paintings, this ambitious artistic project began in 2008. To present this collection of memories, the artist draws on certain codes specific to vintage fashion illustration. Within each drawing lies a mystery, an enigmatic illusion or a haiku-inspired image. The ephemeral colors of floral motifs worn by the characters and displayed in the backdrops remind us of poetry that is inexpressibly tender. In this fragile environment, Odawara seems to reject the city and its electrifying presence in favor of a return to nature. At the edge of a forest, one that is likely near the artist's home in Tokyo's suburbs, the characters in her drawings devote themselves to gleaning, picking, going on treasure hunts, or playing games of hide-and-go-seek. There is potential for romance among the flock of characters represented in Odawara's work, which seems to amuse her. Indeed, she gently pokes fun at the absurd situations they are in. These moments are fleeting and reflect a tangible reality made up of imagined or genuine experiences akin to fragments of wild memories that awaken the feelings and desires hidden deep within us.

Geoff Vallon  
ÉLÉGIE EN BLEU

Born in Tokyo, Arisa Odawara is a pluridisciplinary artist and also runs a space «Junbicyu» for artists in Tokyo. She draws events such as fragments of her behavior, the scenery she saw for a moment, and her delusion on paper with watercolors like keeping a diary every day. She paints on canvas, and makes collage works with origami paper and pottery works from drawings on paper. «My Drawings» by Nieves in 2019 and «My Diary» by Slow Editions in 2021 have been published.

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André Derainne's work immediately draws us in with its sensitivity and warmth. It is as if we were following in the footsteps of a seasoned traveler, someone who is always searching for the inexpressible beauty of the places he visits. His drawings, made from ink and paint, impressively render a charming and, at times, slightly melancholy modern world. His last trip took him to the gates of the Saigon Villa in Ho Chi Minh City. It was here, in the thick humidity of the Vietnamese megapolis, that the artist began his graphic novel, *Un orage par jour*. Painting portraits of this city, besieged by unpredictable, seasonal weather, affords him the opportunity to work with variations of light specific to different times of day. Using minimalist drawing techniques and bright colors, this cultural and culinary journey overwhelms the senses. Restaurant stalls in their multitudes, decorated in the colors of old Saigon, line the streets beckoning the artist to capture these discoveries, which, in turn, gives us an exceptional opportunity to relish this commendable illustrated tale of travel from which six original pages have been selected for the purpose of this exhibition.

Geoff Vallon  
ÉLÉGIE EN BLEU

Born in Toulouse in 1994, André Derainne studied illustration at the Haute École des Arts du Rhin (HEAR). Graduated in 2017, he has since produced several illustrations for the press, notably for The New York Times, Liberation, Die Zeit but also for various magazines in France and abroad, such as L'Obs, Fooding, Mint magazine or Kibлинд. In September 2019, he joined the «Villa Saigon» artistic residence in Hô chi Minh City, where he began writing his first comic strip *Un orage par jour*, released on September 15, 2021 by Kéribus editions.