



Caroline Cotto

www.carolinecotto.space
contact@carolinecotto.space
+33610212082

Biography

Caroline Cotto is a French visual artist born in Nice in 1991.

She trained at Design Academy Eindhoven in the Netherlands, graduating in 2018. Her practice lies at the intersection of design and art, with a particular focus on colour research.

After graduating, she developed a practice spanning design and artistic creation, collaborating on projects in art direction, exhibition design and graphic design. She also conducted research into materials and plant-based dyes, while continuing to develop her personal artistic practice.

Her work is characterised by an in-depth exploration of colour and light, shaped by her experiences in different European cities, including Nice, Paris, Eindhoven, London, Lisbon and Rome.

After moving to Lisbon in January 2023, where she was hosted in residence at Fabrica Moderna and later at HOMA Lisboa, she refocused her practice on painting, which has become her primary medium.

In her recent work, she approaches landscape as a form of personal diary, translating inner states through colour-based compositions. Questioning the very notion of landscape, Caroline Cotto creates pictorial spaces where abstraction and elements of reality coexist, inviting the viewer to experience a different way of seeing. Colour becomes a language, carrying emotions, memory and perception.

Her work has been presented in numerous solo and group exhibitions in France and internationally, including Object Rotterdam (2019); Design Museum Gent (2021); Le Tripostal in Lille (2021); Solarium in Marseille (2022); Centre Culturel La Coupole in La Gaude (2023); and most recently Galerie des Baous in Vence, for the exhibition Éloge du bleu (August 2026).

She also develops cross-disciplinary projects, including artistic commissions and interventions in space, in collaboration with architects and private individuals.

Having returned to Paris in September 2025, Caroline Cotto is entering a new phase of her practice, shaped by this change of landscape and horizon.



Artist Statment

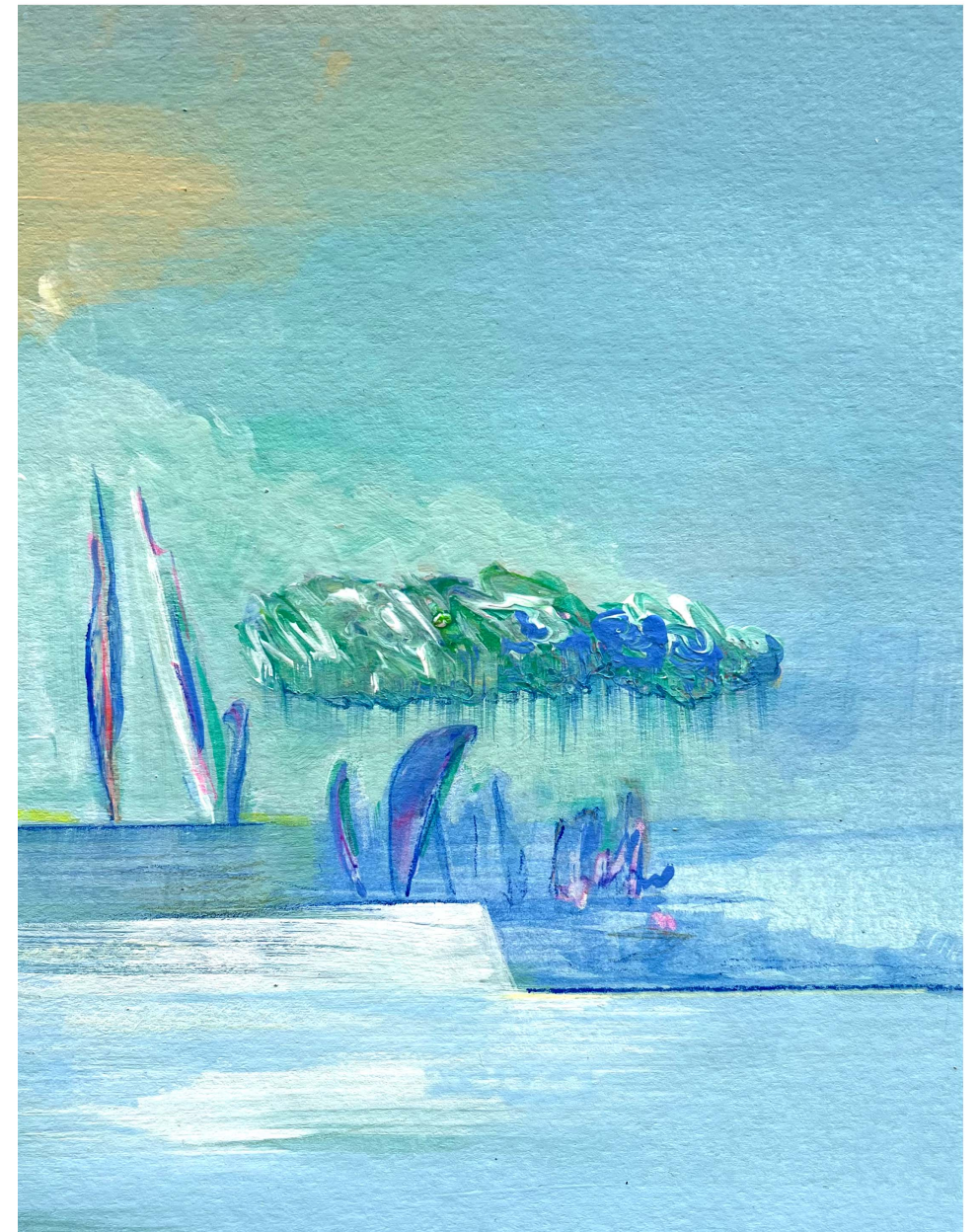
Through painting, I explore the world around me as a space for research, discovery and freedom. My paintings emerge from the memory of sensations, a light, a temperature, a colour, a scent, an atmosphere, rather than from a desire to represent a specific place.

I am interested in the sensory relationships that connect the sky, the earth and water, and in the constant exchanges that flow between them. The movement of the wind, evaporation, heat distorting the air, mist, changes in light: these almost imperceptible phenomena reveal a constant circulation and contribute to a fragile balance.

Colour is the central language of my practice. It allows me to translate light, evoke particular moments, the first light of morning, the falling of night, and bring forms to the threshold of figuration. My paintings exist at the edge of representation: the place remains recognisable, while leaving room for a sensory interpretation.

This relationship to the world shifts according to the territories I encounter. During a six-month residency in Cova do Vapor, a small Portuguese village located at the mouth of the Tagus River, I explored through painting the power of water, its tensions, forces and movements, as well as the way inhabitants live alongside this presence, at once familiar and threatening. The choice of paper emerged as an echo of the impermanence of a place in constant transformation. Its lightness also accompanied my frequent travels.

What I paint thus becomes a space where the visible and the invisible meet. My work questions our perception of places as much as the memories we retain of them, inviting us to pay attention to what escapes immediate perception.



Detail - Doux matin
Acrylic on paper
28x48 cm - 2024

Exploration entre ciel et terre

This series of paintings, begun in 2024, explores the sensory relationships between the different layers of the landscape and the constant exchanges that connect the sky, the earth and water. It seeks to make perceptible the subtle phenomena that link these elements: the movement of the wind, water evaporation, heat distorting the air, mist and variations in light. Invisible or almost imperceptible, these movements create a constant circulation between the elements and contribute to the fragile balance of landscapes.

Colour is the guiding thread of this research. It becomes a means of translating light, evoking particular moments of the day, sometimes idealised, such as the first light of morning or the falling of night. The paintings exist at the edge of representation, where the landscape remains recognisable while leaving room for a sensory interpretation.

Inspired by landscapes encountered throughout my travels, these works do not seek to depict a specific place. Rather, they emerge from the memory of sensations: a light, a temperature, a colour or a lasting impression. Landscape then becomes a space where the visible and the invisible meet. This series invites us to pay attention to what escapes immediate perception and questions our perception of places as much as the memories we retain of them.

Paysage en construction
Acrylic on paper
56x40cm - 2024

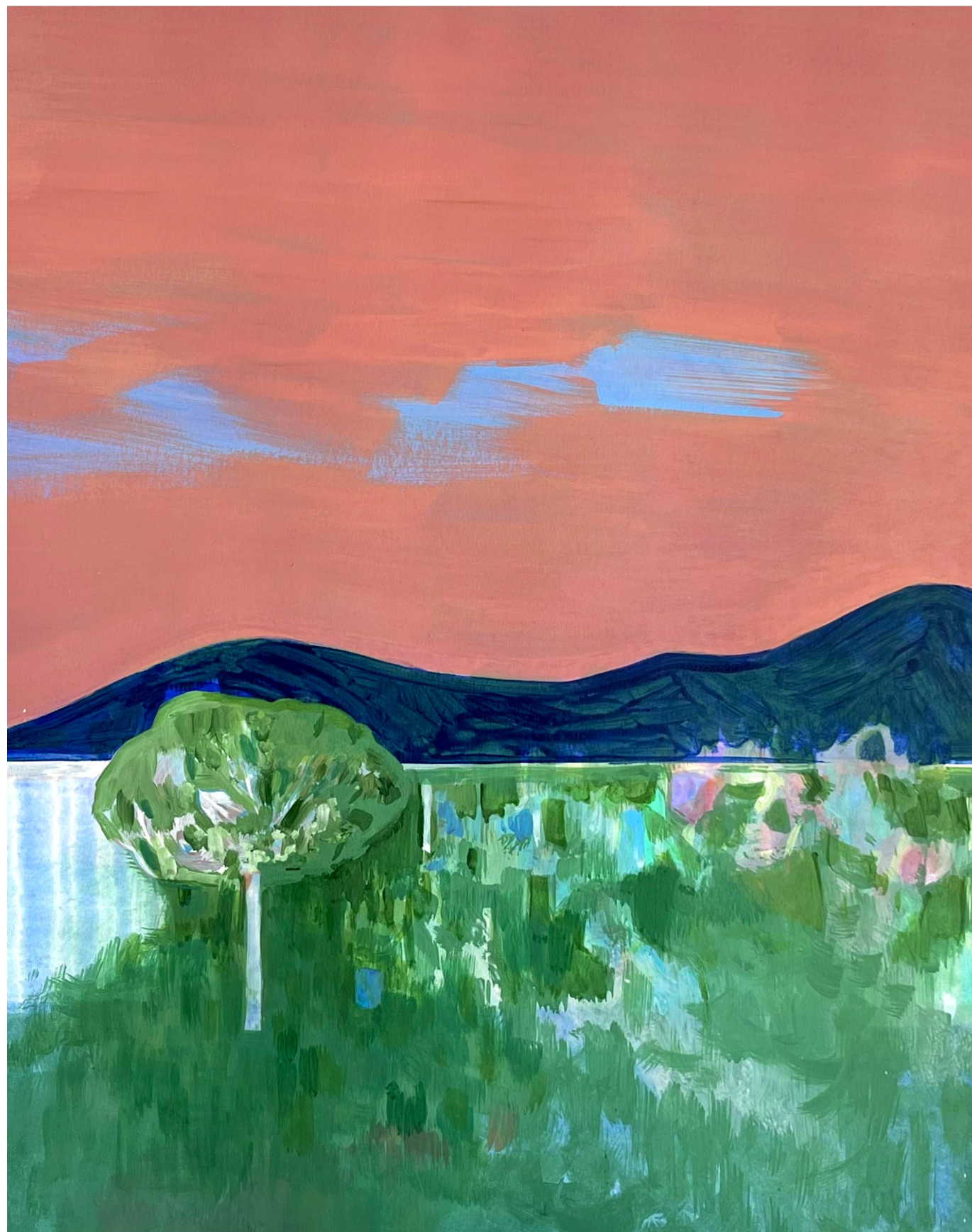




Mémoire de l'eau
Acrylic on paper
42x60cm - 2026



Paysage en construction (2)
Acrylic on paper
56x40cm - 2024



Paysage simple et ciel de sable
Acrylic on paper
30x40cm - 2026



Oiseau en vol
Acrylic on wood
30x40cm - 2025

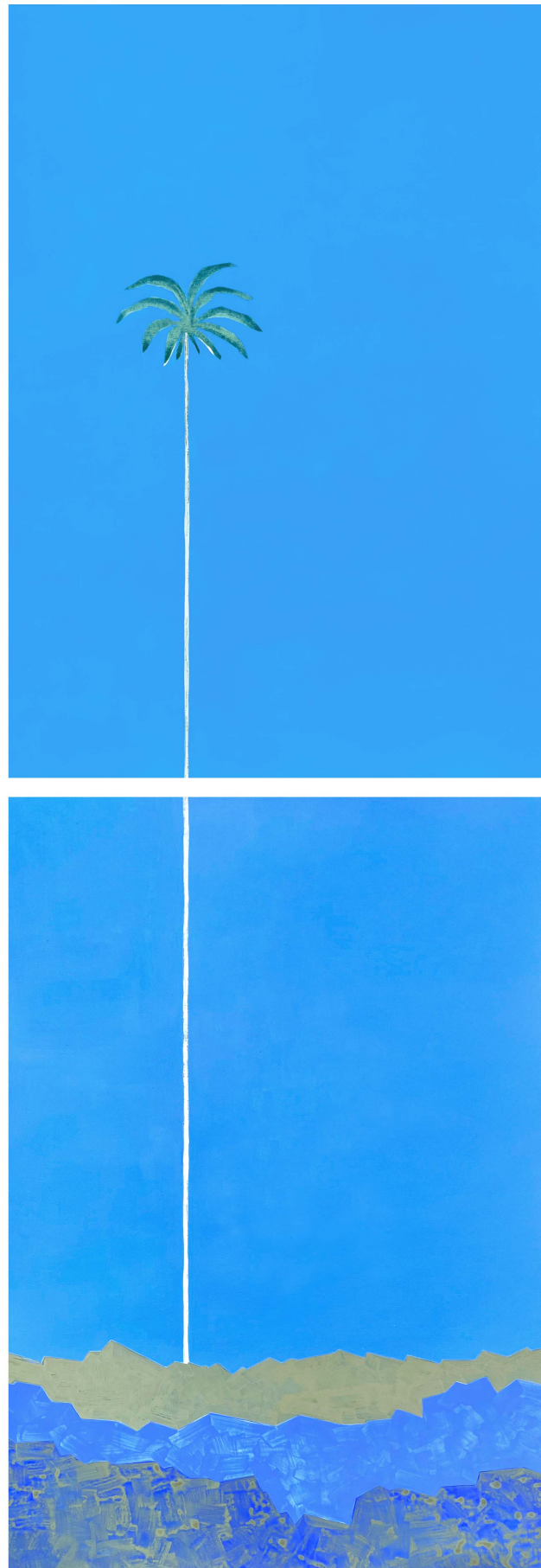
Habiter le rivage

During a six-month artistic residency in Cova do Vapor, a Portuguese village located at the mouth of the Tagus River and the Atlantic Ocean, I developed a series exploring the power of water. This territory, situated at the meeting point of moving tectonic plates and exposed to significant seismic risk, carries within it the possibility of its own disappearance.

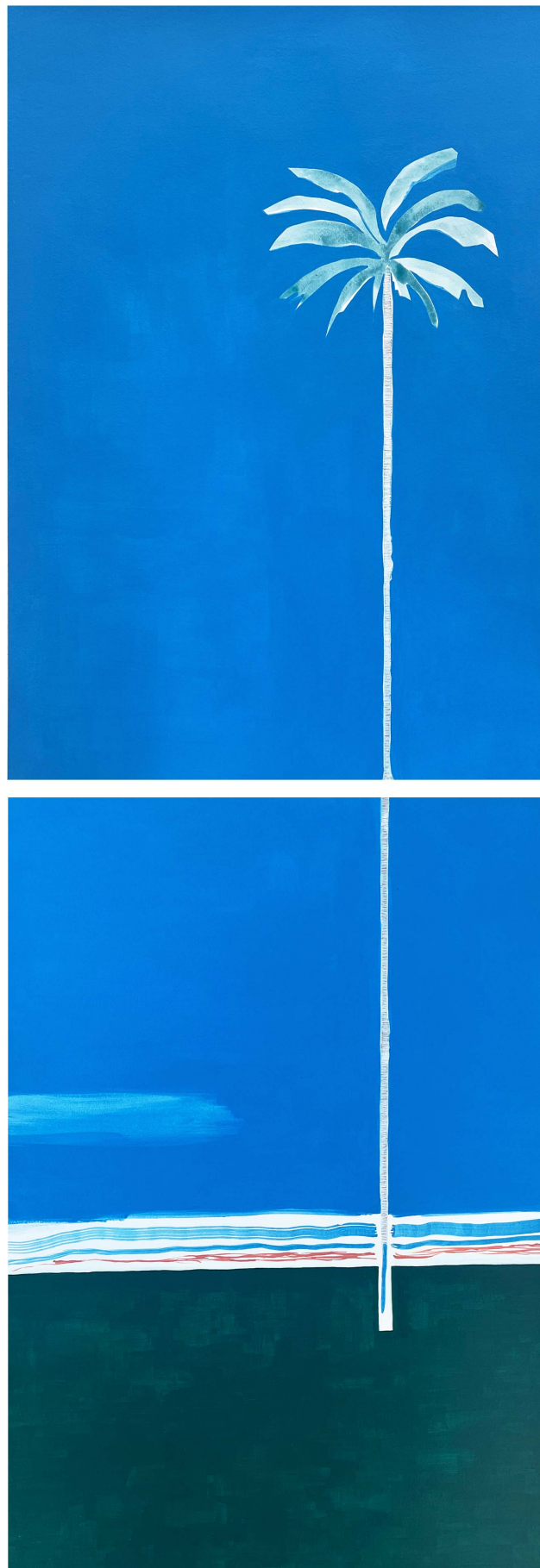
Faced with this unstable landscape, I explored through painting the tensions, forces and movements of water, as well as the way inhabitants live with this presence, at once familiar and threatening. The choice of paper emerged as an echo of the impermanence and fragility of this constantly changing landscape.



*Detail
En direction du ciel
2025*



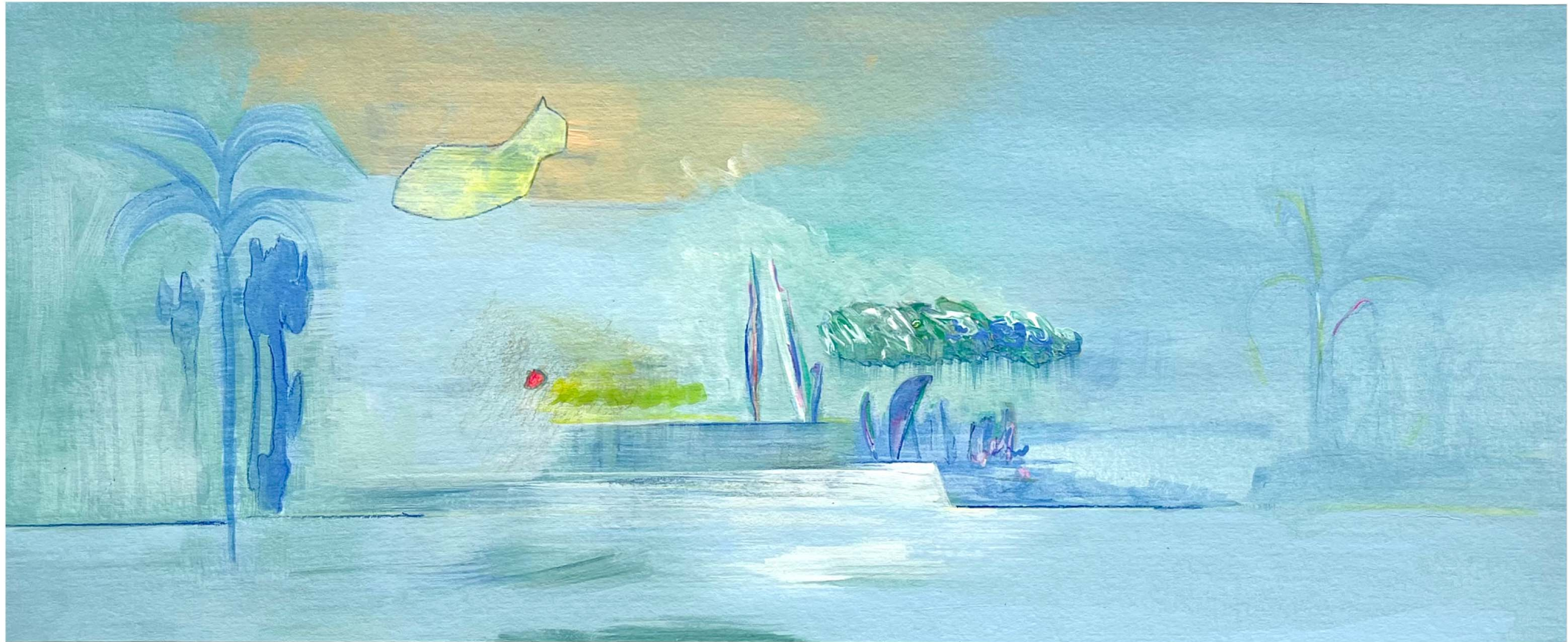
En direction du ciel
Acrylic on paper
50x140cm - 2025



Vers le ciel
Acrylic on paper
50x140cm - 2024



Exhibition view
Vers le ciel
HOMA Lisboa (Portugal)
2024



Doux matin
Acrylic on paper
28 x 48 cm - 2024



Étude de la vague
Acrylic on paper
33x47cm - 2025



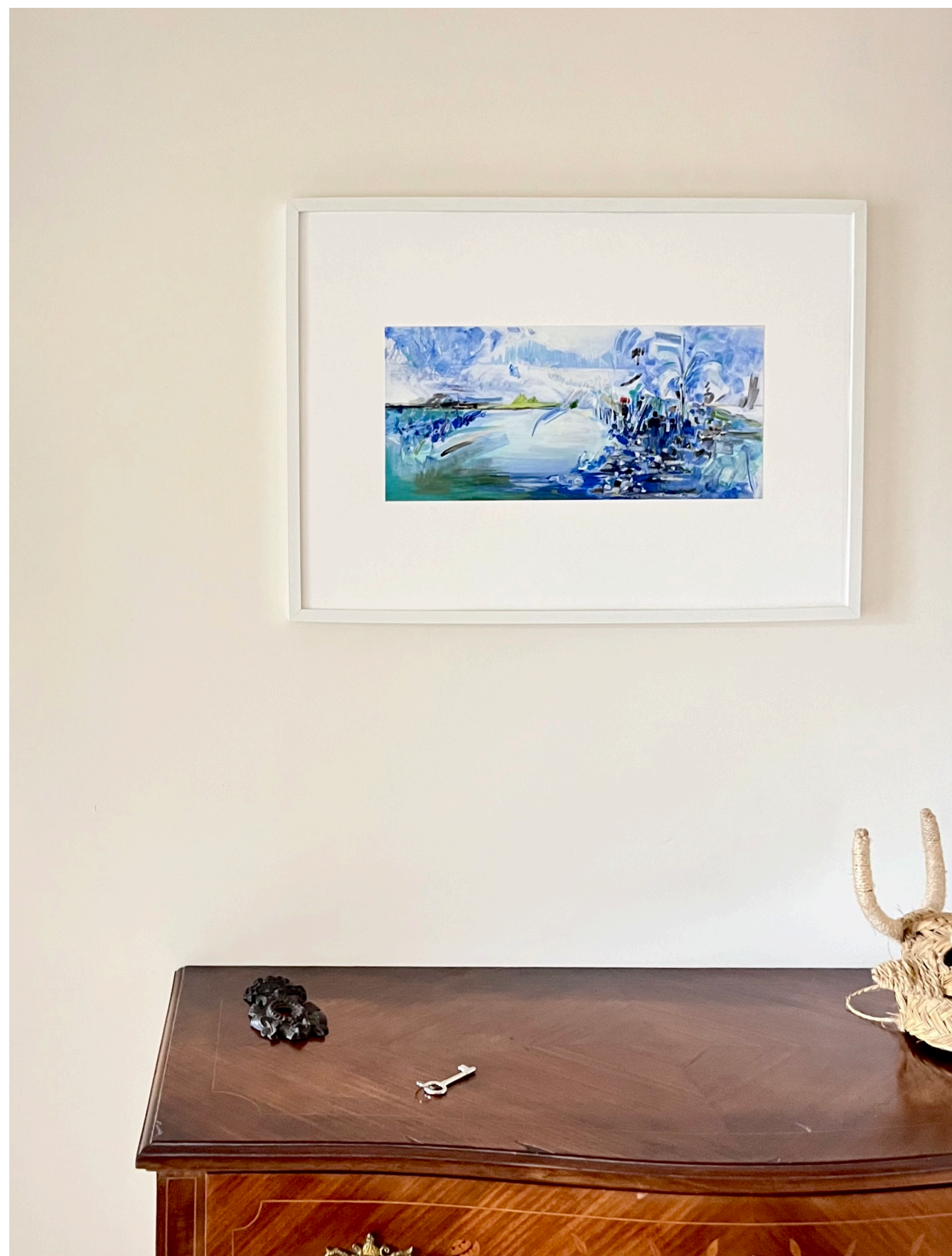
Rencontre du fleuve et de l'océan
Acrylic on paper
50x70cm - 2025



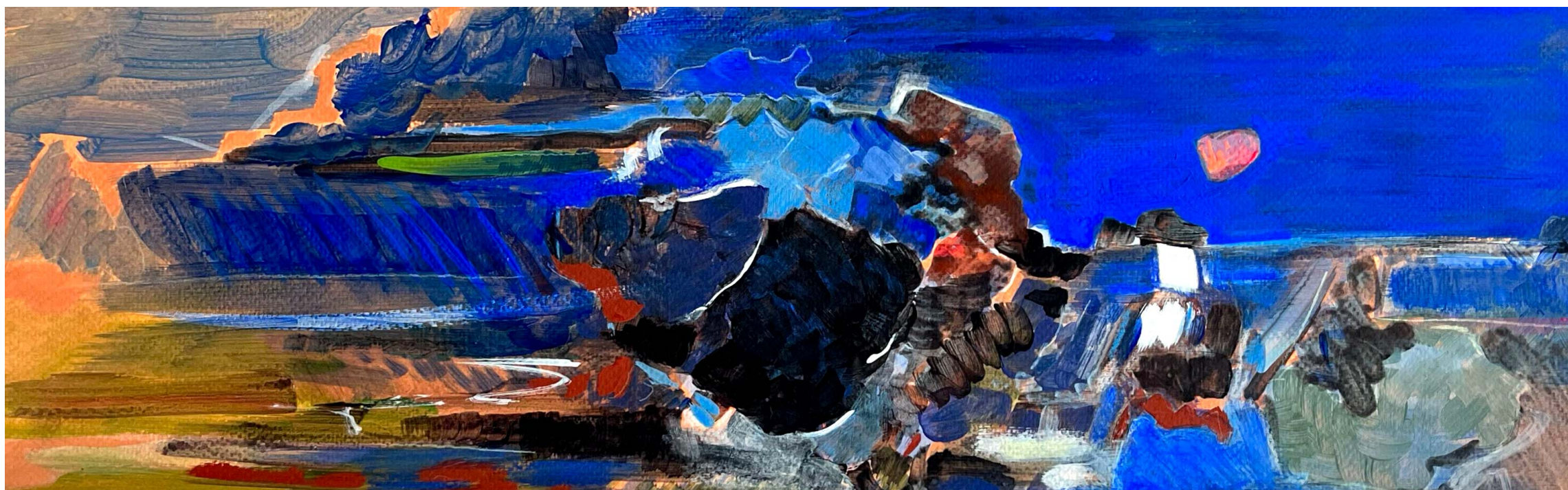
La barque
Acrylic on paper
50x70cm - 2025



Habiter le rivage
Acrylic on paper
22x47cm - 2024



Exhibition view
Ce monde double
HOMA Lisboa (Portugal)
2024



Marée nocturne
Acrylic on paper
15x47cm - 2024

RESUME

EDUCATION

2014-2018

Bachelor's Degree in Design
Design Academy Eindhoven
Eindhoven/The Netherlands
Departement Man and Leisure
- Conceptual Design
- Design Research
- Colour Specialisation

2013-2014

Villa thiole
Preparatory programme for art schools
Nice/France

2009-2012

Bachelor's Degree in Law
Faculty of Law and Political Science
Nice/France

2006-2009

French Baccalaureate
Lycée Auguste Renoir
Scientific stream
Cagnes-sur-Mer/France

EXHIBITIONS

2025-2026

- Galerie des Baous
Vence/France
"Paysages" "Couleurs"
"Étloge du bleu"
(Group exhibitions)

2024

- It's FFFRESH/Black Sheep
Lisbon/Portugal
(Group exhibition)

2023

- Centre culturel la Coupole
La Gaude/France
(Solo exhibition)

2022

- SDS-Pujet Roastang/France
Exposition de groupe
- Solarium-Marseille/France
(Group exhibition)

2021

- "Teintures naturelles"
(Group exhibitions)
- "Colors etc"
Lille 3000-le tripostal-Lille/France
(Group exhibition)
- Van Eck's colours in design
Design Museum Gent
Gent/Belgium
(Group exhibition)

2020

- Galerie martin sauvage
Nice/France
(Group exhibition)

2019

- Art rotterdam week
"Objet rotterdam"
Rotterdam/The Netherlands
(Group exhibition)

2018

- Dutch design week
Eindhoven/The Netherlands
(Group exhibition)

2017

- Madrid design week
"Here and out" City circles
Madrid/Spain
(Group exhibition)

2015

- La fabric shop & Adidas
Nice/France
(Solo Exhibition)

RESIDENCIES

2023 et 2025

- Fabrica Moderna
Portugal

2024 et 2025

- Homa Lisboa
Portugal

2022

- SDS-Pujet Roastang
France

PUBLICATIONS

2019

- "Eggclipse" Vol 1,2,3
Self-published
Collection of three artist's books

PERFORMANCE

2021

- LAP & the window
Paris

Contact

•

Web : www.carolinecotto.space
Email : contact@carolinecotto.space
IG : www.instagram.com/caroline.cotto