

## Artist's biography texts

### **Cecilia Acevedo (Chile, 1988)**

Cecilia is a textile artist and kinesiologist who has taken crochet to an unprecedented level, fusing technique, emotion, and intuition into deeply moving works.

Her artistic journey emerged from a personal crisis: during the pandemic, amid depression, she discovered art as both an escape and a rebirth. She left behind an imposed career and immersed herself in a fully organic creative process - patternless, guided only by the visceral emotion of each stitch.

Her technique has been described as one-of-a-kind, capable of simulating living human tissue, elevating crochet to a high-impact visual and sensory art form. Since her debut at ArtWeek Santiago in 2021, her trajectory has been meteoric: she gained international recognition at the Florence Biennale in 2023, participated in the Barcelona Biennale, and received prestigious international awards such as the Botticelli, Da Vinci, Velázquez & Goya honours.

Among her most notable collections are *Primigenia* and *Dominante & Recesivo*, autobiographical series that delve into raw emotions, childhood trauma, and feminine resilience. In 2024, she was named one of "Chile's 50+ Most Creative People" by *Forbes* and featured in *Art Market Magazine's* Gold List as one of today's most relevant contemporary artists.

Cecilia, diagnosed with ASD in adulthood, has transformed her neurodivergence into a source of creative power. Today, she is positioned as one of the most ground-breaking textile artists in Latin America, taking her emotionally charged and provocative art to the international stage.

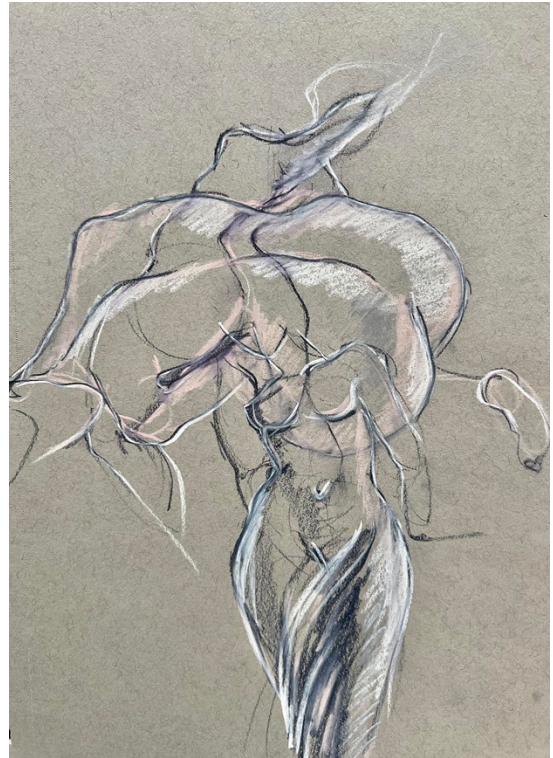
Website: <https://ceciliartist.com>

Instagram: @ceciliartist

## Yoni Chepisheva

The night that birthed its own dawn is how Yoni would refer to herself if she was asked about her least favourite and most explored part of her comedy-of-errors life.

Born somewhere that isn't on her birth certificate, to parents she never met, in a country she never belonged to, her creative life really started in London, UK. Her degree in Interior and Spatial Design at the University of the Arts London earned her a degree in Fascination with reflections and light shapes and voids. Her subsequent experience in the field with architects and interior designers and an overwhelming amount of technical plans earned her a reputation for being slow and insecure. While others were out at night in London practicing fad long-exposure photography trends, her inner world was occupied by thoughts about how their shots would have looked even more stunning from a different angle.



Short story long - Yoni's work focuses on empathy, solidarity, and equality as recently she discovered she had (and has always had) palinopsia which makes her experience, her reality, as a collection of reflected surfaces and voids, and long exposures (how familiar!) And even more recently, she joined the Phab charity as a consultant on interiors and public spaces and uses her lived experience with palinopsia to ignite her passion for designing a better-built environment for all.

Instagram: @palinopsia\_immersive

## Gina-Marie Cincinnati

Gina-Marie Cincinnati is a Queer, Disabled American mixed-media artist based in the UK. She was born in New York in 1981 and grew up in Maryland, settling in Baltimore to attend Maryland Institute College of Art. She graduated in 2003 with a BFA in Graphic Design and concentrations in Photography and Digital Art.

She lived in Germany from 2009 to 2013, working primarily in film, digital photography, and digital art. In 2014, she landed in Tokyo, Japan, where she pursued an active art career alongside her work as an educator. There, she separated from all that had been holding her back artistically. The work she created in Tokyo started with reclaiming derogatory language used against people identifying as female in typographic paintings, then progressed to collage and mixed media using her own and found photographs, acrylic paint, and Japanese papers.

Gina relocated to the UK in September 2023. After a successful showing at the XIV Florence Biennale, she found herself settling in a new country, moving towards more extensive mixed-media and installation/3D pieces that continue to focus on the passage of and our experience of time, self-actualization, womxn's issues, modern capitalist and consumerist culture, crisis or disaster fatigue, and the attention span of modern humans. She has exhibited her work in the USA, Japan, the UK, and the EU.

Website: <https://ginamariiecincinnati.com>



Instagram: @awomanwithoutacountry

## **Lula Cornejo**

Lula is a 31-year-old plastic artist. She was born in Bahía Blanca, Argentina. Her name is María Lujan Cornejo “Lula”, and she began painting at the end of 2020, rethinking what to do with her life. Although her career has been short, she has already participated in many exhibitions in Argentina and internationally.

Lula is an artist with neurodiversity and a motor commitment. She rediscovered painting and decided to start studying Art; she is trained in informalism, dripping, and abstract expressionism. As in her life, she creates Art with a great commitment to self-improvement.

Finding her path took on a valuable meaning, which sustains her desire to make a living from her Art and thus guarantees the concept that Art includes us all and gives us equal opportunities. At this stage, knowing a means of expression where she could express her feelings led her to want to venture into the artistic world without worrying about shapes but about colours. She wanted to discover and use techniques and textures that, until then, presented significant challenges due to her medical hands commitment.

When she finds happiness in the creative process, she projects a fantastic world where there are no differences and where everything is possible. Art is a lifeline for Lula, first keeping her afloat and then guiding her toward another shore.

Art is considered a space for equality because when we perform this activity, we are all equal and free, and there are no social, cultural, political, or other differences. Her works possess a power that lies in their vibrant colours. In them, she brings together elements that were previously separate, and her actions adopt novel sequences. Playing is freeing ourselves from arbitrary restrictions and expanding our field of action.

Lula says, “When I paint, I don’t set out for a successful result. I simply

start playing. I go free of all concepts. I let myself be carried away by the music, by what the fabric suggests, by the colours. I put will, humour, and enthusiasm into it. There, I can express my feelings, and it is me through shapes, textures, and colours." Lula dances, jumps, moves freely and without prejudice around the canvas.

Her municipality recognized her as an "Outstanding Young Citizen" and plastic artist from Chivilcoy.

Website: <https://www.lulacornejo.com>

Instagram: @lulacornejo2020

## **Claudia Dieguez**

Argentinian artist Claudia Dieguez was born and lives in Buenos Aires. Through her work, she seeks to connect the most visceral with the magical and supernatural, generating different feelings when contemplating her Art. Playing with textures, colours, palette knives and paintbrushes to bring different sensations that allows viewers to dream of other worlds. "To be an astronaut for an instant," she states. A self-taught artist who works with and explores different techniques and materials, she perfected herself in abstract Art by attending courses and workshops on resin, asphalt, watercolours, encaustic, and graffiti. Since 2012, she has participated in collective exhibitions and national biennales. She painted murals in different hospitals to raise awareness about blood and bone donation. She actively participates in solidarity activities to help children gain an education through Art. She is an elementary teacher and an art therapist.

Website:

Instagram: @claudiadieguezarte

## **Naomi Friedman**



Non-binary, Brooklyn-based visual artist Naomi Friedman works through the mediums of collage and mixed media art. In their practice, Friedman explores the line between space and place—using repetition and pattern to play with scale. In Friedman’s work, emergent reimagination defies gravity, bending the laws of space and time in order to question prevailing binaries in society: reason/nature, male/female, guilty/innocent, good/evil. Friedman graduated Cum Laude from Vassar College in 2022 and co-founded the Boyz With Apple artist collective the same year. Friedman is currently in residence with the Arquetopia Honors Lab, and exhibits work globally. Recent exhibitions include “Interconnecting Lines” with ARTIO gallery in New York; RedDot Miami during Basel Miami 2024; and participation in the Flyer Art Tour of Milan, Rome, and Florence. They were a recipient of the 2024 International Prize Botticelli for Artistic Merit and, more recently, have been nominated for the 2025 Artist of the Year award—curated by Dr. Salvatore Russo and Dr. Francesco Russo at the Effeto Arte Foundation in Florence. In the coming months, Friedman will debut two new works with PAKS gallery at the Cannes Biennale and Art Basel Biennale, respectively.

instagram: @boyzwithapple

website: [www.boyzwithapple.com](http://www.boyzwithapple.com)

### **Benazir Ihsan**

Benazir Ihsan is a Malaysian-based performance artist who is in the process of shaping performance painting/Performance art in the Far East. Benazir uniquely combines elements of Rhythmic gymnastics, Ballet, Acting, and Contemporary dance steps



with music and songs creating dynamic artworks that reflect her physical movement and emotional expression setting her apart in the contemporary art scene.

Her early exposure to diverse artistic styles and her dual passion for rhythmic gymnastics significantly shaped her unique approach to abstract expressionism allowing her to integrate physicality and creativity in her work. Her innovative techniques not only enhance the physicality of her art but also allow her to express complex emotions through spontaneous movements, resulting in a unique visual narrative that captivates and engages viewers on multiple sensory levels.

Her artworks serve as a profound exploration of human emotions, utilizing vibrant colours and abstract forms to create a visceral connection with viewers inviting them to engage with the complexities of life through her unique artistic lens. The paintings intricately weave emotional depth into abstract forms, allowing viewers to engage with complex feelings through her vibrant colour palette and dynamic brushwork, which serve as a conduit for personal and universal experiences.

Her evolutionary performances not only challenge traditional artistic boundaries but also inspire a new generation of artists to explore interdisciplinary practices, fostering a vibrant dialogue within the contemporary art community.

Website:

Instagram: @benazirhsan2121

## **Claudia Montes**

Claudia Montes is a Barcelona-born artist whose analogue collages, stop-motion films, and illustrations explore themes of collective and individual memory, identity, and culture.



Claudia studied Arts at La Massana Escola d'Arts i Disseny School, where she developed a passion for technical experimentation and for the tactile nature of visual arts. After completing a Filmmaking degree at Ramon Llull University, she moved to London to pursue an MA in Critical Media & Cultural Studies at SOAS University, where she deepened her interest in the intersection of technology, media, and society. Her fascination with Japanese culture then led her to specialize in East Asian studies at Barcelona University. She moved to Tokyo, where she developed a unique style that blends traditional Japanese motifs with contemporary themes.

She is settled in Paris, where she works as a curator of digital and immersive art and festivals coordinator and as a freelance journalist.

Her collages and stop-motion clips are created using a combination of traditional and modern techniques, reflecting her interest in both the history of the medium and its potential for innovation. Her work has been exhibited in Tokyo, Paris, Madrid, Barcelona and L'Hospitalet.

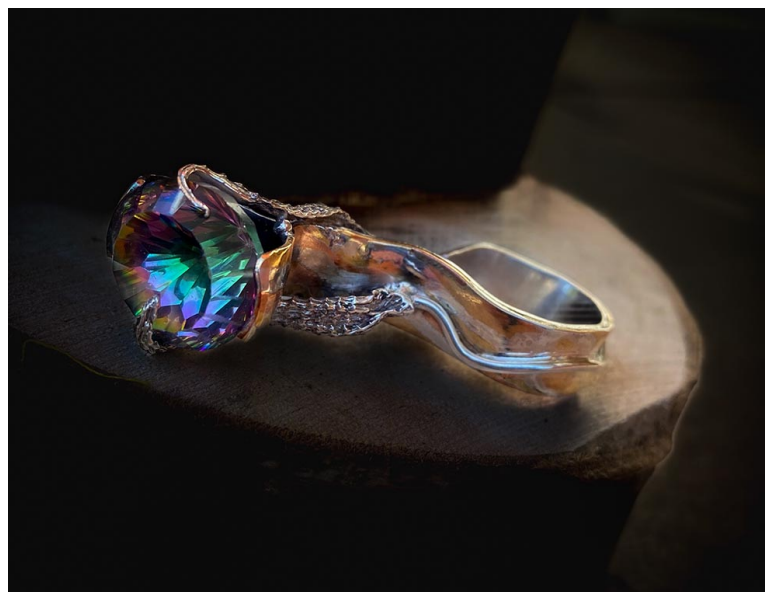
[Website](#)

[Instagram Profile](#)

## **Andrea Latorre Orfebre**

Andrea Latorre is an artist devoted to design, jewellery, and craftsmanship using different and experimental techniques and materials. She went through various fields of art, from theatre to dance.

She grew up in a family of



artists and her mother's experience as a plastic artist with a degree in fine arts led her to appreciate abstract painting, sculpture, pre-Columbian jewelry, and metal enamel. Goldsmiths managed to impress her during her adolescence, through the observation of those talented street artists and artisans.

In 2019 she began experimenting and developing her jewellery skills in her studio. In October 2022, she was invited to exhibit a few of her pieces during Milano Jewellery Week. In 2023, she participated in XIV Florence Biennale being the only Chilean artist recognized with the Lorenzo il Magnífico Award granted by the President of the jury. During 2024 she was in different cities of Europe presenting her work. In November of 2024, she participated in Chile Art Week.

Website:

Instagram: @andrealatorreorfebre

## **Carla Pugliano**

Website: <https://carlapuglianoartist.com>

Instagram: @carla\_pugliano

## **Maria Tripoli**

Instagram: @tripoli.maria.laura

## **Velimna**

Valeria Cipolli, known as Velimna, is an Italian artist and writer from Tuscany. Deeply inspired by surrealism, she sees it as both an artistic language and a way of perceiving reality with freedom and wonder. Her work explores archetypal femininity, the night, and transformation, blending ambiguity and symbolism.

Among her recent works are Lunations, a series of lunar-faced female figures symbolizing introspection and unconscious forces, and Malterity, which she will present at the Florence Biennale 2025. This collection plays with the surreal dimensions of pregnancy, exploring the emotional dualism within the womb as both a physical and symbolic space of gestation.

Alongside her visual art, she has published six books, including “Abrapalabra – Piccolo dizionario poetico”(2023), selected for the 2024 Strega Prize. Her latest book, “Do Colors Speak All Languages ?”(2024), was conceived during the previous Biennale and reflecting her deep connection between visual art and literature.

She has exhibited in solo and group shows and has received recognition in prestigious literary and artistic competitions.

Instagram: @velimna

Website: [www.velimna.com](http://www.velimna.com)