

**Haegue Yang**  
**Lacquer Paintings**  
1999 – ongoing

**Barbara Wien**  
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## Lacquer Paintings

1999-ongoing

Lacquer paintings are made of wood varnish poured on wooden panels. The process of the lacquer layers is determined by various methods. On the one hand there are compositional elements that are decided by the artist, such as the choice of matt or gloss varnish, the thickness of the lacquer layer and the choice of objects that appear in the varnish layers. The lacquer paintings *Sesame Summer-Harvest*, *Shiso Summer-Harvest*, *Sesame Summer-Harvest – thin* und *Sesame Summer-Harvest – thin dripping* include sesame and Shiso leaves of plants growing on the balcony of the artist, means that they are from the artist's immediate environment. On the other hand the production of lacquer paintings is an open process because it requires a long drying period outdoors. Meanwhile dust, insects, hair and other objects fall and get sealed in the layers of varnish. Similarly, rain affects the work production, as raindrops cause an unevenness. The result is a unique texture on the varnish surface as you can see in *Rain Gravity Mono I*. Stored tilted or leaned against the wall due to space constrain, the lacquer paintings often experience changes of the surface, it leads to bulges or wrinkles – as you can see in *Gravity Mono – Ikea Cupboard*. Here the lacquer layers are mounted on a door of an Ikea cupboard that was left after a new kitchen has been built.

The lacquer paintings are not intended to pursue the notion of painting in a classical sense, however a pictorial quality is generated. Yang employs her own extraordinary and not media-related way of working. Her works often incorporate elements that are unfamiliar and distant to her, unless she refers to her own circumstances. For Yang this process is an appropriation of objects/circumstances by observing the domestic sphere, a kind of 'domestication' – which is reoccurring in the production of lacquer paintings. The not yet dried varnish surface records the influence of these alien yet neighboring or surrounding elements over the time, thus reflecting the environment, weather, season as well as location.

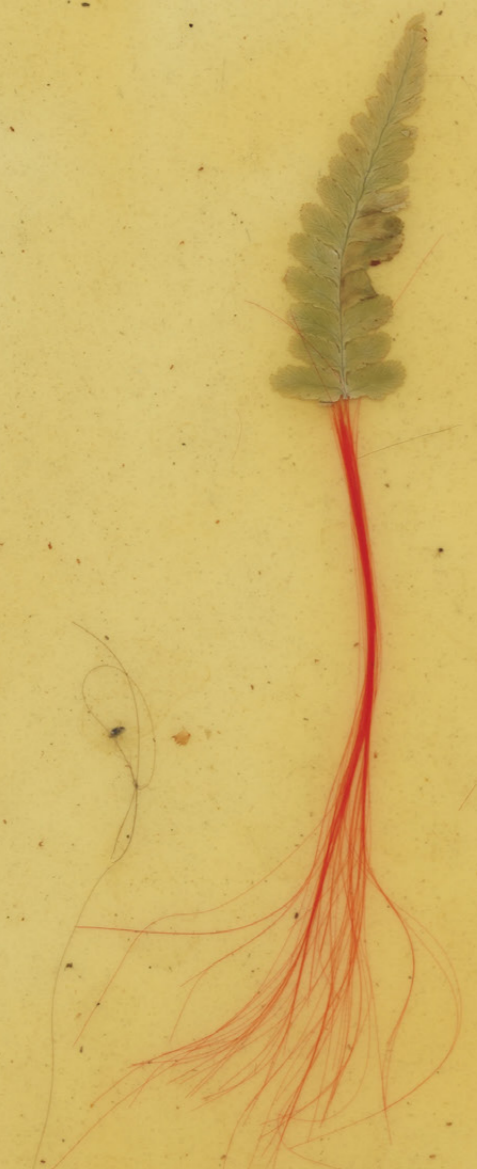
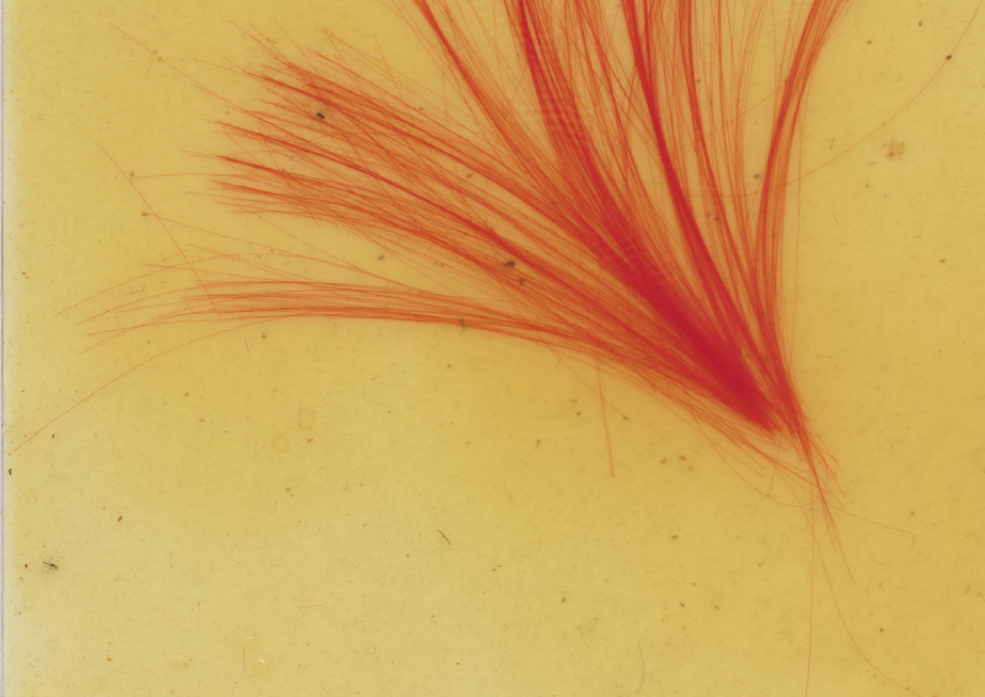


**Soaring Seedlings**

2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, found plants,  
artificial plants, wig, seeds, dust, insects, hair  
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, gefundene Pflanzen,  
künstliche Pflanzen, Perücke, Samen,  
Staub, Insekten, Haar  
60 × 60 × 2 cm

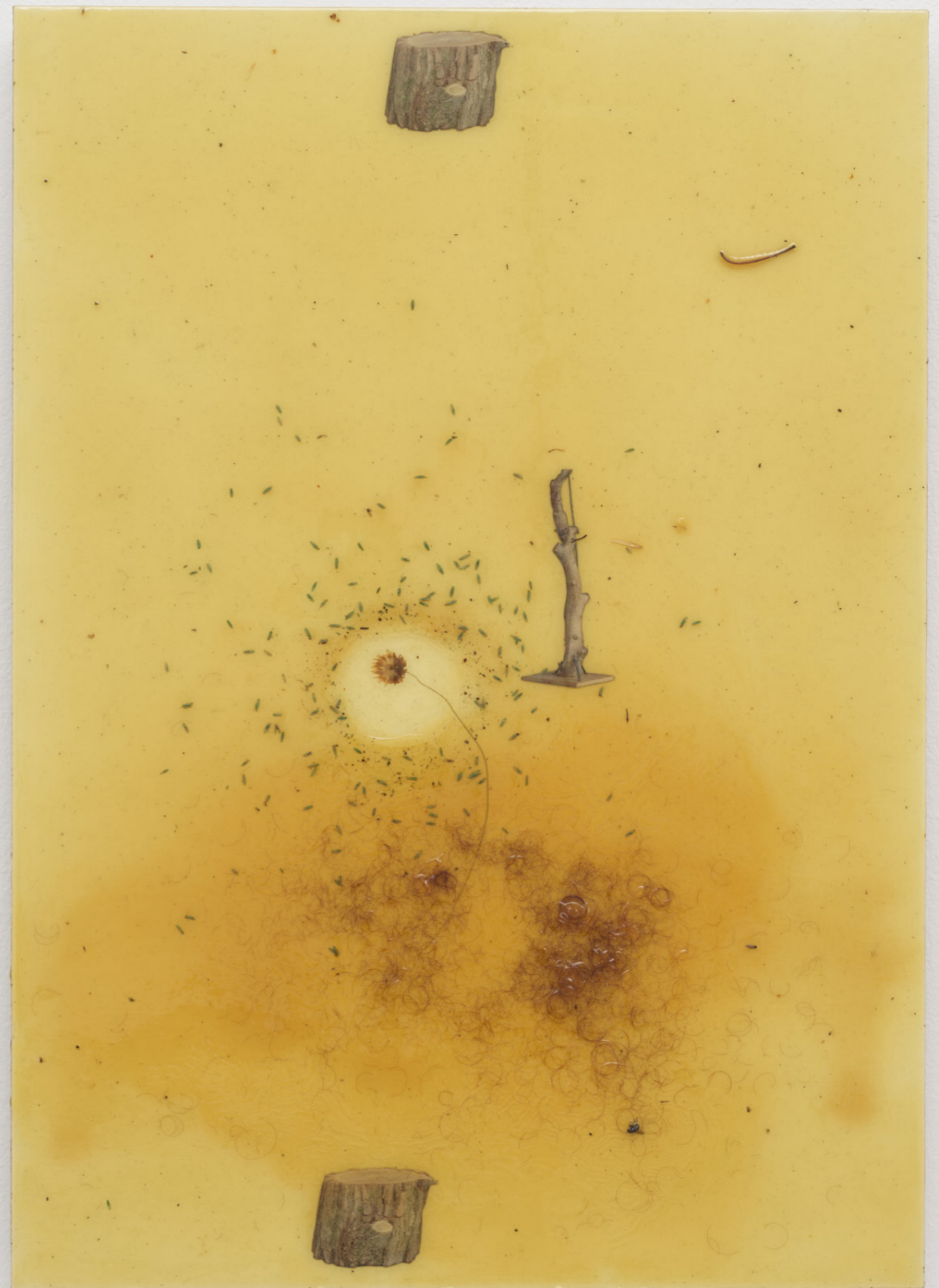


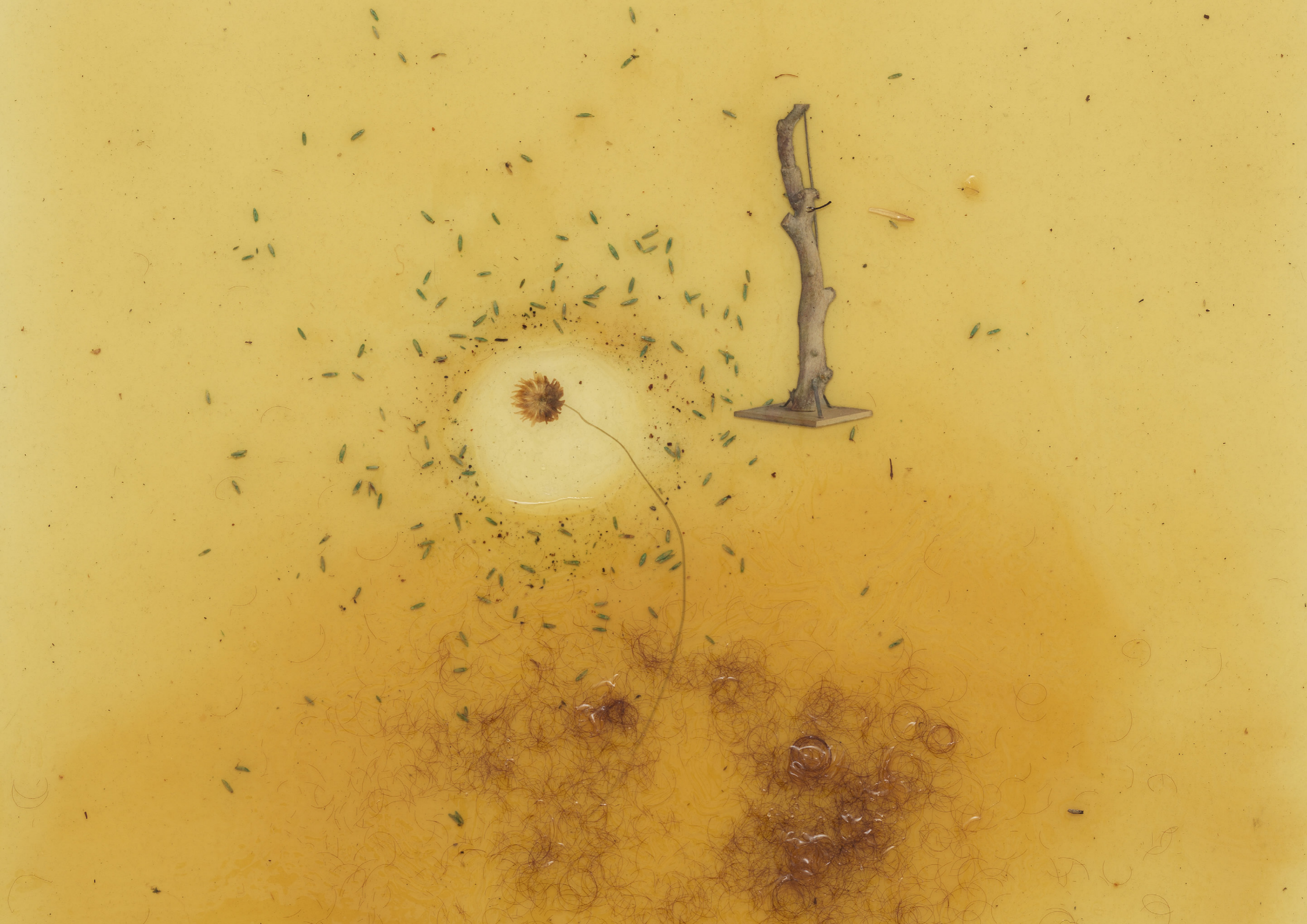


**Fuzzy Trunks**

2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, found plant,  
printed paper, wig, seeds, dust, insects, hair  
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, gefundene Pflanze,  
bedrucktes Papier, Perücke, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar  
70 × 50 × 2 cm





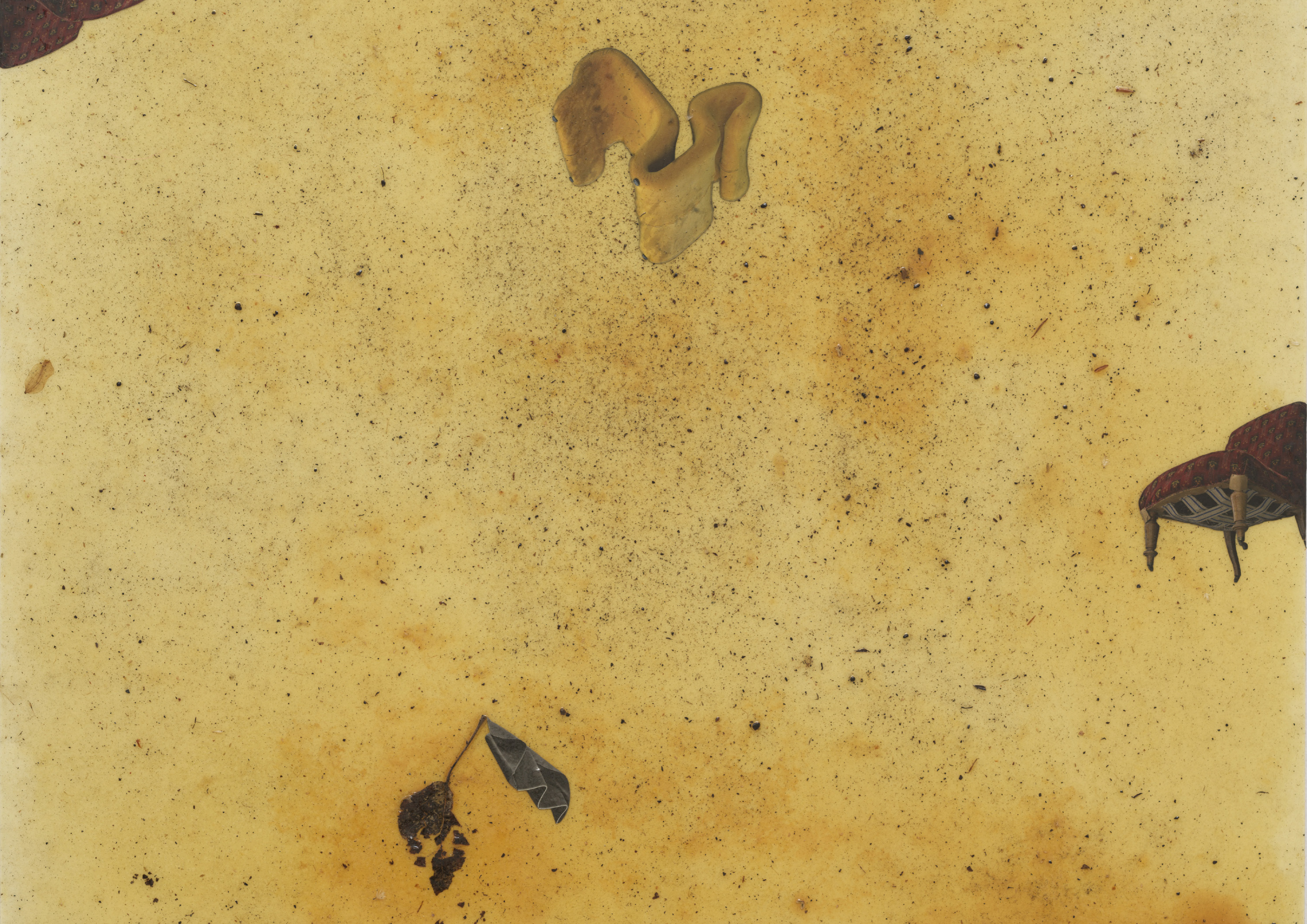
**Velvet Vacuum Cosmic Salon**

2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, printed paper,  
found plant, seeds, dust, dirt, hair

Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, bedrucktes Papier,  
gefundene Pflanze, Samen, Staub, Schmutz, Haar  
90 × 90 × 2 cm







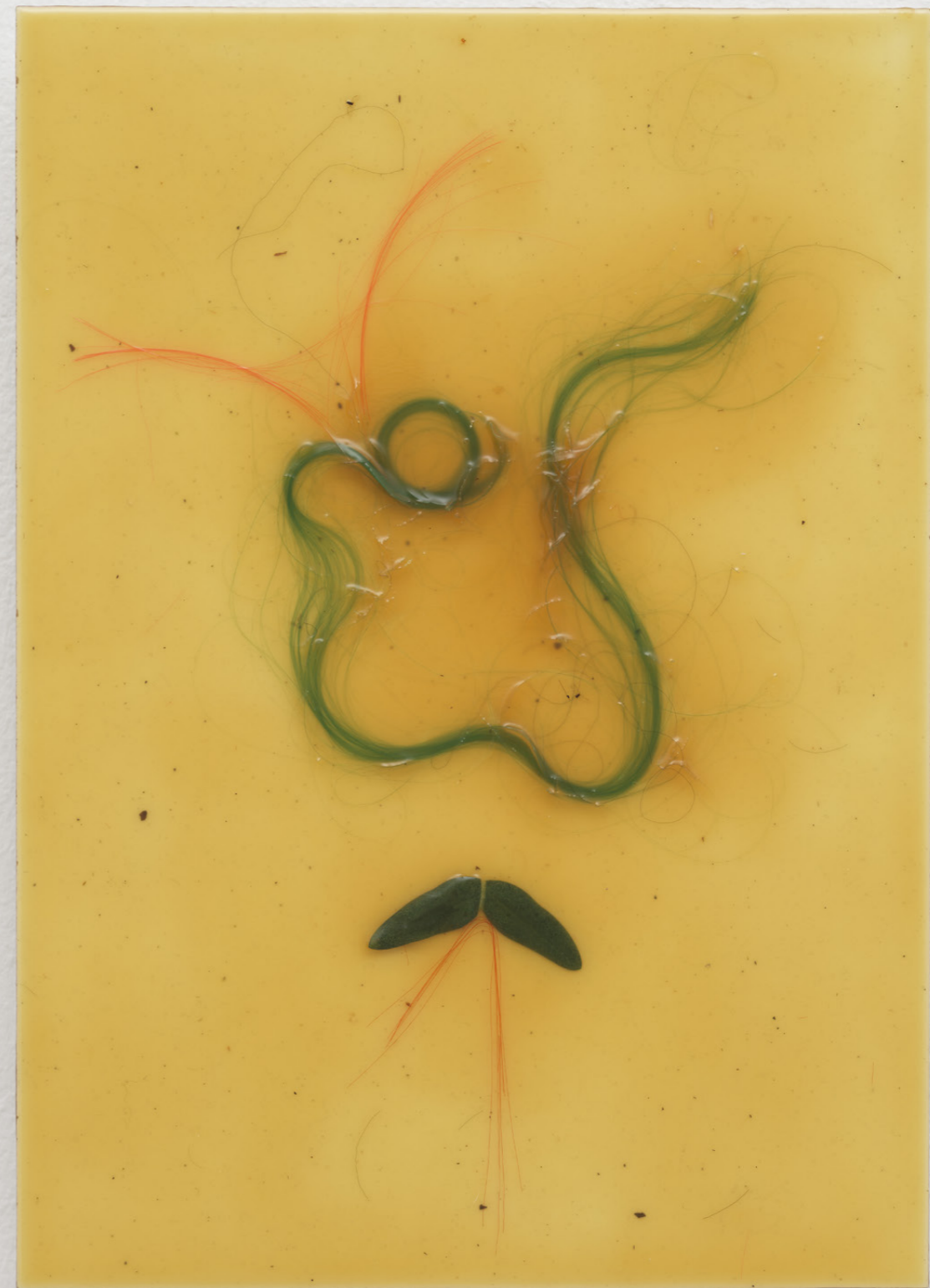
***This is Not a Mustache***

2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, wig, artificial plant,  
seeds, dust, insects, hair

Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Perücke, künstliche Pflanze,  
Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar

35 × 25 × 2 cm







Installation *Haegue Yang: Double Soul*, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen, 2022



**Blade Notations – Blade Blowing**

2019

Chipboard, wood varnish, blades, seeds, dust, insect, hair  
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Klingen, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar  
70 × 25 × 2 cm





***Blade Notations – Blade Blast and Cane***

2019

Chipboard, wood varnish, blades, found plants, dust, hair

Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Klingen, gefundene Pflanzen, Staub, Haar

35 × 25 × 2.4 cm



Installation Art Basel, Basel, 2016

***Old Twosome Crops – Sesame and Shiso***

2016

Chipboard, wood varnish, sesame leaves, shiso leaves

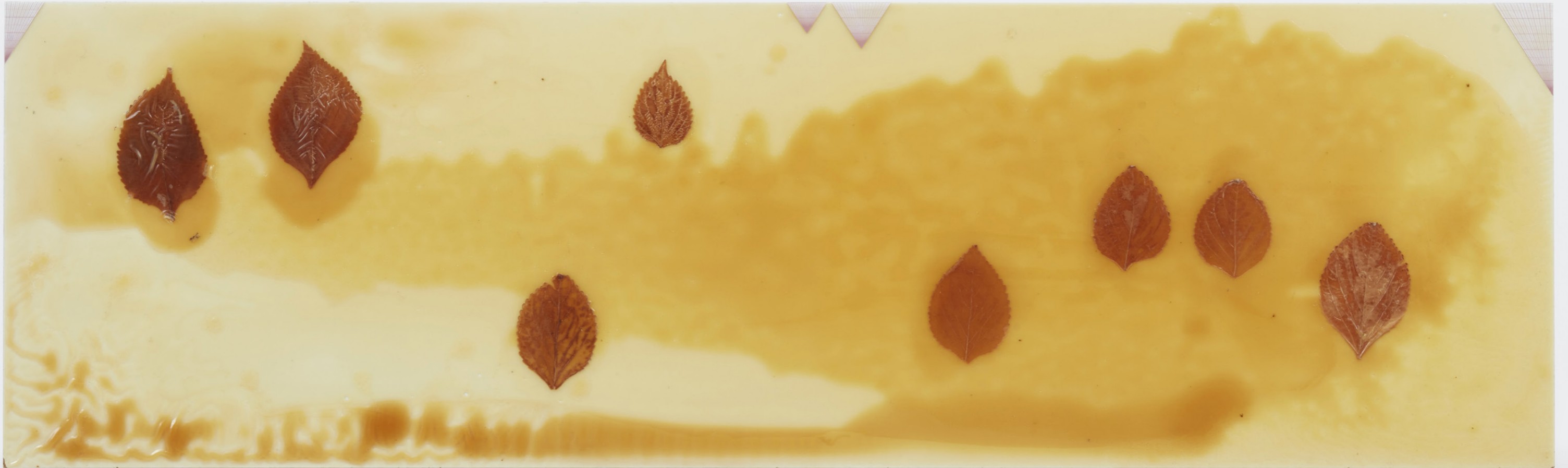
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Sesamblätter, Shisoblätter

100 × 60 cm









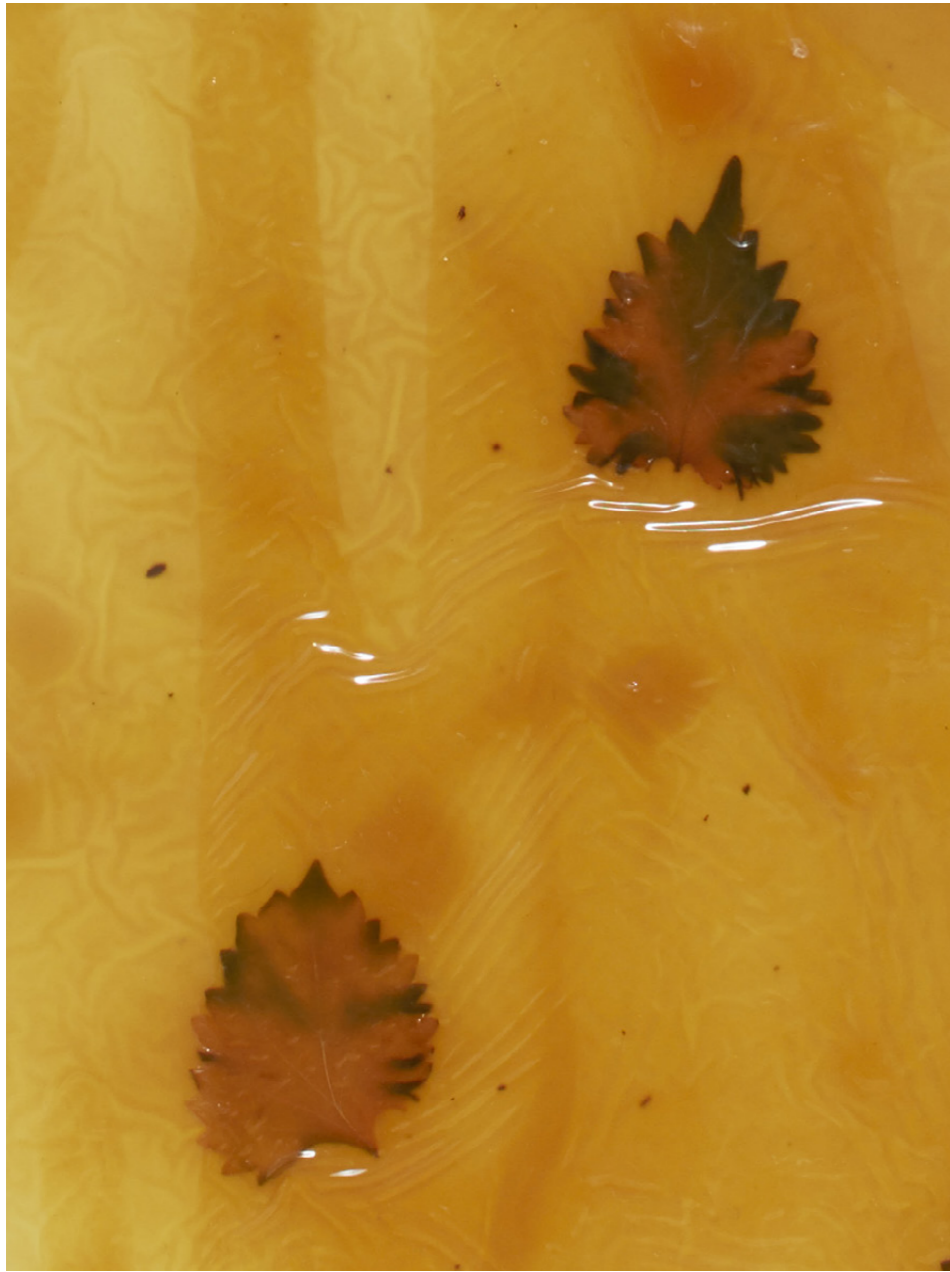
***Crocodile Tears in Riverside Woods***

2016

Chipboard, wood varnish, sesame leaves, graph paper

Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Sesamblätter, Millimeterpapier

30 × 100 cm



***Shiso Summer-Harvest***

2011

Chipboard, wood varnish, Shiso leaves

Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Shisoblätter

125 × 90 cm



**Rain Gravity Mono I**  
2011  
Chipboard, wood varnish  
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack  
125 × 90 cm



