

WILMA TABACCO | AQUA ALTA

2 AUGUST – 10 SEPTEMBER 2023

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NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

Level 1, 131 City Walk  
(next to King O'Malley's)  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Open: Wednesday – Sunday: 11 am – 5 pm.  
T+61 2 6262 8448  
Mob.+ 61 0416249102  
nancysevergallery.com.au  
[nancy.sever@inet.net.au](mailto:nancy.sever@inet.net.au)

## NANCY SEVER | GALLERY

invites you and your guest to join the artist  
at the opening of the exhibition

## WILMA TABACCO | AQUA ALTA

**Sunday 6 August 2023, 12 - 4 pm**

Open: Wed - Sun: 11am - 5 pm    Level 1, 131 City Walk, Civic  
E: [nancy.sever@iinet.net.au](mailto:nancy.sever@iinet.net.au)    (next to King O'Malley's)  
W: [nancysevergallery.com.au](http://nancysevergallery.com.au)    Canberra City, ACT. 2601  
Facebook: [nancysevergallery](https://www.facebook.com/nancysevergallery)    T: +61 2 6262 8448  
Instagram: [@nancysevergallery](https://www.instagram.com/nancysevergallery)    M: +61 0416 249 102

Exhibition closes 10 September 2023.  
*Wilma Tabacco, Aqua alta #2, 2023,*  
acrylic, pigment on wood panel, 50 x 40 cm.



## **Artist's statement**

### ***Aqua Alta***

Coloured abstract forms (or sometimes lines) on tinted fields are my equivalents for words that express ideas I cannot articulate in logical or rational ways.

My thoughts float on turbulent seas, traverse well-trodden historical ground and glide over geographical sites searching for evidence that might link the past with the here and now to which I always return. Constructive clues steeped within ambiguity are my preferred means for giving substance to what can only be imagined and not witnessed.

The works in this *Aqua Alta* exhibition are colourful explorations of places to which I am personally and emotionally connected: places that have been endlessly shaped and re-shaped by humans and by nature's forces in ways yet to be fully understood.

Wilma Tabacco

2023

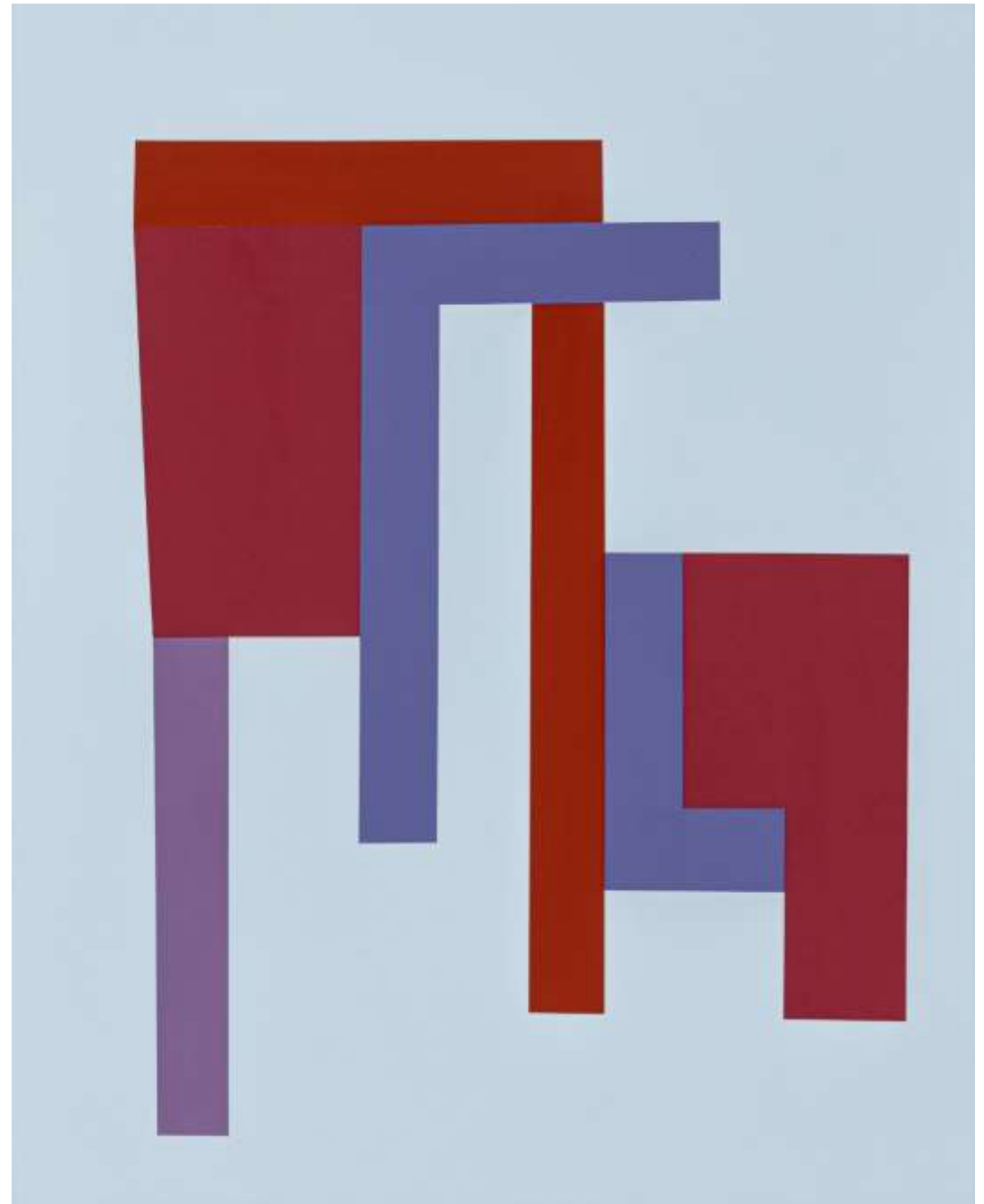
WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 1*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

50 x 40 cm

\$4,800



WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 2*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

50 x 40 cm

\$4,800



WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 3*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

50 x 40 cm

\$4,800



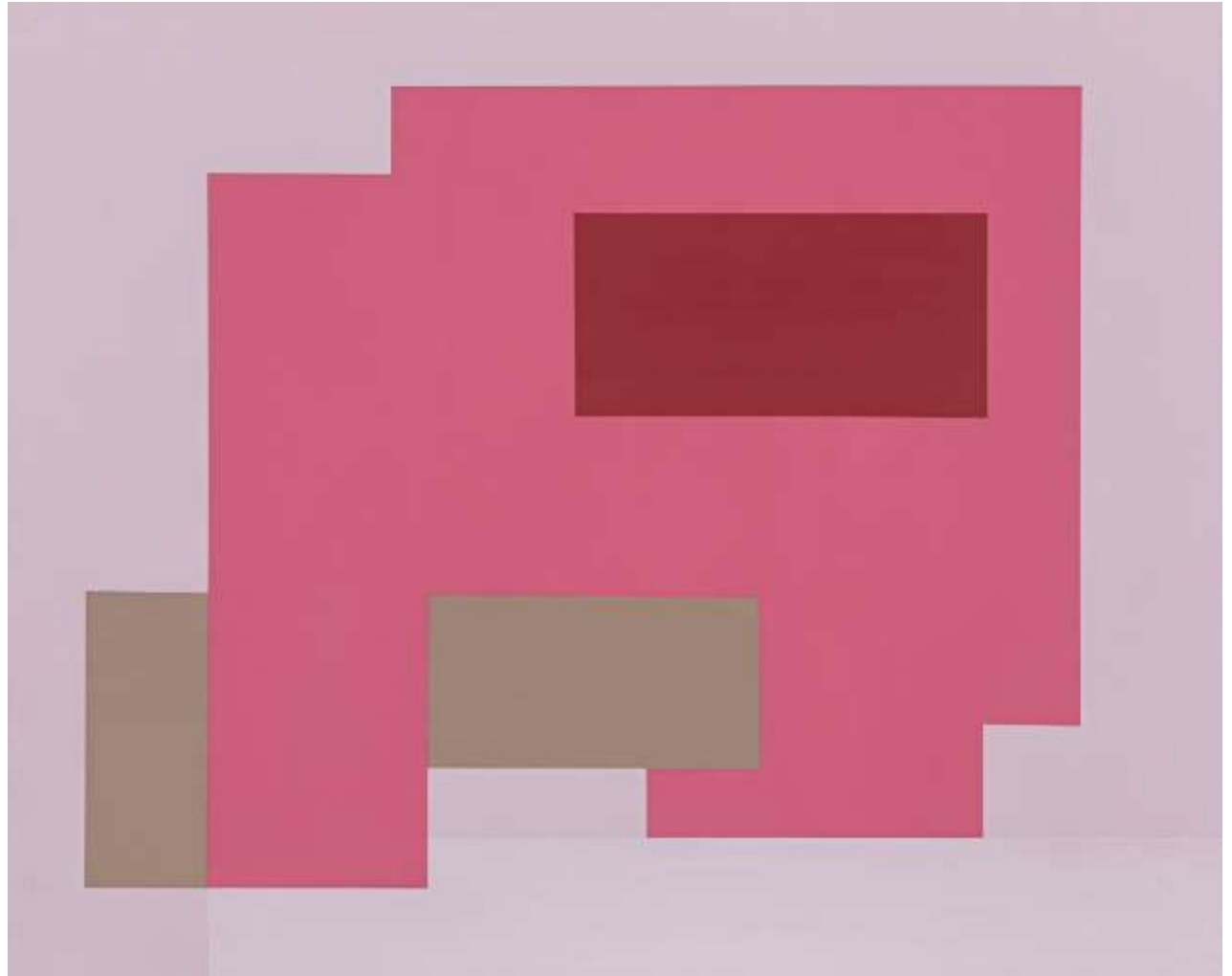
WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 4*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

40 x 45 cm

\$4,800





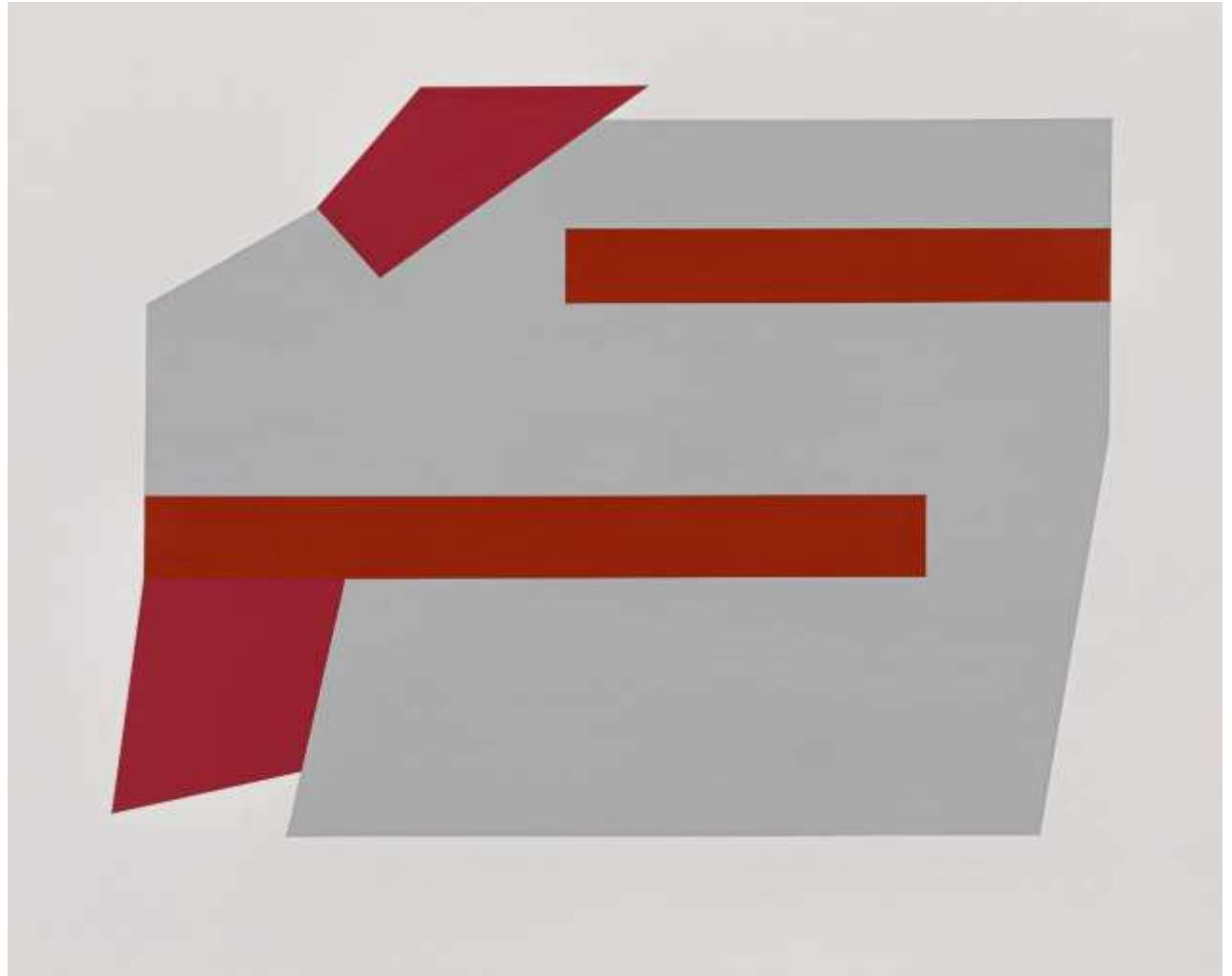
WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 5*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

40 x 45 cm

\$4,800



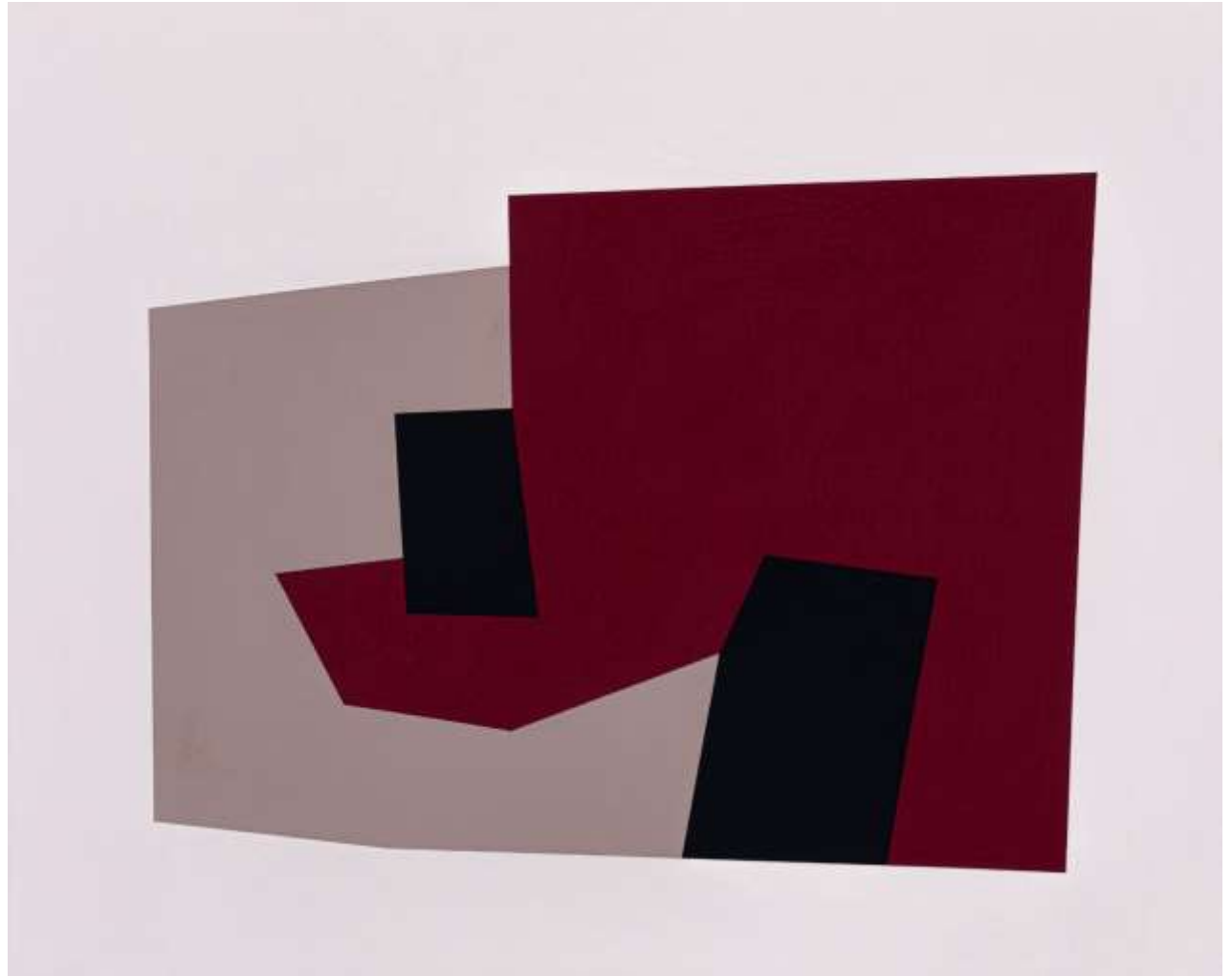
WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 6*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,

40 x 50 cm

\$4,800

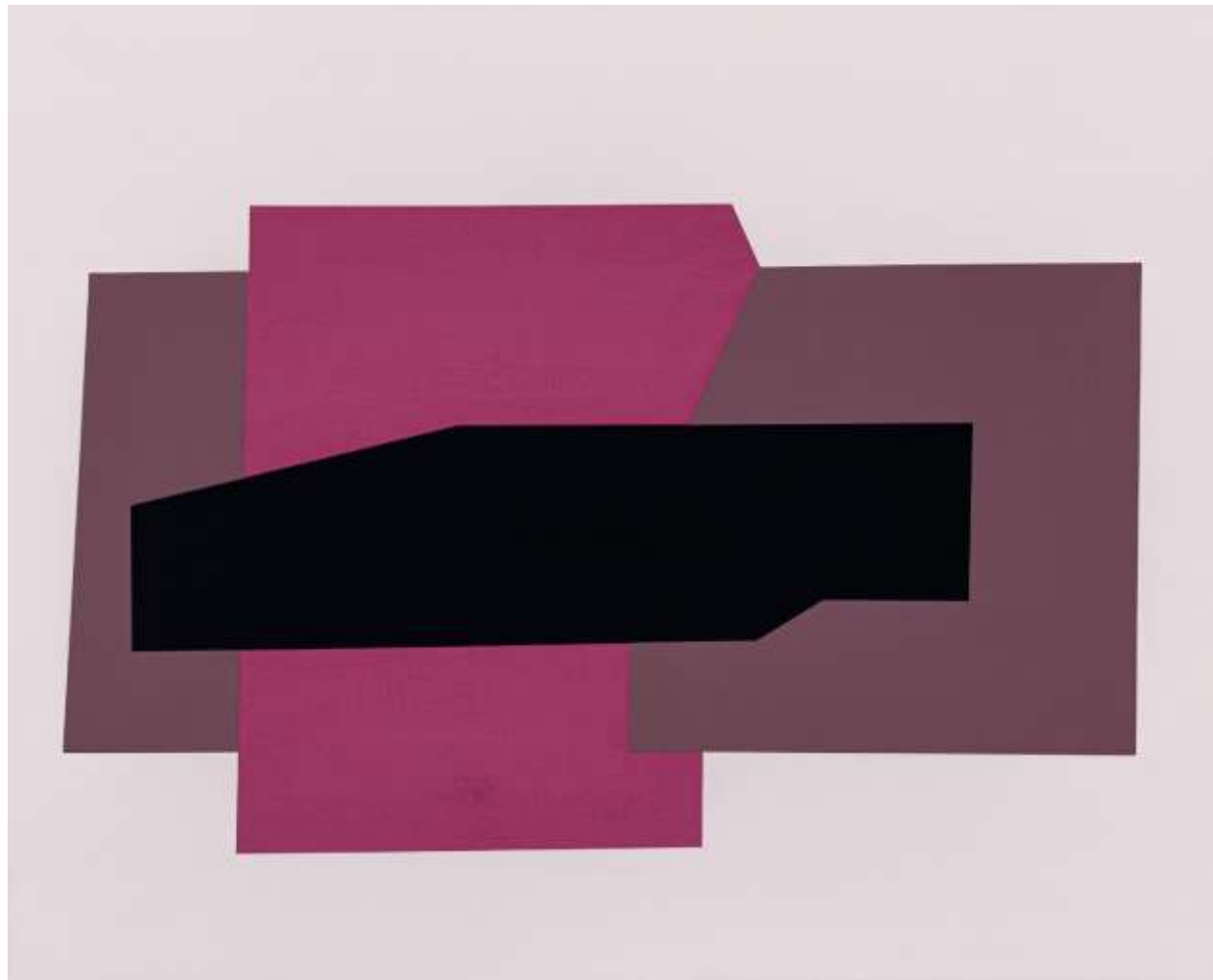


WILMA TABACCO

*Aqua Alta 7*, 2023

acrylic, pigment on wood panel,  
40 x 50 cm

\$4,800



WILMA TABACCO

*Campus Martius (Field of Mars #1)*, 2019,  
oil on linen,  
100 X 100 CM

\$14,000



WILMA TABACCO

*Campus Martius (Field of Mars #2)*, 2019,  
oil on linen,  
100 X 100 CM

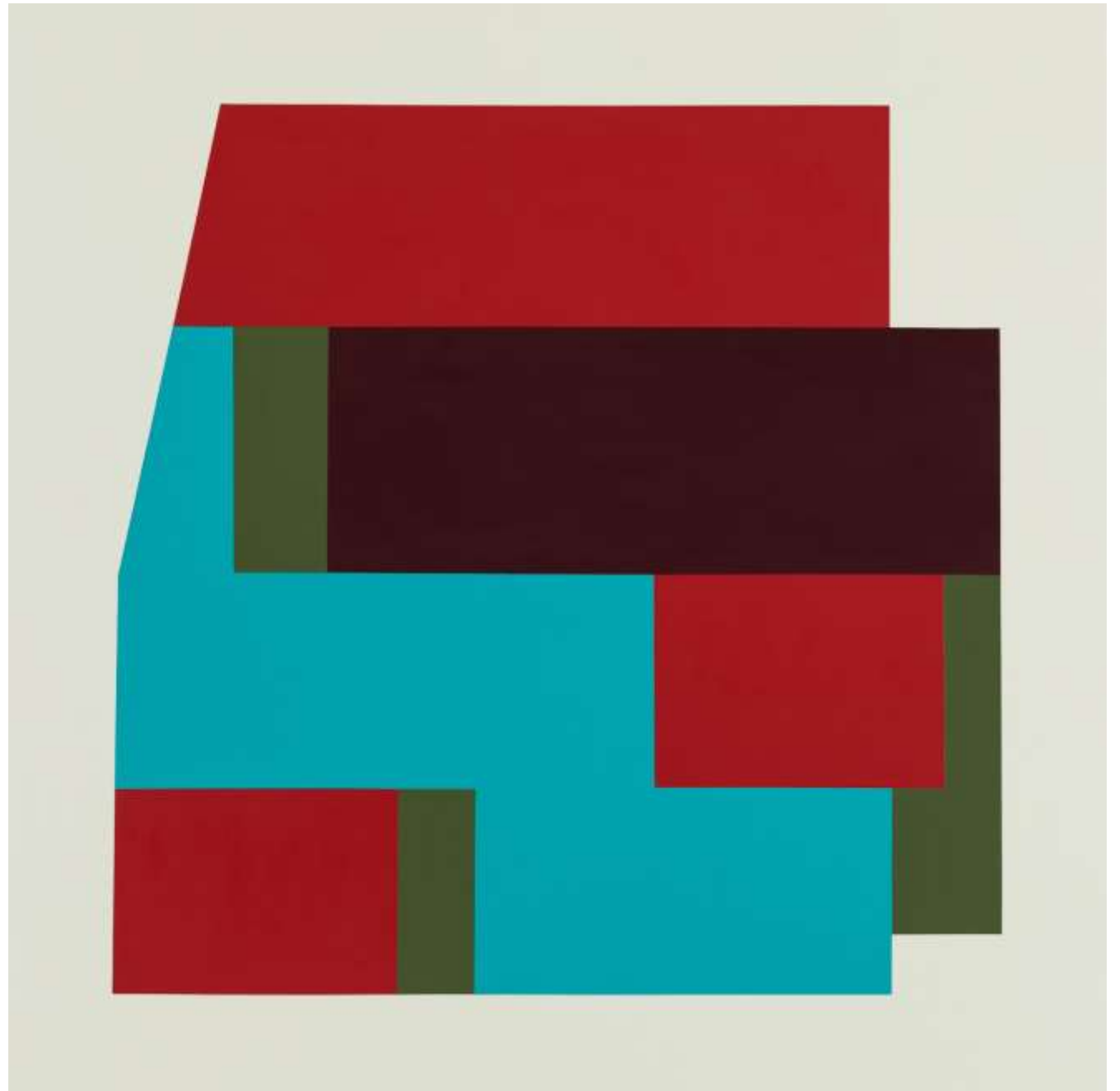
\$14,000



WILMA TABACCO

*Campus Martius (Field of Mars #3)*, 2019,  
oil on linen,  
100 X 100 CM

\$14,000



WILMA TABACCO

*Campus Martius (Field of Mars #4)*, 2019,  
oil on linen,  
100 X 100 CM

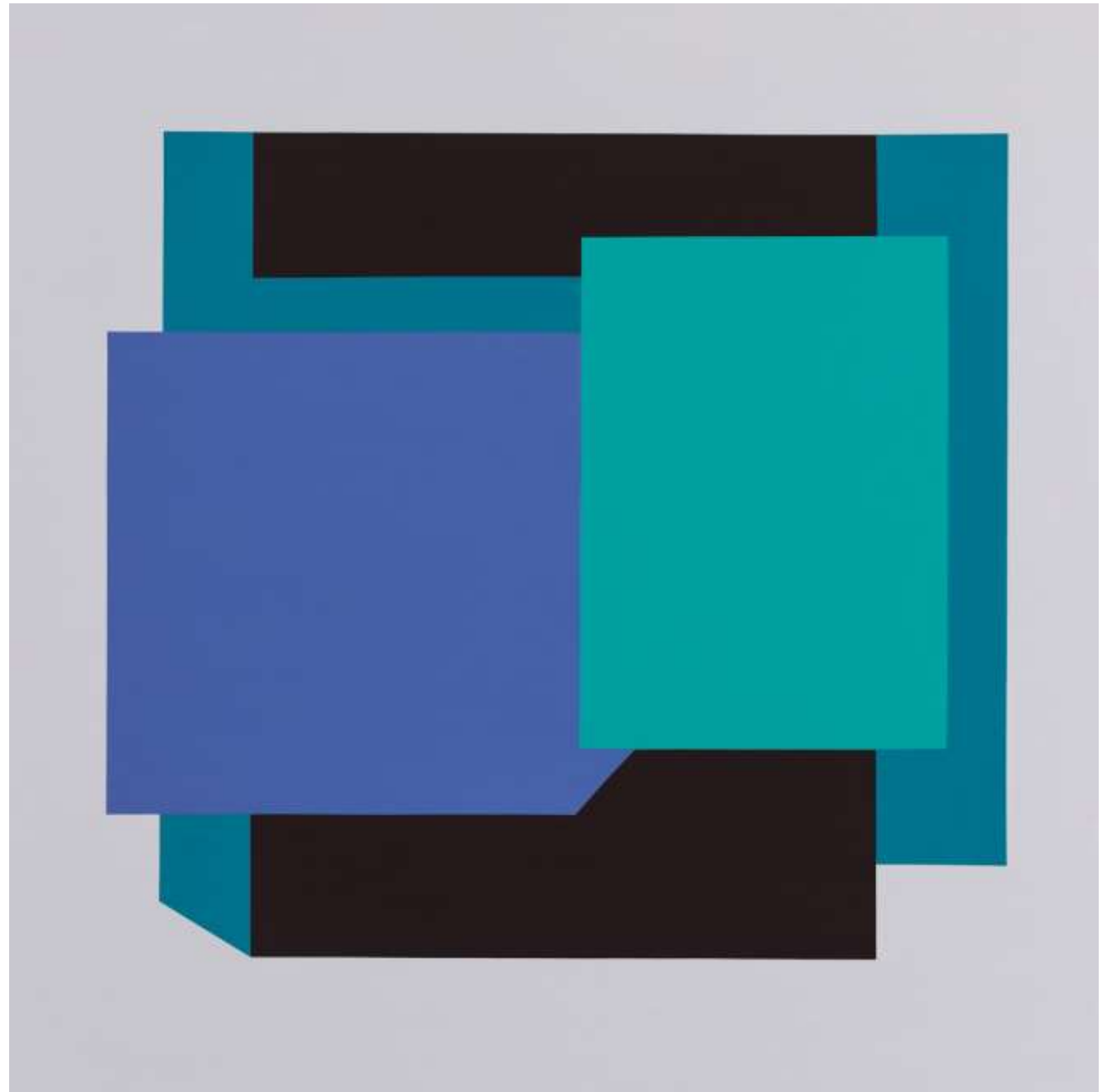
\$14,000



WILMA TABACCO

*Campus Martius (Field of Mars #7, 2019,*  
oil on linen,  
100 X 100 CM

\$14,000





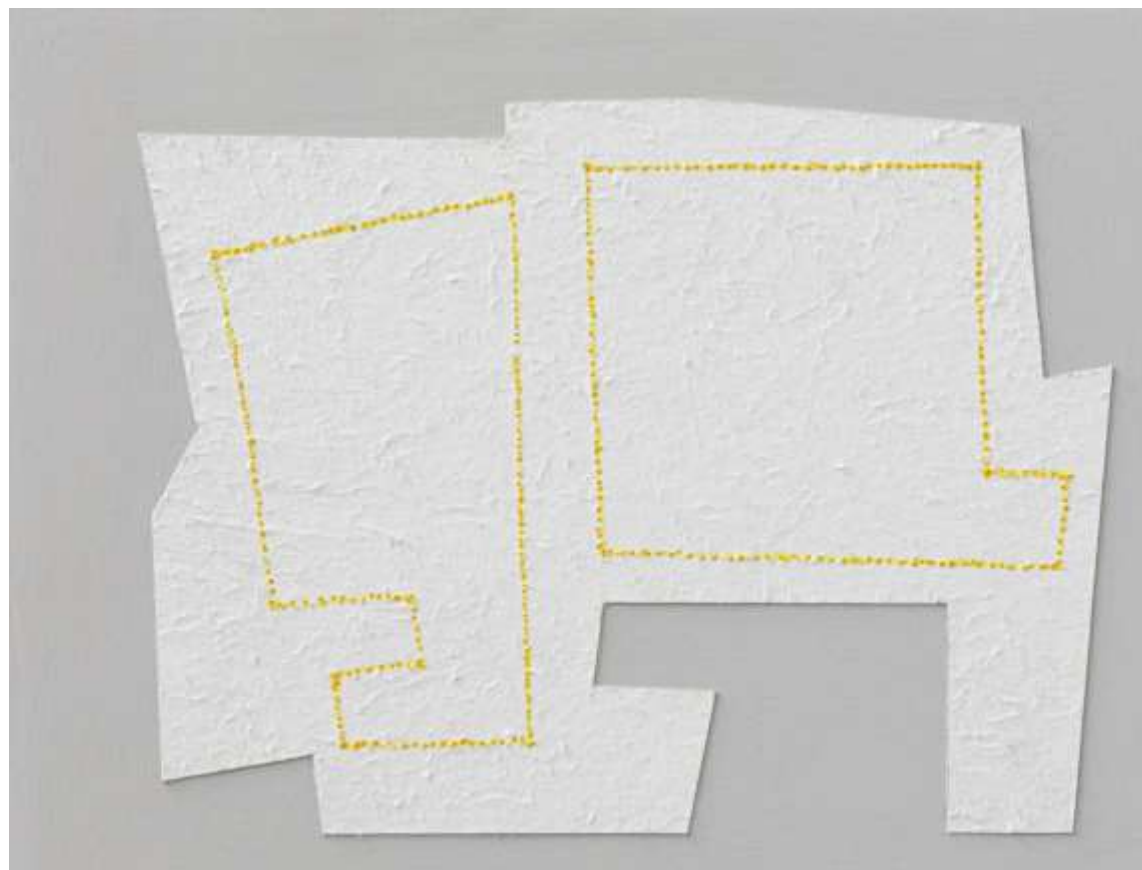
## WILMA TABACCO

*No Trace 1, 2023,*

acrylic, paper on wood panel

22.5 x 30 cm

\$2,500



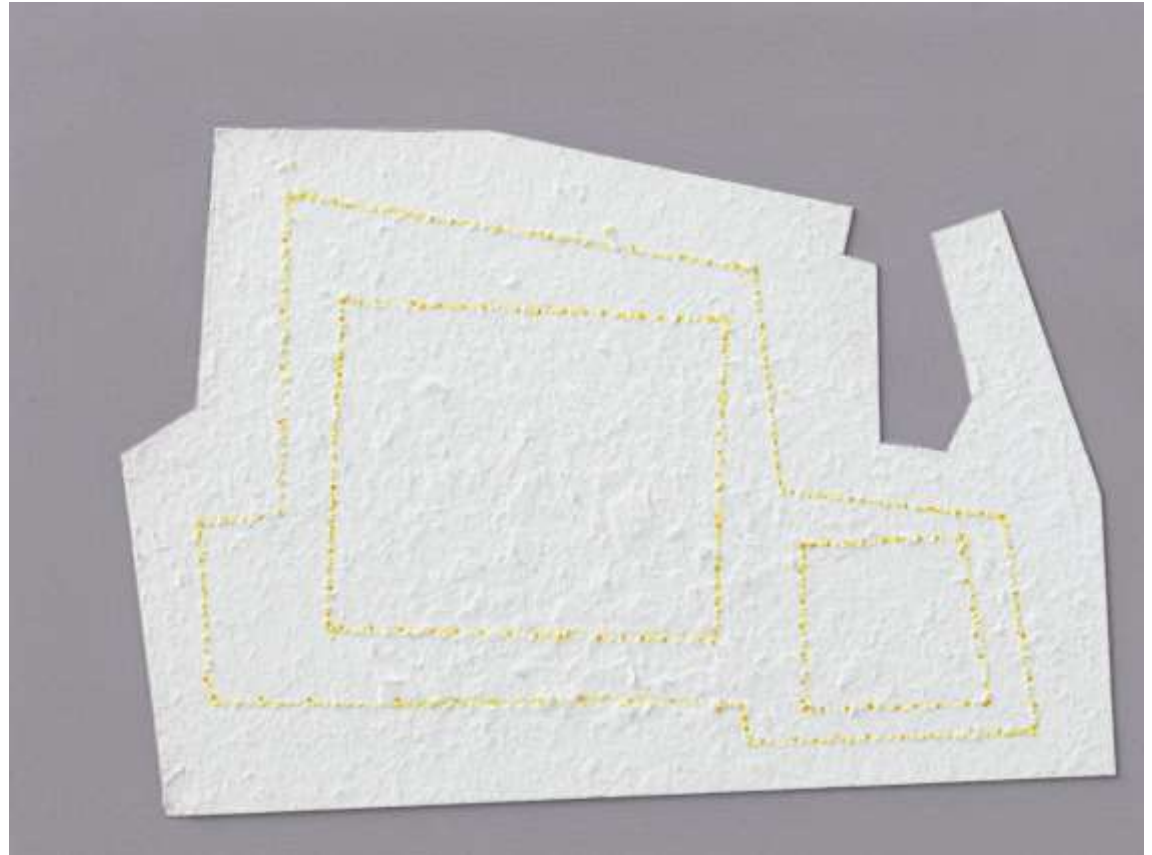
## WILMA TABACCO

*No Trace 2, 2023,*

acrylic, paper on wood panel

22.5 x 30 cm

\$2,500



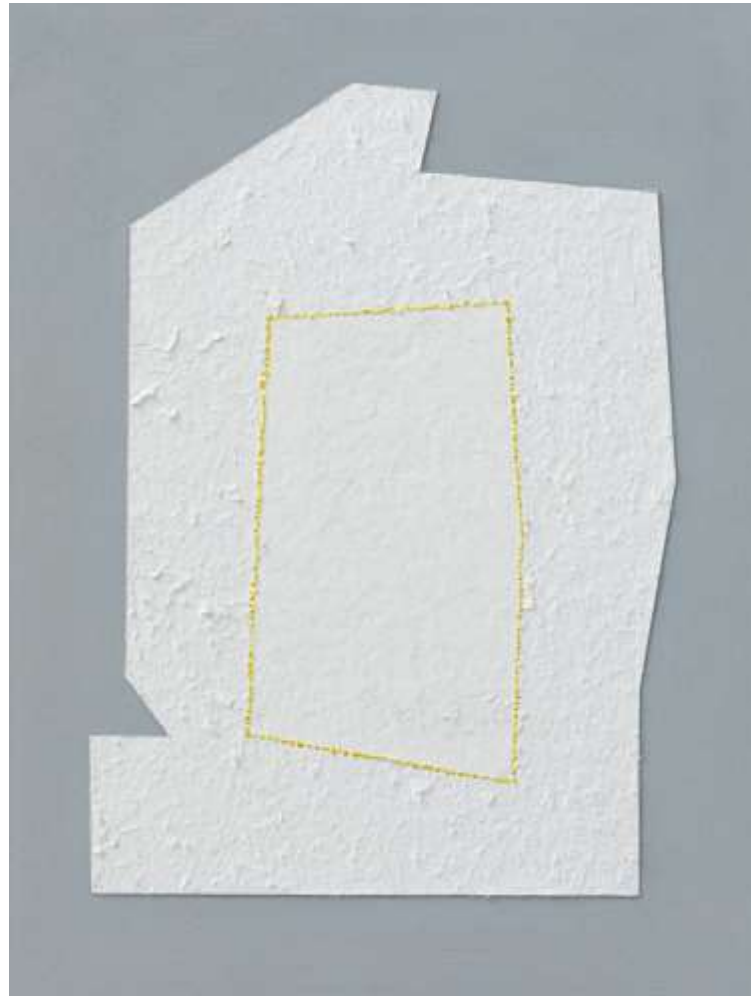
## WILMA TABACCO

*No Trace 3, 2023,*

acrylic, paper on wood panel

30 cm x 22.5 cm

\$2,500



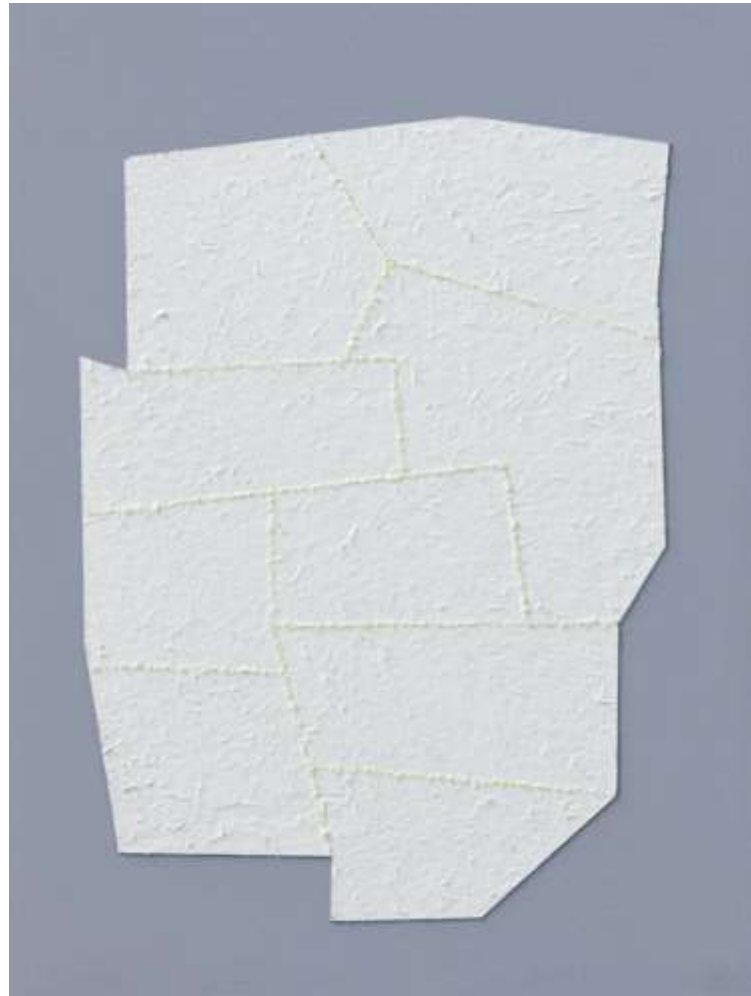
## WILMA TABACCO

*No Trace 4, 2023,*

acrylic, paper on wood panel

30 cm x 22.5 cm

\$2,500



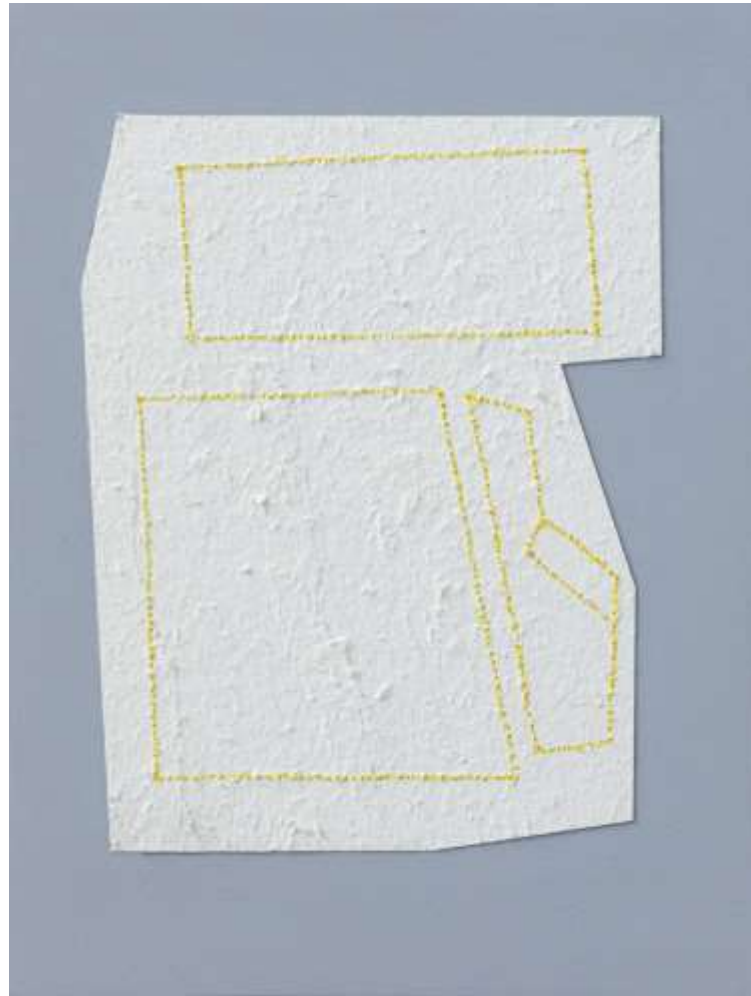
## WILMA TABACCO

*No Trace 5, 2023,*

acrylic, paper on wood panel

30 cm x 22.5 cm

\$2,500



## **Wilma Tabacco**

### **Biographical details**

Wilma Tabacco was born in the province of L'Aquila, Italy and has lived in Australia since childhood. She received a Bachelor of Commerce from Melbourne University in 1972 and Diploma of Education in 1973. In 1979 she undertook a Diploma of Fine Art at Phillip Institute, Melbourne and whilst lecturing in painting and drawing at the University of Melbourne, continued studies at RMIT University where she completed a Master of Arts in 1995 and a PhD in 2006. Wilma has lectured variously in painting, drawing and printmaking at the University of Melbourne, Canberra School of Arts and at RMIT as part of the international programme in Hong Kong and in Melbourne.

She has received several grants from the Australia Council Visual Arts and Craft Board including a studio residency in Italy and has also worked and exhibited in Seoul as the recipient of an Asialink residency in Korea.

In 2011 she, together with Dr Irene Barberis, established Langford120, a contemporary gallery space that closed in 2018 but still initiates occasional projects.

In 2018 Wilma commenced conducting workshops in colour and composition for The Art Room, Footscray. She also presented several Zoom lectures on abstract art and art interpretation.

Wilma has presented 46 solo exhibitions since 1988, in Australia, Italy and Korea and participated in over 240 group exhibitions, including *Parallel Visions, Co.As.It* (Museo Italiano), Carlton, (2020) *Geometries*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane (2019), *The Great Sea*, Glasshouse Regional Gallery, Port Macquarie, NSW (2018), *Abstraction: celebrating Australian women abstract artists*, Geelong Gallery, Victoria, Tweed Heads Regional Gallery, NSW, Cairns Regional Gallery, Qld, Newcastle Regional Gallery, (2017-18), NSW, *Contemporary Australian Drawing 3*, New York Studio School, New York, *Crossing the Line: Drawing in the Middle East*, Tashkeel Gallery, Dubai, *NONOBJECTIVE – present*, Langford120, Melbourne, *Contemporary Australian Drawing 2*, Wimbledon SPACE, London, Melbourne, *Arthur Guy Memorial Painting Prize 09*, Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria, *Drawing of the World/World of Drawing*, Museum of Art, Seoul National University, Korea, *Regards Croises: Australie – France*, Espace Beaurepaire, Paris, France, *Good Vibrations*, Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne, *Painted Spaces*, Rice-Talbert Museum, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, New Gallery, New Zealand, ACCA, Melbourne, *People of Australia-Richness in Diversity: Identity Art*, Australian Museum, Sydney & touring Asia, Philippines, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand & South Korea (1999); *Works on Paper*, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea, *Propositions Australiennes*, Galerie Luc Queyrel, Paris, France, *Patterning*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Manila; Regional Philippines tour, Jakarta, Indonesia; Canberra School of Art Gallery, Silpakorn University Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand, Singapore Art Museum, *James McCaughey Memorial Prize*, National Gallery of Victoria, *Il Disegno Ritrovato*, Salone San Francesco, Como, Italy, *Rediscovery: Australian Artists in Europe, 1982-92*, World Expo, Seville, Spain.

Her works are included in many national and state collections including NGA, NGV, MOMA at Heide, Artbank, private collections in Australia, U.S.A. and Europe.

Her work has been reviewed comprehensively including, <http://www.theage.com.au/act-news/canberra-life/review-of-wilma-tabacco-scylla-and-charybdis-at-nancy-sever-gallery-20160317-gni1dk.html> and 2013: J. McKenzie, <http://www.studiointernational.com/index.php/wilma-tabacco-gilt-edge>, *Gilt Edge*, Catalogue essay, Sophia Errey. Publications and reviews include: B. Ferrara, 'Cercare nell'arte ciò che non si vede', *Il Globo*, January 7, 2021, P. McKay & E. Buttrose, 'Geometries', *Artlines*, QAG, 2019, Janet Mckenzie, *Contemporary Australian Drawing, Volume 1*, Palgrave Macmillan, Melbourne, 2012, R Nelson, 'Geometric Gems with Kinetic Jives', *The Age*, February 8, 2012, Soo-Hong Jhang, *Drawing of the World/World of Drawing*, exhibition catalogue, Museum of Art, Seoul National University, 2009, G G Hubbard, 'Arte, cultura, identità, simbolismo e creatività', *Il Globo*, July 20, 2009, S Grishin, 'Discipline and chaos', *Canberra Times*, August 24, 2009, S Grishin, 'Colourful sweeps', *Canberra Times*, November 23, 2007, C. Green, *Artforum International* (1992), *Art Now: Contemporary Art Post-1970*, (1996).

She has recorded interviews, videos and podcasts for radio, television and online platforms locally and overseas including: *Saluti dai Paesi Fantasma*, 2019, <https://vimeo.com/345871398>

Glasshouse Regional Gallery, Port Macquarie, May 2018, *The Great Sea*: <https://vimeo.com/album/5177988>

Out of Place <https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/2021-Victorian-Seniors-Festival-Reimagined/articles/Women-Arts-and-Activism-Episode-4>

Eleven exhibition catalogues have been published on her work.

Wilma lives and works in Melbourne