A close-up photograph of a dark, textured sculpture, possibly made of metal or stone. The sculpture features a large, irregular white hole in the center. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the rough, pitted surface of the material.

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# **Nagi Gianni** portfolio 2024

# ARTIST STATEMENT

My artistic work is rooted in the exploration of forms, movements, and representations of the body. Through sculptural, installation-based, and performative pieces, I examine the vulnerabilities and alienations inherent to the human experience, particularly in its confrontation with otherness. Metamorphosis becomes a space for emancipation, redefining the relationships between the intimate and the external, interiority and visibility.

The hybridization of mediums is central to my practice: sculpture and performance intersect and enrich one another. My sculptural works, created from body casts and fragments, capture targeted tensions and postures, engaging in dialogue with the living body. Masks and prosthetics serve as artifices to push the boundaries of the body, exploring its potential mutations. I work with both organic and synthetic materials—resin, plaster, latex, silicone, synthetic hair—through processes of modeling, casting, and texture creation. The insertion of hair and the use of patinas heighten the impression of a transitional body, oscillating between realism and disfigurement.

Situated within a lineage where metamorphosis and distortion—from Francis Bacon to Rebecca Horn—question the porosity of the living, my work draws on an imaginary world populated by animals, ghostly figures, and cyborgs. These figures in becoming, in the Deleuzian sense, challenge societal and corporeal norms, inviting an exploration of dimensions such as desire, dreams, and the invisible, in an effort to transcend the rationalizing and positivist frameworks of Western thought.

Nagi Gianni



**Body Rising**

2024 / sculpture-installation / acrylic resin, fiberglass, pigments, woods / 110 x 200 x 160 cm  
open studio Atelier Genève, Wiesenstrasse 29 - Berlin



**Body Rising**  
(details)

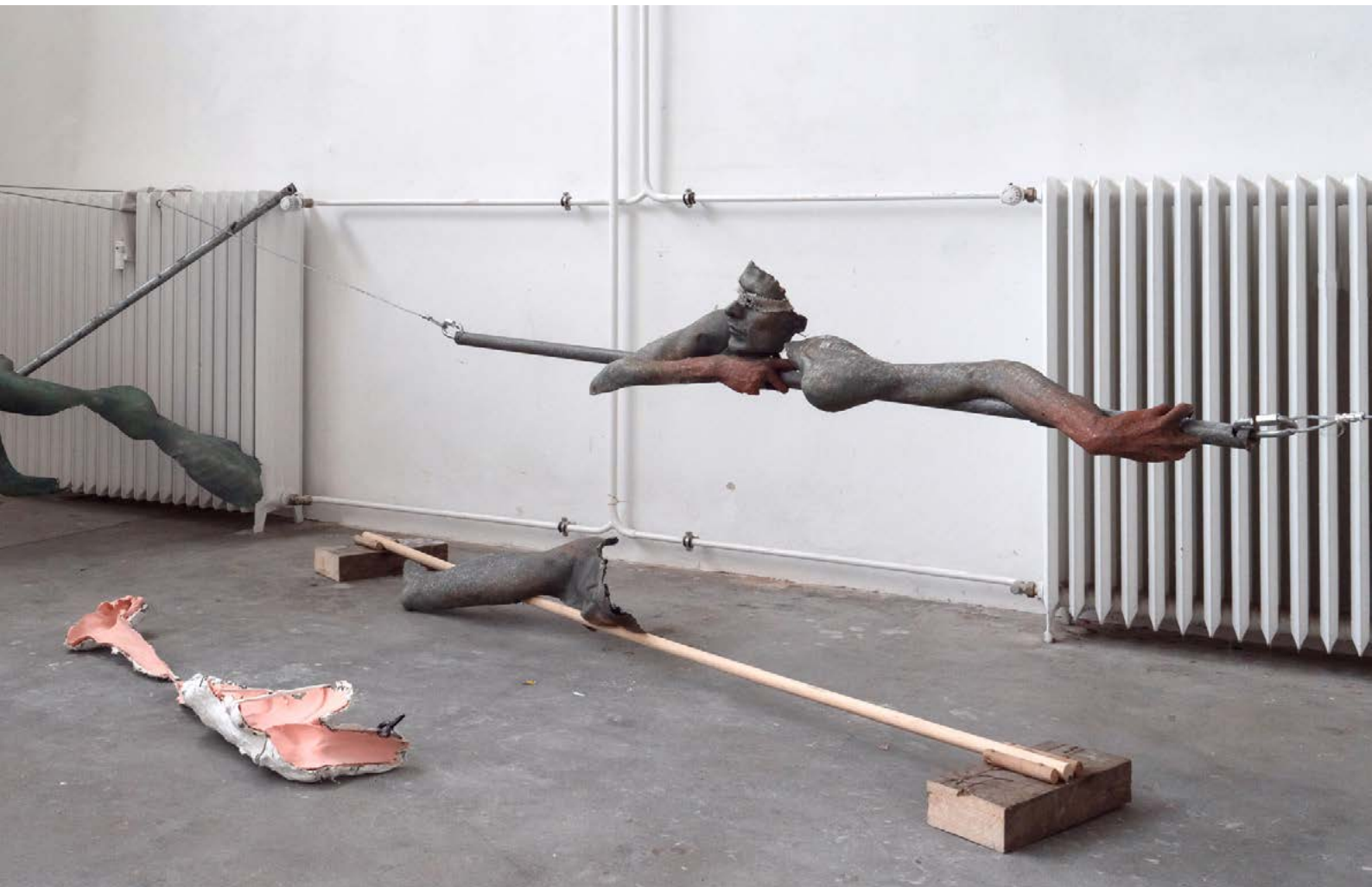


***The More You Pull***

2024 / sculpture-installation / acrylic resin, fiberglass, pigments, fabric, fence feet / 255 x 100 x 65 cm  
open studio Atelier Genève, Wiesenstrasse 29 - Berlin



***The More You Pull***  
(details)



***Figures On Sticks***

2024 / sculpture-installation / acrylic resin, fiberglass, pigments, steel bars / variable dimensions  
open studio Atelier Genève, Wiesenstrasse 29 - Berlin



***Figures On Sticks***  
(details)





***Climbing A Dive***

2024 / sculpture-installation / acrylic resin, fiberglass, metallic pigments, steel bar / 40 x 40 x 150 cm  
*Zabriske Point - Genève*



**Guardians**

2024 / wearable sculpture / silicon, pigments, synthetic hair and fur / 30 x 10 x 20 cm

Galerie Amarrage - Paris

# ***ECLIPSES***

performance / 45 min / 2023

co-created with ReveRso and Isabelle Chladek aka Yotta Baka

co-produced with the Centre d'Art Contemporain de Genève, Flux Laboratory Genève

ECLIPSES is the first performance created by the trio Glitters of Darkness (ReveRso, Nagi Gianni, Yotta Baka). The piece takes on contemporary grotesque elements to rise against the failures of a society obsessed with perfect appearance and transparency. The work explores the theme of the body through the lenses of aging, mortality, gender, and resilience. In a movement oscillating between pain and pleasure, the bodies, both imprisoned and fortified, undergo a series of rituals that stretch them far beyond traditional limits, reaching the extreme, exhaustion. Isolated yet united, they silently express their unquenchable desire to exist.

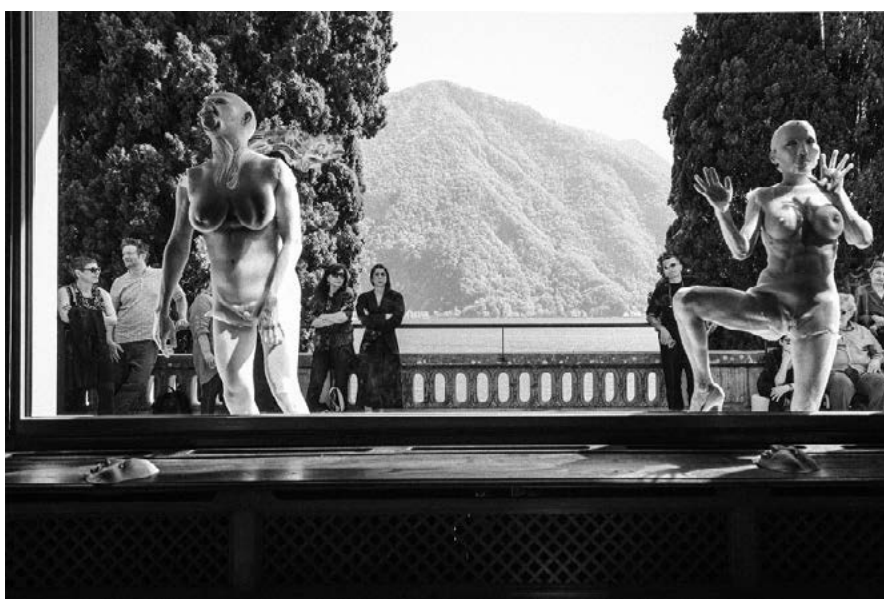
creation, masks, prosthetic bodies, costumes, set design:  
Nagi Gianni / Creation, performance, and choreography: ReveRso / Creation, performance: Yotta Baka (Isabelle Chladek) / Sound universe: Mad Kate / Lighting: Thibault Villard / Wigs: Katrine Zingg

production: Cie Folledeparole, Cie Hyena / Executive production: Ars Longa / Co-production: Centre d'Art Contemporain de Genève / Supported by: City of Geneva, Loterie Romande, Ernst Göhner Foundation, Flux Laboratory

<https://vimeo.com/1036525510>  
password: glitter



*performance at Bally Foundation, Lugano*



*performance at Bally Foundation, Lugano*



***L'Agonie de l'Eros***

2022 / acrylic resin, fiberglass, pigments, acrylic paint, synthetic hair, fabric, wood, LED ring / 400 x 400 x 85 cm - Bourses BLCG, *Centre d'Art Contemporain - Genève*



*L'Agonie de l'Eros*  
(details)

## ***Still Crashing***

performance-installation / 70 min / 2022

co-produced with Arsenic – Centre d'Art Scénique Contemporain Lausanne, Théâtre de l'Usine  
x ANTIGEL x Fonderie Kugler, Geneva

After a vehicle crash in the desert, time stops, and a temporal rift opens, at a distance from our world. Between life and death, its crew of displaced and disoriented beings reincarnates as half-human, half-hyena creatures, close to a fantasized state of nature to be re-explored. Like a living painting in suspension, inspired by the filming of a fantasy movie about the end of the world, *Still Crashing* inhabits the ruins as fertile ground to re-cultivate and re-imagine possibilities. The wandering characters, like zombies, attempt to navigate this episode together. Trapped in an emptiness to be filled at the dawn of an afterlife, they share confessions, memories, and laughter to let go in the face of the absurdity of their condition.

concept, direction, set design, masks & costumes: Nagi Gianni / Original texts: Jen Rosenblit / Choreography in collaboration with the performers: Tatiana Baumgartner, Andrius Mulokas, Bastien Hippocrate / Choreographic guidance: Sonja Jokiniemi / Dramaturgical guidance: Mateusz Szymanowka / Theoretical guidance: Laura Spozio / Soundscape: Chaos Clay / Lighting: Jacqueline Sobiszewski

production: HYENA / co-production: Théâtre de l'Usine, Genève ; Arsenic – Centre d'art scénique contemporain, Lausanne; Festival Antigél, Genève

captation: <https://vimeo.com/807492342>  
password: crash





*presentation at Fonderie Kugler, Genève*



## ***Fade From View***

video HD / 27 min / polish, english / 2022  
co-creation with Alex Freiheit

This performance is based on a close interaction between the protagonist and the camera, which plays an active role in documenting and analyzing each gesture. The protagonist's wandering leads the audience into the raw space of a basement, the image almost becoming fantastic, with a pictorial quality. The performer addresses the 'other' in her native language, Polish, while dialoguing with and hiding behind fragments of masks, second skins. A meeting with otherness, even alienation.

concept, creation: Nagi Gianni & Alex Freiheit  
texts, performance: Alex Freiheit  
camera, editing, mask: Nagi Gianni

captation: <https://vimeo.com/702640699>  
password: blue





***Creatures of the Unknown*** / collection of 10 masks for **maison.blanche.swiss**  
2024 / wearable sculpture / silicon, pigments, synthetic hair and fur / variable dimensions  
*mode suisse '24 - Kunsthalle Zürich*

# C

# V

## **Nagi Gianni**

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web: www.nagigianni.com

Born in Zürich in 1991, lives and works in Geneva.

## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2019

- Screens, Sand Dunes and the Contours of Your Face - CCA Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw

2018

- I Need a Gangsta - TOPIC, Genève

2015

- Parade of wandering bodies - Xpo gallery, Paris

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2024

- Irrévérances - galerie Amarrage, Paris, c. Nathan Selighini

- Ninfe, Campane Subacquee e Pesci Giganti - visarte & Bally Foundation, Lugano, c. Sibilla Panzeri

2023

- Loftas Fest - Vilnius

- Binále Budapest, c. Viola Lukacs

- Chrysalides - CAC Genève, c. Andrea Bellini

2022

- Bourses BLCG de la Ville de Genève - CAC Genève

- BANG BANG - Histoire:s translocale:s de la performance - Musée Tinguely, Bâle

2021

- de l'Ekumen :: Pétrel | Roumagnac duo - g. Valeria Cetraro, Paris

2020

- Estrangement Sessions - Luma Westbau, Zürich

2018

- swiss performance award - Museum Tinguely, Basel

- 24H-shop, c. Patricia Bianchi - Kir Royal, Zürich

- TMF 24/7, c. Elena Montesinos - Halle Nord, Genève

2017

- Slowly vanishing...feathers! Glittered and burned.

- Listrik, Montreux

- de rêves, acte 1, jardin, c. Marie-Salomé

Peyronnel - Elizabeth Street Garden, New York USA

2016

- Kabaret de Künstler, performance program by Manuel Scheiwiller for Manifesta 11 - Cabaret

Voltaire, Zürich

2015

- The Day After - Espace Labo, Genève

- Tribal Tribu-te, YP - Centre d'art Métaxu / galerie L'Axolotl, Toulon

## **EDUCATION**

2011-2014 bachelor Visual Arts - performance  
Genève Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design de Genève  
(HEAD)

2015-2016 master Art Practice  
Bruxelles Erg Bruxelles

## **PERFORMANCE AND STAGE WORK**

2023

- Glitters of Darkness - 'ECLIPSES', CAC Genève, Flux Laboratory, Bally Foundation

2022

- 'Still Crashing', ARSENIC- centre d'art scénique contemporain (Lausanne), TU Théâtre de l'Usine (Genève)

2021

- 'Antilopes', TU Théâtre de l'Usine (Genève), ARSENIC - centre d'art scénique contemporain

(Lausanne)

## **RESIDENCIES**

2024

- Bourse et résidence du Canton de Genève - Berlin

2023

- Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris

2019

- Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw

2018

- danceWEB @ ImpulsTanz international dance festival, Vienna

## **AWARDS and GRANTS**

- Bourse Simon Patiño (2023)

- Bourses BLCG de la Ville de Genève 2022 (nominé)

- PREMIO Schweiz 2021 (nominé)

- Ateliers d'artiste de la Ville de Genève 2019-2022

- Prix Suisse de la Performance 2018 (nominé)

## **COLLABORATIONS**

Simone Aughterlony / maison.blanche.swiss / MOTUS  
/ Catol Teixeira / Vincent Riebeek / Malika Fankha

/ Mathieu Bertholet / Göksu Kunak / Institute of  
Interconnected Realities CPH / Isabelle Chladek - Cie

Folledeparole / Natasza Gerlach / Rafal Pierzynski

- DIVAS / Clara Delorme / Petrel.Roumagnac duo

/ Maya Bösch - Cie Sturmfrei / Elena Montesinos -

TheMontesinosFoundation / Ramona Nagabczynska /

Carina Erdmann / Maya Rochat / Jen Rosenblit