

Remi PORTAL Artist

Grimaud FRANCE



Bio

I was born in Sainte-Maxime in the south of France, 52 years ago. As grandson of Jean Portal, a painter and sculptor from Sainte-Maxime, I was immersed in his environment from a very early age, and his most beautiful statues still decorate the squares of my home town ... After a long period of travelling abroad, I have now lived in Grimaud for 6 years, in the Gulf of Saint-Tropez in the south of France.

For the last 5 years, as a self-taught creative artist, I have indulged in my passion for wood, which I see as representing nature, well-being and serenity; I feel that there is something comforting in the smell of wood. The supple characteristics of spruce, fir or red cedar trees provide me with a range of technical solutions using electrical equipment. I have a particular liking for scarring, especially chainsaw sculptures. As for the sturdier trees, such as ash, white oak or chestnut trees of my region, they provide me with an opportunity to work differently with tools such as rasps, gouges or chisels, and finally stamping tools for low-relief work. My modern-abstract style is atypical. I admire artists like David Nash, Thierry Martenon, Andy Goldsworthy, Christian Burchard and many others ...

First of all, I pay particular attention to the choice of the wood, by considering its contours and then its grain. Depending on this choice, I use various methods in order to create the desired end texture and shape. For the textures, I am sometimes inspired by Mother Nature, by watching it very closely. The great sculptor, Rodin, said: "Any artist worth their salt must express the whole truth of nature, not just the truth from outside, but also and especially that from within."

Some of my experiences from my work, such as unexpected events or incidents, have enabled me to discover other artistic perspectives. I therefore have the pleasure of allowing my imagination to wander throughout my period of creation. I like simple natural colours, contrasts with black and in particular Chinese ink lending very different shades to the material depending on how it is used. The sizes of my sculptures are only limited by the space available; they may be wall sculptures or self-standing sculptures.

Finally, my artistic approach is to seek to stimulate the imagination of the viewer.

"Beautiful things are created with love and passion"





— Self-standing sculptures —

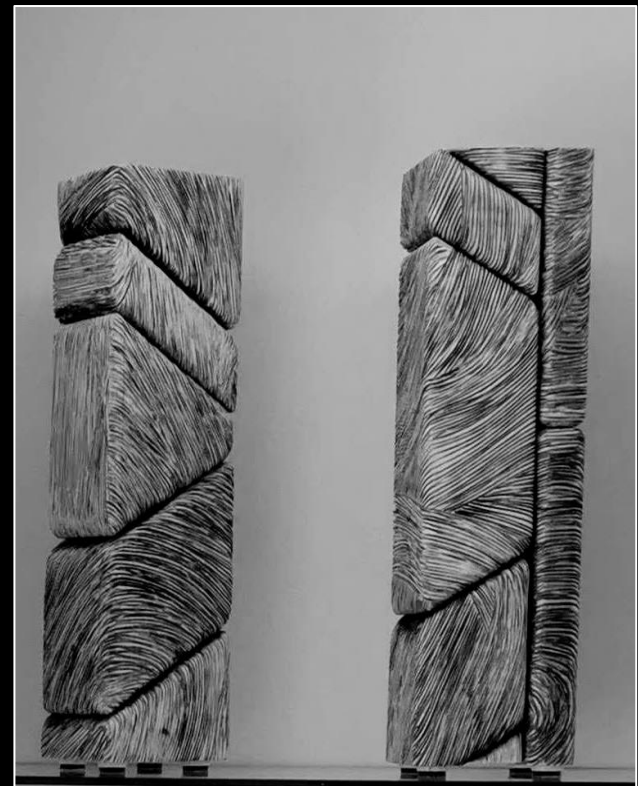


Self-standing sculptures

« Petit K »

Wood: fir
Technique: scarring
Colours: natural wood

Dimensions: 2 x 40 x 15 cm



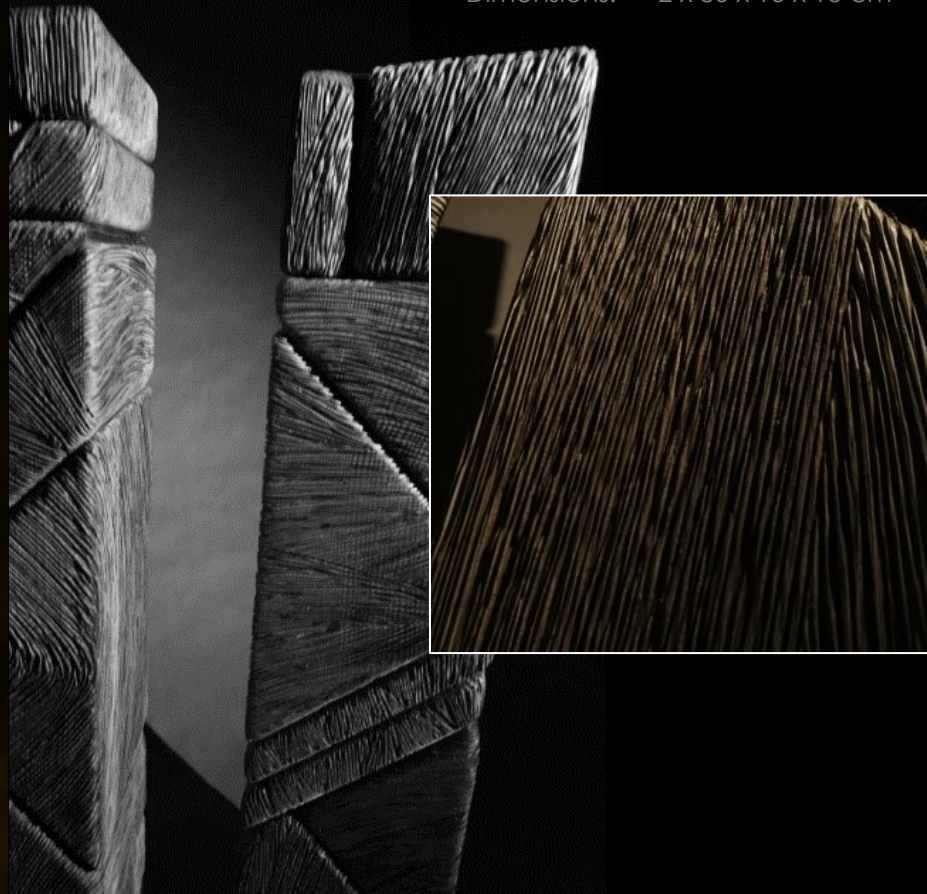
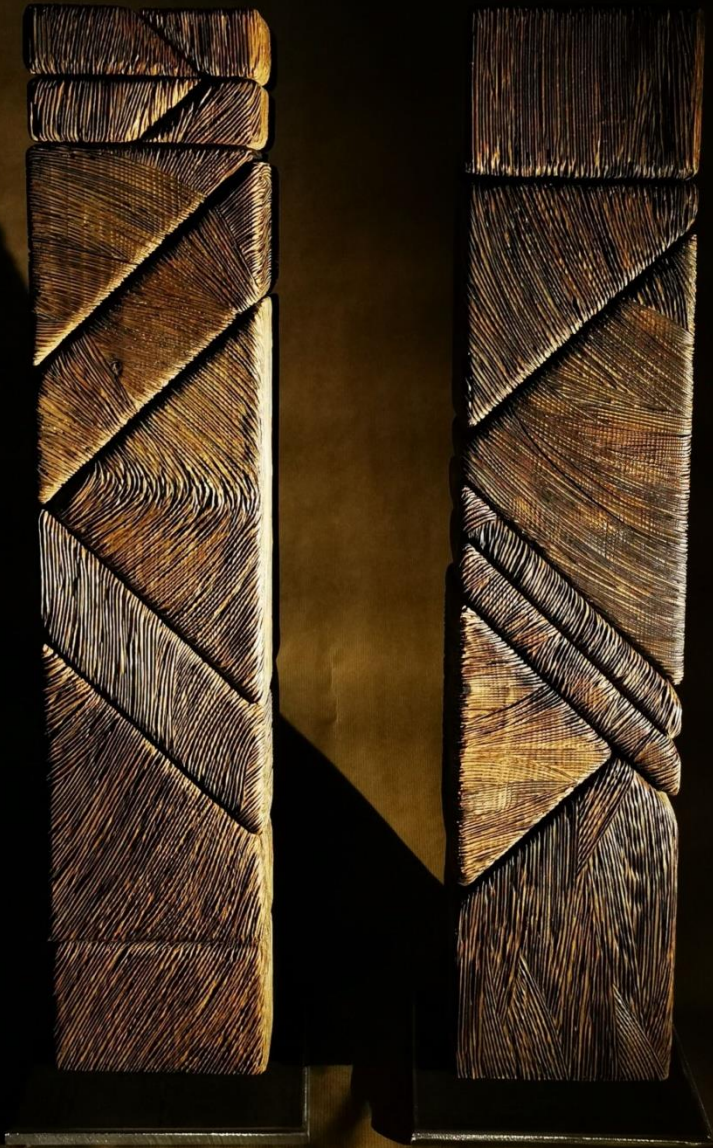
Self-standing sculptures

« Grand K »

Wood: fir
Technique: scarring
Colours: natural wood & colourless wax

Stands in steel

Dimensions: 2 x 80 x 15 x 15 cm





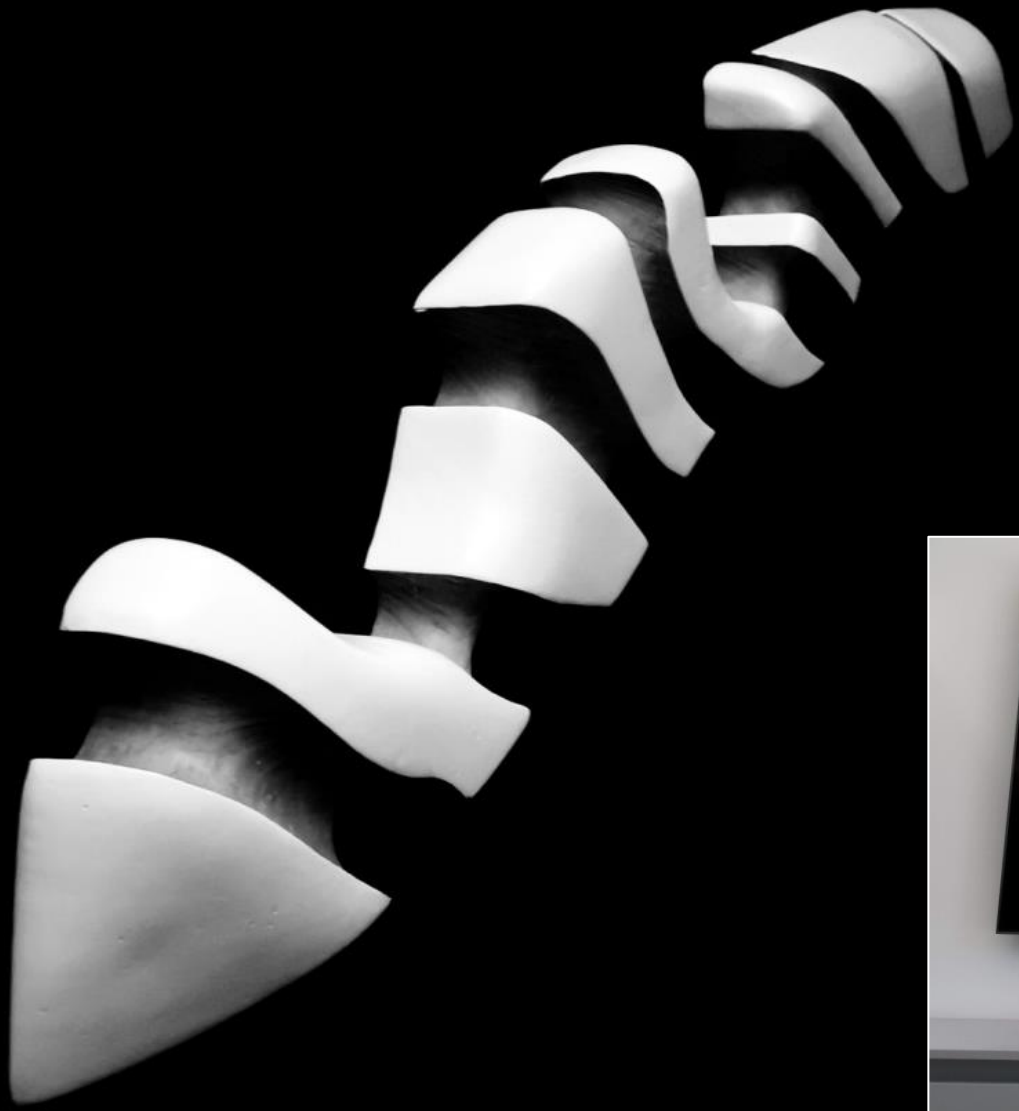
Self-standing sculptures

« Texture »

Wood: red cedar
Technique: scarring
Colours: Chinese ink & natural wood

Dimensions: 1 x 98 x 18 x 18 cm
1 x 100 x 18 x 18 cm





Self-standing sculptures

« Scolo »

Wood: chestnut
Technique: trimming
Colours: white acrylic paint & natural wood

Dimensions: 1 x 100 x 14 x 5 cm





Self-standing sculptures

« Dakhla Moon »

Wood: fir
Technique: sablage
Colours: Chinese ink

Structure and stand in steel

Dimensions: 1 x 143 x 23 x 11 cm





Self-standing sculptures

« Terracotta »

Wood: red cedar
Technique: chainsaw scarring
Colours: natural wood

Stands in bronze powder-coated steel

Dimensions: 1 x 14 x 90 cm
1 x 14 x 110 cm



Self-standing sculptures

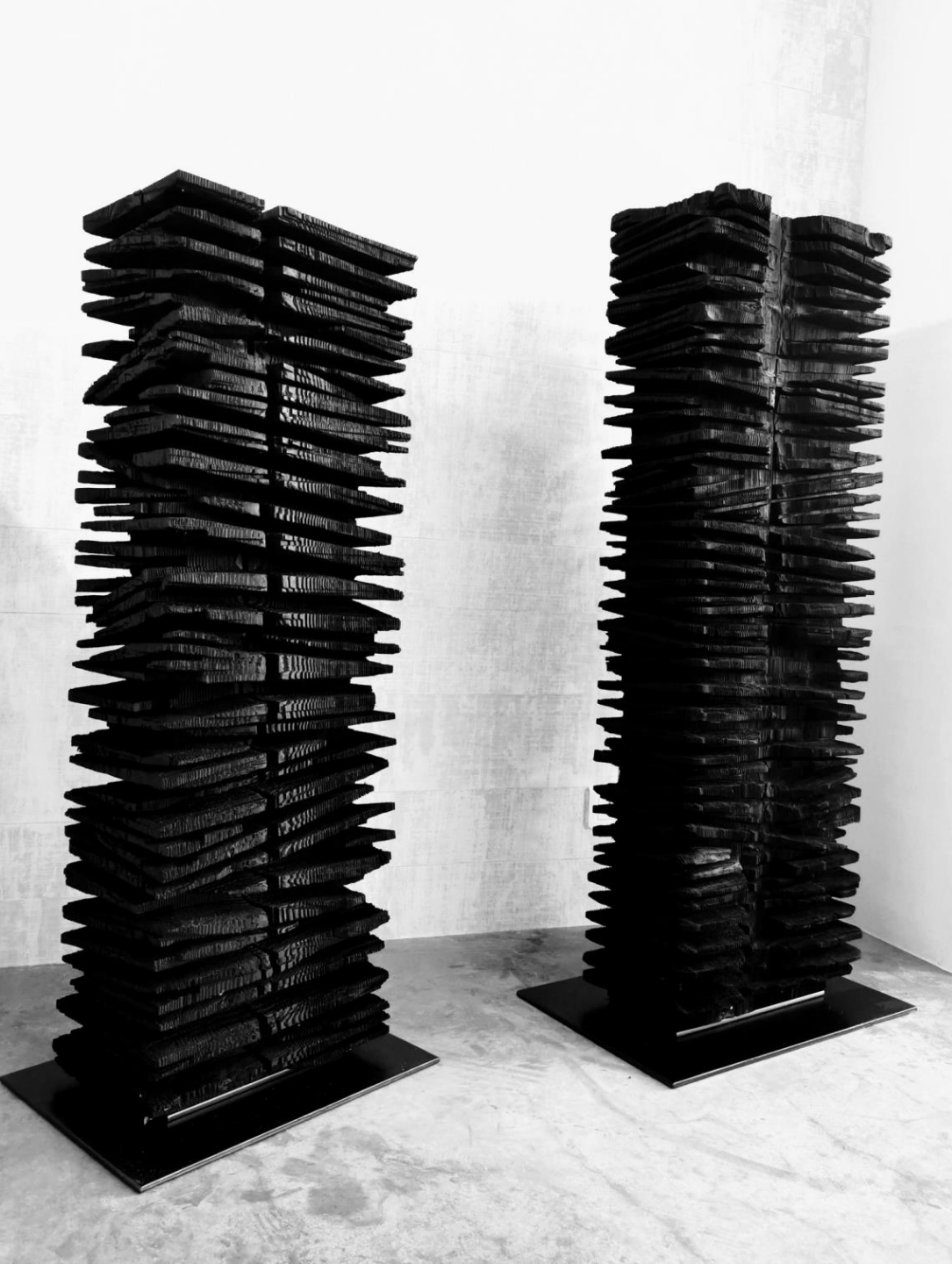
« You & Me »

Wood: spruce
Technique: hand- & machine-sculpted
Colours: natural wood
Texture: by sanding and stamping

Stands in steel

Dimensions: 1 x 23 x 33 x 15 cm





Self-standing sculptures

« Ashbook »

Wood: fir
Technique: chainsaw scarring
Colours : Chinese ink
Texture: by sanding and stamping

Dimensions: 1 x 126 x 44 x 24 cm
1 x 110 x 38 x 24 cm





— Wall sculptures —





Wall sculptures

« Razor blade »

Wood: plywood
Technique: scarring
Colours: Chinese ink

Dimensions: 1 x 300 x 154 x 3.5 cm

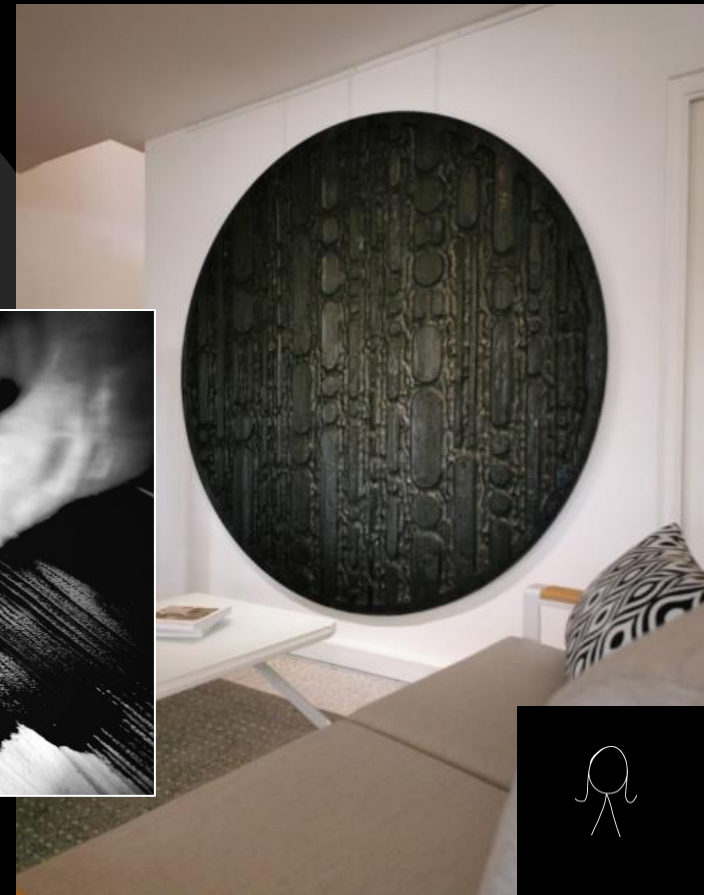


Wall sculptures

« Black Dakhla »

Wood: fir
Technique: trimming
Colours: Chinese ink

Dimensions: 1 x 200 diam x 3.5 cm



Wall sculptures

« Empreinte »

Wood: plywood
Technique: scarring
Colours: natural shade & colourless wax

Dimensions: 1 x 83 x 66 x 4.5 cm



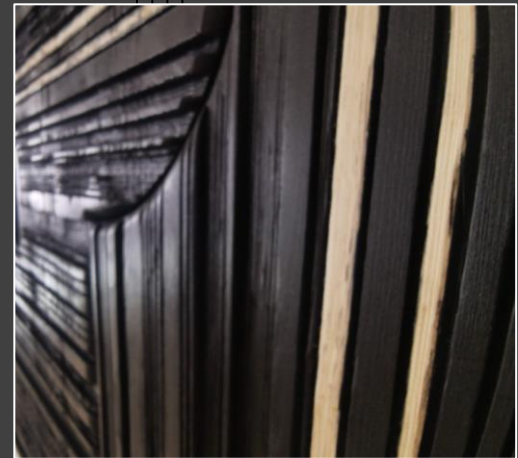


Wall sculptures

« Leather »

Wood: fir
Technique: scarring
Colours: Chinese ink & varnish glaze

Dimensions: 1 x 257 x 97 x 3.5 cm



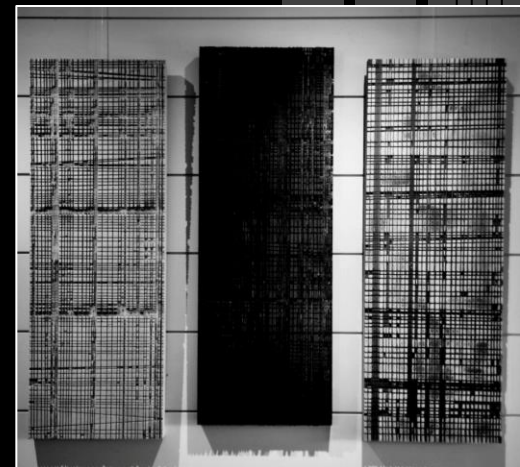


Wall sculptures

« Matrix »

Wood: plywood
Technique: scarring
Colours: Chinese ink & varnish & wax

Dimensions: 3 x 36 x 96 x 4.5 cm

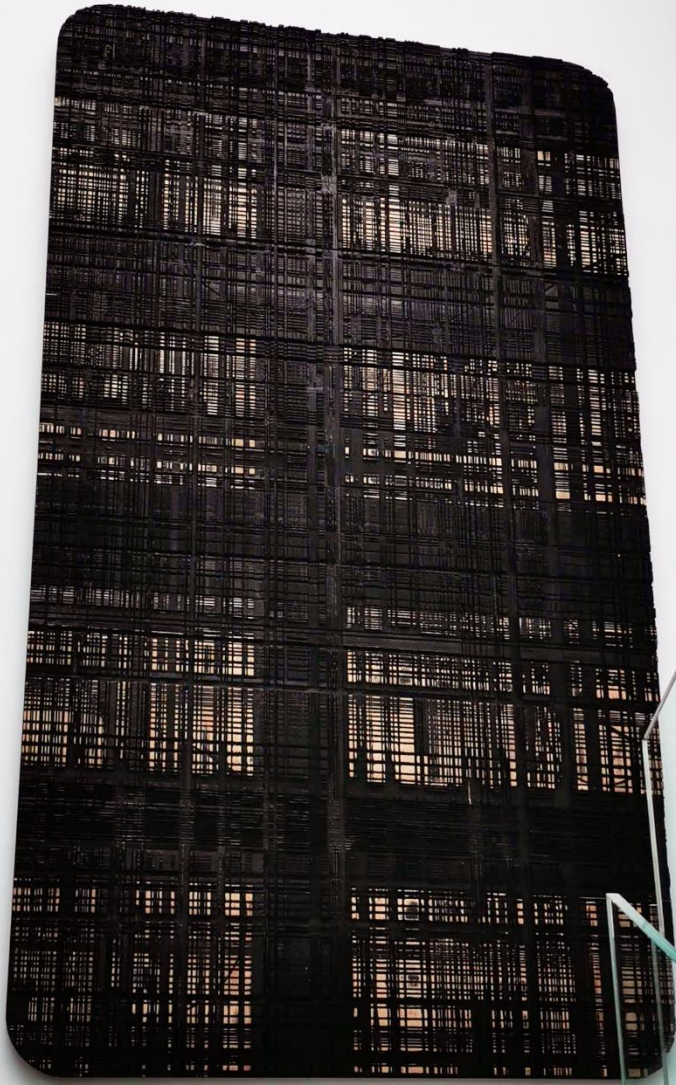


Wall sculptures

« Path »

Wood: plywood
Technique: scarring
Colours: Chinese ink & varnish

Dimensions: 1 x 230 x 132 x 3.5 cm









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