



ANNE BLANCHET

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1 — 30 DECEMBER 2023

OPERA GALLERY

FOREWORD

For the inaugural edition of our *invited artists* series, where Opera Gallery Geneva offers artists the opportunity to curate their own exhibitions, we are thrilled to introduce Swiss artist, Anne Blanchet.

The works chosen for the show by the artist are her *Light Drawings*. These works, which Anne Blanchet decided to showcase mostly against a backdrop of grey walls, feature delicate incisions in white acrylic glass sheets, revealing light that initiates a constant transformation within the artwork. The artist also chose to grace the gallery space with a unique installation. Nestled in a totally black room, several lights are programmed to illuminate at different angles a *Light Drawing* hung on the wall. The light enters the translucent material, is reflected there and evolves sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly, in fades or in contrasts evoking a sensation akin to «visual music.»

In her creations, Blanchet adeptly conveys the interplay between shadows and light, seamlessly blending transparent simplicity with captivating enchantment. Her creations are not static surfaces but rather subject to constant change, sometimes hovering on the edge of perception.

Anne Blanchet's body of work serves as a catalyst for contemplation, inviting viewers to explore the subtleties of perception that straddle the boundary between reality and illusion. As spectators engage with her art, they are compelled to reconsider their perceptions, transitioning from fascination to introspection. They find themselves immersed in a serene, meditative atmosphere that elicits a feeling of uncertainty. What initially seemed straightforward and evident transforms into something disquieting. The discerning eye realizes that the demarcation between sharpness and diffusion can be remarkably subtle.

Anne Blanchet possesses a unique talent for intertwining intellect, emotion, and the material world in her artistic expressions.

Jordan Lahmi
Director
Opera Gallery Geneva

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

On an instinctive basis, my artistic practice is part of a search, a construction. Always fascinated by light and movement, by the apparent magic of the phenomena surrounding us, I have always wondered about knowledge. What do I see? What is hidden in the thing I am looking at? What do I hear? What can or do I want to hear?

In contemporary dance I found a way to perceive and experience space, and I turned to installations and sculpture. My goal was to tame light, its three-dimensionality, and its movement, to show the openness and reveal the magic of the concrete with the greatest economy of means possible.

In my view, the richness or nobility of materials detracts from the original idea. I have always wanted to use common materials that match the subject and allow it to be made visible: sliding/folding doors or level crossing barriers choreographed to show openness, creating a sort of visual music through a moiré effect close to serial music or that of Satie, Feldman, Cage, Bryars. Space and time constitute the basis of these works.

I am not only interested in visible movement but also in that of thought. A perfect mathematical or philosophical demonstration gives me a certain intellectual pleasure, a kind of sensuality of thought. Hence perhaps my interest in white and silence.

Since 1993, I have wanted to gaze inside the material to perceive the movement of light. In the depth of perfectly flat and colorless acrylic glass, white and gray shadows appear, which manifest by diffusing up to the surface and which constantly change according to the incidence and intensity of light on incisions. My «Light Drawings», constantly evolve until they disappear, then reappear, endlessly raising the question about the nature of light and its observer.

Anne Blanchet
Geneva, May 2023

WORKS

**DXIX, musique visuelle pour le Light Drawing CCCC, 2014
2022**

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
110 x 110 x 4,5 cm | 43.3 x 43.3 x 1.8 in





CCCCVI, Light Drawing
2014
Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
Ø 98 x 4,5 cm | 38.6 x 1.7 in



CCCCXXVII, Light Drawing
2015

Incised acrylic glass, white bristol support
50 x 50 x 2 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 0.8 in

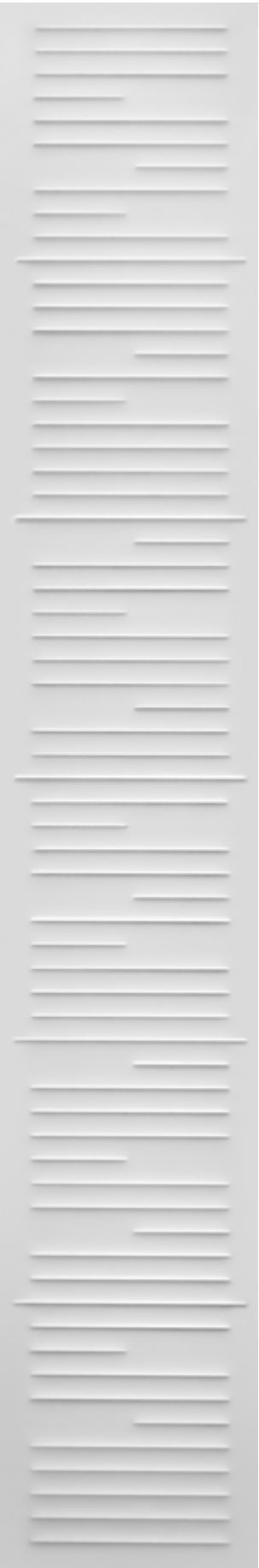


CCCCLXXXIII, Light Drawing
2018

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
110 x 110 x 4,5 cm | 43.3 x 43.3 x 1.8 in



CCCCCLXXVI, Light Drawing
 2018
 Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
 117 x 117 x 3,5 cm | 46.1 x 46.1 x 1.4 in



CCCCCLXIV, Light Drawing
 1996-2016
 Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
 240 x 40 x 3 cm | 94.5 x 15.7 x 1.2 in



CCCCCLXXIX, Light Drawing
2018

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
100 x 100 x 3,5 cm | 39.4 x 39.4 x 1.4 in



CCCCLXXXVI-CCCCLXXXVII, Light Drawing
2019

Incised acrylic glass, white Bristol support
Each: 180 x 40.5 x 3 cm | 70.9 x 16 x 1.2 in



CLXIII, Light Drawing
2003
Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
45 x 298 x 3 cm | 17.7 x 117.3 x 1.2 in



CLXIV, Light Drawing
2003

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
45 x 298 x 3 cm | 17.7 x 117.3 x 1.2 in



Left to right

DL, Light Drawing
2023

DXLIX, Light Drawing
2023

DXLVII, Light Drawing
2023

DXLVIII, Light Drawing
2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
40 x 40 x 3,5 cm | 15.7 x 15.7 x 1.4 in

DXL, Light Drawing
2023

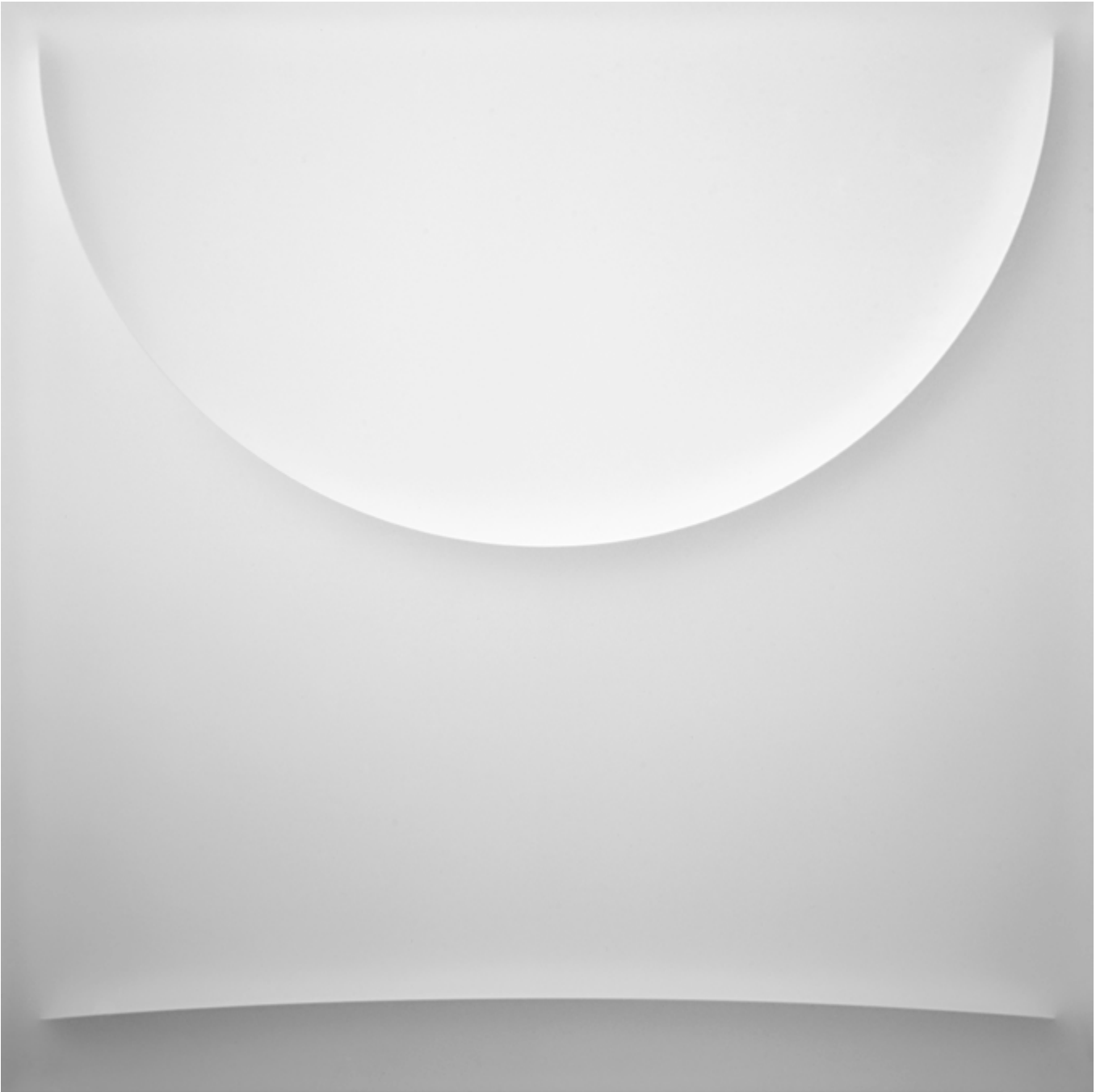
Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
50 x 50 x 3,5 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 1.4 in





DXXXVIII, Light Drawing
2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
50 x 50 x 3,5 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 1.4 in



DXXXIX, Light Drawing
2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
50 x 50 x 3,5 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 1.4 in

DXLIV, Light Drawing
2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
50 x 50 x 3,5 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 1.4 in



DXLV, Light Drawing
2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
50 x 50 x 3,5 cm | 19.7 x 19.7 x 1.4 in



DXLVI, Light Drawing

2023

Incised acrylic glass, white metal support
70 x 70 x 3,5 cm | 27.6 x 27.6 x 1.4 in





BIOGRAPHY

Anne Blanchet was born in 1947 in Vuarrens, Switzerland.
She currently lives and works in Geneva.

- 1982 – 1983 Visiting artist at CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 1971 – 1974 Writer for art editors (WEBER SA D'EDITIONS and EDITIONS DE BONVENT SA, Geneva)
- 1967 – 1971 Studied Literature in Lausanne, Kiel and Marburg Universities – Bachelor's Degree

Solo exhibitions

- 2022 DXIX musique visuelle, 2022, Contrechamps, les 6 toits, Geneva, CH
- 2021 NUAGE POUR HARCOURT, château d'Harcourt, Eure, FR. For the European Heritage Days
- 2021 LUMENS And LIGHT DRAWINGS, Galerie Multipleart, Zurich, CH
- 2020 LUMEN XXIV, 2020, Espace LVX, Corseaux, CH
- 2016 LIGHT DRAWINGS 2016, Galerie Denise René, Paris, FR
- 2014 LIGHT DRAWINGS, Luca Tommasi, Arte Contemporanea, Milano, IT
- 2013 Inauguration of NUAGE et MURMURE, two installations at the Parc du Pommier, Le Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, CH
- 2011 Inauguration of POINT D'INTERROGATION, Jardin des disparus, Geneva, CH
- 2010 Galerie Denise René, Paris, FR
- 2007 Galerie Favre Art Actuel, Nyon, CH
- 2003 Galerie Alice Pauli, Lausanne, CH
- 2002 Galerie Carrespace, Vallorbe, CH
- 2000 PASSAGES, permanent installation, Hôpital Belle-Idée, Geneva, CH
- 2000 Espace Arlaud, Lausanne, CH. Prix Gustave Buchet
- 1999 Hall Palermo, Geneva, CH
- 1997 PORTES 97, Galerie MDJ, Neuchâtel, CH
- 1997 FORUM D'ART CONTEMPORAIN, Sierre, CH
- 1996 lyledjian Art, Lausanne, CH
- 1994 EMERGENCES, Espace d'Art Contemporain, Lausanne, CH
- 1990 Galerie des BASTIONS, Geneva, CH
- 1990 Galerie PALUD 1, Lausanne, CH
- 1987 VOLUMES Galerie CARE OFF, Geneva, CH

Public commissions

- 2017 BEEMD 2017, Nuage, Private Parc, Belgium
- 2015 PULSATIONS, Esplanade du Château, Nyon, CH
- 2014 Lumen III, Roggengarten, Weissenstadt am See, DE
- 2013 MURMURES, Parc du Pommier, Le Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, CH
- 2013 NUAGE, Parc du Pommier, Le Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, CH
- 2010 POINT D’INTERROGATION, Jardin des Disparus, Meyrin, Geneva, CH
- 2009 PULSATION, Parc du Château Mercier, Sierre, CH
- 2008 ESPACE SILENCE, Université de Pérolles 2, Fribourg, CH
- 2007 LUMIERE, ESPACE DE MEDITATION, Université Pérolles 2, Fribourg, CH
- 2005 PONT DE LUMIERE, Université de Pérolles 2, Fribourg, CH
- 2000 PASSAGES, Clinique de Belle-Idée, Geneva, CH

Selected Public and Private Collections

- Centre National d’Arts Plastiques, Paris (FR)
- Musée des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne (CH)
- Fonds Cantonal d’Art Contemporain, Geneva (CH)
- Banque Cantonale de Genève (CH)
- Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, Lausanne (CH)
- Collection Pauli, Epalinges (CH)
- Collection Leupoldt, Weissenstadt (DE)
- Collection Schroth, Soest (DE)
- Collection Dubois, Lausanne (CH)
- Collection Iynedjian Art, Lausanne (CH)

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Portrait of the artist: © Alex Blanchet

OPERA GALLERY

Place de Longemalle 10-12, 1204 Geneva | +41 (0)21 318 5770 | geneve@operagallery.com | operagallery.com

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