



# LUCILE LELOUP

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# APPROACH

Born on a farm in Limousin, my childhood was shaped by the agricultural seasons, alongside the challenges of the rural world. My intertwined approach to the worlds of culture and agriculture has led me to develop a complex and sensitive view of the relationships we share with the living world. On the cusp of handing over the family farm, I became interested in the process of passing on the stories that populate the landscape. The difficulty of agricultural takeovers for young farmers, with land grabs by large investors, is a societal issue that permeates my artistic work.

Through installations, I primarily use materials from my rural area, such as wool, wood, hemp, and linen. It is through the transversality of these materials, which have already undergone cycles of transformation, that I seek to embody a dynamic of movement and long-term temporality.

There is a close link between textiles and memory. Throughout my work, I have become interested in the challenges textiles can offer as a way to transmit memory.

I like to work with contradictory notions such as static and dynamic, robust and fragile, or presence and absence. By considering the memories that fill the earth, I seek to recount the intimate relationships that play out in the fragile universe of a rural world undergoing rapid transformation.





CARTE PARLÉE DU PAYSAGE  
embroidered sheep wool felt  
1 m 50 x 1 m 20  
2021





This *spoken map of the landscape* is a sensitive topographical representation of the territory. It is not the names of the villages that make up the map, but the words and expressions that the inhabitants of Basse Marche use to describe their landscape. Through my encounters with the locals, I worked to embroider the vernacular vocabulary, changing the color of the thread for each new speaker. The material invites us to be touched, to dare to tell our story through a piece in process.





TOISON  
sheep wool felt  
1 m 50 x 2 m 50  
2024

Through the seeds and blades of grass that cling to it, the sheep's wool tells stories of coexistence. Light, passing through the material, reveals an organic memory. Like a palimpsest, Fleece invites us to contemplate the stories that are read against the light.





*Toison* is a piece created with Floriane Bou and Aloha Lefebvre during a residency at the Villa Chateaufavier in Aubusson. It is made of local wool partially colored with plant-based dyes derived from lichen, fig, indigo, and hibiscus.





## CHANGER LES MOUTONS

Installation consisting of three sheep barriers

wood, wire, wool

2023



Sensibly the boundary between two spaces, barriers are frequently manipulated: opened, closed, repaired, dismantled, reassembled...

Building fences is a constant process; their shape is shaped by animal movements and climatic hazards. By reworking original barriers, I recharge the object with its memories. The fence becomes a witness to the lives of other living beings.

The barrier is a difficult object to grasp due to its ambiguity; it evokes notions of ownership, boundary marking, and attachment to a land.

Barbed wire, created for military purposes, later allowed farmers' children to attend school, freeing them from the task of herding cows.





## ECHAPPÉ

swing

sheep's wool, wicker, hemp 15 m  
2023

*Echappé* takes on a dreamy register that harks back to childhood. In this fantasy, the farm and fields become a vast playground. The swing's oscillations echo the cyclical aspect of time. Swinging is a way of taking in a different perspective on the landscape around us, apprehending it through height and movement. It's a kind of sensitive encounter with the place. Sheep's wool is also part of a cyclical dynamic through the renewal of shearing each year.





## POUSSER

series of five collars, felted wool

35 x 35 cm

2025

## NAVIGUER

Exhibition view I Breathe in Slow  
Flowering, Château de Dompierre  
les Églises

felted wool, acacia wood, rope

2 x 3 m

2025



The wool collars spread across the surface of the earth transform into flowers emerging from the soil. The transposable nature of the objects offers a dual narrative.

The old boat stranded in the barn of the Château de Dompierre is part of the simple metaphor of a motionless journey. The soft material of the sails and their soft appearance evoke the world of dreams. This installation is very much about movement, comings and goings, but with great slowness. The slowness necessary to forge an intimate connection to a place.





## NARRATERRE

performance in collaboration with  
theater and music students from the  
Lycée Agricole de Venours  
2024

Through the figure of the peasant-poet, inspired by Pierrot, memories are spread orally. The peasant's view of his or her own land is not only that of a tool for exploitation, but also that of a space of poetry and connection to place. Dressed in a storyteller's costume, the fictional character of *Narraterre* travels the fields to tell how the landscape is shaped by changes in agricultural practices.





## CUEILLETTE

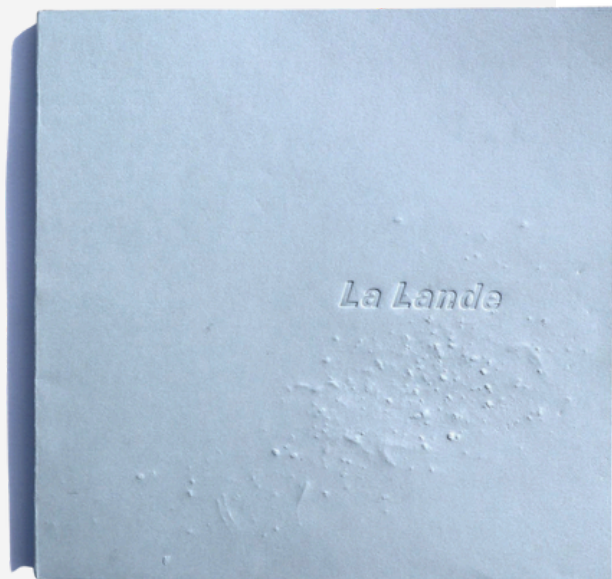
Felted fabric and pots

Sheep's wool and grasses

4 m x 60 cm and 40 x 30 cm 2024

In a refined composition, the installation *Cueillette* evokes the act of gathering, the memory of harvests, and the fragility of the links between different living things. The installation explores the vernacular traditions of the rural world, the slowness of manual work, and the porosity between domestic space and the landscape.





LA LANDE  
édition  
22 cm x 22 cm  
2024

A deep connection and a deep knowledge of the farm's territory have been woven within the family over thirty years of cohabitation with the living. By delving into these memories, I have collected a set of micro-stories recounting the intimate relationships with this universe, but also the evolutions of agricultural practices over the years.

<https://lucileloup.actitude.org/fr/home/la-lande>





POUSSIÈRE DE TERRE  
choir  
collaboration with the collective  
Egregor  
2024

*Poussière de terre* is a sung performance of La Lande's texts exploring the transmission of earth memories through polyphony.





## LINUM USITATISSIMUM

linen and hemp coats

1 m 70 x 1 m 50

2023

The quintessential peasant garment, the work coat is in direct contact with the outdoors. Sewn from linen and hemp sheets grown and woven long ago on the family farm, these coats are adorned with embroidery reusing the technique of ciphering. This practice aimed to inscribe the initials of the name of the sheets' owner. By reusing this technique, this time embroidering the initials of the Latin name for flax, *Linum Usitatissimum*, these garments seek to question the identity of the peasant and their relationship to the land.

On the edge of the meadows, flax grows back, a vestige of previous crops; these embroideries are intended as a kind of reminiscence of this memory.





## TERRISTOIRES

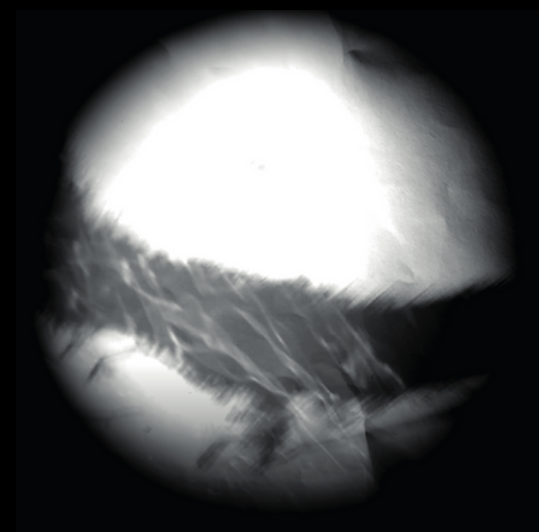
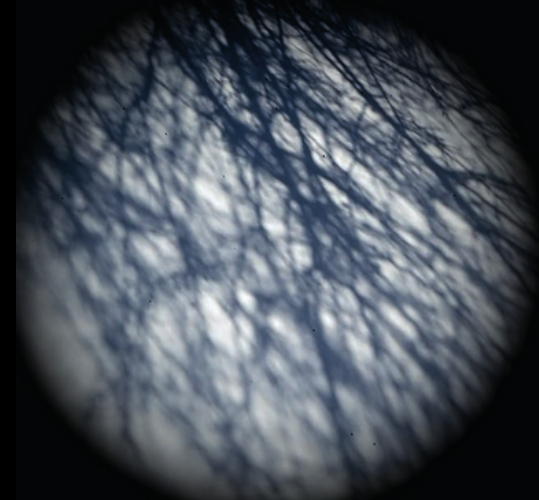
sheep wool, linen and hemp felt

1 m 50 x 2 m

2022

The *Terristoires* are drapes that recount neither great exploits nor incredible legends, but micro-stories. Like little tales that rediscover their territorial landmarks, not universal and moralizing tales, but tales with ancestral characteristics inscribed in places.

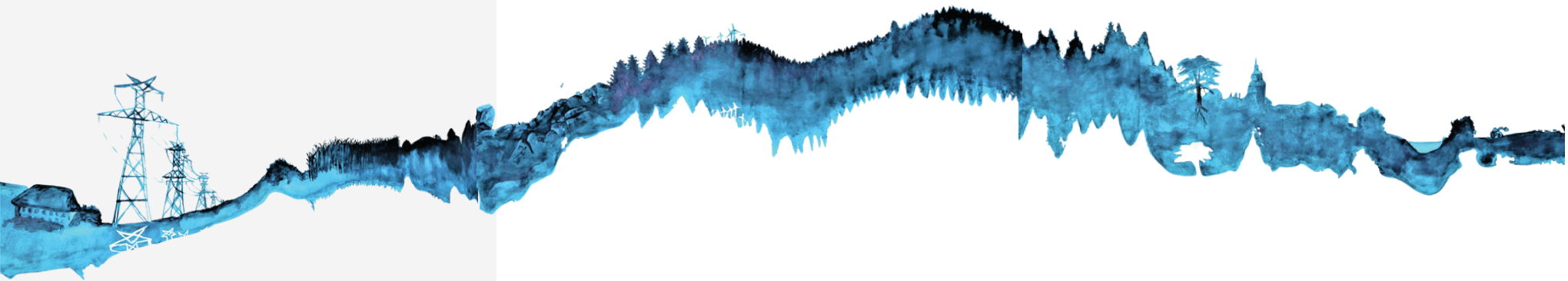




CAPTURER L'OMBRE  
photo series  
50 cm x 1 m 50  
2022

The shadow, through its impalpable substance, reveals the living beings present without being able to distinguish the top from the bottom, the true from the false; it is the experience of mixing. *Capturing the shadow* is the result of field research, carefully watching the outside world around us. These photos were taken during walks with only a large roll of white paper as support, and only a camera as a tool.

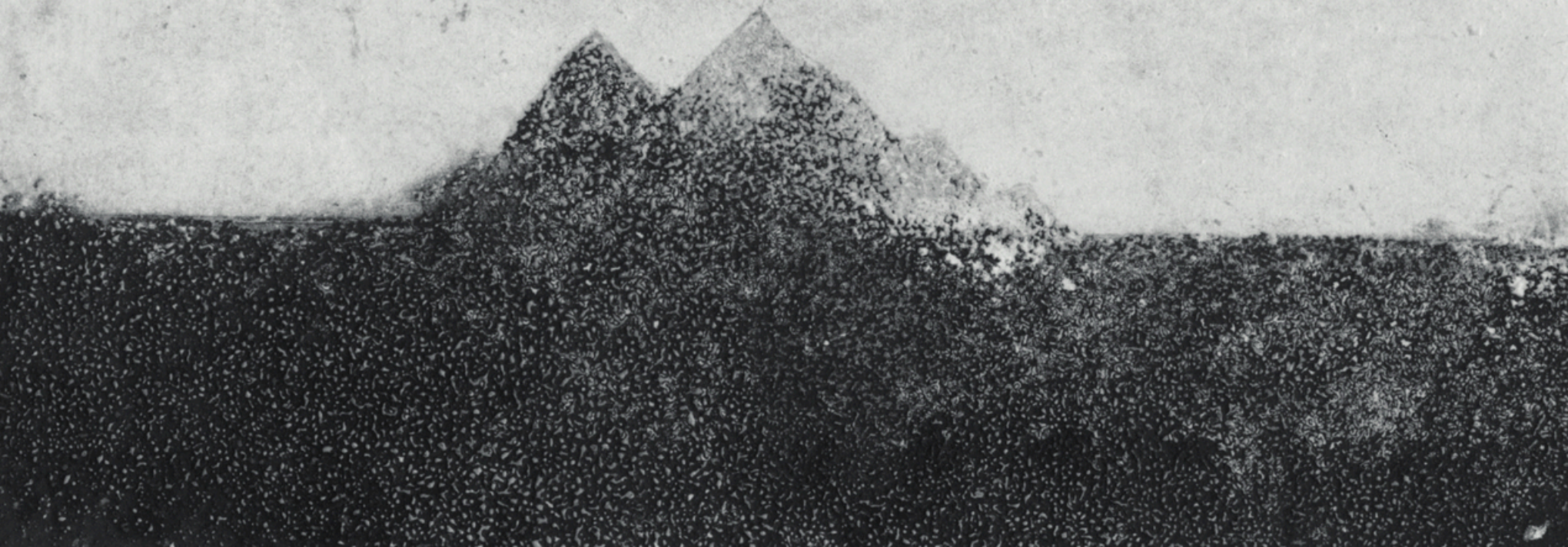




TERRAIN DE VIE  
acrylic paint  
40 cm x 20 m  
2020

*Terrain de vie* demonstrates an interest in the horizon line in all its depth. This reflection on each living being and their way of making traces leads us to see the ground as an animated material that becomes a landscape through the twisting of space by the living. This large panorama proposes to place the infinite ground in its stratification as a reference and to provoke a more centripetal than centrifugal thought.





NUIT SUR LES ÉTOILES

aquatint

15 cm x 8 cm

2020

In a dense and grainy material, the image wavers between landscape and abstraction, evoking mountains or fossil constellations. *Night on the Stars* creates a sky-earth mirror by playing with its reversal.