

VISUAL LANGUAGE: Mystery and Meaning

Cheryl Calleri, Christel Dillbohner, Thekla Hammond

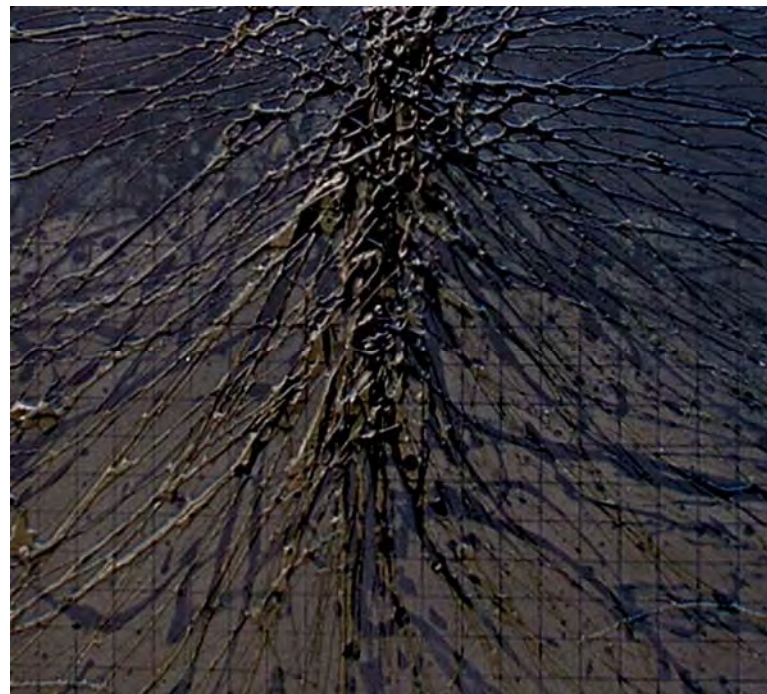
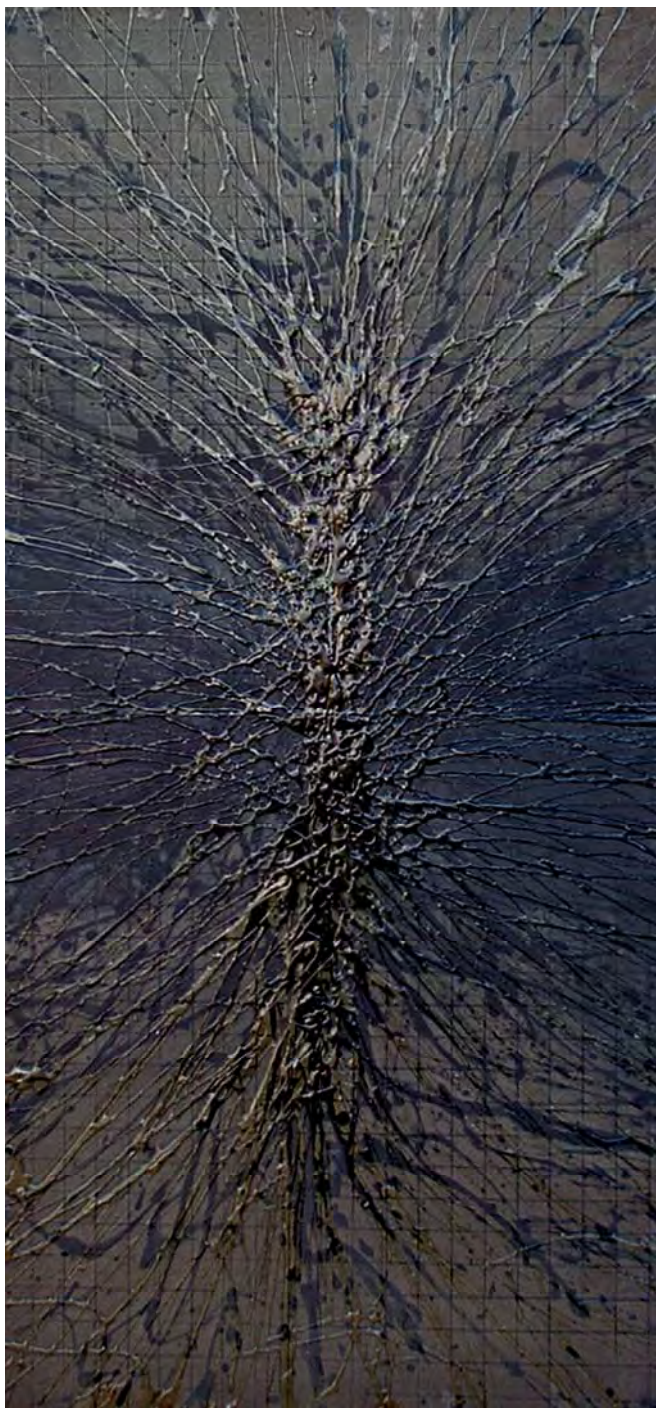


Cheryl Calleri

Dark Reaction

Dark Reaction was inspired by the research of two doctors, Camillo Golgi of Italy and Santiago Ramon Cajal of Spain, who jointly won the 1906 Nobel Prize for their early research into what brain cells look like and how they contact each other.

My work focuses on neural structures and pathways as energy mass. These occurrences, unseen by the naked eye, are stunning, mysterious and difficult to imagine. I respond intellectually and emotionally to the grandeur of these phenomena and express my reactions in dark, transparent paintings with textured surfaces. I invite the viewer to consider the unseen biological processes which are the basis of our being, and to artistically explore with me neurons as the basic organ of human experience.



Detail

Dark Innervation, 2007
23" x 11" mixed media on paper



Detail

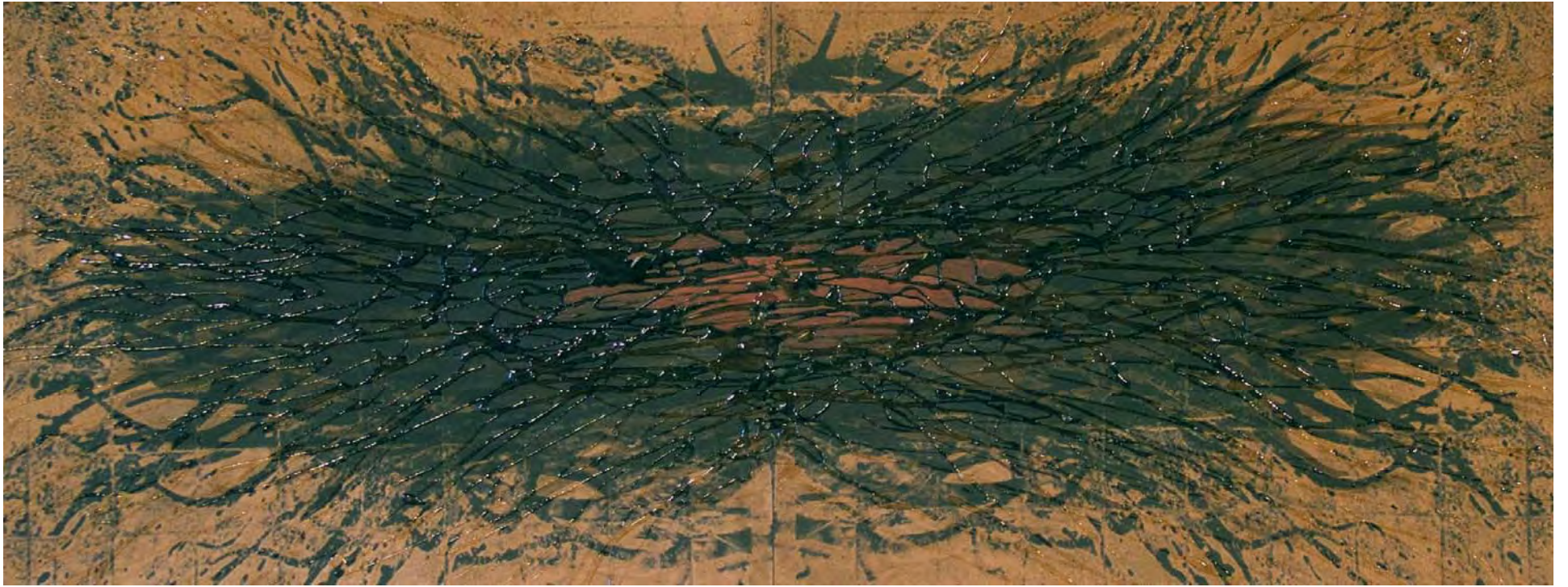


Red Trace, 2008
29" x 10" mixed media on paper



Detail

Green Tree, 2008
29" x 10" mixed media on paper



Dark Soma, 2007
23" x 9", mixed media



Dark Symmetry, 2010
25" x 19" mixed media



Christel Dillbohner

Burn Marks and Incisions

Burn Marks and Incisions began as an emotional response to the bombing and invasion of Iraq. I was saddened and angered by the deceit of American and British politicians and by the calumny of mainstream media which aided the governments' efforts to frighten and manipulate the populace; and I was appalled by the politicians' indifference towards the Iraqi people and their own service wo/men.

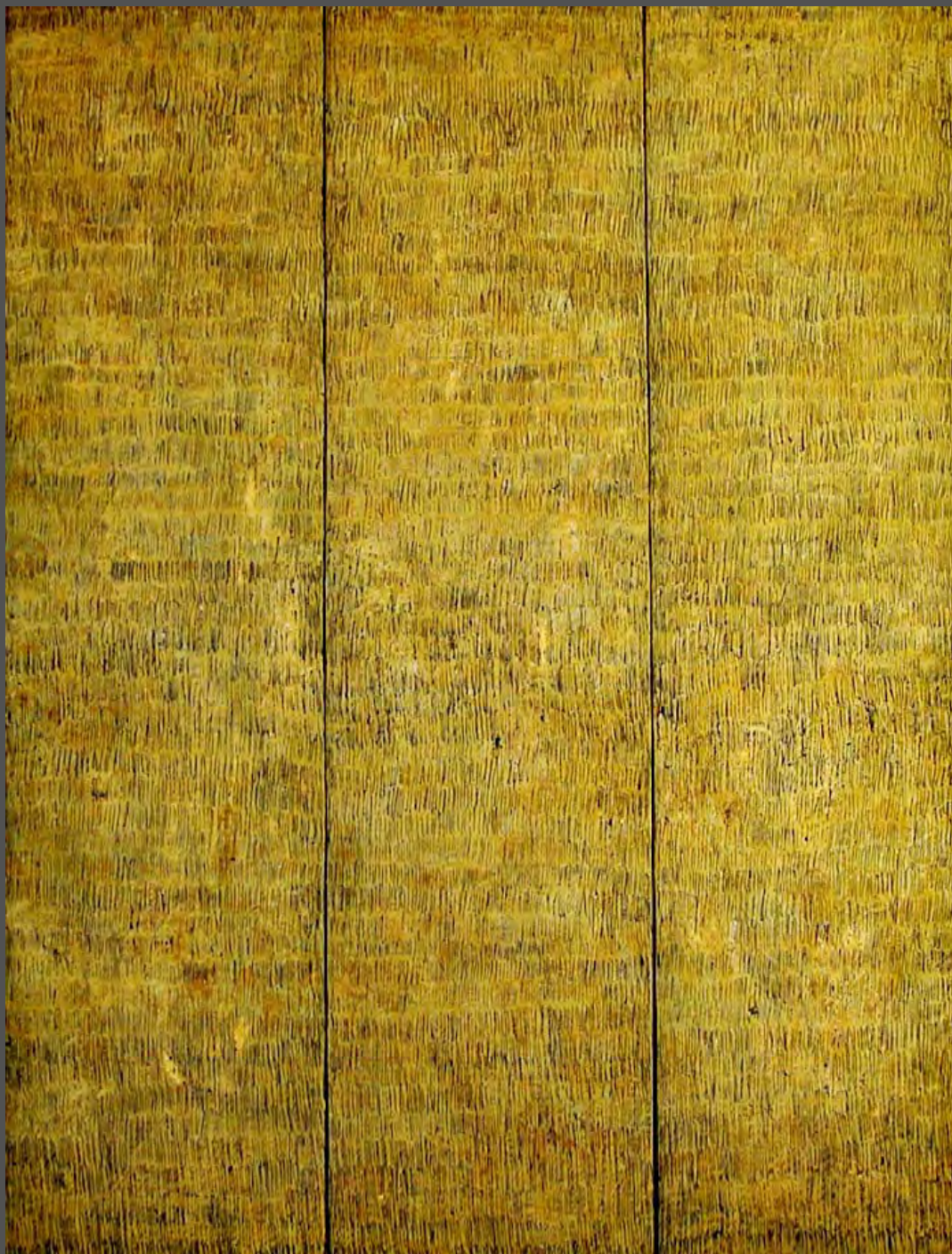
I retreated to the studio. In a daily exercise, I burned marks and incised lines into layered wax, my form of musing on the progression of the war. What began as visual research was transformed into a visual catalyst, the basis for my creative process and for nonverbal communication.

The surfaces created offer other associations. They become a golden light in a pool of water or the silvery sheen of a threadbare tapestry. Apparitions form, shift, move or vanish in the waxen accumulations, marking the time I spent engaged in the process.



Detail

Incisions II, 2005
72" x 36" oil and wax on wood panels



Incisions III, 2007
52" x 39" oil and wax on wood panels



Incisions VII, 2007

48" x 48" oil and wax on wood panels



Furrows, 2008

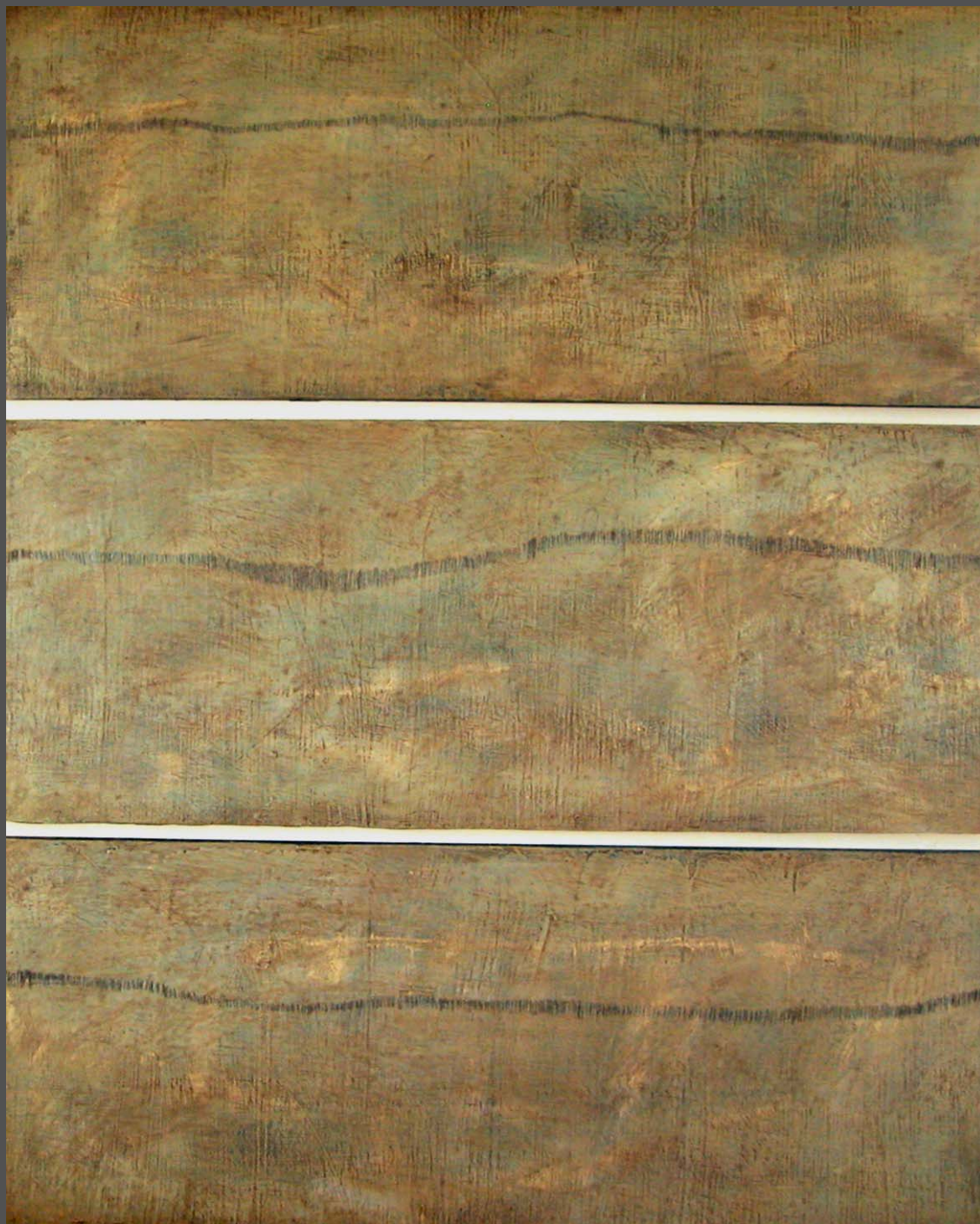
48" x 86" oil and wax on wood panels



Furrows, 2008 – detail
48" x 86" oil and wax on wood panels



Scarred III, 2004 – detail
84" x 108" oil and wax on wood panels
(3 panels, *hundreds of marks burned into wax*)



Terrestrial Markings, 2007
150" x 20" oil and wax on wood panels



Thekla Hammond

Distinctions Without Differences

or

*"A chicken ain't
nothin' but a bird"*

Distinctions Without Differences is a visual response to the assertion made by wise men throughout recorded history that an underlying unity integrates life and mitigates our sense of separation. Things are more alike than they are different. Our minds create separation.

The paintings are hung in pairs, each pair containing symbols from a particular historical period or culture. Each painting is titled the opposite of its mate though visually the two are almost identical. Each pair is accompanied by a quotation from a philosopher that posits the underlying unity of life.

Initially I was inspired by my father's often repeated statement, "A chicken ain't nothin' but a bird." He was a wise man, and though I suspect he would not have wanted to be remembered as a philosopher, this series is an homage to him.



Past, 2008
70"x 68" oil on canvas



Present, 2008
70"x 68" oil on canvas



He, 2008
42" x 36" oil on canvas



She, 2008
42" x 36" oil on canvas

Pharaoh, 2008
96" x 24" oil on canvas



Slave, 2008
96" x 24" oil on canvas





Beginning, 2008
70" x 68" oil on canvas



End, 2008
70" x 68" oil on canvas



Water, 2008
60" x 35" oil on canvas



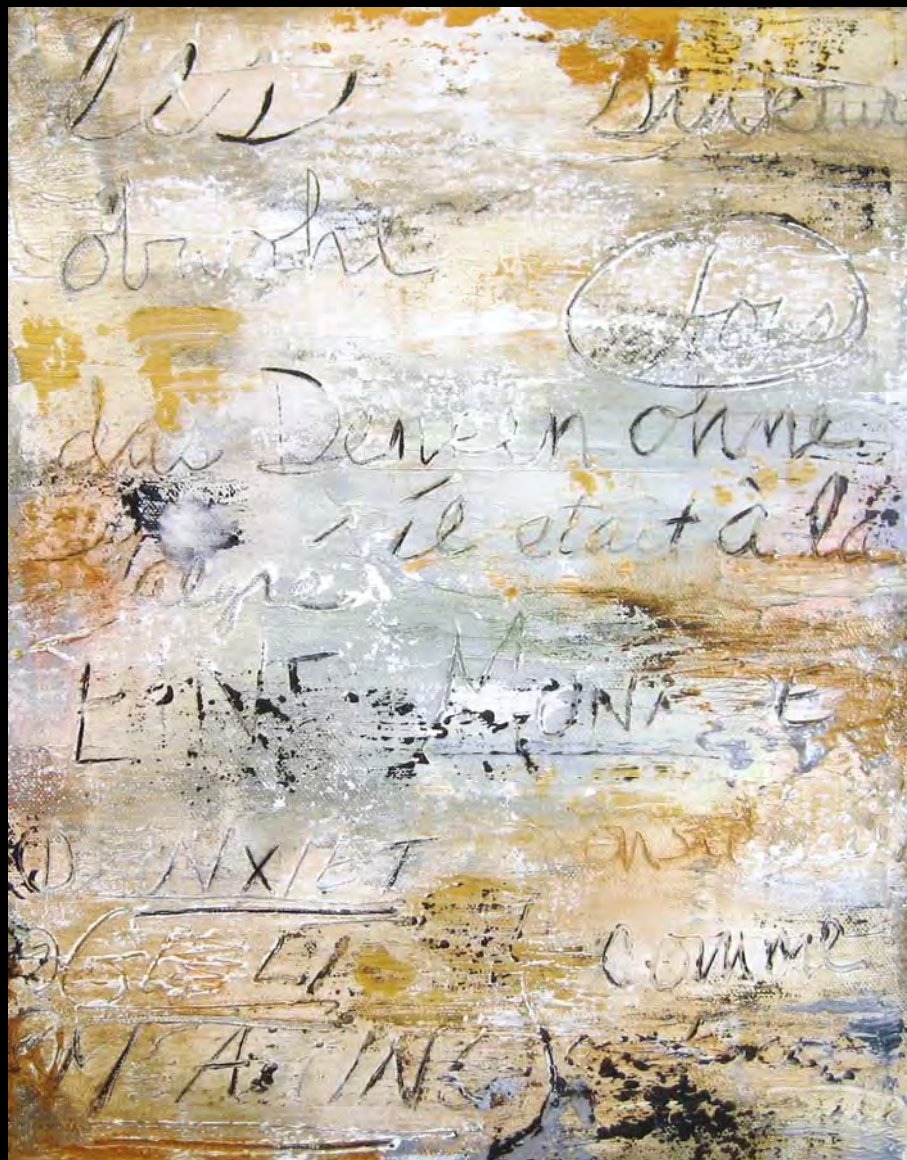
Fire, 2008
60" x 35" oil on canvas



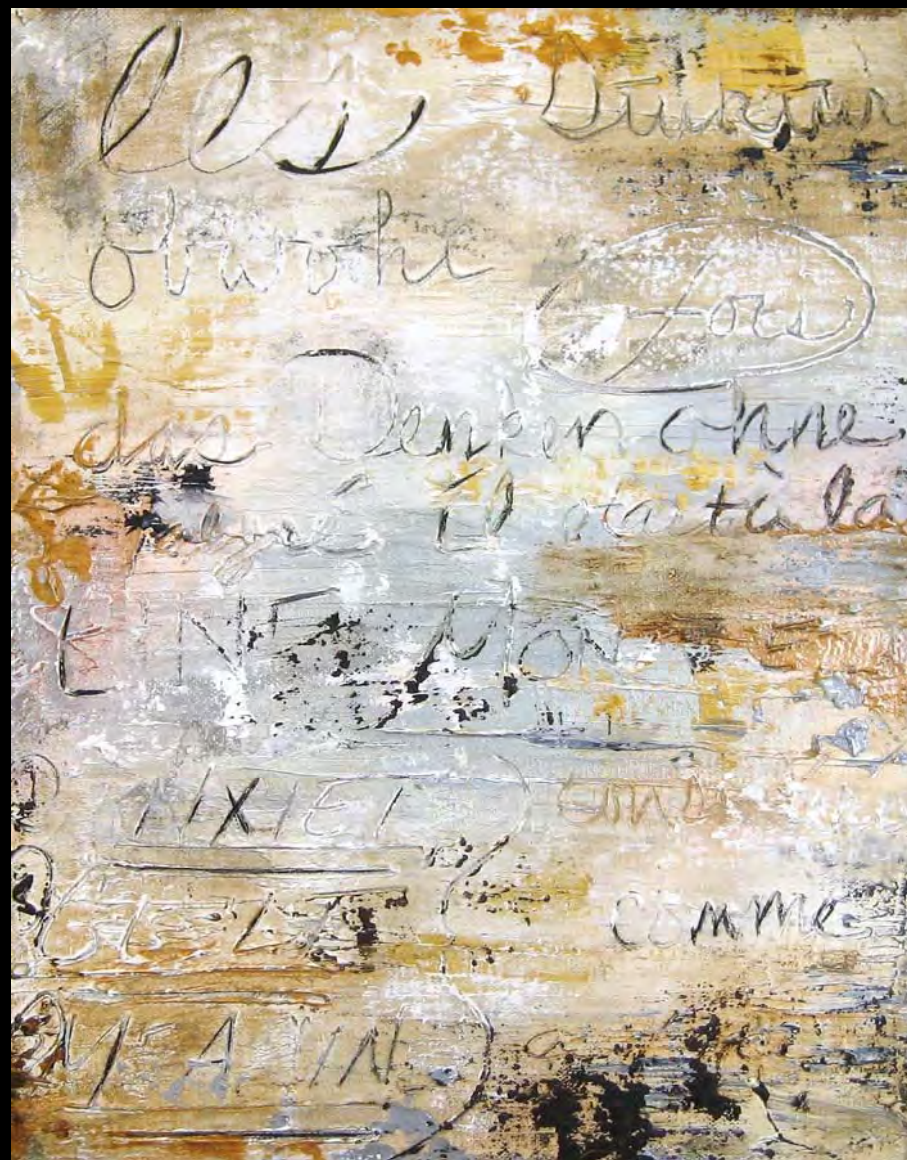
Soul, 2008
67" x 72" oil on canvas



"Body" 2008
67" x 72" oil on canvas



Thinking, 2008
14"x 11" oil on canvas



Being, 2008
14"x 11" oil on canvas

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