



Josep Maynou
(b.1980, based in Barcelona and Paris)

Josep Maynou's multidisciplinary approach comes together as a form of contemporary storytelling that situates itself beyond the traditional art formats, often leading to installations in places such as TV repair shops, private apartments, abandoned spaces, laundromats or second-hand stores. His rugs, like his posters or his lamps are inevitably transfigured when they enter the space of contemporary art but, once again, they become everyday objects and props for his performances.

Josep Maynou (1980, Pineda) studied Fine Arts at UB (Barcelona), Faculdade Belas Artes Porto (Porto) and Middlesex University (London). His solo shows include *Chuletas* (Bombon Projects, Barcelona 2023), *Point of Light Papitu* (Centro Párraga, Murcia 2022), *For some bags under the eyes* (Sans Titre, Paris 2022), *Chance is logical* (Tegenboschvanvreden, Amsterdam 2022), *13* (Idealfrühstück, Paris 2019), *LE LUCKY* (HVW8, Berlin 2019), *The Return of the Junker. JM2000* (Bombon Projects, Barcelona 2019), *Populaire* (Lehman&Silva, Porto 2019), *Leisure* (Bombon Projects, Barcelona 2017), *Thing1, Thing2* (Broken Dimanche Press, Berlin 2017), *Things: To do* (Beverly's, NYC 2017) or *The Ninja from Marrackech* (Galerie Suvi Lehtinen, Berlin 2015). Recent group shows include *This must be the place* (L+S Projects, Porto 2020), *Textus ex Machina* (aqb PROJECT SPACE, Budapest 2019), *Hunter of Worlds* (Salts, Basel 2018), *Supersimetrica* (Matadero, Madrid 2018), *How to do things...* (Lehmann + Silva, Porto 2017), *Black garden* (Galería L21, Palma de Mallorca 2013), *Alpina huus* (Le Commun, Geneve 2017), *A Lovers Discord* (Moca, London 2016), *Warped Miami* (GSL Projekt, Miami Basel, Miami 2015) or *The inclination of the jungle* (Junefirst Gallery, Berlin 2015). Recent performances include *ENSEMBLE, survivre maintenant* (Palais de Tokyo, Paris 2019), *TIME* (The Institute for Endotic Research, Berlin 2019), *Pane Per Poveri* (Laatrac, Athens 2017), *Making Public Program* (Fundació Tapies, Barcelona 2017) and Material Art Fair (Mexico City 2016).



For his second show at Bombon, multidisciplinary Spanish artist Josep Maynou presents a series of new and old works made of found, gifted or appropriated objects. With the cheeky title ‚Chuletas‘, which means as much as cheat codes, the artist unites a flock of text and film based works alongside his trademark, surrealistic objects - readymades that read themselves as ‚life captions‘ of the everyday. His works emit awe and wonder in a most subtle yet fantastical, imaginary and mind bending manner, like when a grandfather is telling his grandson bedtime stories where small boxes of baking soda are turning into foam expanding playhouses or suit belts are snaking around columns becoming animate objects; talking about restraint and order, about not losing one's pants and of course fake luxury brands. This is the world of Josep Maynou, a free circling diaristic world, which serves the viewer simple life hacks. His works stop time for a few moments where wit and poetry merge into one, a metamorphosis not only of structure and matter but of ideas and definitions.

Two of the most striking groups of works are on the one hand a series of wooden chopping boards, hung from a metal railing. Different in sizes and shapes, they are incised via the means of drawing with a burning needle. Depicting small cartoons, texts, notes - they are often made in collaboration with friends and family - an analog IG feed if you want, charmingly reminding you of the comfy dinner you had with friends in their kitchen.

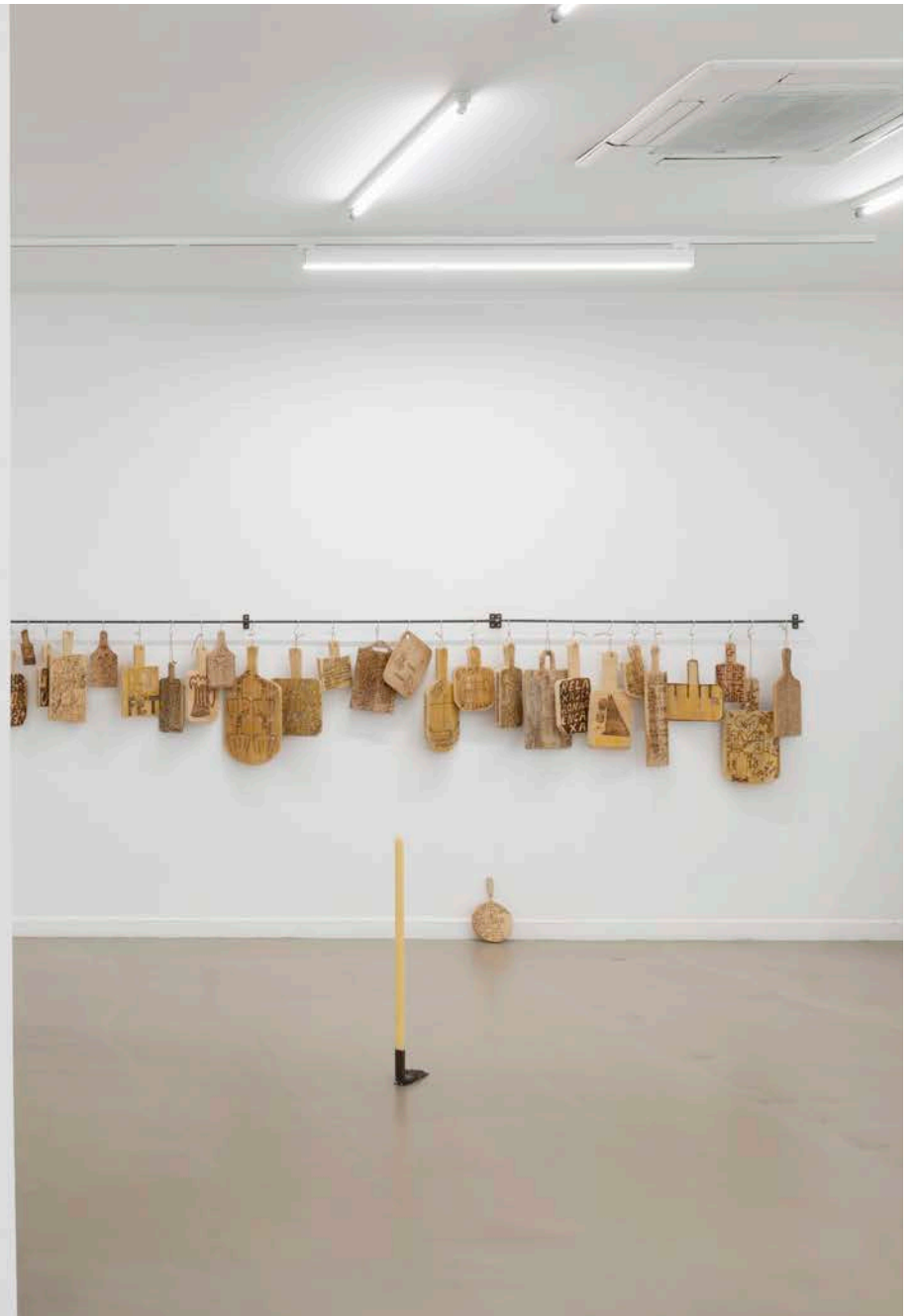
– Fragment of the exhibition text by
Samuel Leuenberger

Chopping Chuletas, 2022- 2023. Josep Maynou.
Variable sizes, pyrography on wood. Iron bar.

Chopping Chuletas, 2022- 2023, Josep Maynou, exhibition detail



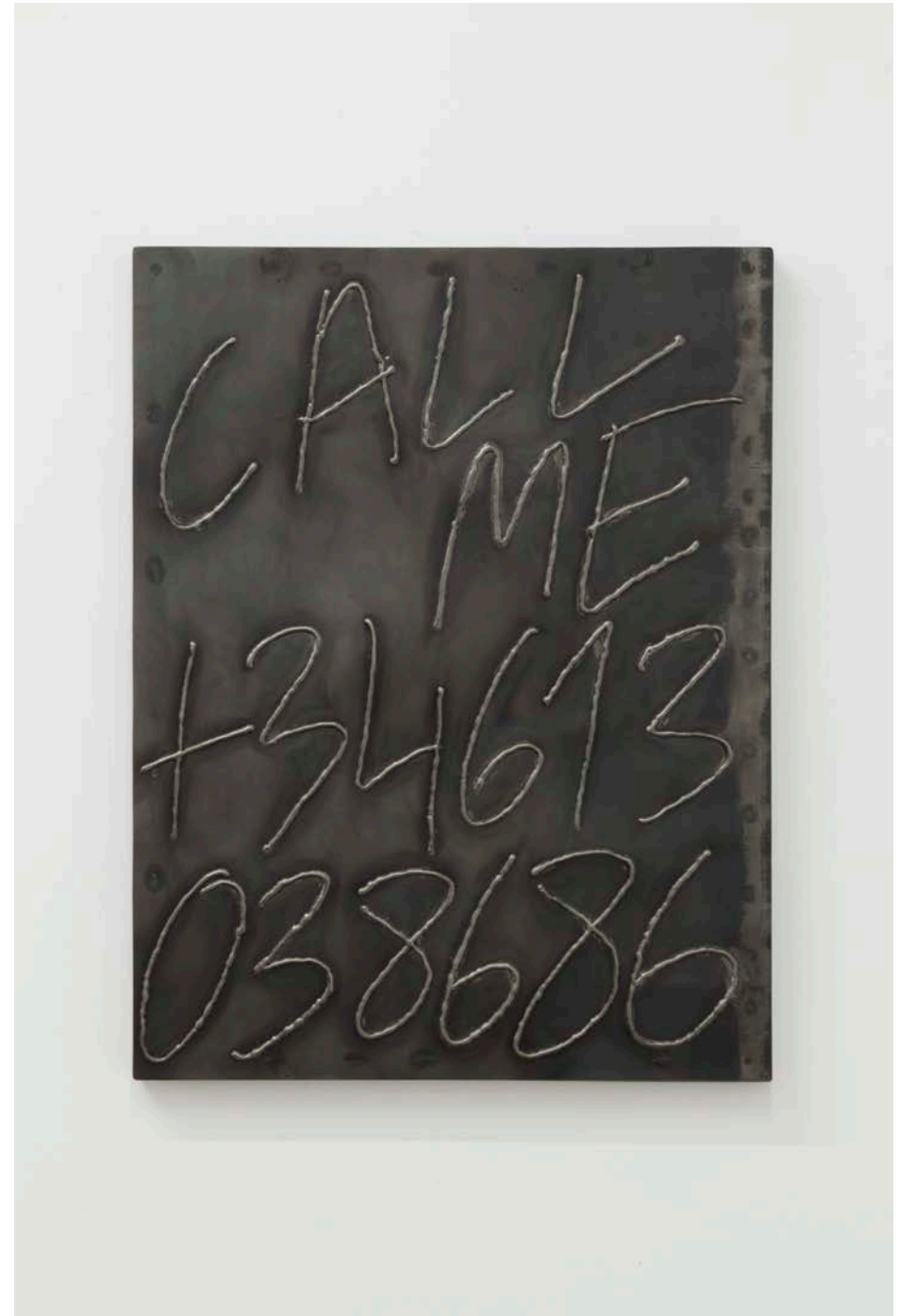
Chopping Chuletas, 2022- 2023, Josep Maynou



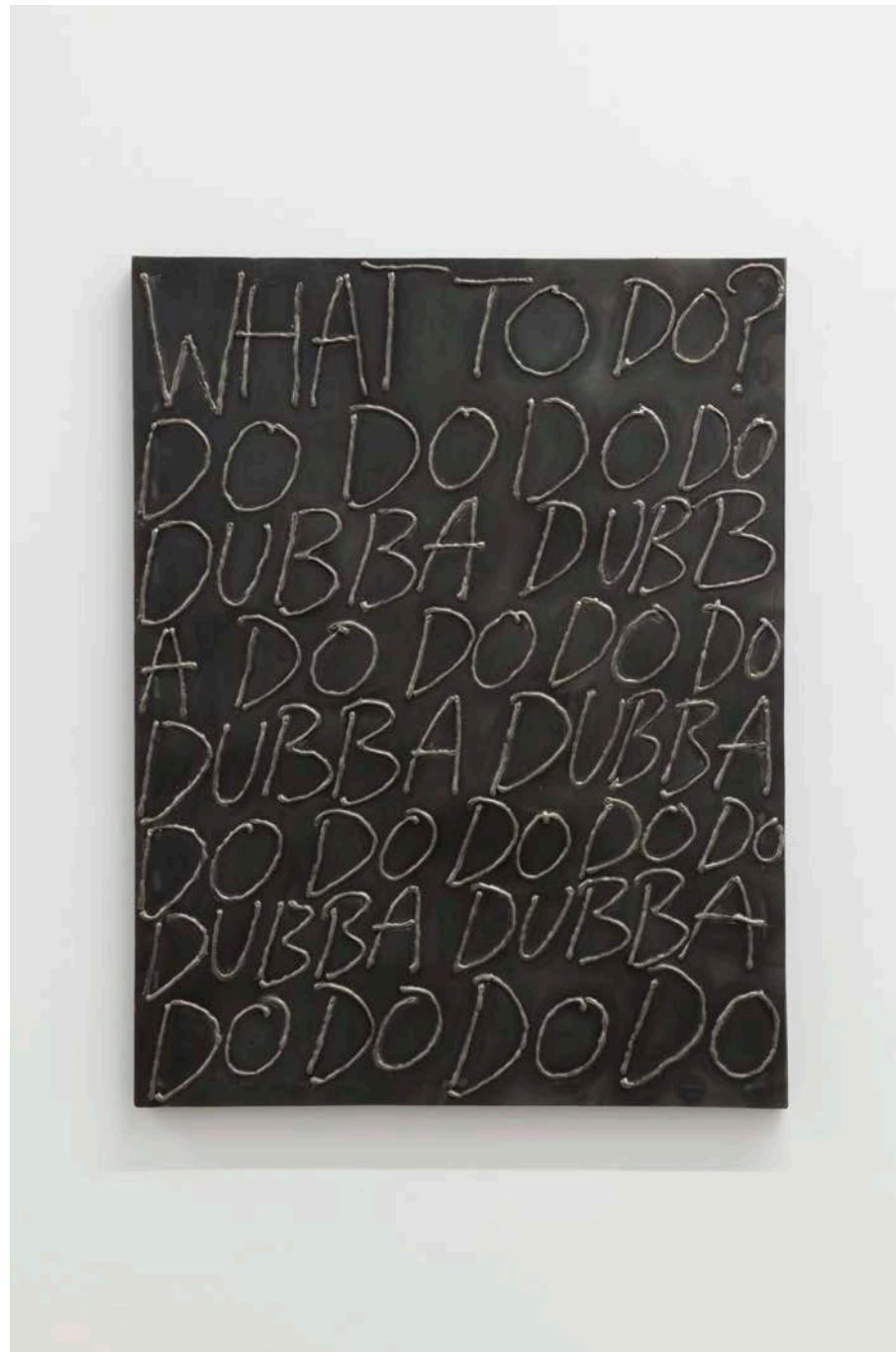
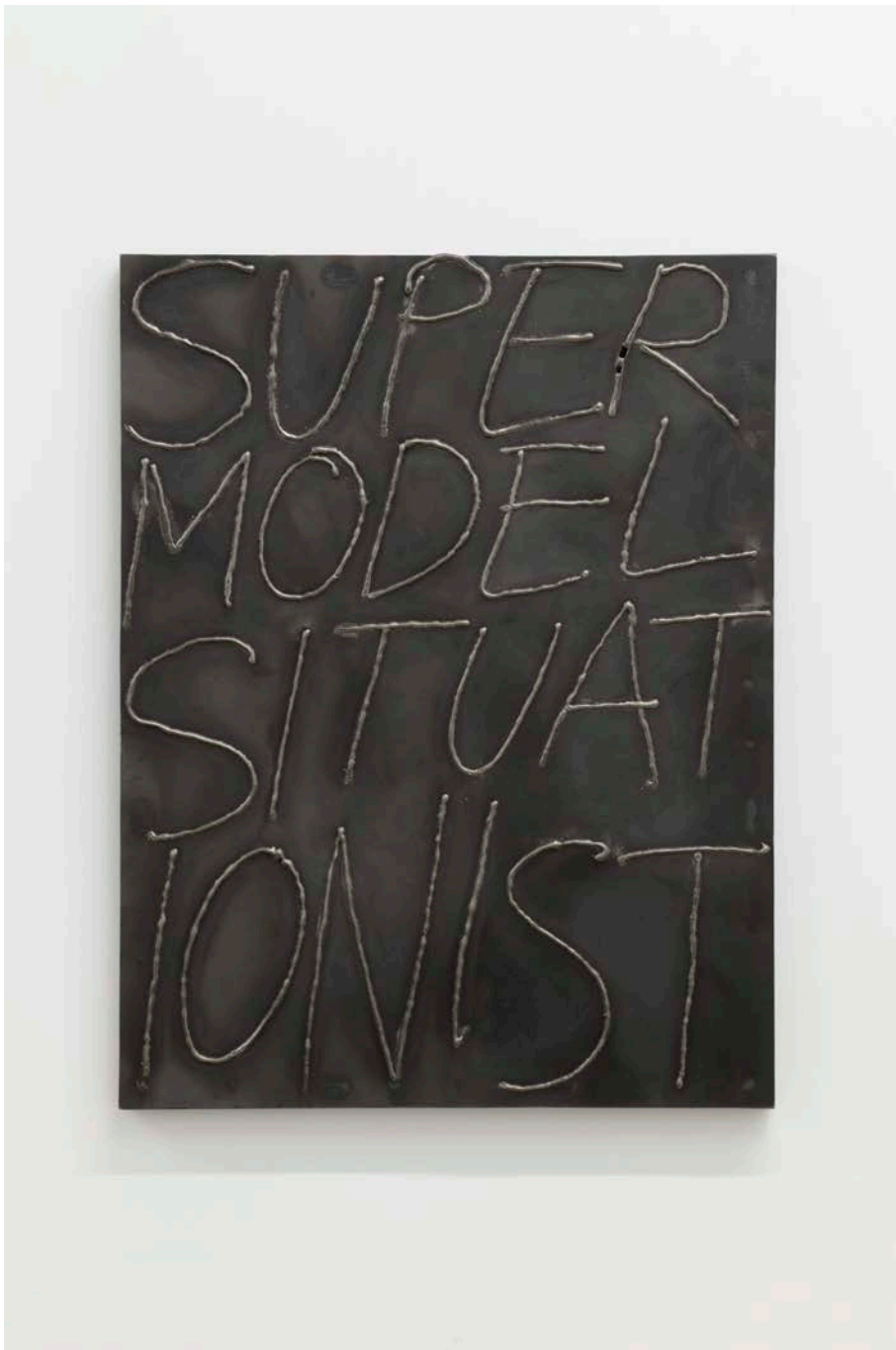
Chuletas, exhibition view, 2023

Across the room on the other side there is a series of new works - same sized metal plates are similar again to the wooden boards, written and drawn-on with the aid of a welding machine. Solid slightly raised lines look like some branding tattoo that spell out „ WhatToDo?DoDoDo...“ or „ CallMe+34...“or they outline forms and shapes of „Two Screws “next to each other while another looks like van Goghs „Stilllife: Vase with 12 Sunflowers“.

In both cases, through the repetition of these monochromatically tinted wooden or metal notepads comes a certain sense of calm, familiarity and sense of introspection despite it not making sense on a personal level. Somehow, there is a deeper connection being formed - something within our own DNA gives us this AHA experience where we see our own reflection or as Jung would call it, where we share a collective subconscious that is arrested within the times we live in.



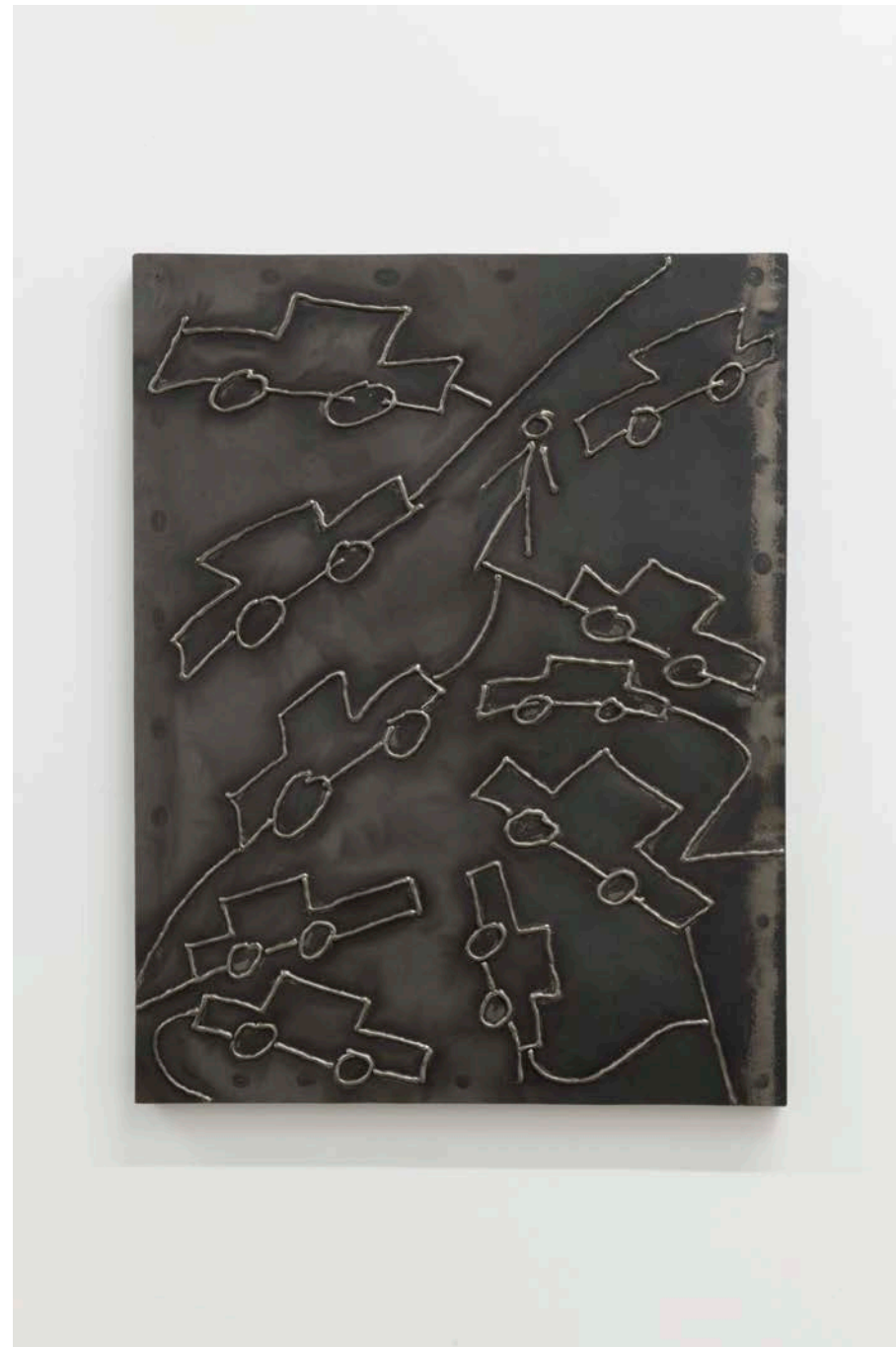
Call me?, 2023
Welding on iron plate varnished with matt transparent epoxy
66.5 x 50 x 2.8 cm



Super Model Situationist, 2023 / What to do?, 2023. Welding on iron plate varnished with matt transparent epoxy. 66.5 x 50 x 2.8 cm.



Nail and Screw, 2023 / TRY 2023. Welding on iron plate varnished with matt transparent epoxy. 66.5 x 50 x 2.8 cm.



One cigarette leads to another, 2023 / Car fighter, 2023. Welding on iron plate varnished with matt transparent epoxy. 66.5 x 50 x 2.8 cm.



Chuletas, exhibition view, 2023



Wedding Boots, 2022
Boots
43 x 51 x 11 cm



Ashtray, 2022
Barcelona city fence, glass ashtray and clipper
90.5 x 42 x 42 cm



Chuletas, exhibition view, 2023



Argent, 2022
Hubcaps, electrical equipment, metal chain and
various personal items
90 x 41 x 41 cm



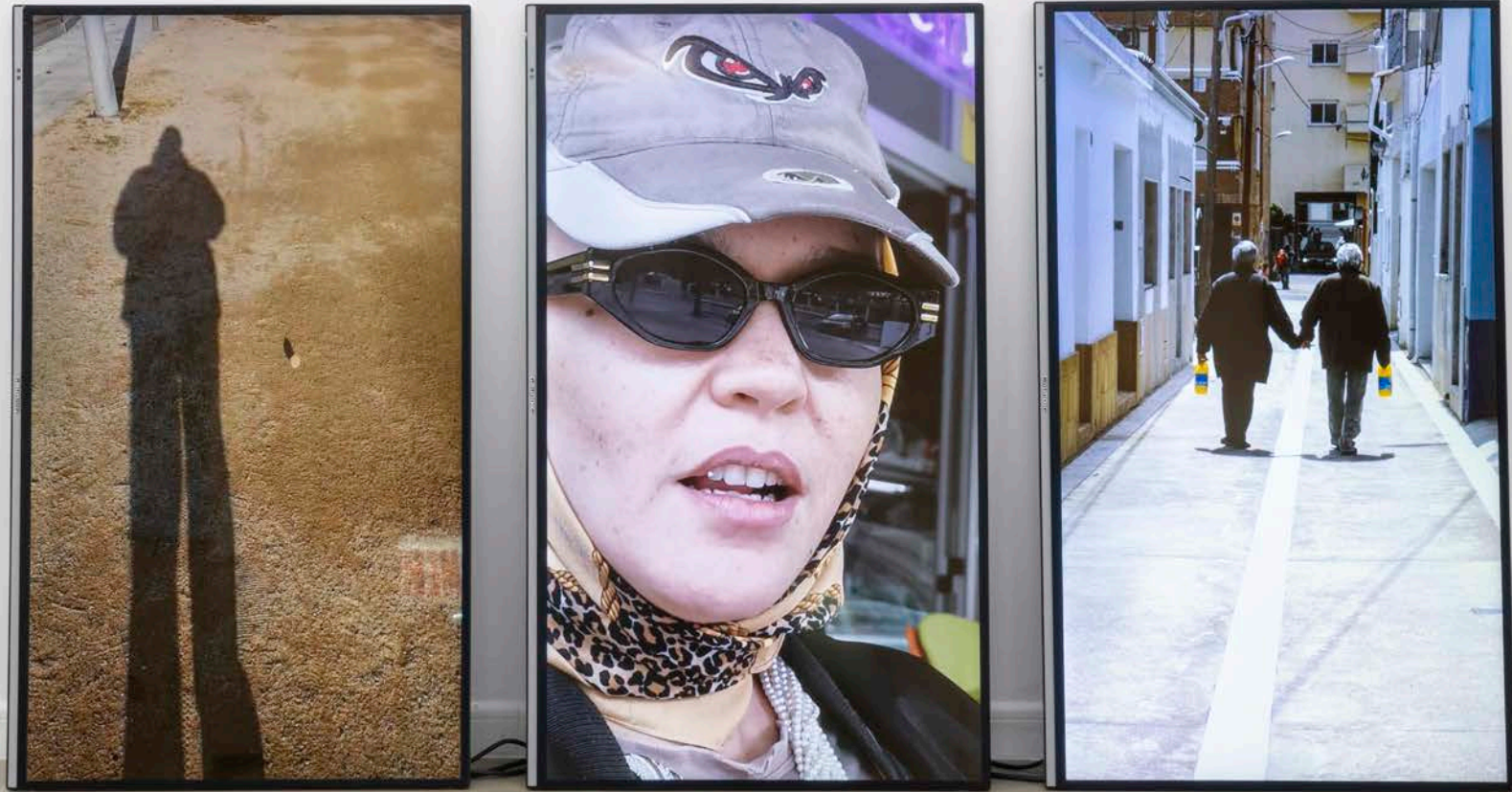
Flamingo, 2022
Tashka, carpet comb and candle
88 x 21 x 8 cm



All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them, 2022

Black backpack and bottle with water, various personal items
40 x 31 x 31 cm





Against the back wall and facing the gallery's entrance, sit three large vertical TV screens depicting short video clips made in his studio or outdoors in public, they are images of the artist's shadow kicking a stone, his wife tongue-clicking to the beat of a song or an old couple walking down an alley holding hands, while in their other, they are holding identical bottles, an image of perfect symmetry only rendered possible after years of cohabitation. Maynou creates countless short videos, made on his cell phone and adds them to his growing diaristic inventory of sometimes more; and sometimes less important observations cv. One day his recordings, animate or inanimate will become the source of research, of how humanity lived in the early 21st century, complex stories unpacked into simplified hieroglyphical slates of images. Josep Maynou is a modern day archeologist because he sees things as they truly are, without any suggestion of hyperbole intent, they simply serve as cheat codes for everyone and everything can become.

Chuletas, 2023
Triptych video loop
Ed. 5 + 2 PA



Peace dove, 2023. Painted wood and industrial cigarret. 17 x 37 x 3.5 cm.



Don't Do It, 2022
Belts on column
Variable dimensions

René Daniels, 2021.
Jack Daniels bottle with
drawing.
17 x 5 x 5 cm.



T TRANS 4x4 ROCKY

Línia, 2019
Josep Maynou with Jordi Mitjà
Variable dimensions



“Another important group of works that the artist creates on an almost daily basis are made with his cell phone, short video clips made at a given moment at home, in his studio or in public. Maynou creates a countless number of almost impossible tricks, similar to the hundreds of thousands found online, usually of children trying to sneak a ball into a distant container, bouncing the projectile over various obstacles and strange angles, to finally land on target, in the aforementioned hole. It’s a simple man’s magic trick that becomes a success through clever editing and countless number of attempts to achieve the final, successful shot.”

Excerpt from the text by Samuel Leuenberger for the exhibition
Point of Light Papitu at Centro Párraga, Murcia 2022

Untitled, 2021 - 2022

Josep Maynou

Video 10'

Video fragment [here](#)

Ed. 1/5

Juggler II, 2023
Josep Maynou
Aluminum and petanque balls
60 x 30 x 30 cm





Juggler III, 2023

Josep Maynou

Aluminium and petanque balls

40 x 30 x 30 cm

Joker, 2022
Josep Maynou
Trousers with cell phone
95 x 40 cm





POMME



Fils, 2019, Josep Maynou. Aluminium, 9 x 21 x 28 cm.



Et voilà, 2022
Josep Maynou
Hand-woven rug, 100% wool
and recycled clothing
244 x 180 cm



Zzzzzt, 2022

Josep Maynou

Hand-woven rug, 100% wool
and fabric

74 x 263 cm



We also want to put the focus on a series of posters announcing fictional movies that the artist makes up and explains in his performances. These unrealized films only exist as posters that Maynou commissions to other artists, who are free to interpretate the story as they wish, engaging in a collaboration that adds nuances and content to the final version of this invented films. These co-produced works imply a knowledge of context and the formation of personal relationships within a community over a large period of time, as is an essential part of Maynou's practice.

Taghazout Zombie, 2017
Josep Maynou with Ismaël Bogrine
Acrylic on canvas
105 x 75 cm

Wet suit couture, 2023
Josep Maynou with Ismaël Bogrine
Acrylic on canvas
98 x 58 cm





DIE Basel, 2020
Josep Maynou with Rafel.Bianchi Acrylic on
canvas
120 x 70 cm



DIE Basel, 2020
Josep Maynou with Rafel.Bianchi
Acrylic on canvas
120 x 70 cm

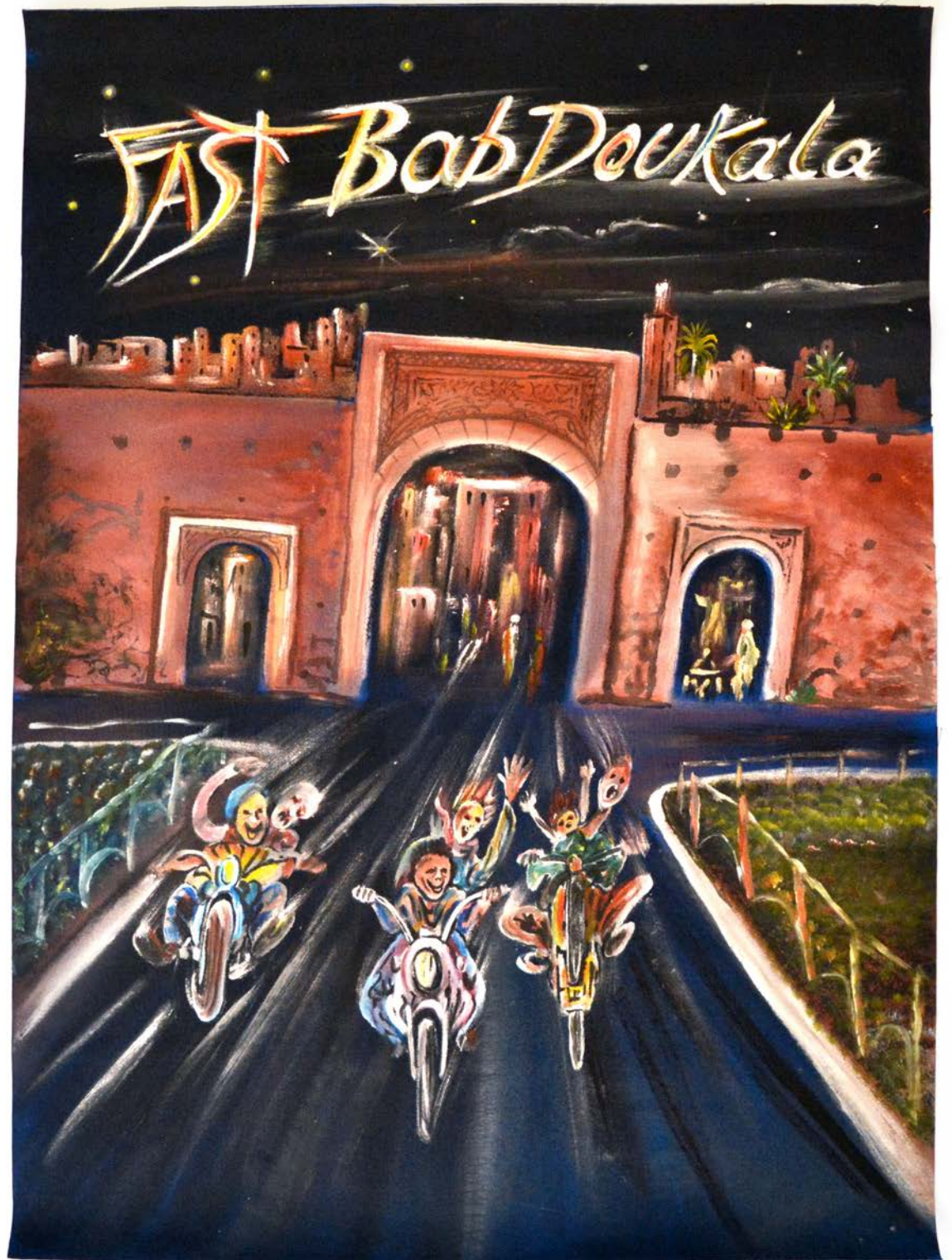


Le chat qui fume, 2020

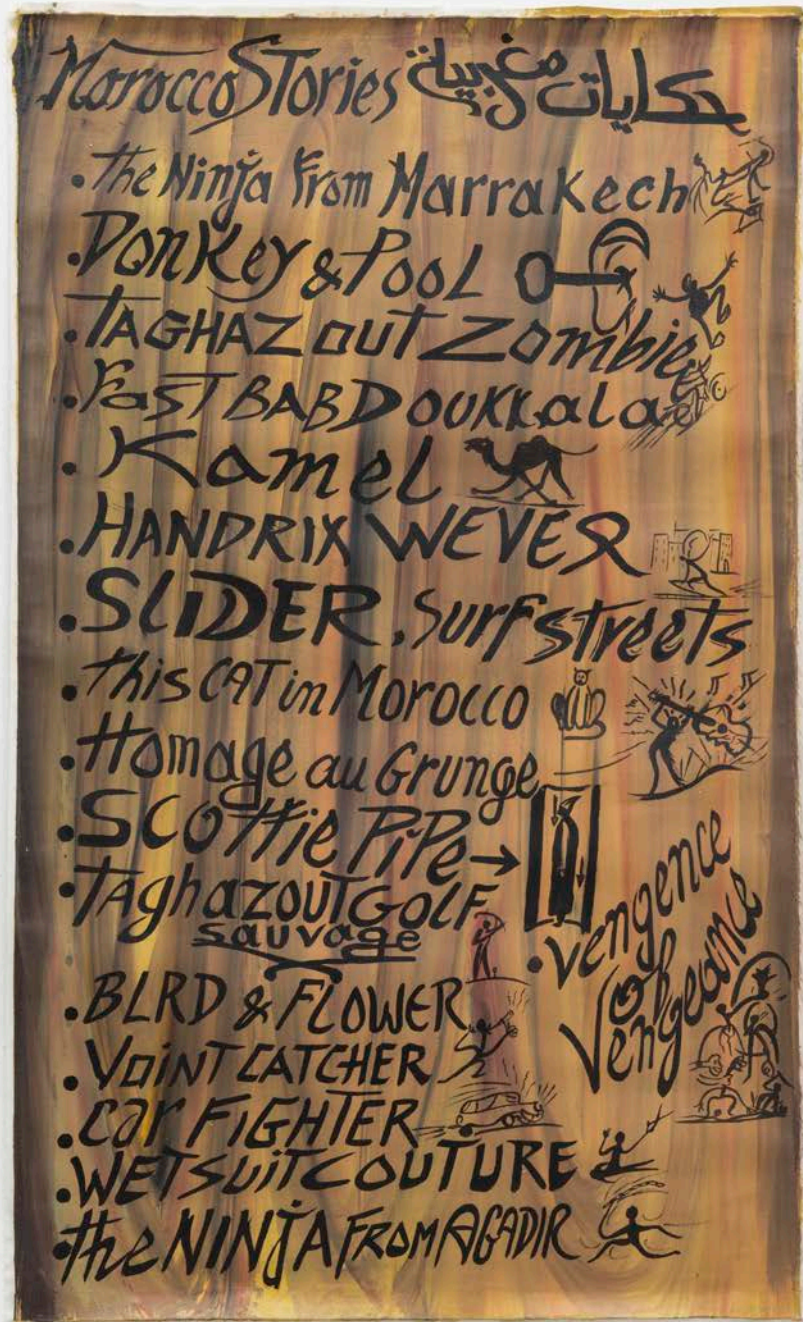
Josep Maynou

Acrylic on paper

100 x 70 cm



Fast Bab Doukala, 2018
Josep Maynou
Acrylic on paper
100 x 60 cm



Morocco Stories, 2023

Josep Maynou with Ismaël Bogrine

Acrylic on canvas

100 x 61 cm



Gladiator, 2023, Josep Maynou. Acrylic on canvas, 45 x 55 cm.

BIO

Barcelona, 1980 / Lives and works in between Barcelona and Paris

EDUCATION

2000 - 2004

Fine Arts, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

2002

Erasmus, Middlesex University, London, UK

2003 - 2004

Erasmus, Faculdade de Belas Artes da Universidade do Porto,
Porto, Portugal

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

POINT OF LIGHT PAPITU, Centro Párraga, Murcia

2021

UPCOMING EXHIBITION - Self Bazar, Una Galleria, Piacenza, Italy

2020

Ensemble, survivre maintenant, performance, Palais de Tokyo, Paris

2019

TIME, Editing Spaces Part 3, The Institute for Endotic Research
(TIER), Berlin

13, Idealfrühstück, Paris

To bow at the beginning not at the end, Collection Born, Munich, DE

2018

POPULAIRE, curated by Arielle Bier, Lehmann + Silva, Porto,
Portugal

Souk de Ouf, Metaxu, Toulon, France

Solo Project, CODE Art Fair with Lehmann + Silva, Copenhagen,
Denmark

Voyage, La Place, Barcelona, Spain

2017

Thing 1 Thing 2, Broken Dimanche Press, Berlin, Germany

Things: To Do, Beverly's, New York, USA

Whattodo, GSL Projekt, Berlin, Germany

Leisure, Bombon Projects, Barcelona, Spain

2015

The Ninja from Marrakech, GSL Projekt, Berlin, Germany

2014

It's OK, 48 STUNDEN NEUKÖLLN, Berlin, Germany

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021

Art-o-Rama, with Bombon Projects, Marseille, France

Parar a la Fresca, Bombon Projects, Galeria Joan Prats and

Nogueras Blanchard, summer exhibition, Fonteta, Girona

Hurrah for anything, Bombon Projects, Barcelona, Spain

NADA HOUSE, Governors Island, NYC, USA

RESET, Instruccions per comencar en un nou present, curated by

Aina Pomar, TACA, Mallorca

2020

S.M.S (Shit Must Stop), Bombon Projects, Barcelona

Thundercage, Edition 19, Paris, France

THIS MUST BE THE PLACE., curated by Sofia Lemos, L+S Projects,
Porto, Portugal

QUARANTINE GALLERY @ the world wide web, Earth, Solar System

ONE NIGHT DANCE, performance, SPACED OUT x PSM Gallery,
Brandenburg

2019

Return of the Junker: JM2000, with Jordi Mitjà, curated by Sira Pizà,
Bombon Projects, Barcelona

Telephone, OGR, Torino

Le Lucky, HVW8 Berlin

Textus ex Machina, curated by Peter Bencze, aqb PROJECT SPACE,
Budapest, HU

Swamp Horses, Spirit Vessel, Espinavessa, ES

I'm Trying to Explain, L21, Mallorca, ES

- 2018
Sunday Art Fair, with Bombon Projects, London, UK
Hunter of Worlds, curated by Elise Lammer, SALTS, Birsfelden, Switzerland
Notes for a Shell #2, curated by Jordi Antas and Sergio Verastegui, Plage de La Verreire, Marseille, France
Black garden, L21 gallery, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
A hush of hell, Abandoned TV Studio, Melbourne, Australia
My body doesn't like summer, Haverkamp Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Expo Recoverso, Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France
If I do nothing, nothing does, The Scan project room, London, UK
ARCOLisboa 2018, Lisbon, Portugal
Supersimetrica, Matadero, Madrid, Spain
- 2017
Alpina Huus II. House of Deep Transformation in 12 acts, Le Commun, Geneva, Switzerland
How to do things..., curated by Juan Luís Toboso, Lehmann + Silva, Porto, Portugal
Lazy River, Little Sister Gallery, Toronto, Canada
3am, Kunstfabrik, Berlin, Germany
Someday's, Kinderhook and Caracas, Berlin, Germany
A Weekend Fix, Tropez, Berlin, Germany
Viajes Paraiso, video collaboration for the exhibition by Sol Calero, Kunstpalais Erlangen, Erlangen, Germany
WHATTODO, GSL Projekt, Berlin, Germany
LOOP - Video Art Festival, Barcelona, Spain
Pane per Poveri, LATRAAC, Documenta 14, Athens, Greece
Making public program, live performance, Fundació Tàpies, Barcelona, Spain
- 2016
3am, Kunstfabrik Performance Festival, Berlin, Germany
Twang of Ten, group live performance, Kismet, Munich, Germany
Beverly's x Artsy, Acud Macht Neu, Berlin, Germany
A Lovers Discord, Moca, London, UK
Smiley, Echo Buecher, Berlin, Germany
Material Art Fair, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2015
Warped Miami, GSL Projekt, Miami Basel, Miami, USA
Swab Art Fair, Barcelona, Spain
Even Potential, Harbor Gallery, New York, USA
Tough Guys Soft Ice, sound performance, Terrace Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
Yes & Know, Beverly's, New York, USA
Pane Per Poveri, 72 hours in the 56th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
The inclination of the angle, Junefirst Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2014
CPH Show, The Pocket Project, Copenhagen, Denmark
REGENERATE14, Generator Hostel, Berlin, Germany
- 2013
DIN A33, Louis 21, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
- 2012
Draw the line, Liebkranz Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2011
For the Time Being, Performance Festival, Berlin, Germany
Remix Cinema Workshop, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
Transmediale, Das Weekend, Berlin, Germany
- 2010
Das Hotel Fresh, hosted by Ulf Saupe, Berlin, Germany
Fenster Front Festival, Berlin, Germany
Serendypia, Galeria Arsenal, Poznan, Poland
Strange Action, PS122, New York, USA
Offensichtlich öffentlich, Galeria Eva Bracke, Berlin, Germany
- 2009
48stunden, Neukolln, Berlin, Germany
- 2007
GlogAIR, Berlin, Germany
- 2005
Art Comestible, Palau Ferial, Girona, Spain
- 2004
Istanbul dan Sevglier, Yedi Sanat, Istanbul, Turkey
Maus Hábitos, Porto, Portugal
Certmen de Pintura de Pequeno Formato, Sala Gallarta, Bizkaia, Spain

2003

Sala Parés, Barcelona, Spain

STRIPART, Centre Civic Horta, Barcelona, Spain

GETXOARTE03, Salón de las Artes Emergentes, Bilbao, Spain

RESIDENCIES

2021

BWA Sokolowsko Residency, Sokolowsko, Poland

2019

Metaxu, Toulon

2018

La Place, Barcelona

2017

Beverly's, New York

2007

GlogauAIR artists in residence, Berlin

2003

OFFICE, Istiklal, Istanbul

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