

# THE BODY

AS AN ARCHIVE



“This interconnection or accommodation of all created things to each other, and each to all the others, brings it about that each simple substance has relations that express all the others, and consequently, that each simple substance is a perpetual, living mirror of the universe.”

# THE BODY AS AN ARCHIVE

Friederike Ruff

„The Body as an Archive,, is a series of 22 painted and embroidered body organs.

In the center of each piece is an organ or another part of the human body surrounded by and connected with a specific pattern.

Every pattern is chosen by its meaning, corresponding to the physical and metaphorical function of each body part.

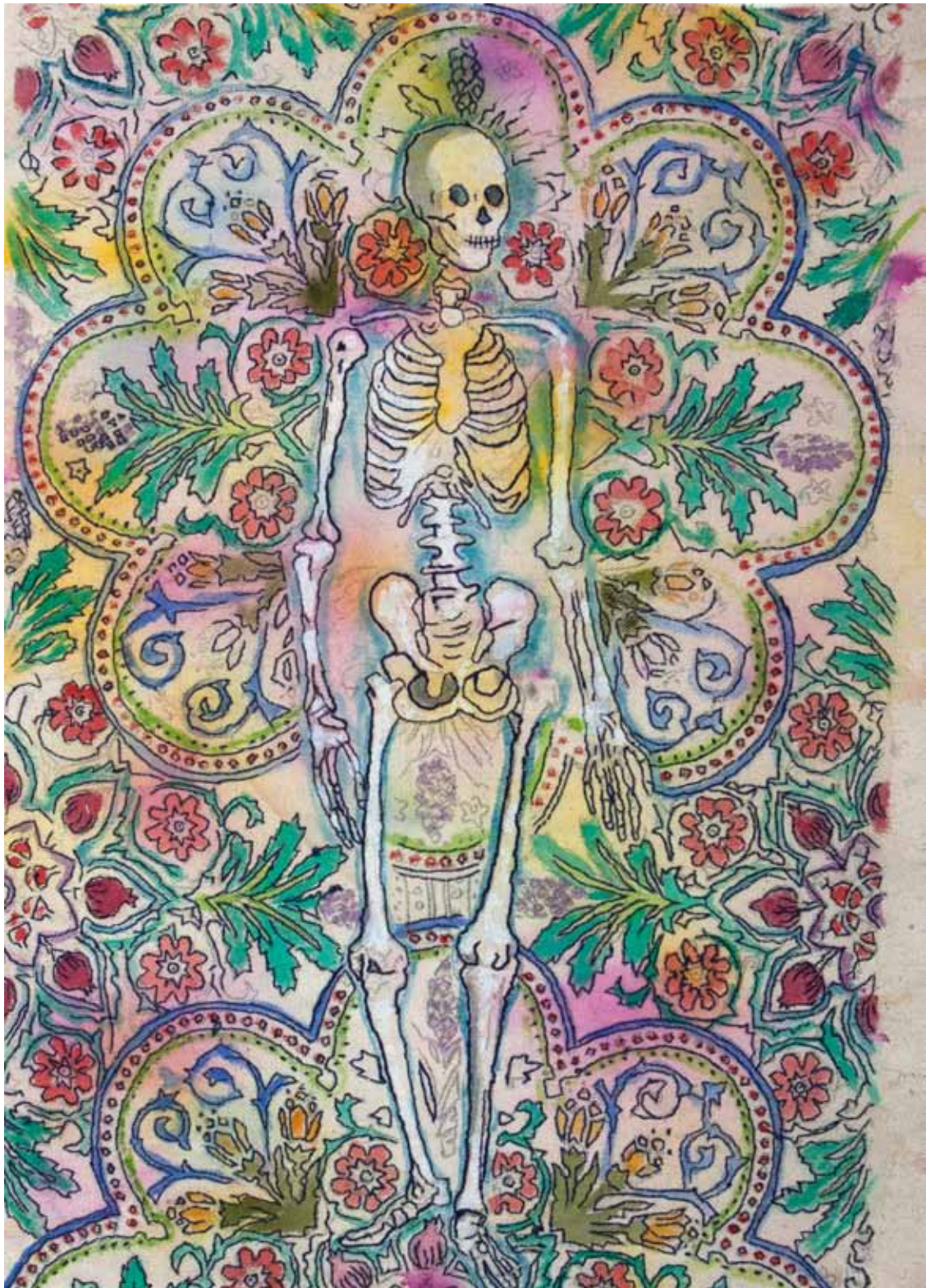
The basic idea of „The Body as an Archive“ following:

The memory of all our past experiences is not just stored in our brain but instead got an actual part of our whole body;

No organ is able to work isolated from the framework of the whole system.

In a wider sense this also means that every individual experience got part of the history of the human species itself .

Everything is connected to everything else, forming a big web, that grows with each personal life story.



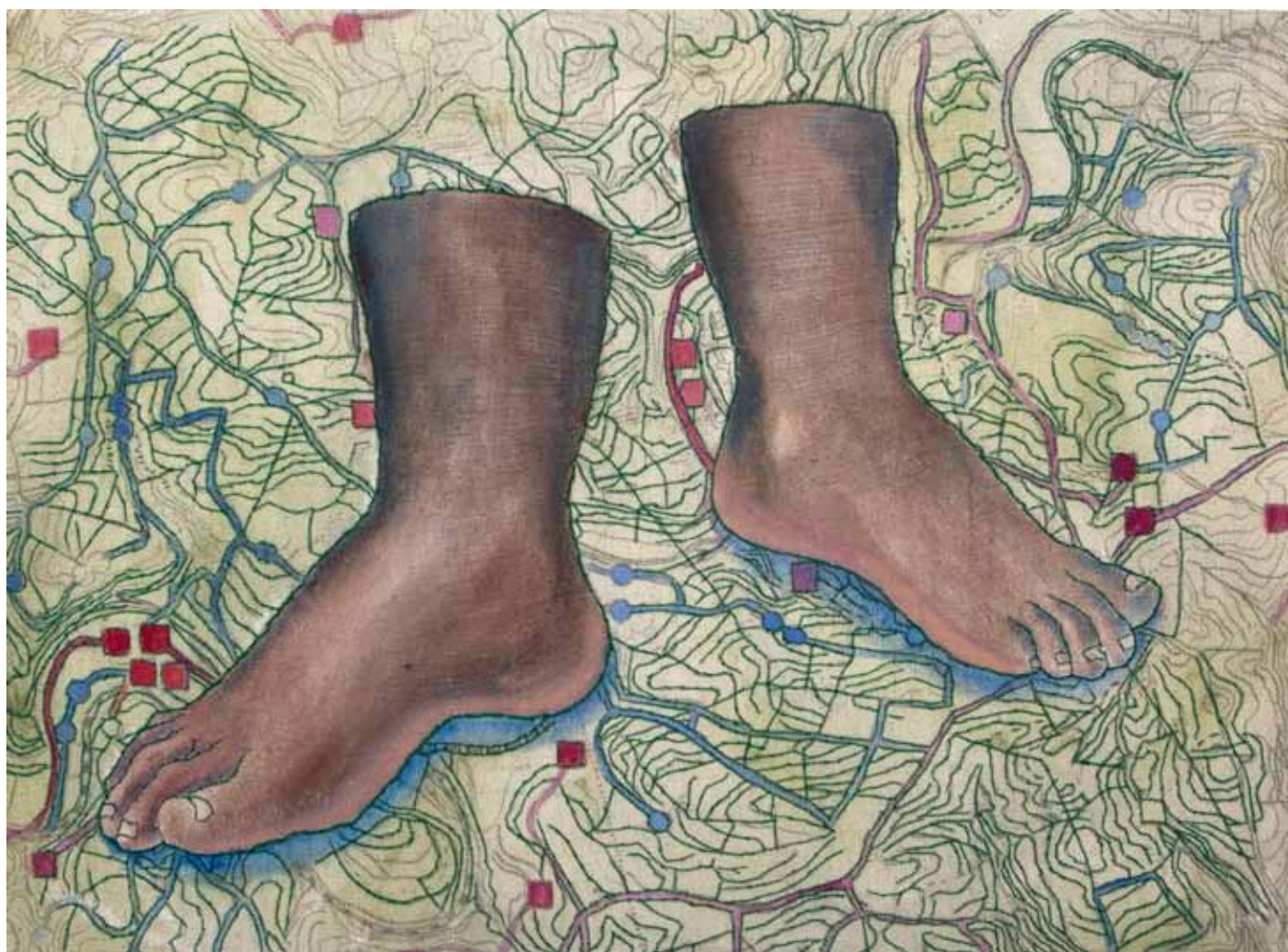
Title: It is the End from where we Start  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on  
canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Skeleton  
Pattern: East European Flower Pattern





Title: Hamsa  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Hand  
Pattern: Inspired by Traditional Aborigine Pattern, (Australia)





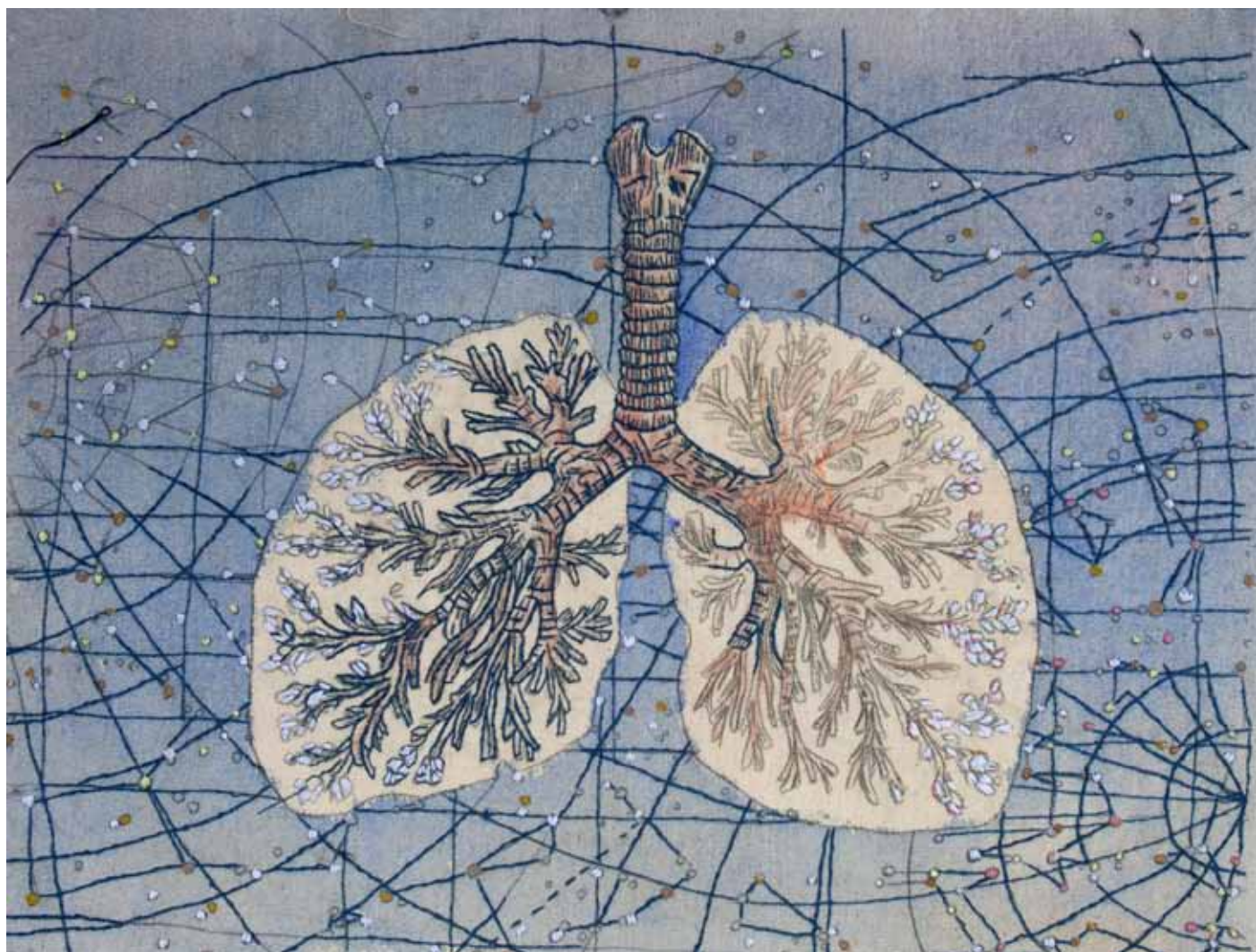
Title: "Travelers, there is no Path, Paths are made by Walking" Antonio Muchado

Details: 30 x 40 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Feet

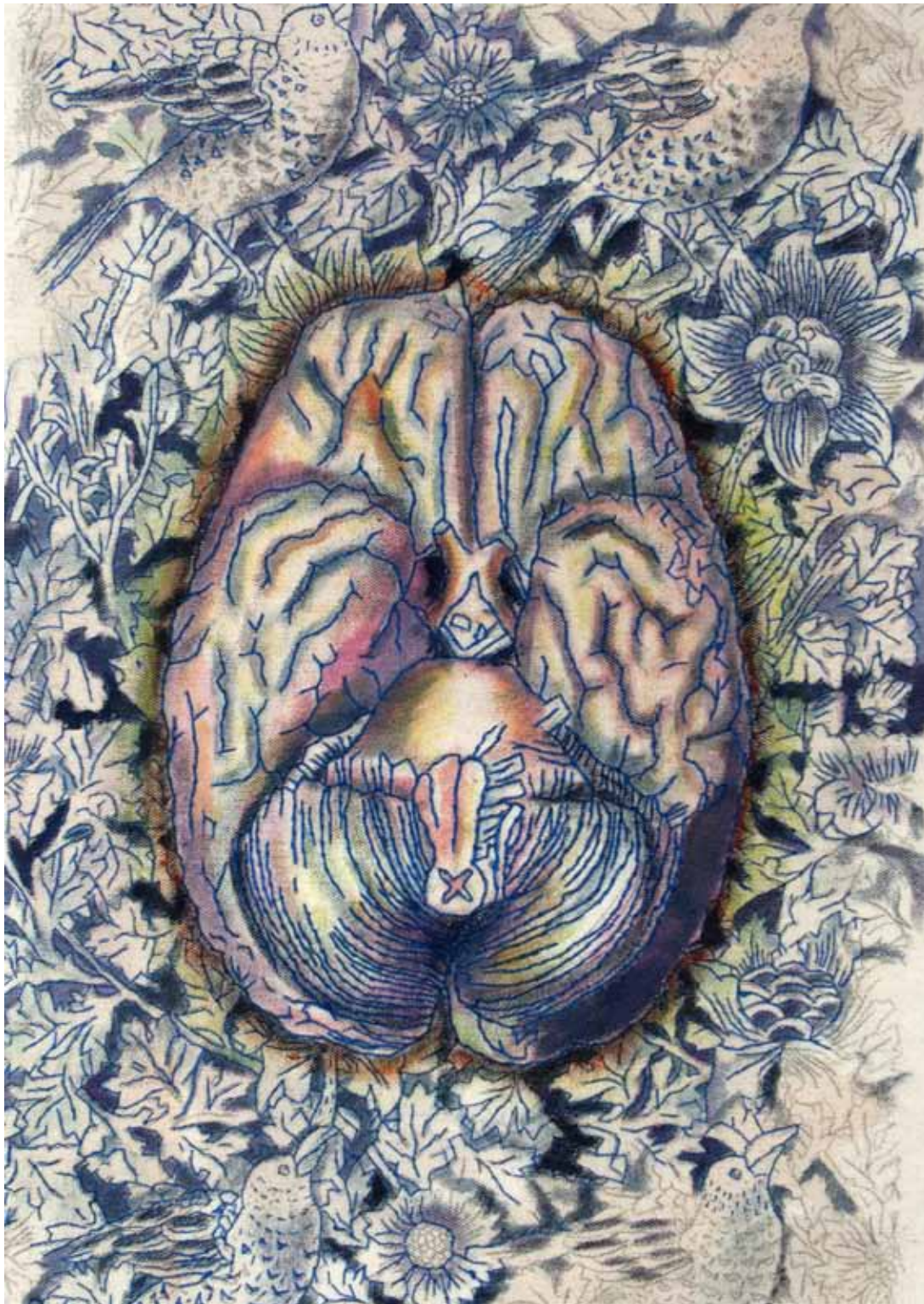
Pattern: Map





Title: Breathing in the Midnight Sky  
Details: 30 x 40 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas,  
2016-2017  
Organ: Feet  
Pattern: Map of Stars





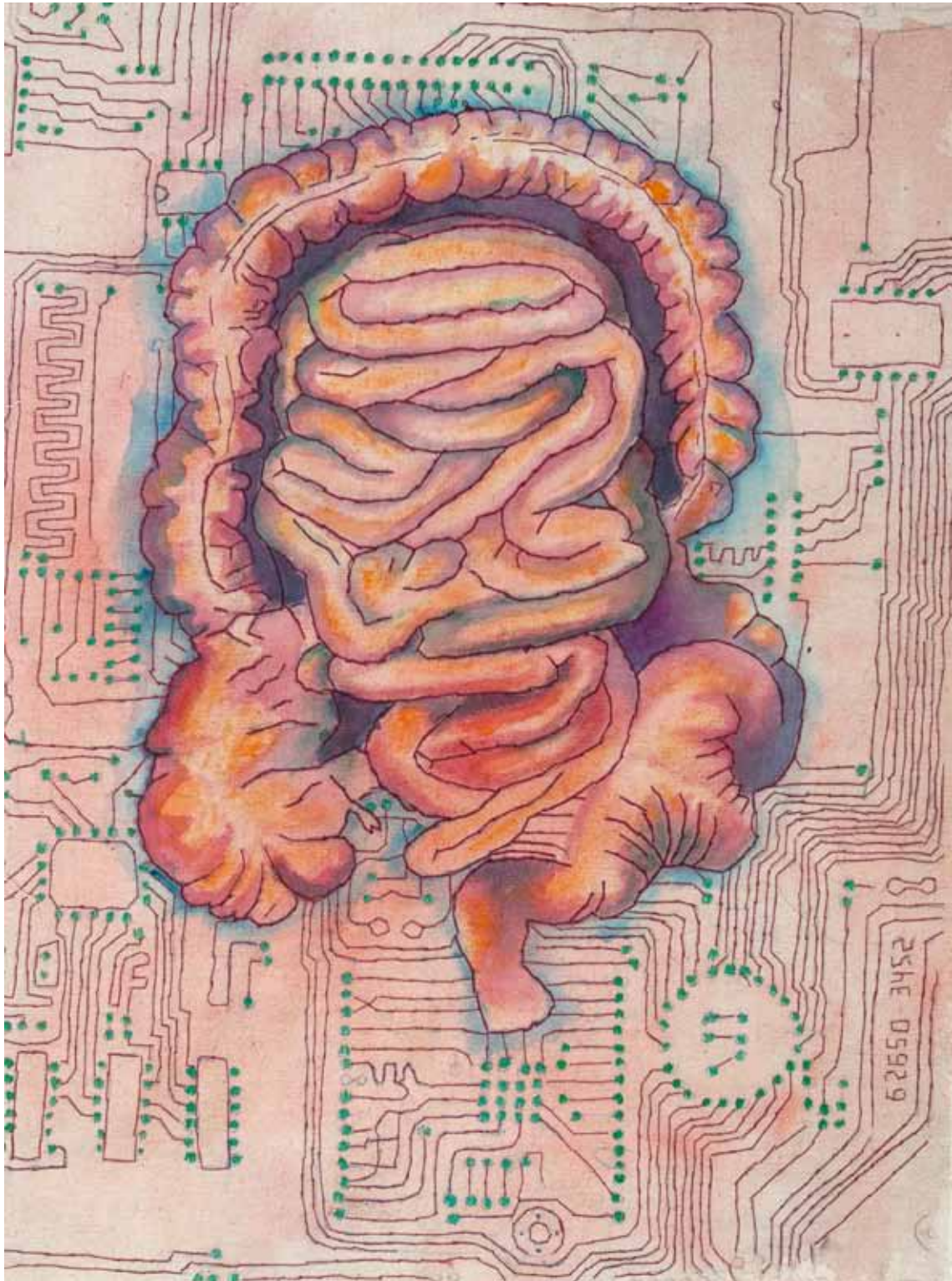
Title: Mind Map

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Brain

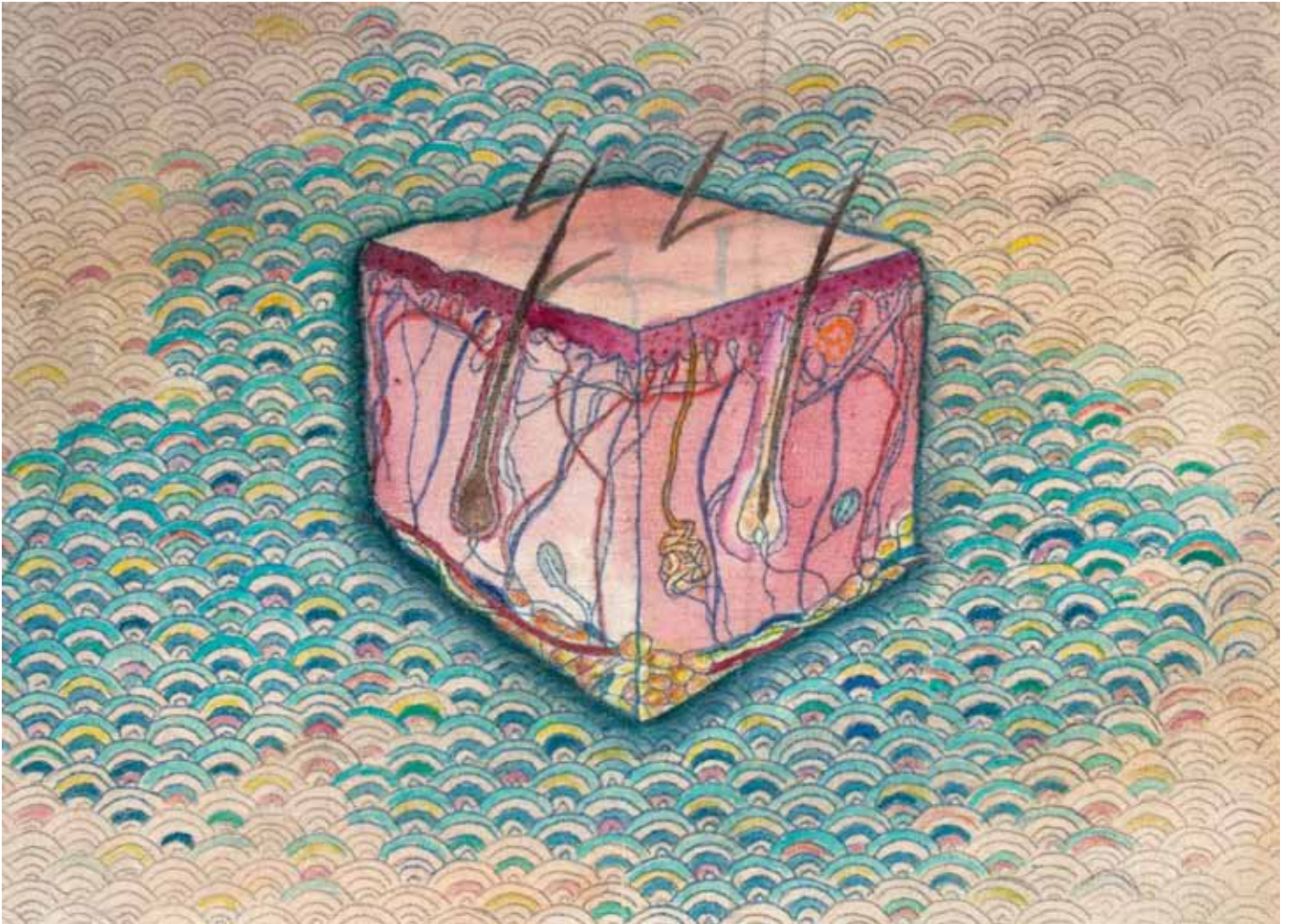
Pattern: Wallpaper Design by William Morris ,bird & anemone' 1881  
(Great Britain)





Title: Memory in Motion  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas,  
2016-2017  
Organ: Gut  
Pattern: PC Board





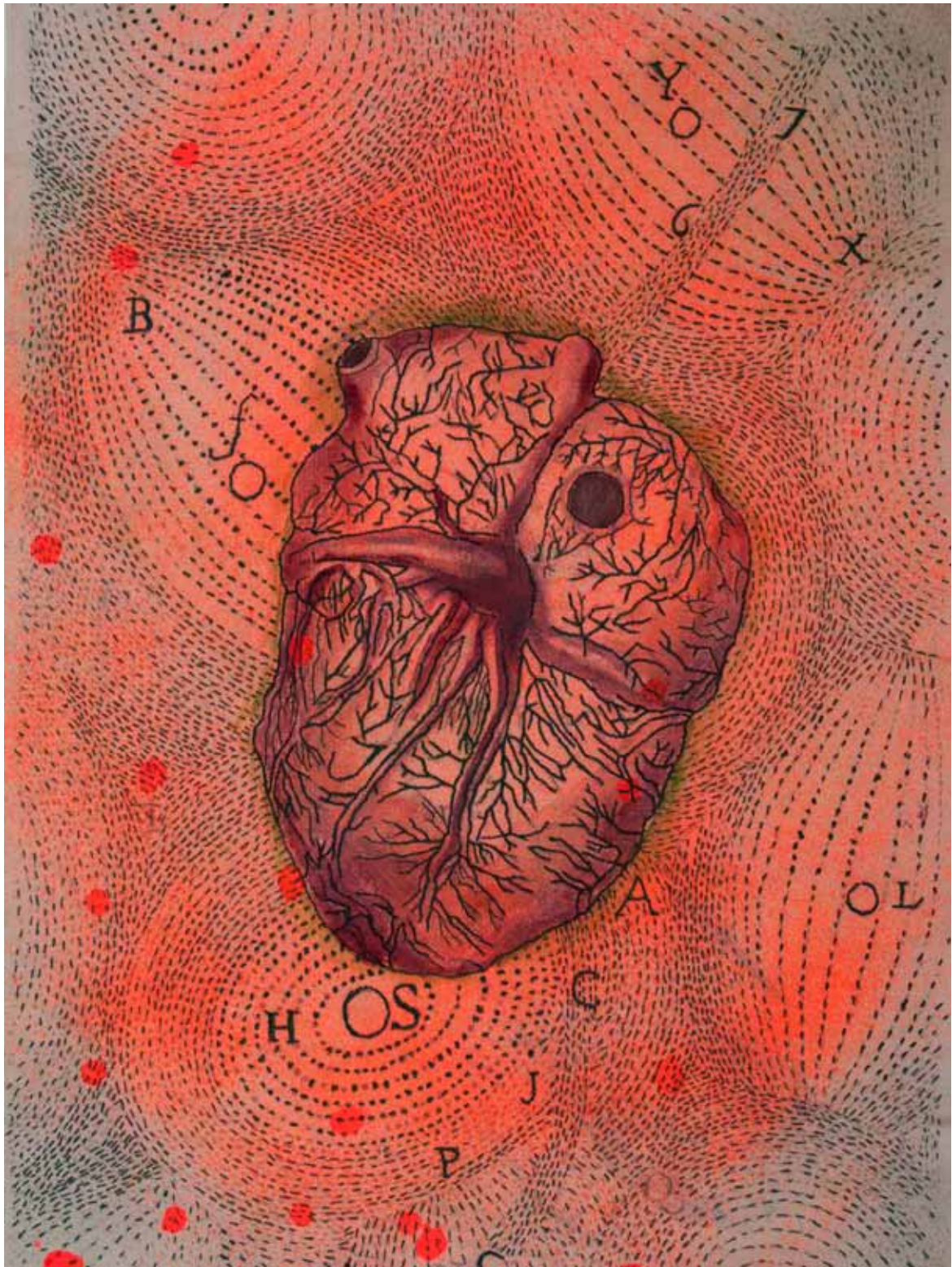
Title: Inside meets Outside  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas,  
2016-2017  
Organ: Skin  
Pattern: Traditional Kimono Pattern, (Japan)





Title: Process in Progress  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on  
canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Stomach  
Pattern: Abstract, Coded Pattern by Joseph Trotto





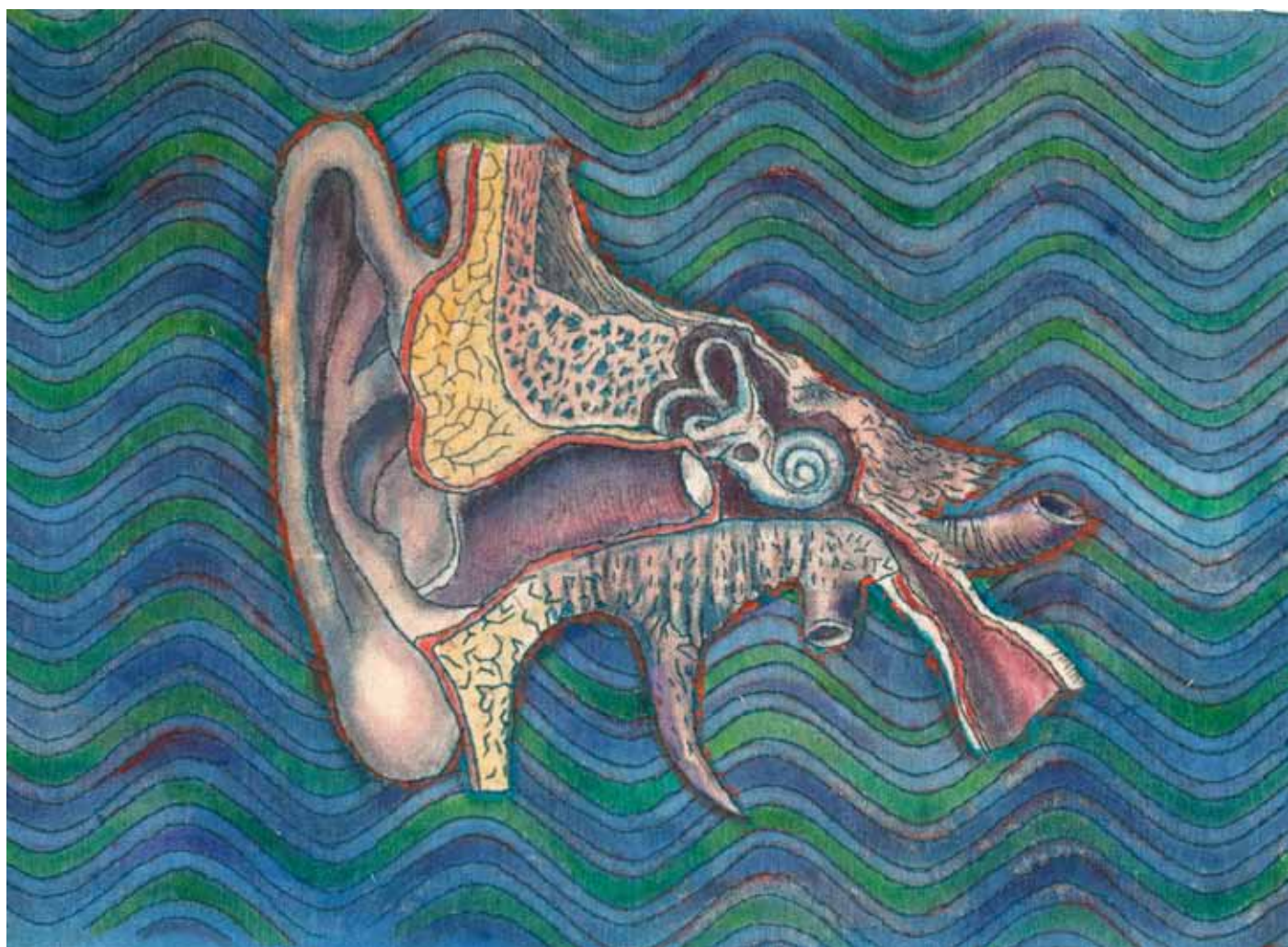
Title: Return to Sender

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Heart

Pattern: Principia Philosophiae, 1644. Rene Descartes' system of vortices, or whirlpools, which he believed, carried the heavenly bodies through space.









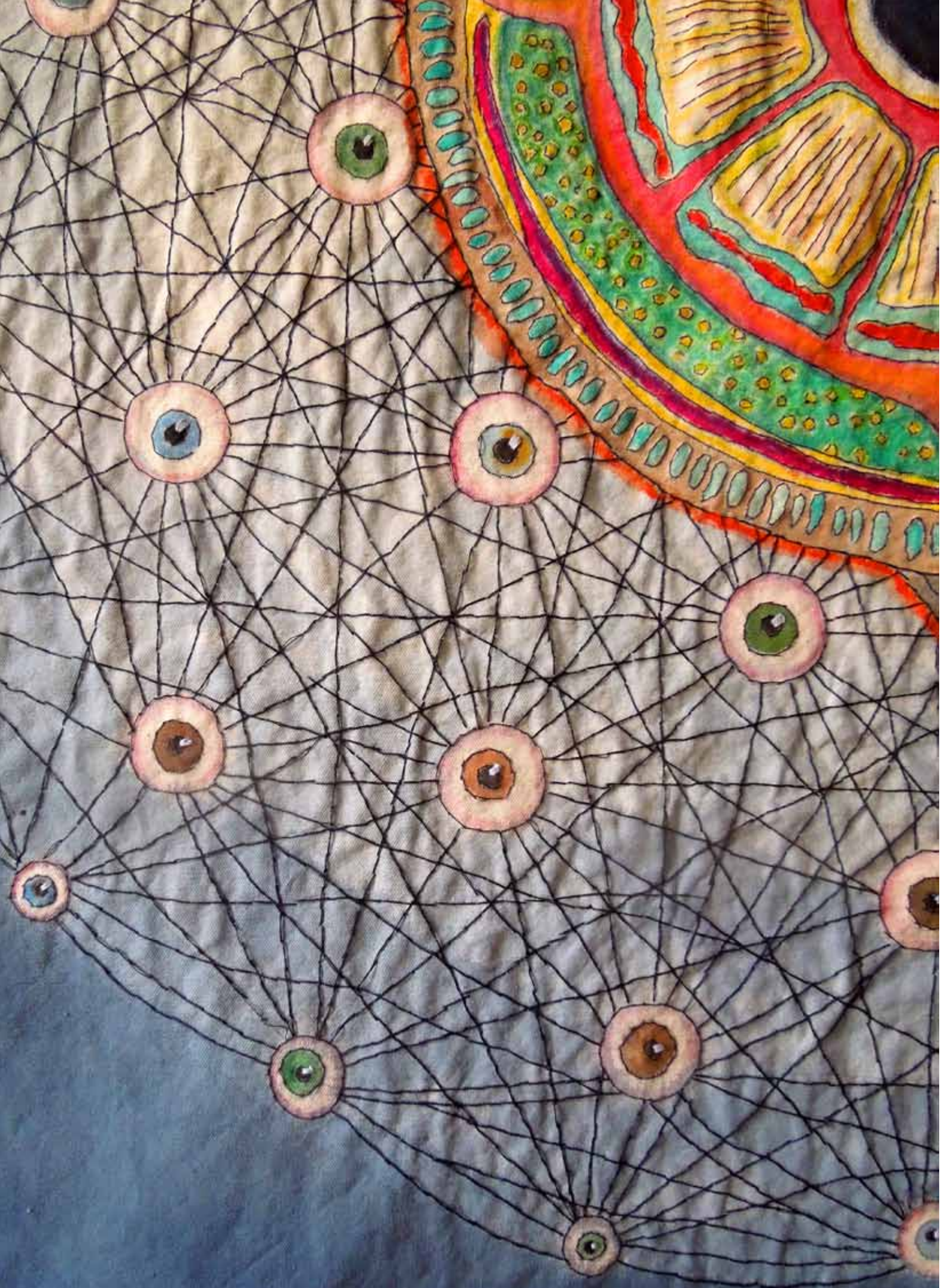
Title: Is All that we See or Seem but a Dream within a Dream

Details: 110 x 90 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Eyes, Retina

Design: Inspired by the Hindu Net of Indra and a historic Tibetan Meditation Mandala,  
Quote by Edgar Allan Poe



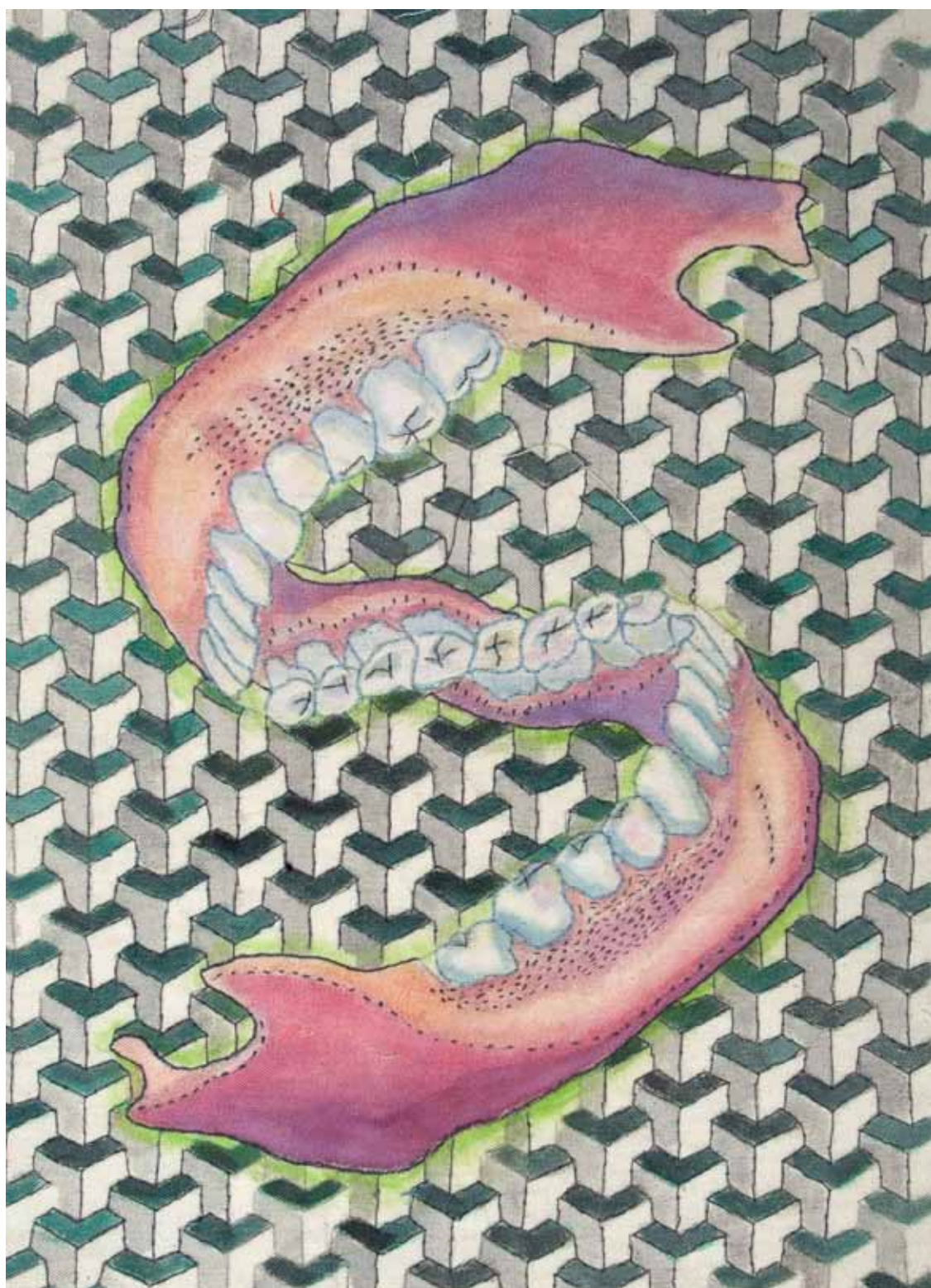




Dissolve  
in the Being  
who is Everything.

Dschalāl ad-Dīn Rūmī





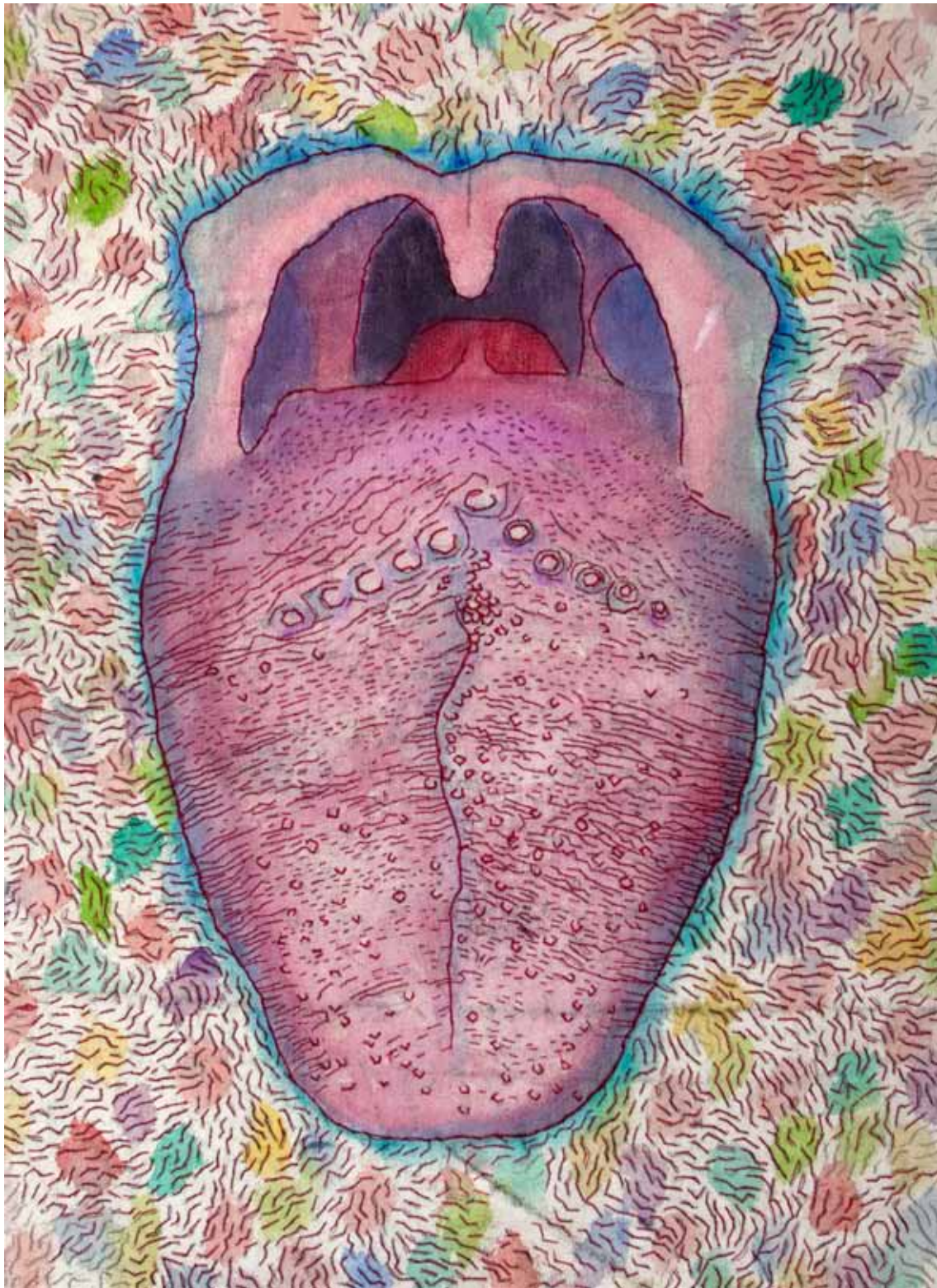
Title: Schi Ho - Clarity Crackdown

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Dentation

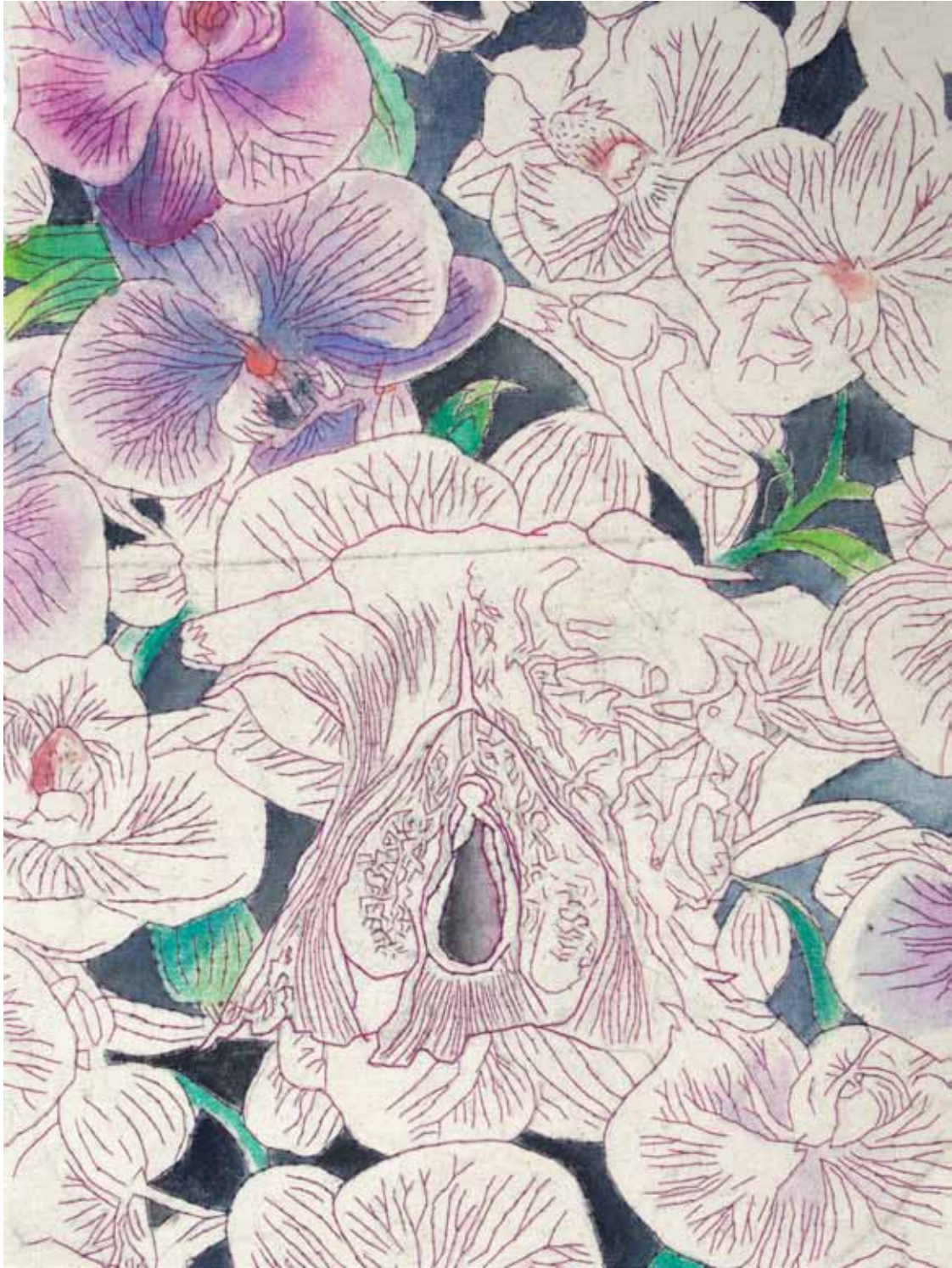
Pattern: Goyard Design for trunk and leather goods, (France)





Title: Variety is the very Spice of Life  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on  
canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Tongue  
Pattern: Contemporary Abstract Design





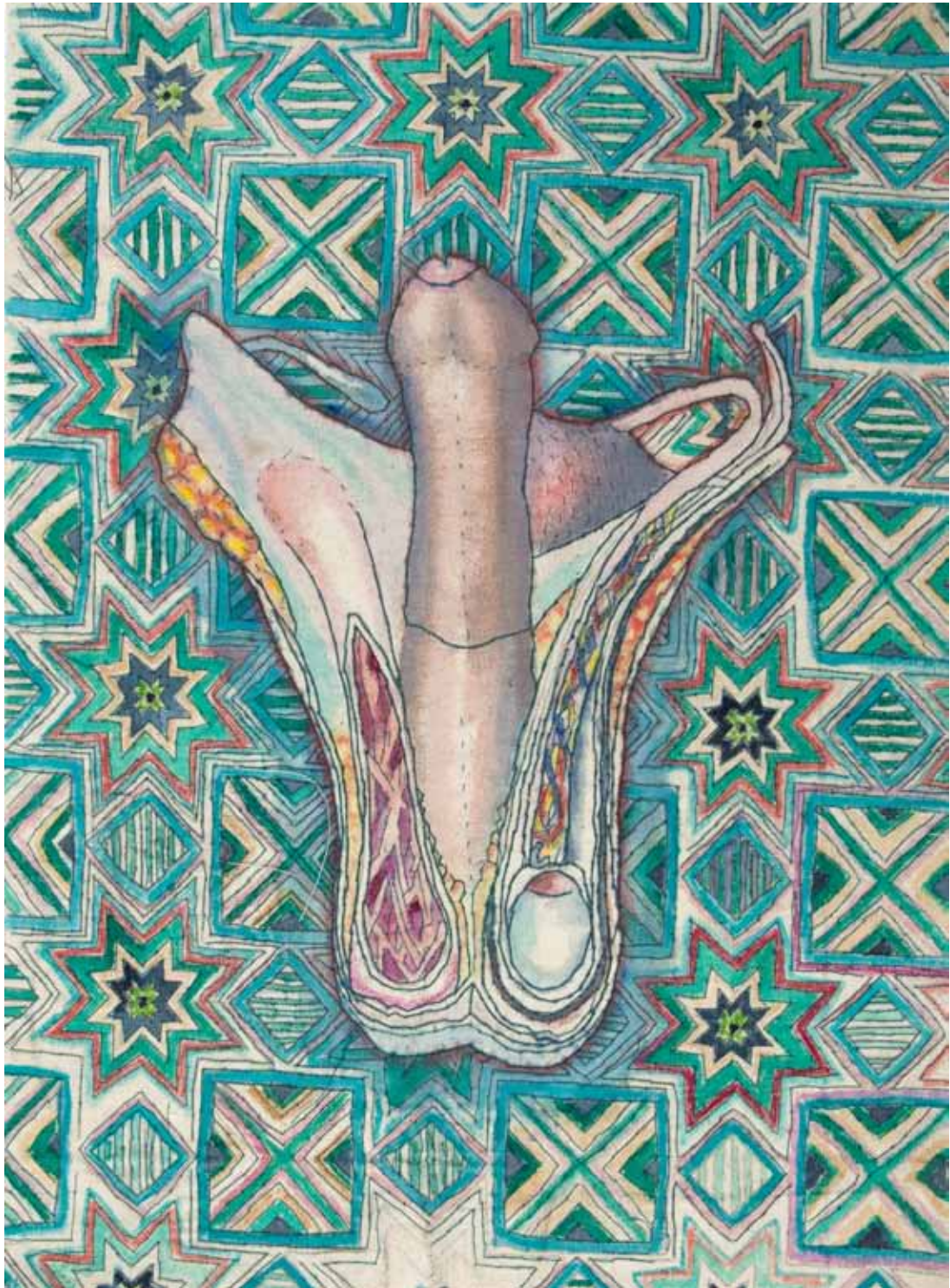
Title: The Secret Garden

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Vulva

Pattern: Contemporary Flower Design, 'Large Orchids' from the 'Orchid' collection by Chong-A Hwang for Timeless Treasures.





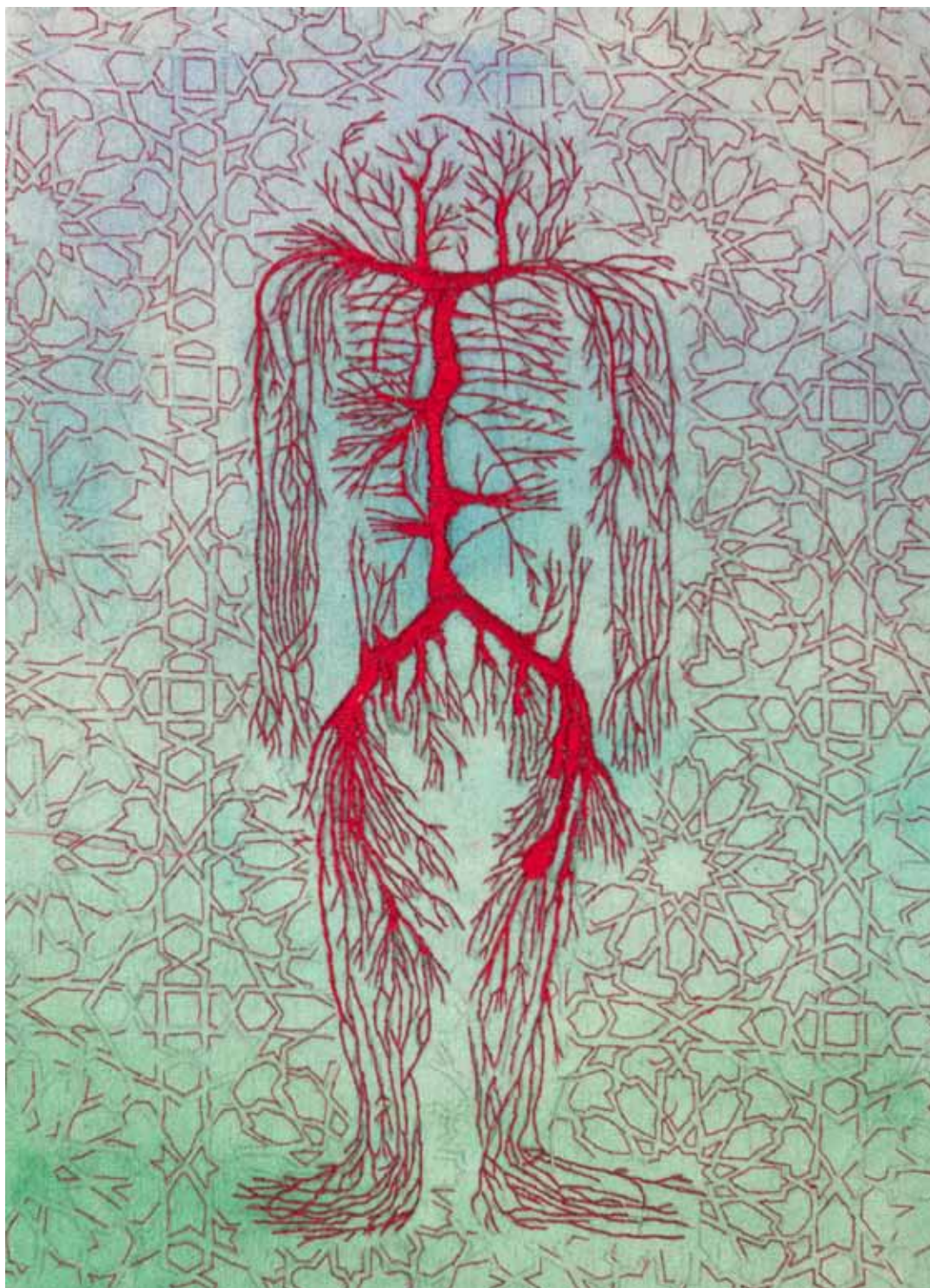
Title: Pocket Rocket

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Penis

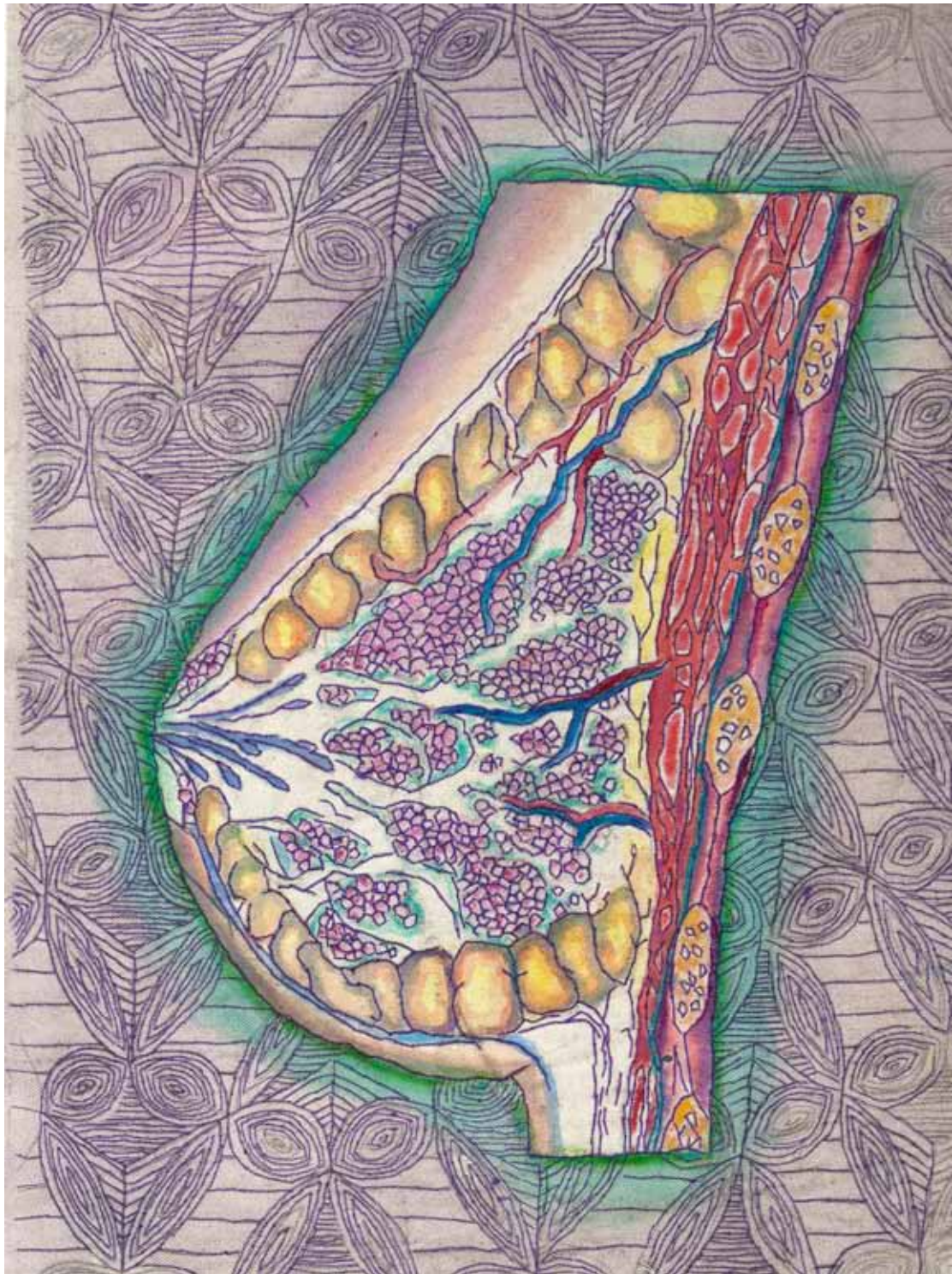
Pattern: Traditional Amish Star Pattern (USA)





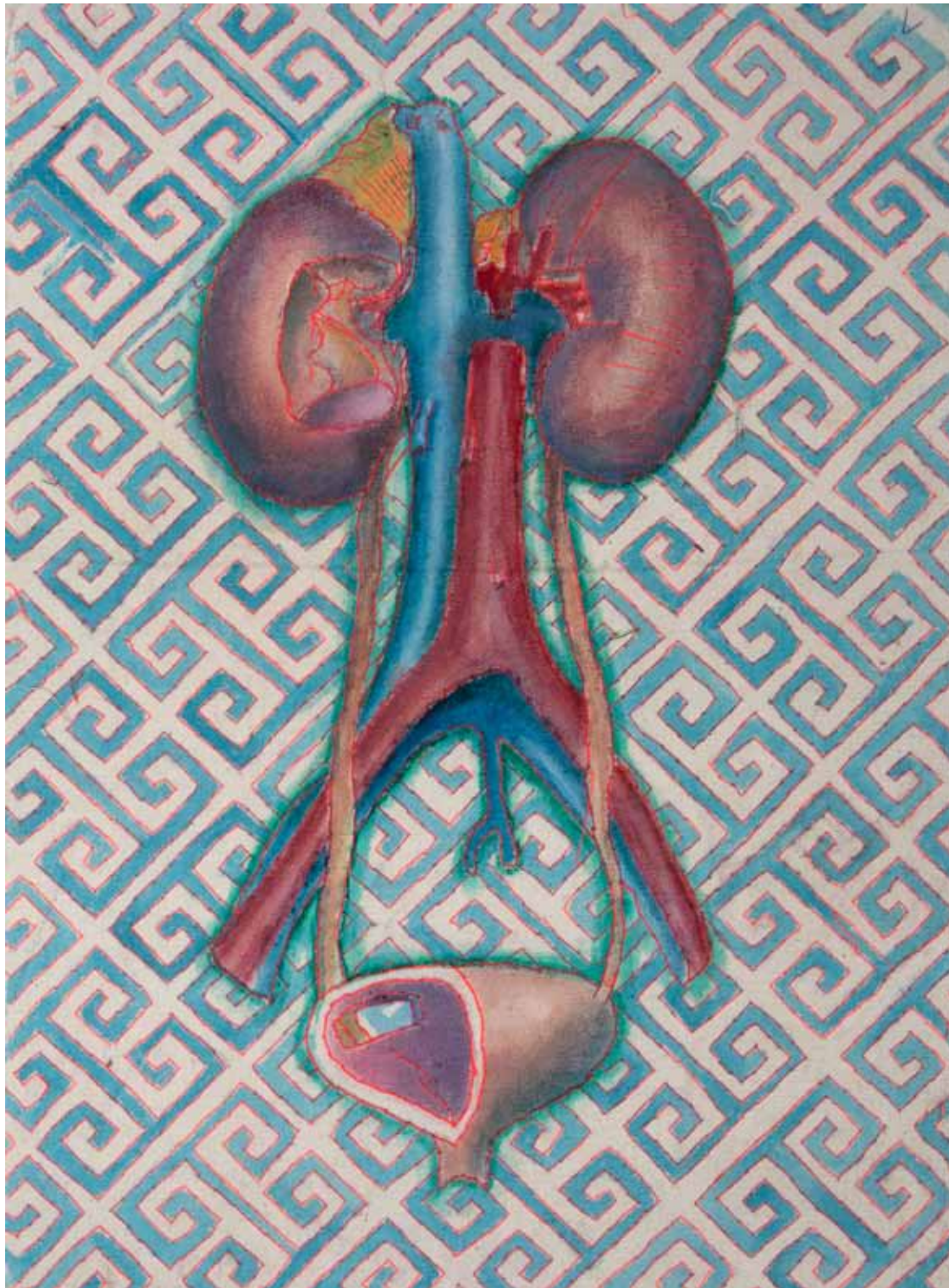
Title: The Stream of Life keeps Flowing  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas,  
2016-2017  
Organ: Blood circulation  
Pattern: Islamic Pattern, (Spain)





Title: Nourish and Flourish  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Breast  
Pattern: African Fabric Super Wax Print, (Kenia)





Title: Panta Rhei, Everything Flows  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Kidneys and Bladder  
Pattern: Traditional Wave Pattern, (Greece)





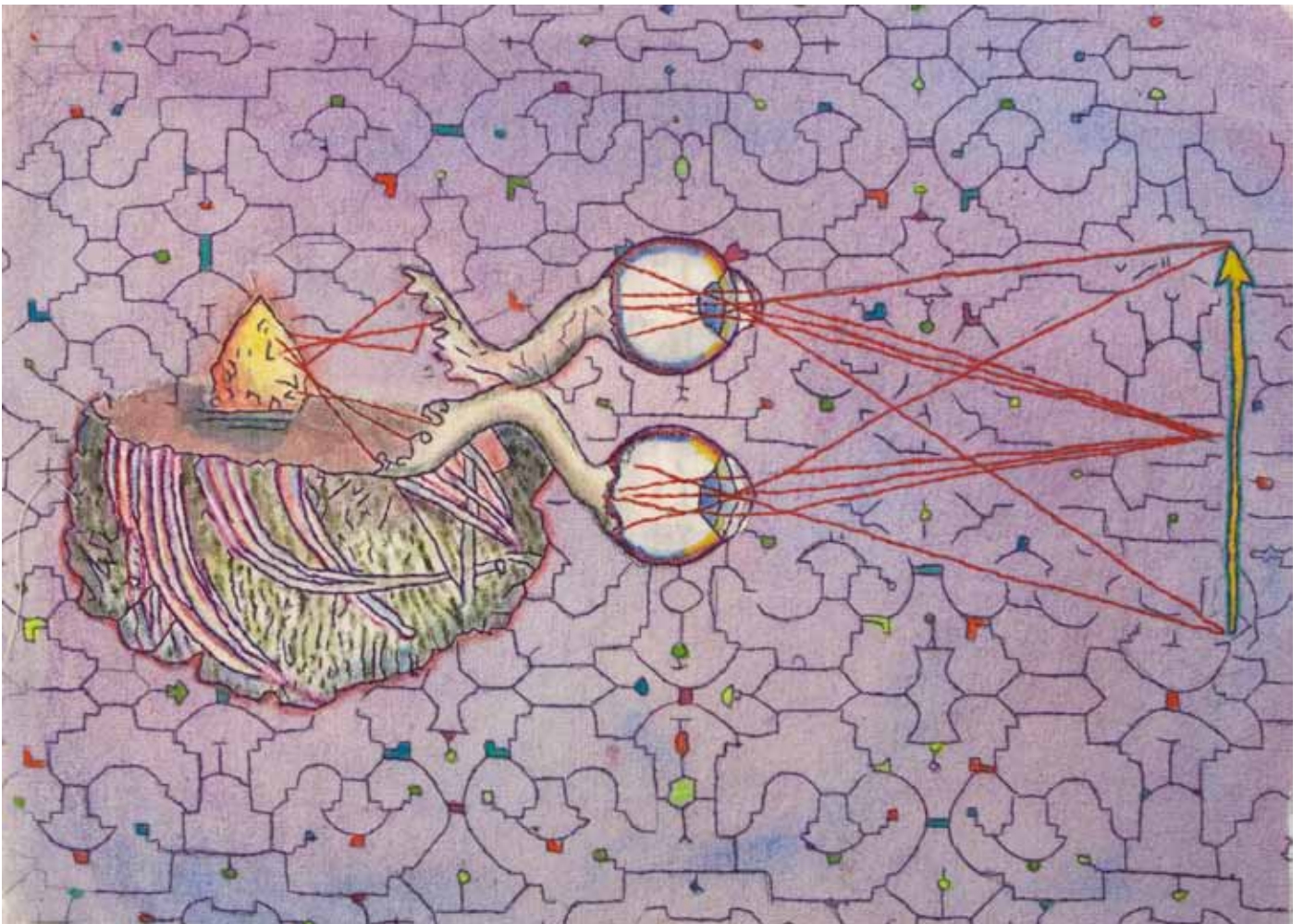
Title: Rest in Constant Change  
Details: 30 x 40 cm, embroidery and painting on  
canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Liver and Spleen  
Pattern: Thunderbolt





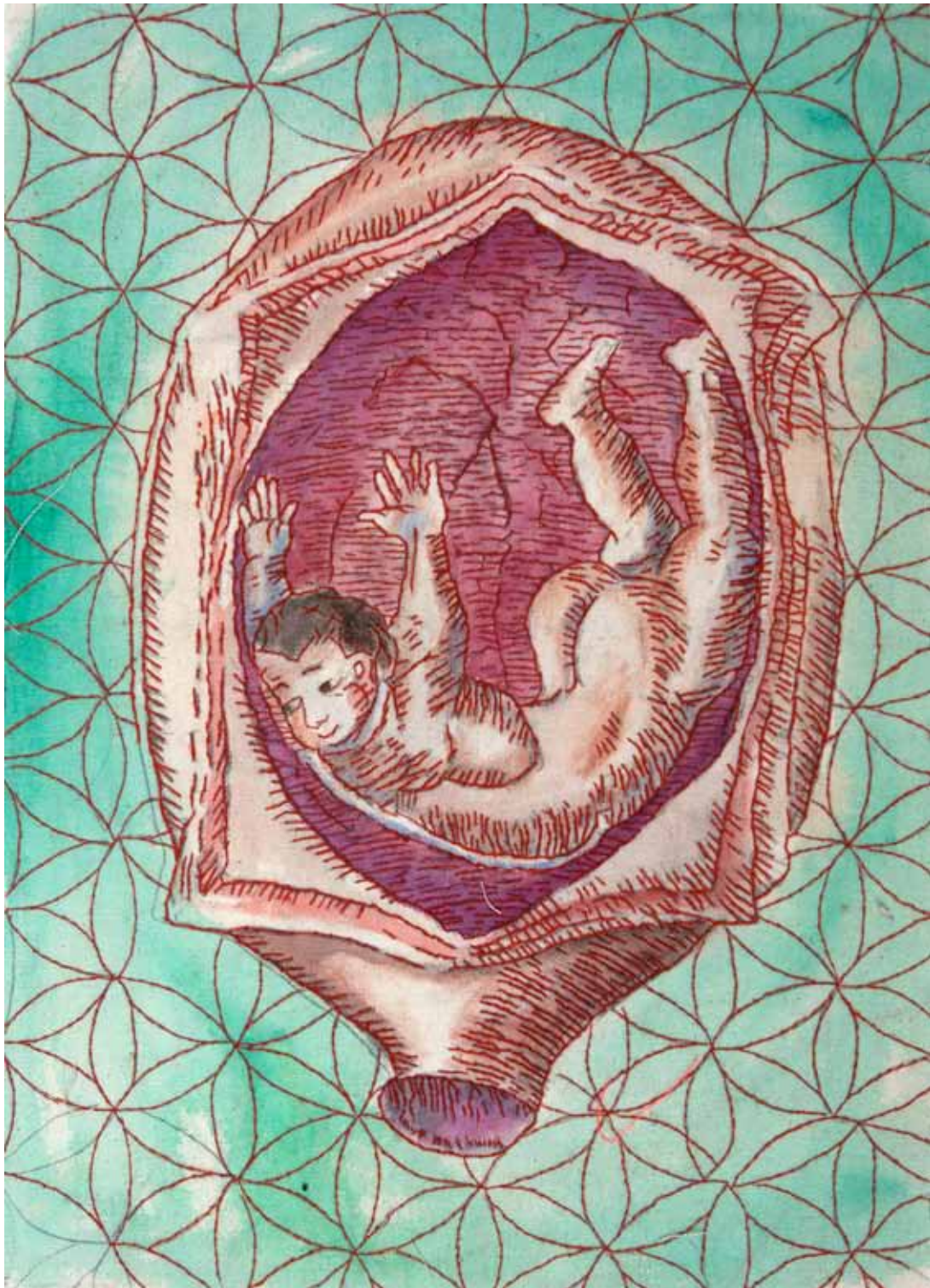
Title: The Scent of Circumstances  
Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on  
canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Nose and (Paranasal) Sinus  
Pattern: Ripple Grid, Abstract Vector Illustration





Title: Glimpse both Worlds at Once  
Details: 30 x 40 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017  
Organ: Eyes, Pineal Gland  
Pattern: Traditional Ayahuasca Shipibo Pattern (Peru)





Title: Future Begins riht Now

Details: 40 x 30 cm, embroidery and painting on canvas, 2016-2017

Organ: Womb and Baby

Pattern: Fower of Life, appears in historical artefacts from the 8th century BC onwards.

They are found on a Cypro-Archaic cup of the 8th-7th century BC in Cyprus; at the Temple of Osiris at Abydos in Ancient Egypt; and on Roman mosaics, for example at Herod's palace in the 1st century BC.



The same stream of life  
that runs through my veins night and day  
runs through the world and dances in  
rhythmic measures.  
It is the same life that shoots in joy  
through the dust of the earth  
in numberless blades of grass  
and breaks into tumultuous waves  
of leaves and flowers.  
It is the same life  
that is rocked in the ocean-cradle of birth  
and of death, in ebb and in flow.  
I feel my limbs are made glorious  
by the touch of this world of life.  
And my pride is from the life-throb  
of ages dancing in my blood this moment.

Rabindranath Tagore





## Impressum

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