

BFA Portfolio



Kathmandu University
School of Arts
Center for Art and Design
Lalitpur, Nepal



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Bachelor of Fine Art **PORTFOLIO**

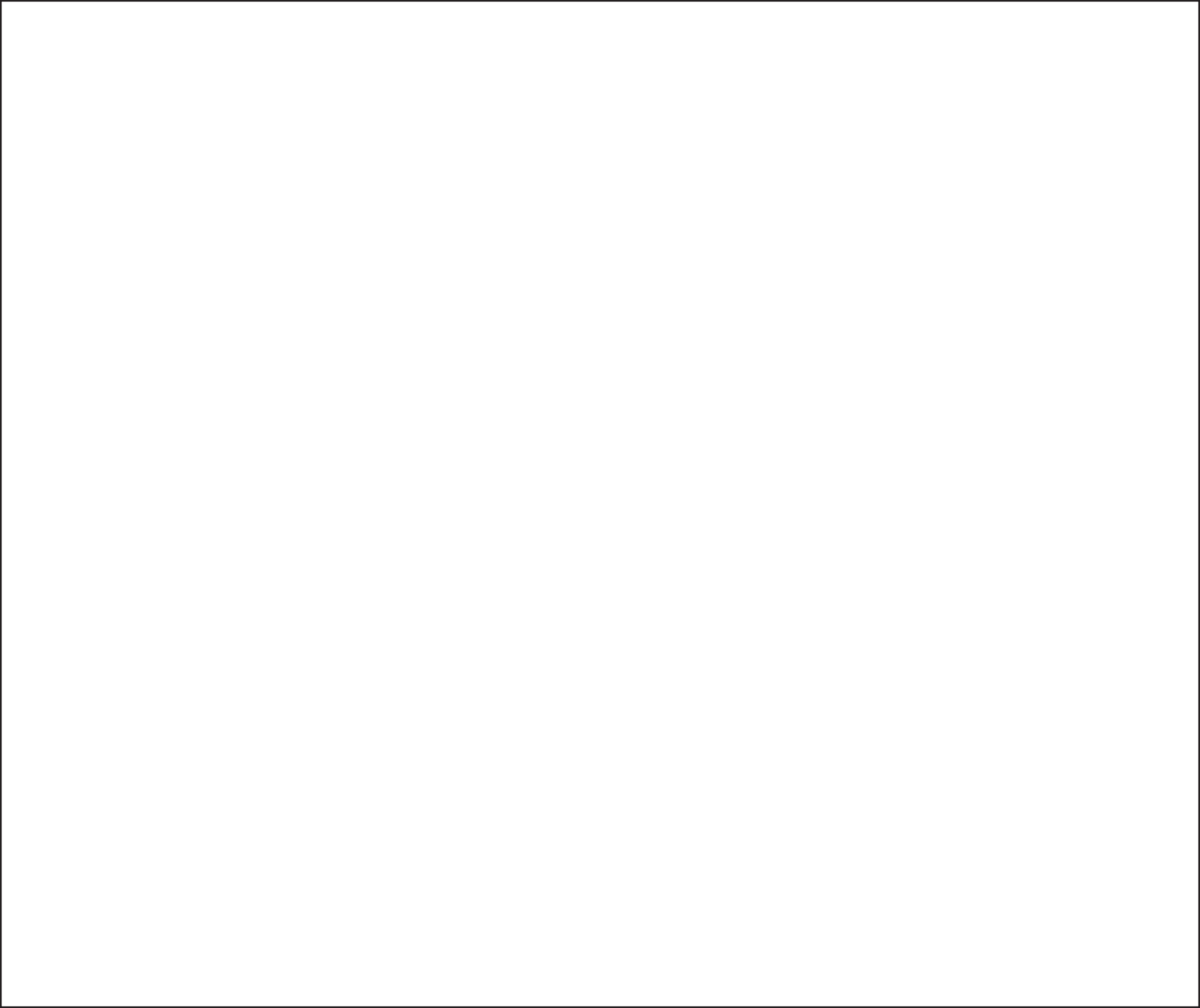
Mr Arun Kumar Rai

Registration No. 018075-14

Class of 2018

Kirti Kaushal Joshi
Faculty / Portfolio Supervisor

Sujan Chitrakar
Academic Programme Coordinator



Integrated Project

Journey from the region

The pain of the Gurkha in battle has never been recognized, not by the saheb chroniclers, nor south Asian historians or the Nepali elite which continues to bask in the reflected glory.

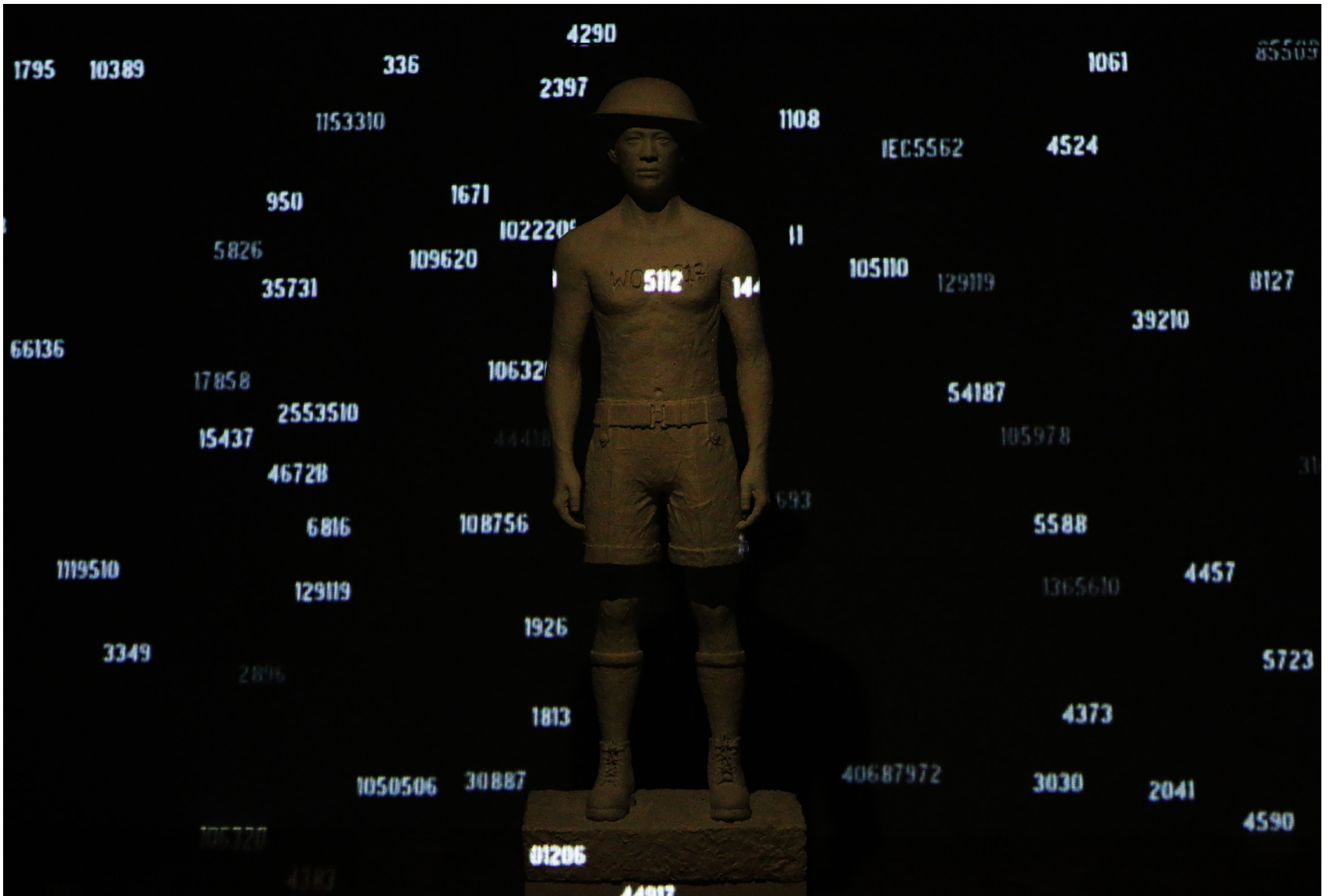
PratyoushOnta, Dukha during the World War

The Gurkhas first contact with the western world came during the Anglo-Nepal war of 1814-16. Impressed by the fighting skills of their enemies, the *Sugauli* peace treaty allowed Gurkhas to serve in the British army. Since then Gurkhas have fought alongside British troops thousands of miles away from home on foreign land. The Gurkhas are mostly from Rai, Limbu, Gurung and Magar ethnic group of Nepal's hill people. This is still a strong tradition among them.

I am looking back on how these people were mobilized by the British and the Kathmandu's Ruling class, and used as pawns for the benefit. The serial numbers were given to after Gurkhas recruitment. I have marked a serial number on the chest to signify their forced recruitment and suffering. I have also tried to question both how and why groups of people were involved and how they have changed over a time period.

INSTALLATION

journey from the region | video installation | 2018



journey from the region (Detail of work) I video installation I2018

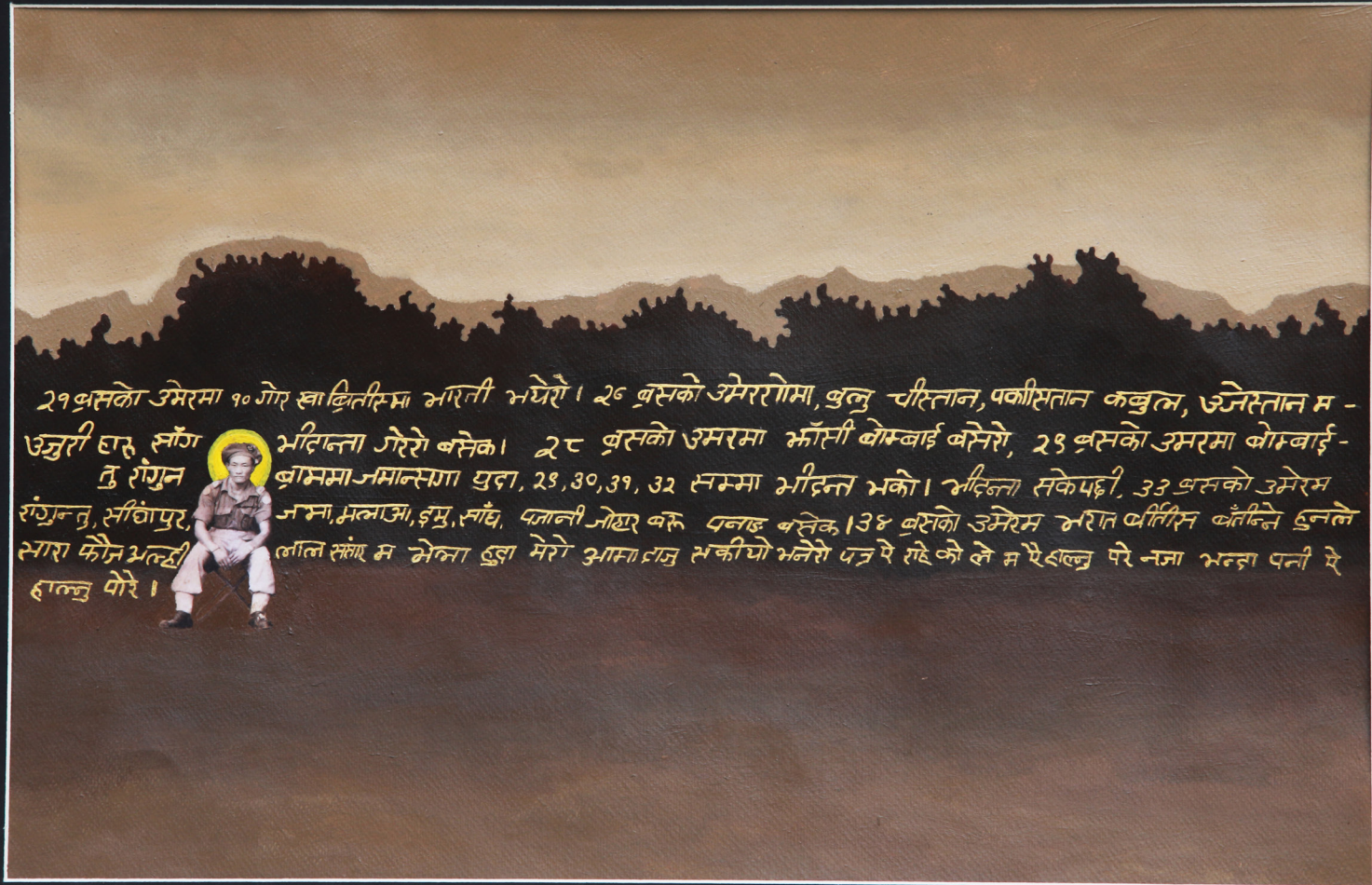
२५ बुझको उमेरमा काठमाडौंमा खिचिपिचि भारतीय सयारो।
२६ बुझको उमेरमा, बुझु चीमान्त, पकीमान्त कबुला जेजस्ताम म
उजुरी छरे स्याङ श्रीरत्ना जेतेरो बसेक
२७ बुझको उमेरमा भौंसी काठमाडौं कासेरो, २९ बुझको उमेरमा कोसका
तु मंगल बुझमा जमान्तमा पुजा, २९, ३०, ३१, ३२ मम्मो भौंसी ज
भौंसी नोकफो, ३३ बुझको उमेरमा संजुन्तु सीधापुर ज भा मलाजम ईसु त
बाली जोरा परे खलाड बसेक
३४ बुझको उमेरमा नुरात पीपीस जेतेके हुन्ले सारा फोडा अकरी काता
म भोला बुझु मेरो भ्रामा दीजु म कोयो भलेरो पत्रु पे रहे को ले म पेते
पे नम अन्त भन्दो मली पेहाल्लु मोरे, धारा भयेरो भ्रामा वजु को
मे उदुल मुगल लये स्वये कीर काजे सके पाही बुझसाम

-Lal Bahadur Rai, Personal Manuscript, 26



2D studio work

Journey from the Region, Series no. 4 | Mixed medium | 45.72cm x 30.4cm (with mount) | 2017



Journey from the Region, Series no.3 of 4 | Mixed medium | 28.2cm x 22.86cm (with Mount) | 2017



Untitled (Triptych) | Image transfer onto Canvas, Acrylic, Linseed Oil | 39.36cm x 56.6 cm, 43.8cm x 60.96cm, 39.36cm x56.6cm | 2014



Object as subject (Still Life) I Oil on Canvas I 30cm x 40cm I 2017



Root I Acrylic on Canvas | 60cm x 91cm | 2017



Bless I Oil on Canvas | 92cm x 62cm | 2017



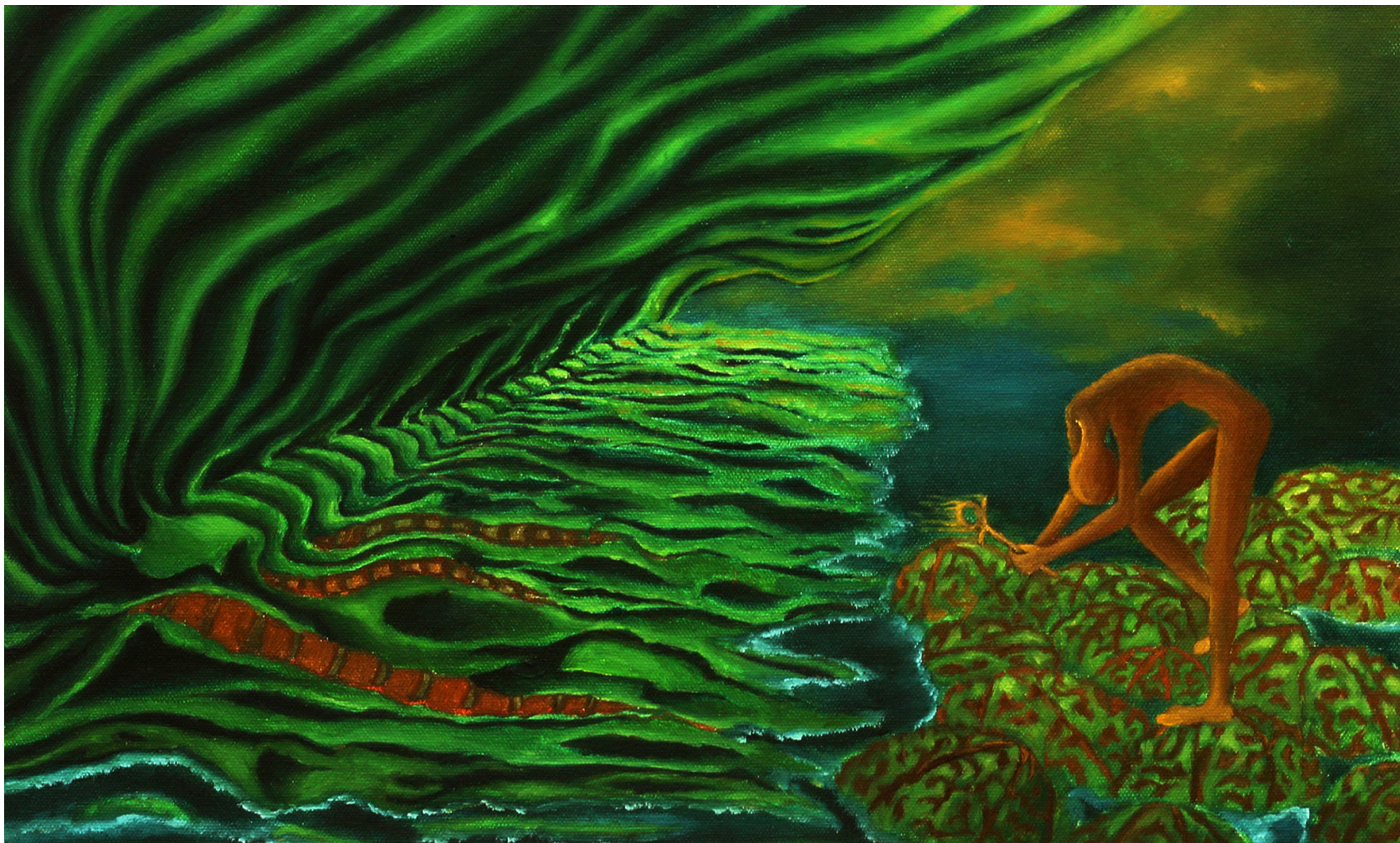
Untitled I Oil on Canvas | 46cm x 61cm | 2017



Untitled I Oil on Canvas | 48.5cm x 59cm | 2017



Untitled | Oil on Canvas | 50.5cm x 53.5cm | 2017



After Salvador Dali 'The face of War' | Oil on Canvas | 79.5cm x 64cm | 2017



After Salvador Dali 'Meditation on the Harp' | Oil on Canvas | 75cm x 55cm | 2017



Reflecting Bungmati I Poster color, Water color, Pen and Ink | 38cm x 52cm | 2015



Still life I Soft Pastle on Paper | 38.5cm x 56.5cm | 2015



Neglected space I Poster colour on paper | 27.3cm x 37.4cm | 2015



Still life I Poster colour on paper | 27cm x 37cm | 2014



PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

DYSTOPIA

Journey from the Region | Archive photos printed on paper, Original manuscript, photograph | Installation | 2017

The Gurkhas first contact with the western world came during 1814-16 when the British East India Company waged a war against Nepal. Thus, impressed by the fighting skills of their enemies, the British included the peace treaty with then Nepali government, allowing Gurkhas to serve in the British army. After that, Gurkhas would fight alongside the British troops, thousands of miles away from home on foreign land during the World War I, II.

"My grandfather name Kumbhashing Dhekhim Rai, father name Tilashmi Dhekhim Rai, mother name Fulmati Yelabami yakkha. I was born in 1914 march 2, Monday. Now I'm writing this at the age of 95. I was joined ten Gorkha British in age of 21 (1935 AD). Age of 27, I fought in Baluchistan, Pakistan, Kabul, Uzbekistan against the Ujiris. Age of 28, I was stay in Jhansi, Bombay. Age of 29, 30, 31, 32, I fought in Rangoon Burma against the Japan. After end of the war, Age of 33, I stay in Rangoon, Singapore, Java, Malaya, Imushingh, Patani, and Penang. Age of 34, when India and British were going to be separate and we all the battalion gather in Alhailalsansar while letter was coming from my home my mother and brother was dead. I had to come back to home but officers did not allow me to back home but i had to."

-LalBahadurRai, personal manuscript, 2009

I can remember how my grandfather, LalBahadurRai, used to bravely share us his experience about WWII, being hopeful that no one would ever have to go through it in their life. And now revisiting the history, I attempt to understand his life's struggle during the war. In this series, I'm commemorating, based on the manuscript and all the spoken stories. It is a determination to portray my ancestors who sacrificed his young lives into the horrible war.



Journey from the region (Detail of work) | Passport size photo printed on paper | 27cm x 55.6cm (With Frame) | 2018



Journey from the region (Detail of work) I Printed on Paper, Pigment, Acrylic matt gel I 49cm x 33.8cm (With Frame) I 2018

२१ व्रसके उमेरमा १० गोर खा द्वितीस्मा भारती भयेरो।
२८ व्रसके उमेरमा भौसी बोम्बाई बसेरो, २९ व्रसके उमेरमा बोम्बाई-
तु रंगुल व्राममा जमान्सागा थुदा, २९, ३०, ३१, ३२ सम्मा भदिन्त भके



Personal history project | Journey from the Region (Detail of work) | Printed on Paper | 20.8cm x 11.6cm | 2017

Extract photo Manipulation (Flim by Kesang Tseten : Who will be a Gurkha)



Personal history project | Journey from the Region (Detail of work) | Photocopy of Passport | Printed on Paper | 9cm x 12.5cm | 2017

०२०१३००

3

राहदानी बाहकलाई रोकतोक नगरी सरासर जान दिन तथा परिआएको बेलामा आवश्यक मद्दत र संरक्षण प्रदान गरिदिन सरोकारवालाहरूसंग नेपाल सरकार, परराष्ट्र मन्त्रालय अनुरोध गर्दछ ।



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Nepal, requests and requires whom it may concern to allow the holder to pass freely, without let or hindrance and to afford him or her every assistance and protection, which he or she may stand in need of.



Bouyal

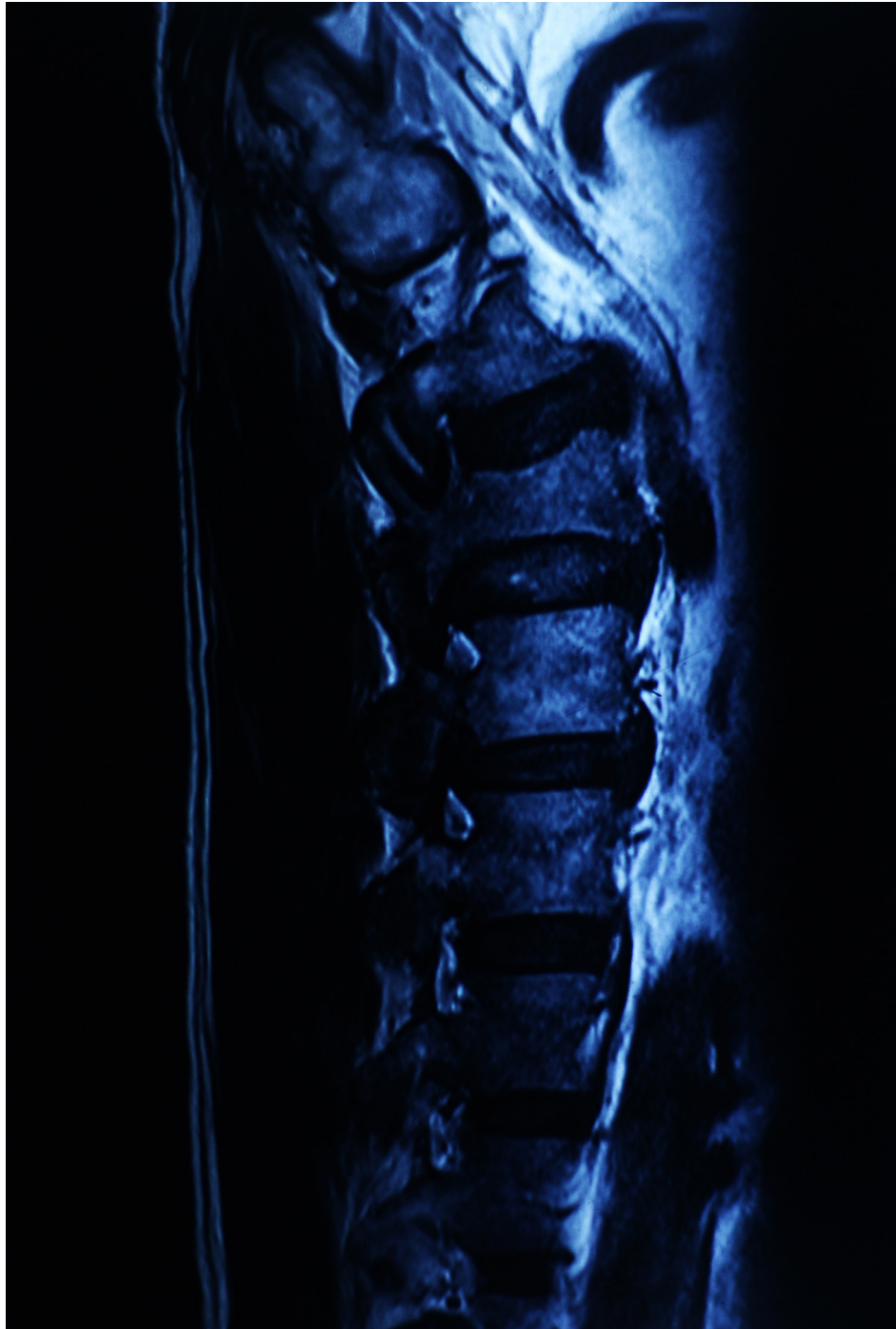
Signature of the Issuing Officer

Designation: **Third Secretary**

Personal history project | Journey from the Region (Detail of work) | Photo manipulation | Printed on Paper | 12.8cm x 8.9cm | 2017



Lost and Lust (Detail of work) | Printed on Flex | 50.9cm x 75.3cm | 2017



Lost and Lust (Detail of work) | Printed on Paper | 47.2cm x 48.9cm | 2017



PRINTMAKING

The creation of myself I Woodcut print on paper I 38cm x 29cm I 2016



A/P 2/4

Wood cut

"The creation of myself"

Aejmanika

2016

Self realization I Linocut print on Nepali paper | 34cm x 36.5cm | 2017



A/p 2/5 Anant "self realization" Kengyui 2016

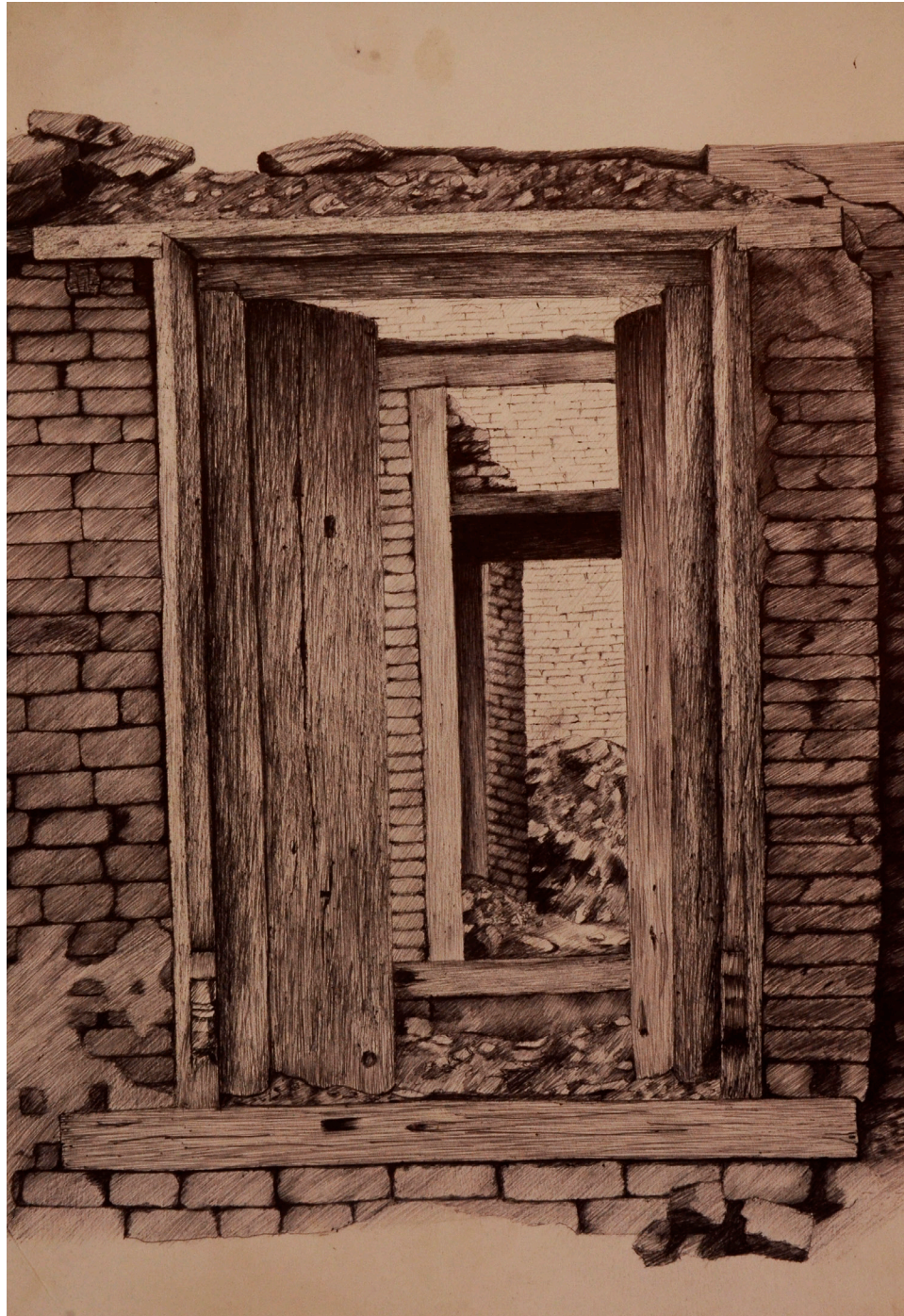
INSTALLATION

Quantity is Quality | Stone pebbles and Brick pebbles on Cera board | 96cm x 120cm | 2016



DRAWINGS

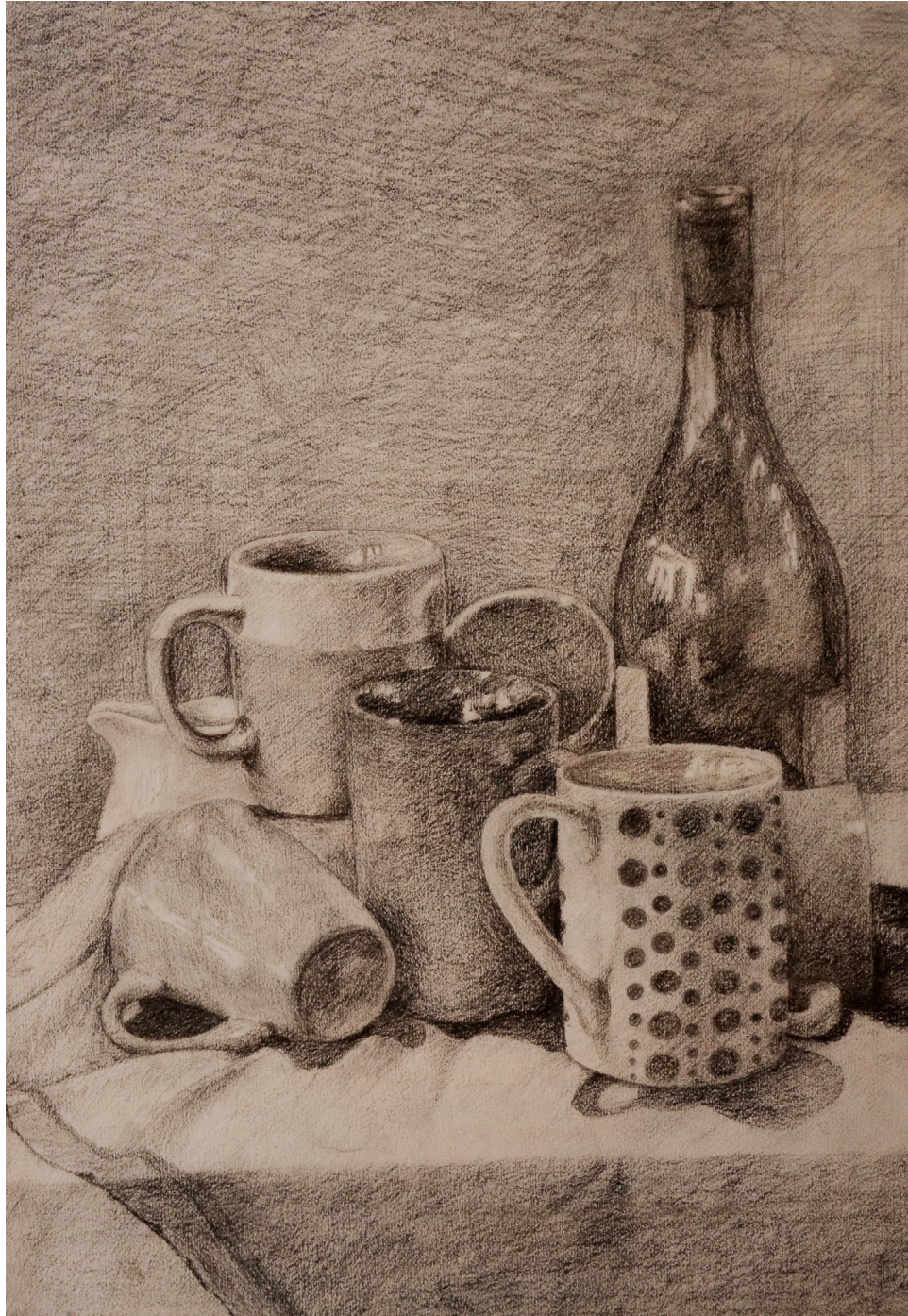
Untitled I Pen and Ink on Cartridge Paper | 38cm x 42.5cm | 2015



Mapping project I Pen and Ink on paper | 56cm x 36cm | 2015



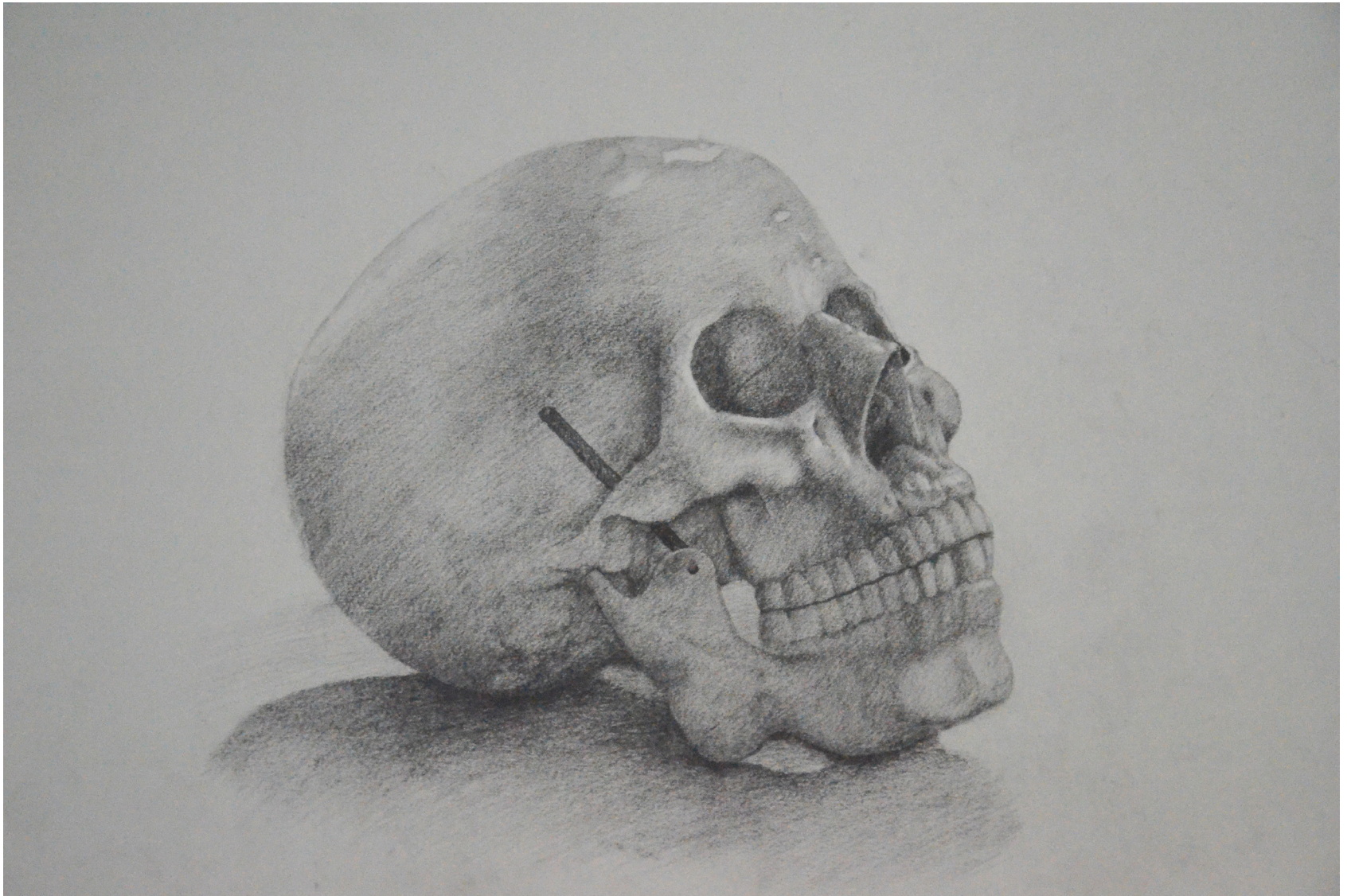
Still Life I Pencil on Indian cartridge I 38.5cm x 56.5cm I 2015



Still life I Pencil On Indian cartridge | 38.5cm x 56.5cm | 2014



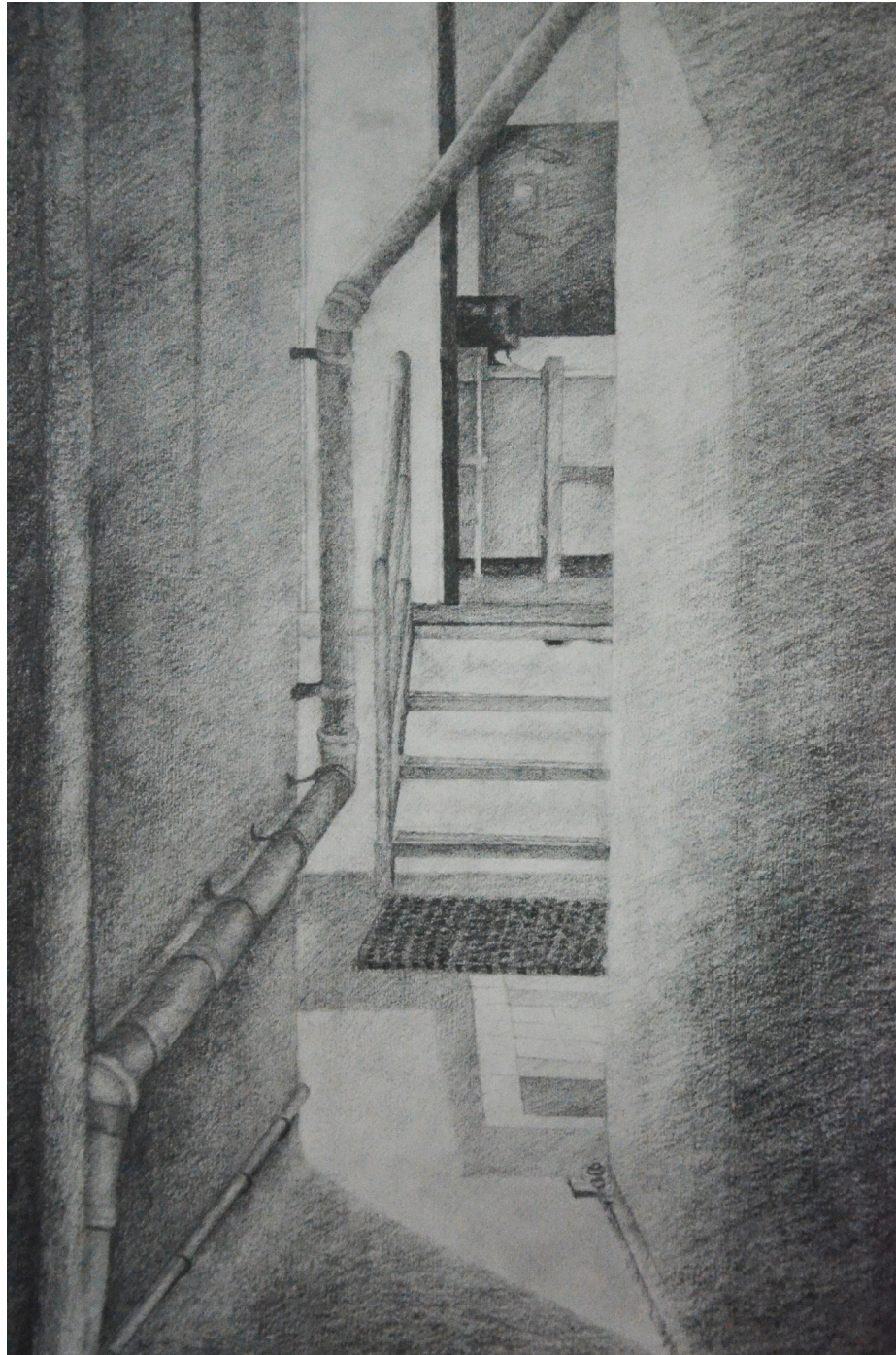
Still life (Skull) | Pencil on cartridge | 38.5cm x 56.5cm | 2014



Architectural Drawing I Pencil on cartridge | 38cm x 56cm | 2015



Architectural Drawing I Pencil on paper | 38cm x 56cm | 2014



Study of Nature I Pencil on paper | 38cm x 56cm | 2014



SCULPTURE

Still Life(Enlarge) | Clay | 24cm x 18cm x 13cm | 2015



Crepy head I Cloth, Thread, Jute | 45.22cm x 25.4cm x 45.72 | 2015



Anatomy study 'The last suffer' | Cast on resin and fiber glass | 48.26cm x 27.94cm x 50.8 | 2015



Immortal Mask | Papier mache | 81cm x 27.7cm x 27cm | 2014



Traditional motif study I Clay | 12cm x 18.3cm | 2014



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