



Artist Statement

Alexandra Lake

I am inspired by natural forms that possess an indefinable attraction. I only pursue the exploration of a structure if I cannot pin down exactly what is appealing about it and, therefore, feel obligated to give it a sense of autonomy in my production of it. My general sense of isolation and vulnerability both for myself and the existence of other living things also influence what figures I am drawn towards. I treat my work as an investigation into the false sense of security that comes from our biological existence. I find that the contradiction of nests is a great platform to explore this fragility. While proposing safety and comfort, nests are themselves delicate structures that provide no assured protection. Lately, I have been extending this metaphor to bodies. In my work, life forms become nested 'selves'; perpetuating their existence by relying on their biological structures to let them continue. These forms embody the anxious empathy I find when realizing that our greatest bond to our surroundings is our shared quality of impermanence.

The process of printmaking allows me to explore my interests through repetition and layers. Without personally understanding their motivations, I work with images through different compositions and additions of printed layers until I believe that they are represented authentically. Through the intentional use of different printmaking techniques, I maintain some control over the appearance of my forms. However, I enjoy exploiting the unpredictable nature of some techniques as well as the 'black box' nature of the press to allow the forms to emerge with a life of their own.

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1:	Nested Selves	Printmaking	Collagraph, 23.5 in x 38 in
Figure 2:	Nests	Printmaking	Collagraph and Conte Crayon, 32.5 in x 45 in
Figure 3:	Six Nests	Printmaking	Collagraph, 15.5 in x 22.5 in
Figure 4:	Selves I	Printmaking	Lithograph and Collagraph, 16.5 in x 23 in
Figure 5:	Selves II	Printmaking	Lithograph and Collagraph, 16.5 in x 23 in
Figure 6:	Growth	Printmaking	Collagraph and Conte Crayon, 21.5 in x 26.5 in
Figure 7:	To have someone else's Liver	Printmaking	Collagraph, 8 in x 10.5 in
Figure 8:	Hermitages	Printmaking	Lithograph, 8 in x 11 in
Figure 9:	Untitled	Printmaking	Lithograph, 10 in x 11 in
Figure 10:	Untitled	Printmaking	Collagraph, 27 in x 40 in
Figure 11:	Entrance	Printmaking	Lithograph, 16 in x 19 in
Figure 12:	Hole in a Tree	Printmaking	Etching, Aquatint, A La Poupee , 17 in x 24 in



Figure 1: Nested Selves.



Figure 2: Nests.



Figure 3: Six Nests.

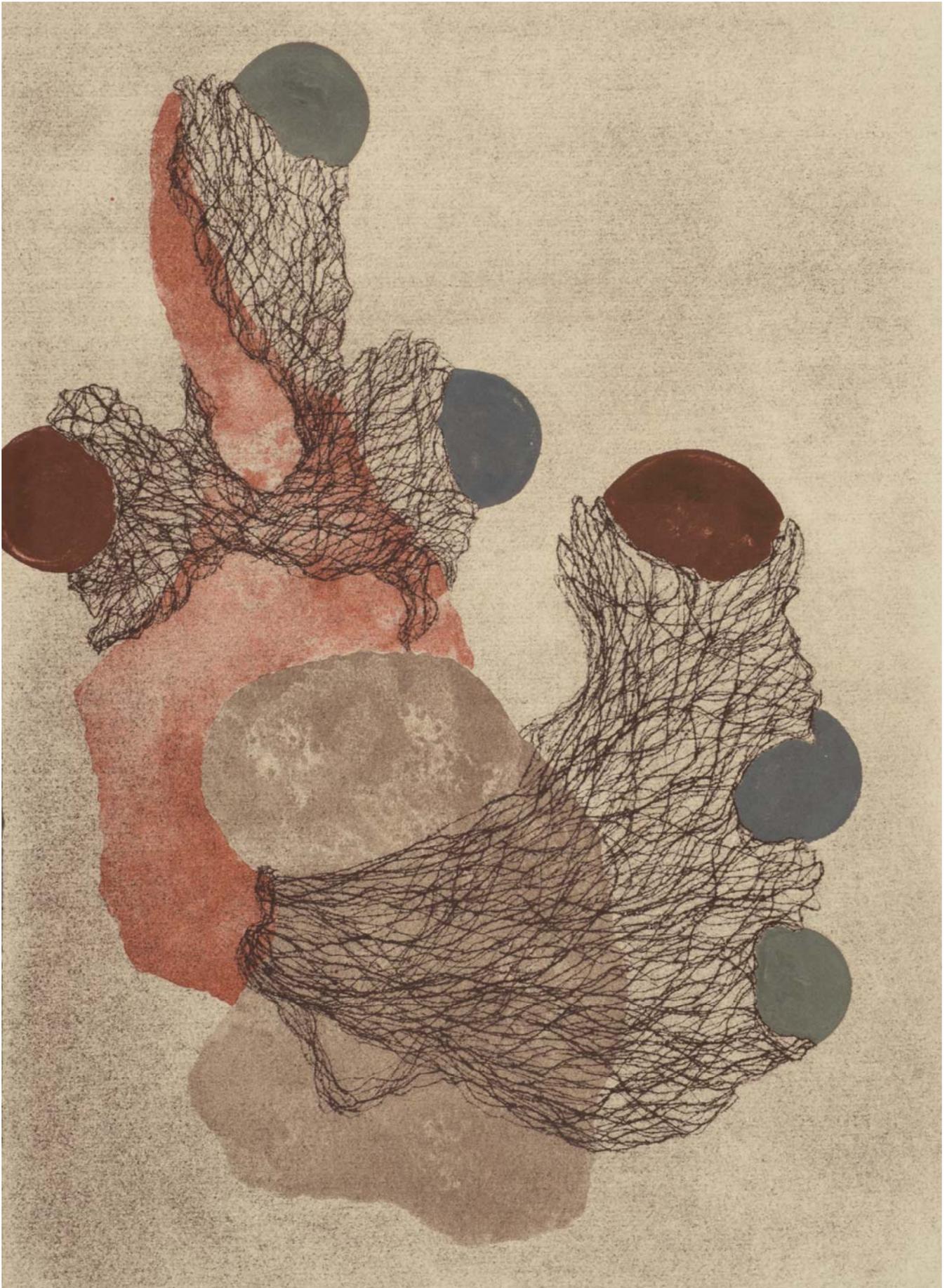


Figure 4: Selves I.

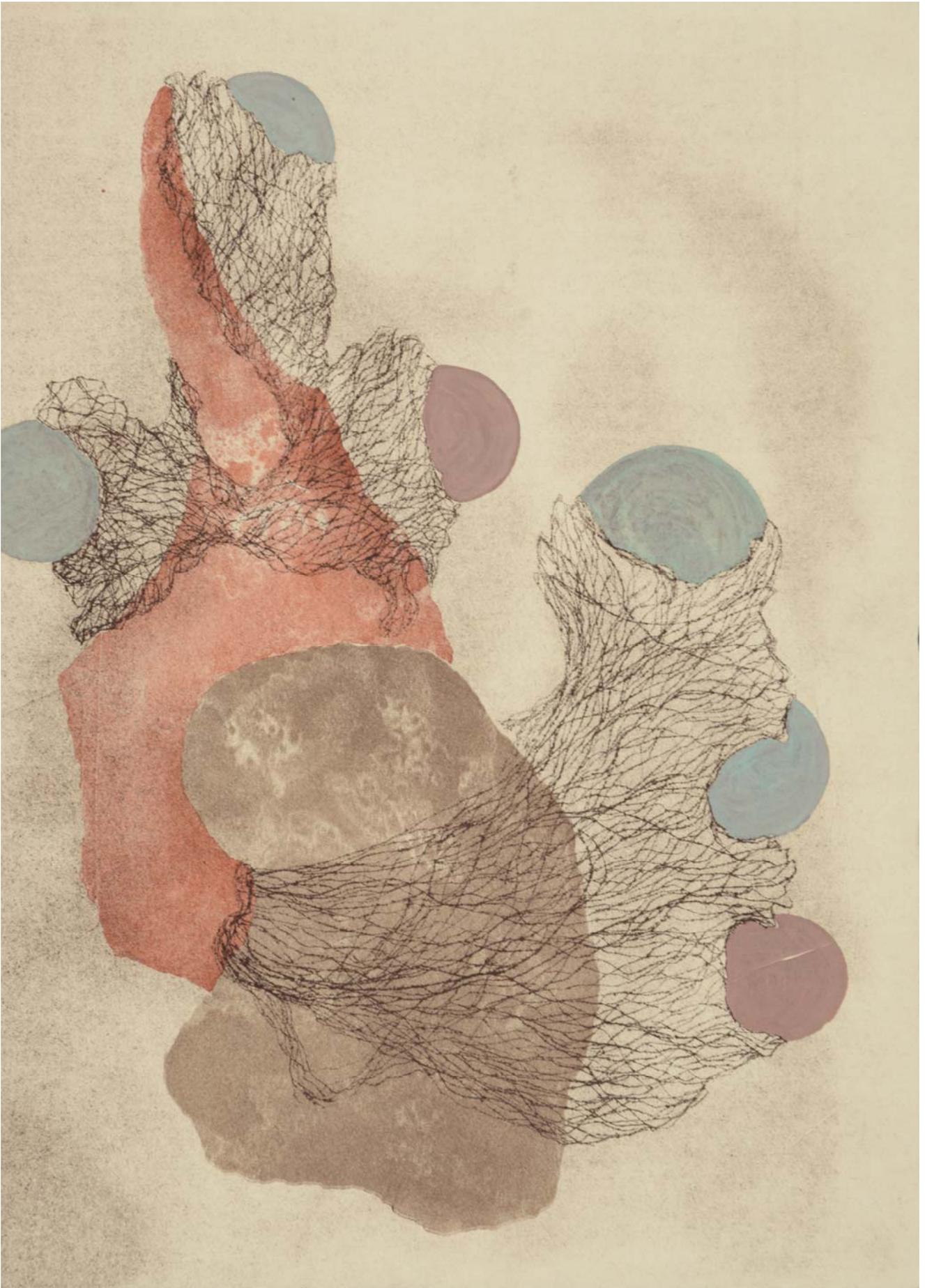


Figure 5: Selves II.



Figure 6: Growth.

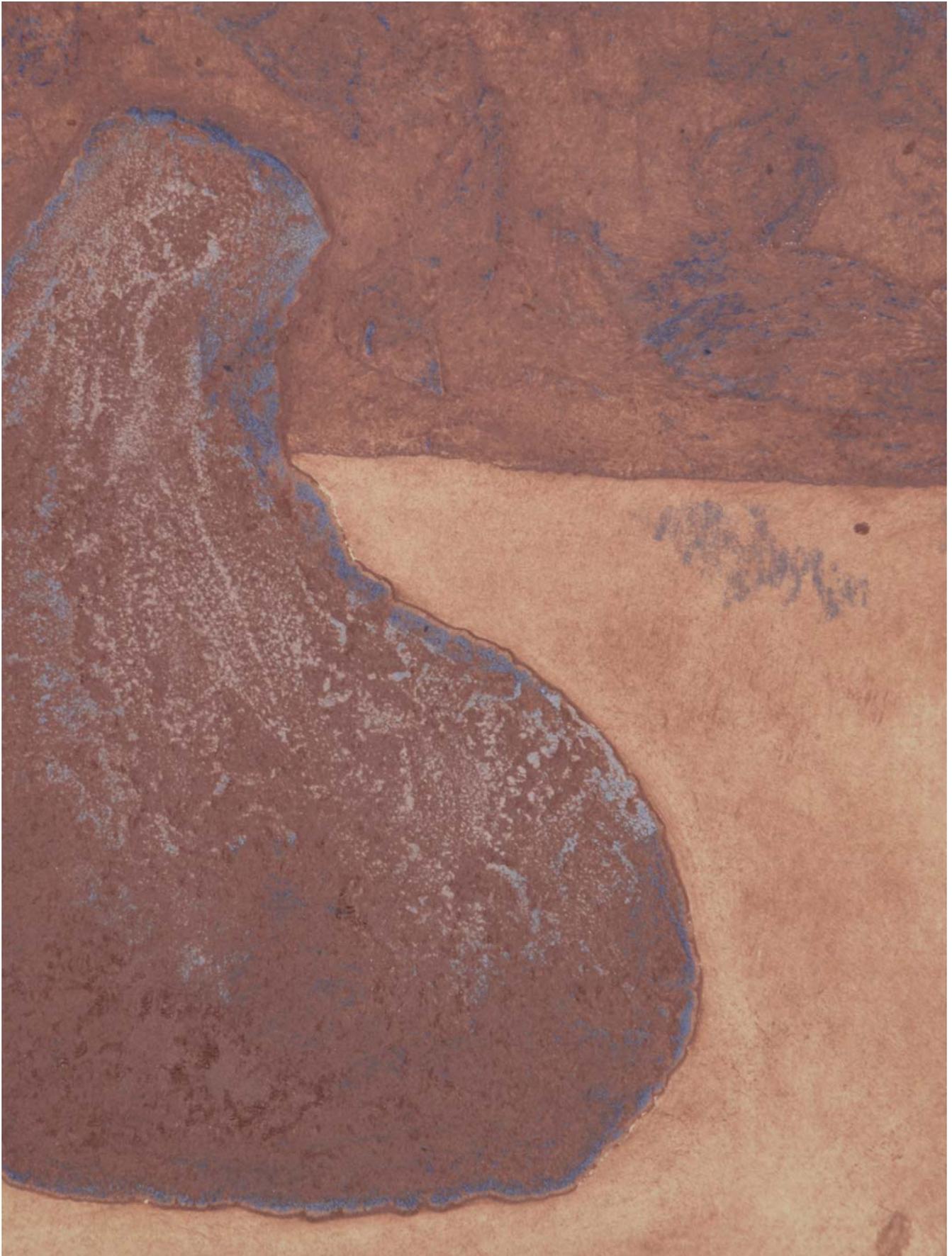


Figure 7: To have someone else's Liver.



Figure 8: Hermitages.

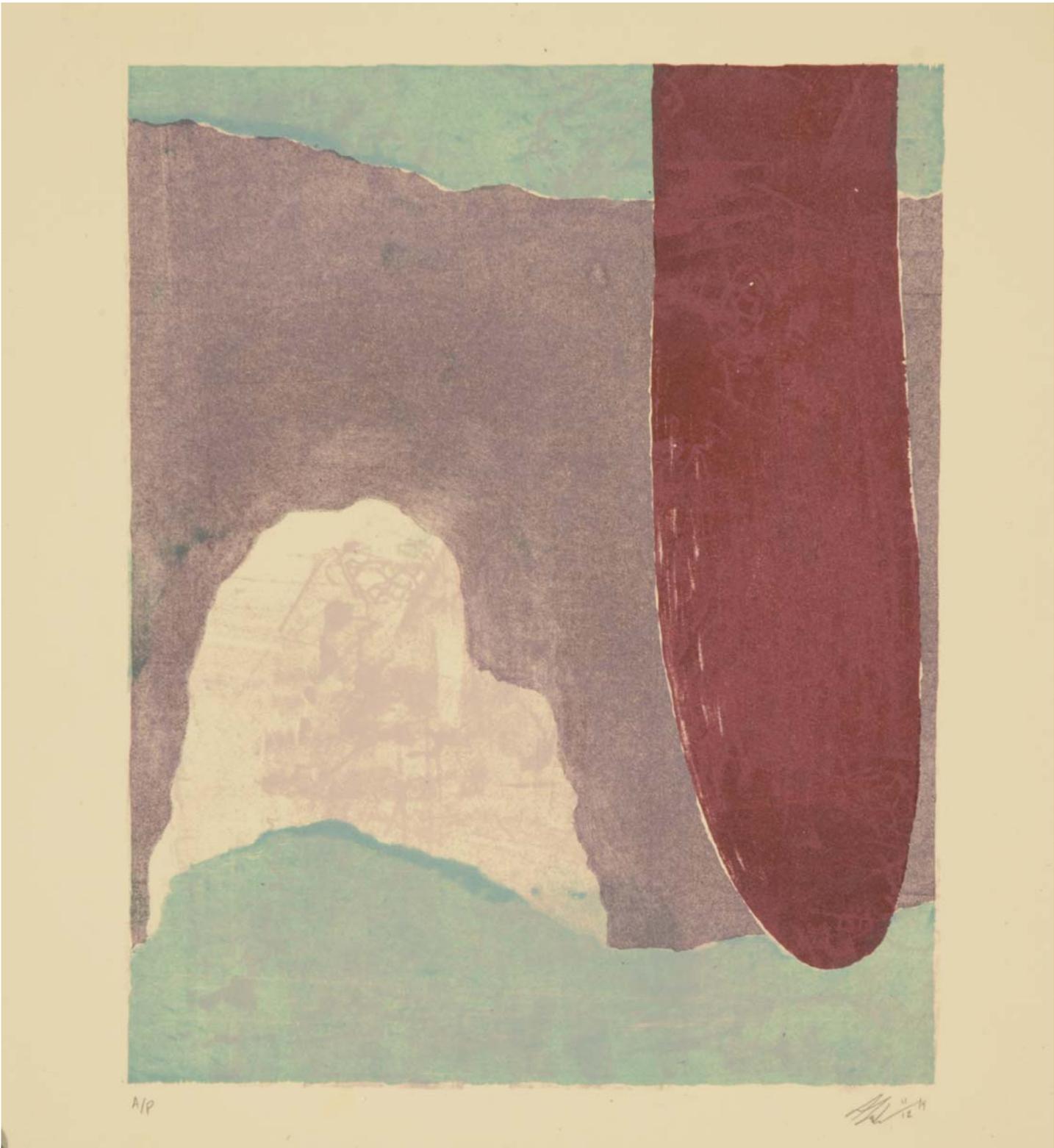


Figure 9: Untitled.



Figure 10: Untitled.



Figure 11: Entrance.



Figure 12: Hole in a Tree.