

LÉONORE

CHASTAGNER

Over the years, I've been building a vocabulary of figurative forms centered on notions of intimacy, interiority, and tenderness. The folded garment, the space of the bedroom, and bodily gestures are recurring themes in my work.

Ceramics is my primary material. My pieces are made exclusively by hand-building, I do not use engobes or glazes, leaving the clay with a bare surface. By practicing a craft long considered of little value and labeled a "pastime", I oscillate between classical references and the quaint to address the notion of waiting as it relates to the feminine. My research lies at the border of the ethnographic account, it sides with the soft, the detail and the familiar.

For me, ceramics is the material of archaeological excavations, of evidence, traces, and permanence. It allows me to embed the everyday in time.







untitled, 2022
stoneware
51 x 65 x 45 cm





untitled, 2022
earthenware
30 x 23 x 4 cm

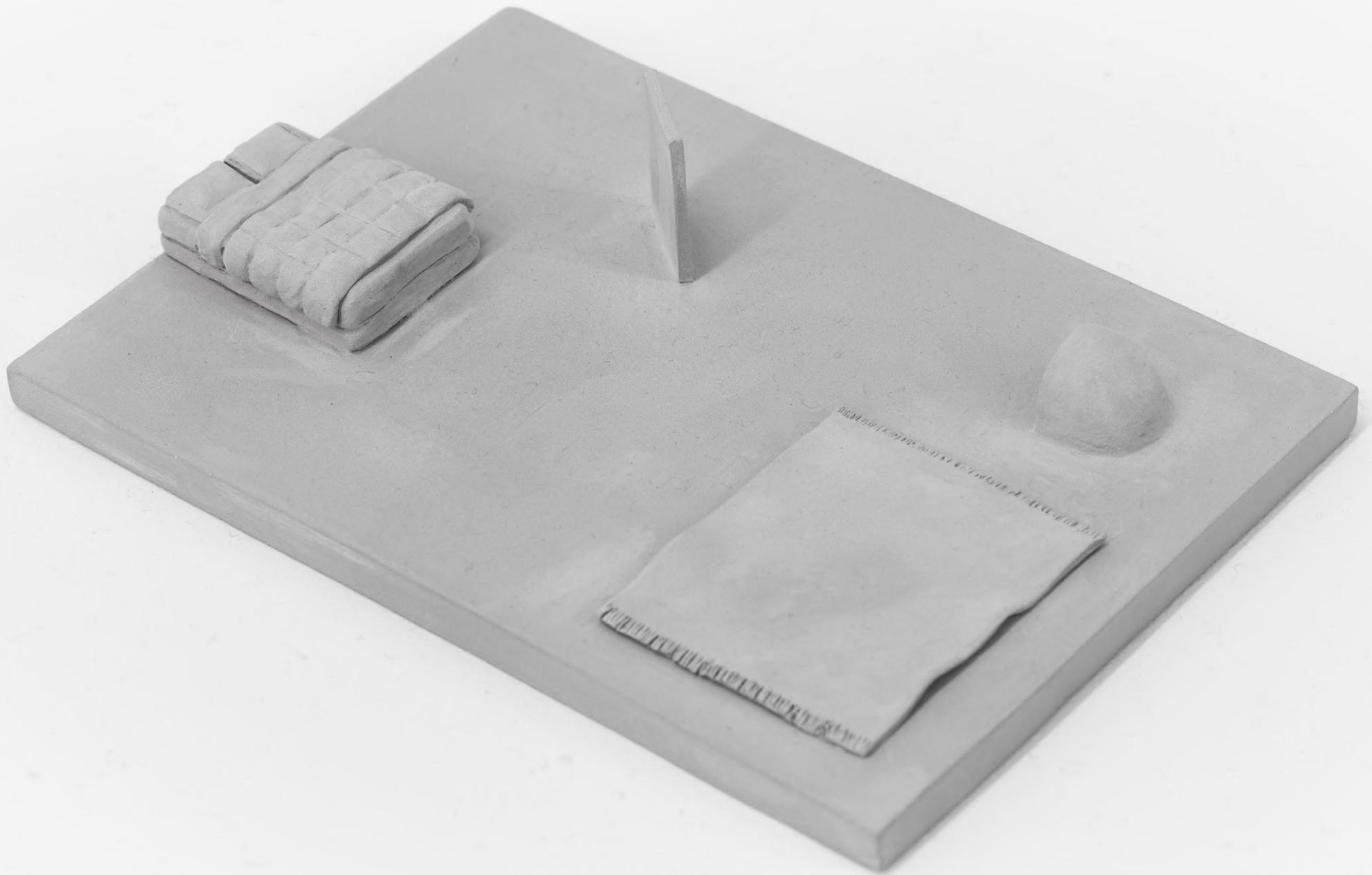


untitled, 2021
earthenware
10 x 8 cm et 7 x 8 cm





untitled, 2023
earthenware
18 x 16 x 5 cm



untitled, 2023
stoneware
11 x 17 cm
photo ©jcLett



untitled, 2022
stoneware
8 x 5 cm



untitled, 2023
stoneware
7 x 8 x 6 cm
photo ©jcLett



Installation view, Villa Arson, Nice, 2021



Installation view, Villa Arson, Nice, 2021



untitled, 2023
stoneware
12 x 17 x 5 cm





untitled, 2023
stoneware
21 x 10 x 5 cm
photo ©Jérémy Josselin



untitled, 2021
stoneware
10 x 9 cm



BIO

Léonore Chastagner (born in France, 1992) studied art history at the École du Louvre and continued her studies with a Master's degree at the Sorbonne and later at New York University. During her time in the United States, she began the sculptural work she further developed at Villa Arson, where she earned her MFA in 2022.

Her work was recently presented at the 68th Salon de Montrouge and was awarded the Jury Prize and the Centrale for Contemporary Art Prize at Ceramic Brussels. She held two solo exhibitions in 2024: "*Et gentille, aussi?*" in partnership with MO.CO. at Espace Kiasma, and *Repli stratégique* at Saint-Ravy (Montpellier). Her work has also been featured in group exhibitions, including *Earth and Art: Women Ceramicists* at Carole Decombe Gallery (Los Angeles) and the *2025 Spring Program* at Galerie Poggi (Paris).

Born in Nice (France), 1992
Lives and works in Montpellier (France)
leonorechastagner@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- 2018-22 M.F.A., **Villa Arson (École Nationale Supérieure d'Art)**, Nice, France / with Honors
- 2014-15 Exchange program, **New York University - Institute of Fine Arts & Steinhardt's Department of Art**, United States
- 2013-14 Master in Art History, **Université Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris 1)**, Paris, France
- 2010-13 Bachelor in Art History and Archeology, specialized in Contemporary Art, **École du Louvre**, Paris, France

SOLO SHOWS

- 2024 « *Et gentille, aussi ?* », curated by Rahmouna Boutayeb, **Le Kiasma, in partnership with MO.CO.**, Montpellier, FR
- 2024 *Repli stratégique*, **Saint-Ravy**, Montpellier, FR
- 2022 DNSEP, **Villa Arson**, Nice, FR
- 2018 *A Summer in New York*, curated by Isabelle Le Normand, **private apartment**, New York, US

GROUP SHOWS

- 2025 *Spring program*, curated by Margaux Bonopéra, **Galerie Poggi**, Paris, FR
- 2025 **68^e Salon de Montrouge**, Montrouge, FR
- 2025 *Art Prize*, **Ceramic Brussels**, Brussels, BE
- 2024 **C14 PARIS**, Paris, FR
- 2024 *L'heure fêlée*, **galerie Anne+**, Paris, FR
- 2024 *Earth and Art: Women Ceramicists*, **Carole Decombe gallery**, Los Angeles, US

- 2023 *Ce qui nous oblige. Exposition des diplômé-es 2022*, curated by Sophie Lapalu, **Villa Arson**, Nice, FR
- 2023 *Resonating ceramics*, **Villa Arson**, Nice, FR
- 2023 *Éphémère*, **Clémence Boisanté gallery**, Montpellier, FR
- 2022 *Resonating ceramics*, **Head**, Geneva, CH
- 2021 *Musique concrète pour sculptures creuses*, **atelier smarin**, Nice, FR
- 2019 *Songs of Abraxa*, **Entre-Pont**, Nice, FR
- 2019 *15b9, private apartment*, Paris, FR

PERFORMANCES / PUBLIC READINGS

- 2022 *Mosaïque des lexiques #8*, **Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers**, Aubervilliers, FR
- 2021 *Labo Demo #3*, **Centre Wallonie Bruxelles**, Paris, FR
- 2020 *Aimer*, **Actoral**, international festival for art and contemporary writings (Montévidéo), Marseille, FR
- 2020 *Aimer*, **Scènes du Golfe**, Vannes, FR
- 2020 *Aimer*, an invitation by Jérôme Mauche for the Poésie Plate-forme program, **Fondation d'entreprise Pernod Ricard**, Paris, FR

GRANTS / PRIZES

- 2025 Jury Prize, **Ceramic Brussels**
Centrale for contemporary art Prize, **Ceramic Brussels**
- 2024 Jury Prize, Andrée and Michel Hirlet Endowment, **C14 PARIS**
- 2020 Production grant, **UCArts-IDEX**

RESIDENCIES

- 2023 Art residency, **Ateliers Jeanne Barret**, Marseille, FR
- 2022 Art residency, **Montévidéo**, Marseille, FR
- 2021-23 **ECART Program (European Ceramic Art and Research Team)**