LÉONORE CHASTAGNER

leonorechastagner@gmail.com
+33 (0)6 33 76 14 72

Over the years, I've been building a vocabulary of figurative forms centered on notions of intimacy, interiority and preservation. 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 modeled by hand, in a restricted range of blacks, whites, and grays. I sculpt objects at varying scales, sometimes life-size, sometimes miniaturized or enlarged, with the one limit that I must be able to carry and move them on my own. The body is my unit of measurement and my frame of reference.

My attention to ordinary objects and gestures extends a reflection on the hierarchy between art and craft. I'm interested in meticulous activities traditionally associated with women (sewing, folding, tidying, preserving) and in what they become within the field of sculpture.
I draw as much on classical statuary as on popular traditions.

My research lies at the border of the ethnographic record, it favors the detail and the familiar. For me, ceramic is the material of archaeological digs, of evidence, traces and permanence. It allows me to inscribe the everyday in time.

untitled, 2023
stoneware
14 x 5 x 7,5 cm
photo ©jcLett

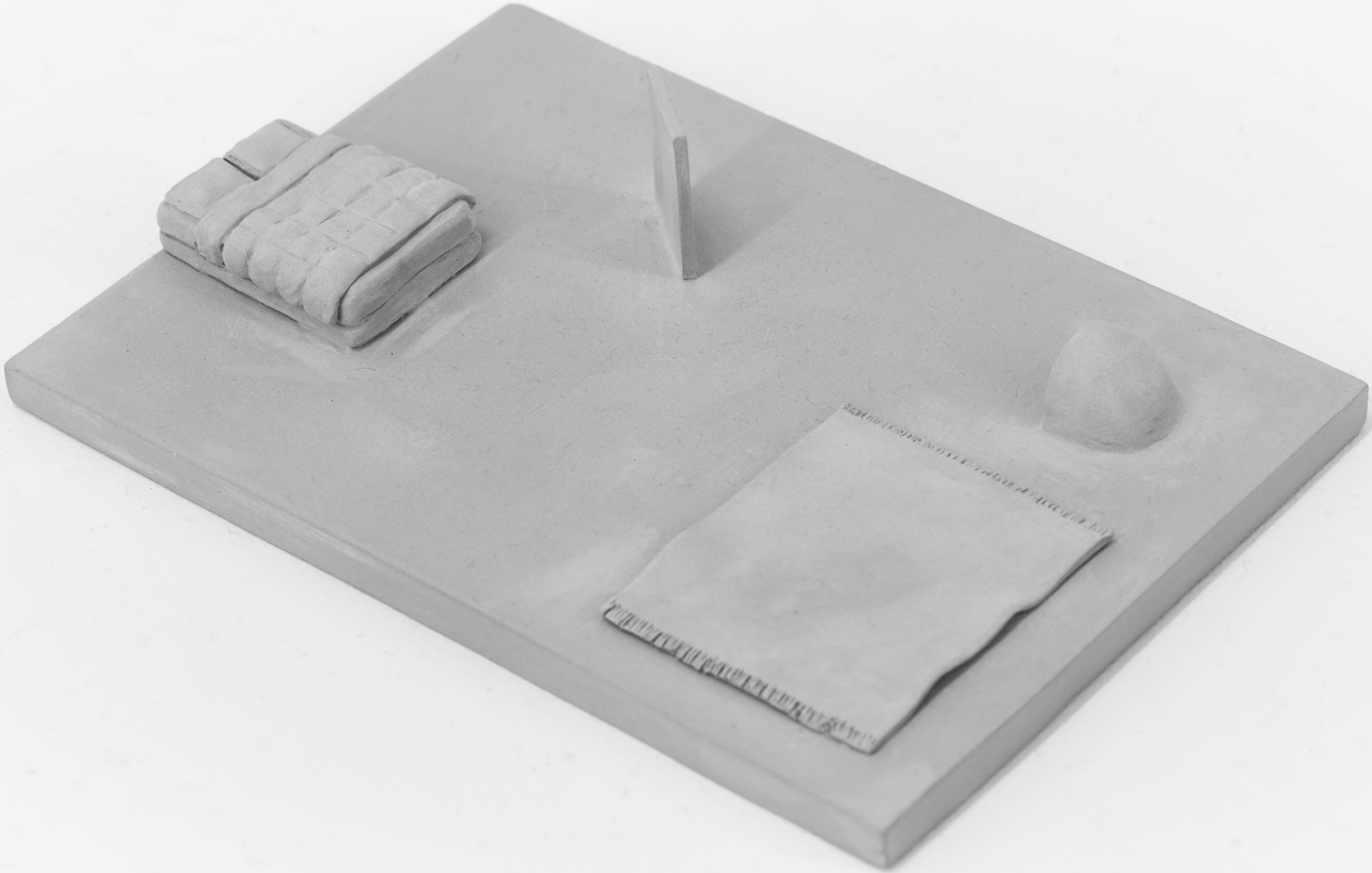
***untitled*, 2025**
stoneware
17 x 18 x 8 cm
photo ©Ici au loin

***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

Installation view, « Ce qu’il faut aimer est absent »,
Anne-Sarah Bénichou Gallery, Paris, 2026
photo © Grégory Copitet

Photo © Grégory Copitet

***untitled*, 2022**
stoneware
8 x 5 cm

untitled, 2026
stoneware
⌀ 33 x 17.5 cm
photo ©Ici Au Loin

untitled, 2025
stoneware
15 x 10 x 9 cm
photo ©Ici Au Loin

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

Installation view, Villa Arson, Nice, 2021

Installation view, Villa Arson, Nice, 2021

***untitled*, 2026**
stoneware
14,5 x 19 x 23 cm
photo © Grégory Copitet

untitled, 2023
stoneware
12 x 17 x 5 cm

***untitled,* 2023**
ceramic
7 x 8 x 6 cm
photo ©jcLett

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

***untitled*, 2021**
stoneware
10 x 9 cm

***untitled*, 2025**
ceramic
21 x 17 x 5,5 cm
photo ©Ici au loin

BIO

Léonore Chastagner (born in France, 1992) lives and work in Montpellier. She 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 has been presented in several solo exhibitions, including *Ce qu'il faut aimer est absent* at Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou *(*Paris, 2026), and *Et gentille, aussi ?* in partnership with MO.CO. at Espace Kiasma (Montpellier, 2024). It has been shown in France and internationally in group exhibitions, such as the 68th Salon de Montrouge, the *Spring Program* at Galerie Poggi (Paris), and *Earth and Art: Women Ceramicists* at Carole Decombe Gallery (Los Angeles). She was awarded the Jury Prize and the Centrale for Contemporary Art Prize at Ceramic Brussels (2025).

Born in Nice, France, in 1992
Lives and works in Montpellier
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Represented by Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou (Paris)

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

2026 *Ce qu'il faut aimer est absent*, **Galerie Anne-Sarah Bénichou**, Paris, FR

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

GROUP SHOWS

2026 *Side by side,* **Le Botanique,** Bruxelles, BR

2025 **C14 PARIS**, Paris, FR

2025 *Spring program*, curated by Margaux Bonopéra, **Galerie Poggi**, Paris, FR

2025 **68e 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

2026 Production grand, **UCArts-IDEX**

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

2026 Art residency, **Therapeia Art Residency**, Paxos, GR

2023 Art residency, **Ateliers Jeanne Barret***,* Marseille, FR

2022 Writing residency, **Montévidéo***,* Marseille, FR

2021-23 **ECART Program (European Ceramic Art and Research Team)**

PUBLIC COLLECTION

2026 FRAC Occitanie Montpellier