

VICKY SABOURIN

The Lily of your Skin

The exhibition *Le lys de ta peau* [The Lily of your Skin] is a continuation of the project *Ce que les lys odorants tentent de camoufler* [What the fragrant lilies are trying to cover up], in which visitors to the Musée d'art de Joliette were invited to experience, at the Musée or at home, a box of scents created by Vicky Sabourin.

In the wake of several deaths within her circle of family and friends over the past four years, Sabourin became interested in the evocative power of scents, which, despite their intangible and ephemeral nature, have the ability to stimulate our memory. First elaborated in the form of a collection of fragrances to which she added a personal narrative in the form of an artist book, the project's newest iteration includes photographs, textile works, and sculptures presented in the common areas of the MAJ.

These works act as memento mori—material traces that remind us of life's fleeting nature. Some are inspired by the personal possessions of her loved ones, discovered as she emptied the house shared by her grandmother and uncle: a bluish sheer curtain from her grandmother's bedroom; a patterned curtain from her uncle's room, permeated with the particular odor of sweat and tobacco smoke; a wrought-iron grill ornamented with photographs, a note, and greenery, found in the basement. Others, like a lock of white hair, a bouquet of lilies, and a sculpture reminiscent of a traditional funerary mask—this time in the shape of her grandmother's hand rather than her face—are associated with her experience of grief, the intensity of which she seeks to immobilize. By choosing to create these pieces with clay or ceramics, she evokes the fragile and evanescent quality of our memories, whose vividness tends to recede with the passage of time. Unfired clay will crumble over time, and ceramic, despite its hardness, remains fundamentally vulnerable.

With this project, Vicky Sabourin reminds us that, sometimes, sharing what is most private to us in an honest and unfiltered way allows us to more deeply connect with others, and to revive, through our emotions, what we all have in common.

Anne-Marie St-Jean Aubre, Curator of Contemporary Art

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Translation: Jo-Anne Balcaen

VICKY SABOURIN

Montréal, Québec, 1983

1. *Ombres bleues*

[Blue Shadows]

2020

Water color on paper

109.2 x 121.9 cm

Property of the artist

2. *Ce que les lys odorants tentent de camoufler*

[What the Fragrant Lilies are Trying to Cover Up]

2021

Book *The Lock of Hair and Flowers* of a numbered edition /80, numbered box (edition of 20), cardboard box, transparent and amber glass vials, perfume (essential oils, alcohol, fractionated coconut oil), perfumed unglazed porcelain worms, perfumed unglazed porcelain coral, enameled porcelain bowl, indigo-stained embroidered fabric, shoe sole, Colts cigar, match, garlic clove, playing card, travelling card, illustrations of vials, instruction manual

Variable dimensions

Property of the artist

3. *Feuille de palme II*

[Palm Leaf II]

2022

Enameled porcelain

55.5 x 26 cm

Property of the artist

4. *Simonne prend pas ceci merci*

[Simonne do not take this thanks]

2022

Enameled metal grid, note on paper, black and white photos, dried palm leaves

125.73 x 83.82 x 2.54 cm

Property of the artist

5. *Lys blanc (Simone)*

[White Lily (Simone)]

2021-2022

Perfumed shroud draped on a metal and oak coat rail

248.9 x 284.5 cm

Property of the artist

6. *Lys noir (Robert)*

[Black Lily (Robert)]

2022

Perfumed shroud draped on an oak pole

248.9 x 284.5 cm

Property of the artist

7. *Portraits abstraits*

[Abstract Portraits]

2022

Enameled porcelain

Variable dimensions

Property of the artist

8. *L'heure bleue*

[Blue Hour]

2022

Enameled porcelain, glass, photography, perfume, watercolor,
fabric, curtain, table

Variable dimensions

Property of the artist

9. *Le lys de ta peau (Robert)*

[The Lily of your Skin (Robert)]

2022

Enameled porcelain, archive photo

Variable dimensions

Property of the artist

10. *L'odeur de sa chambre*

[The Scent of His Room]

2022

Found curtain impregnated with the scent of Robert's room,
acrylic panel casing

193.04 x 162.56 x 10.16 cm

Property of the artist

11. *Le lys de ta peau (Simone)*

[The Lily of your Skin (Simone)]

2020-2022

Installation, enameled porcelain, hair, tissue paper, cushion, curtain

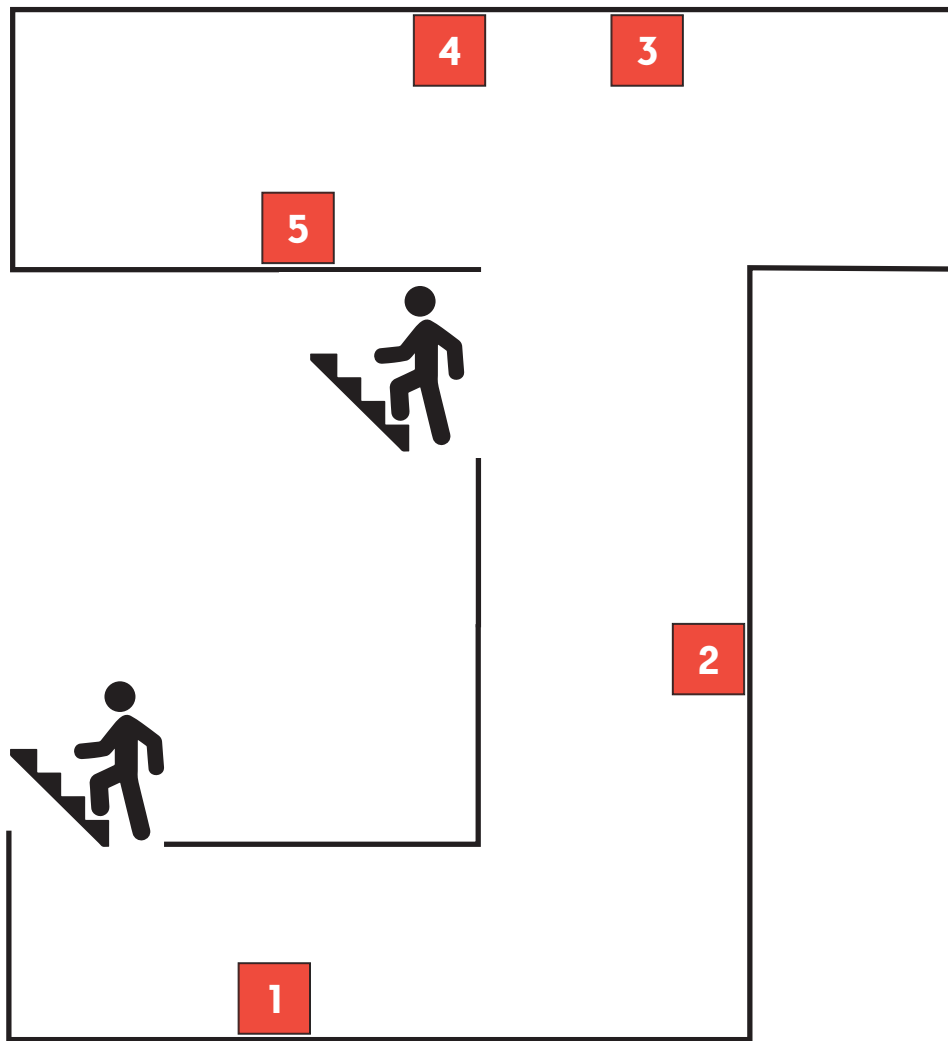
Variable dimensions

Property of the artist

FLOOR PLAN

2nd floor, in the hallway

Espace 2^e étage



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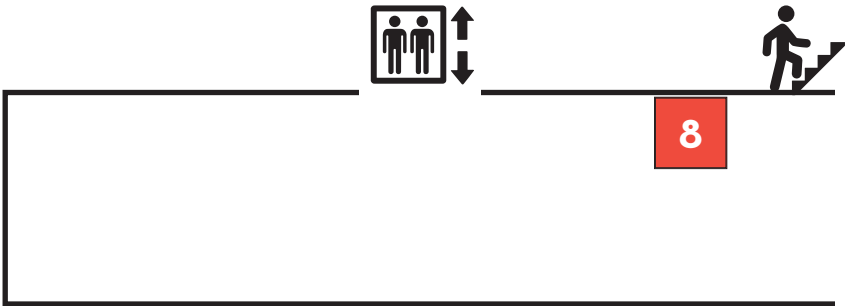
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FLOOR PLAN

3rd floor in the hallway

Espace 3^e étage



FLOOR PLAN

3rd floor

Salle Famille D^r Richard Morisset

