

South
Asian
Contemporary
Art
Amsterdam

Fabienne Francotte

WE DON'T NEED TO TALK



12.12.2025 ————— 13.02.2026

We Don't Need to Talk begins in a quiet space where words feel unnecessary and emotion moves ahead of language. The exhibition lingers in this terrain of the unspoken, inviting viewers into a form of communication that depends on presence rather than speech.

Belgium-born and currently based in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Fabienne Francotte works from the places where stories hide in the body. Her practice draws from encounters marked by trauma, displacement, tenderness, and resilience. She notices small things: the shift of breath, the weight of hesitation, the emotional traces that linger on the surface of a person. These observations travel into her materials. Drawing merges with gestural writing. Paper, thread, clay, and other tactile mediums become carriers of memory and emotional residue.

Her calligraphic training can be felt in the deliberate rhythm of her lines. Each mark holds the repetition of ritual and the vulnerability of a hand that allows both steadiness and tremor. Smudges, scratches, and unexpected gestures create a vocabulary that prioritises feeling over representation.

Portraits and figures in her work reveal interior states rather than likeness. They emerge from people she meets and the layers they hold: cultural, psychological, and deeply personal. Even the act of stitching through paper becomes a symbolic gesture, a quiet way of acknowledging what is wounded yet enduring.

The exhibition leaves space for viewers to sense their own inner terrains. It encourages a wordless recognition, a moment of standing in front of a work and finding something familiar in its quiet. These pieces do not offer resolution. They offer presence.

In Fabienne's words, loneliness is not absence but presence, and silence is not empty but filled with stories just out of reach. Her practice rests in this delicate balance. It reveals what we cannot always say, and it trusts the viewer to meet it halfway. In this exhibition, this encounter can unfold without pressure or explanation.



LATE AT NIGHT
2023
Mixed media on Canvas
52 x 52 cm
20.5 x 20.5 in



THE LILIES
2023
Mixed media on Canvas
54 x 61 cm
21.2 x 24 in



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT
2023
Mixed media on Canvas
40 x 43 cm
15.7 x 16.9 in



CROCHET LADY

2023

Mixed media on Canvas

44 x 47 cm

17.3 x 18.5 in



I LOVE YOU
2021
Mixed media on Canvas
145 x 109 cm
57 x 42.9 in



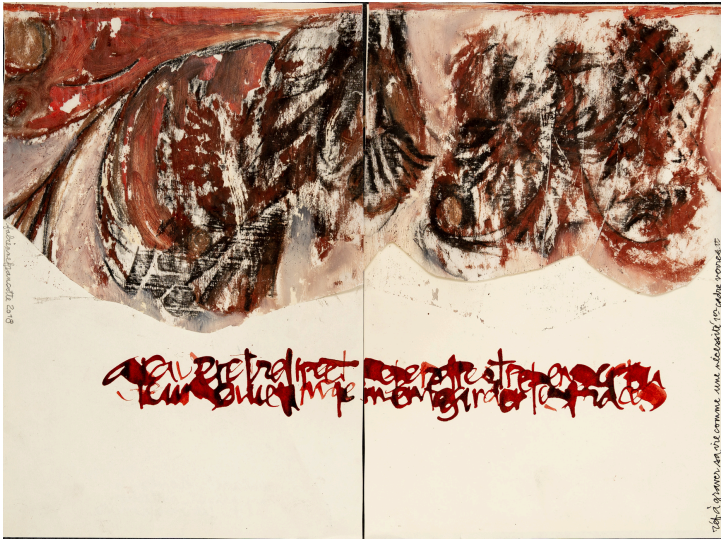
THE TALK
2021
Mixed media on Canvas
146 x 109 cm
57.4 x 42.9 in



THE FRAMES
2020
Mixed media on Paper
24 x 17 cm
9.5 x 6.6 in



I DON'T REMEMBER HER NAME
2020
Mixed media on Paper
24 x 18 cm
9.5 x 7 in



46
2020
Mixed media on Paper
24 x 35 cm
9.5 x 13.7 in



32
2020
Mixed media on Paper
25 x 35 cm
9.8 x 13.7 in



65
2020
Mixed media on Paper
24 x 35 cm
9.5 x 13.7 in



LINE PAINTING-SAID MARIA LASSING

2020

Mixed media on Paper

24 x 21 cm

9.5 x 8.2 in



A DOVE

2020

Mixed media on Paper

24 x 23 cm

9.5 x 9 in



55

2020

Mixed media on Paper

24 x 18 cm

9.5 x 7 in



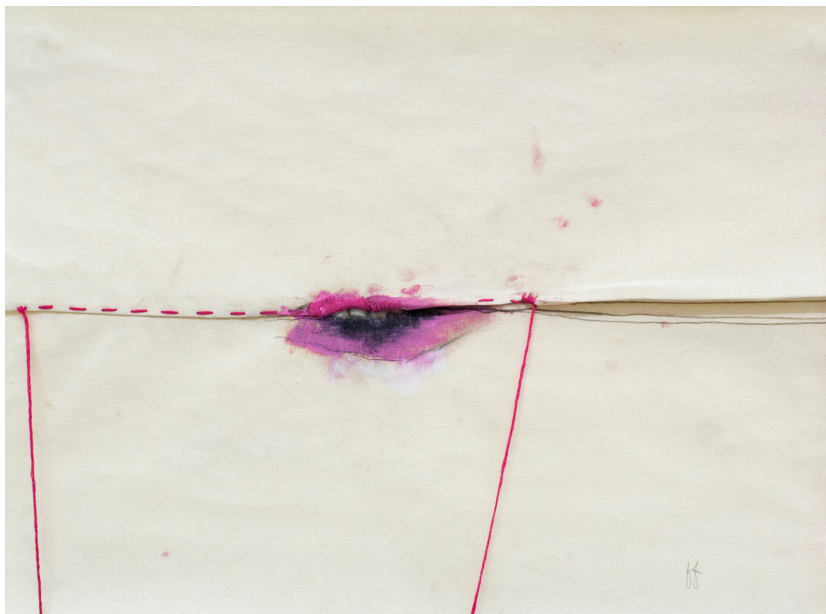
39

2020

Mixed media on Paper

24 x 16 cm

9.5 x 6.2 in



THE THICKNESS OF SILENCE I
2022
Oil and Embroidery on Canvas
40 x 30 cm
15.7 x 11.7 in



THE THICKNESS OF SILENCE II
2022
Oil and Embroidery on Canvas
47 x 32 cm
18.5 x 12.5 in



THE THICKNESS OF SILENCE III
2022
Oil and Embroidery on Canvas
38 x 40 cm
15 x 15.7 in

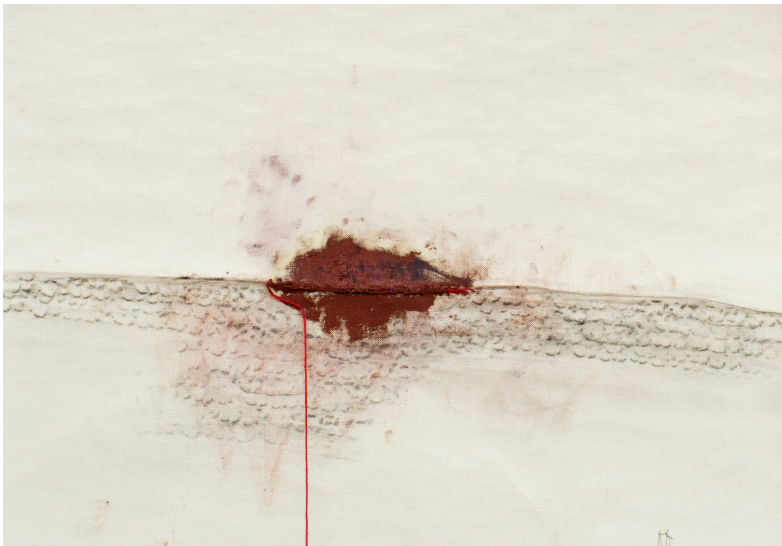


THE THICKNESS OF SILENCE IV
2022

Oil and Embroidery on Canvas

40 x 27 cm

15.7 x 10.6 in



THE THICKNESS OF SILENCE VI
2022

Oil and Embroidery on Canvas

39 x 40 cm

15.3 x 15.7 in



HANDS OF MEMORIES 2022 NEPA
2022
Bronze
Height: 14 cm
Base: 5 x 5 cm
Height: 5.5 inch
Base: 2 x 2 inch

This catalogue features content from SAC Art Amsterdam, showcasing the work of the gallery and its exhibitions.

Established by Tasneem Hatimbhai in June 2024, SAC Art Amsterdam specialises in modern and contemporary art from India and South Asia, aiming to raise awareness and foster international recognition for artists from South Asia and its diaspora.

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