

les Muses



Steven Tabor
2024 (c)

les Muses

Muses often go unnoticed, despite their significant role in inspiring great works of art. This series challenges the norm by placing the muse at the forefront of the art world.

This series began five years ago with a visit to Piet Mondrian's birthplace, now a museum in Amersfoort. Inside, a recreation of Mondrian's Paris studio sparked my curiosity. Adorning the walls were photographs of nude models from the Folies Bergère (figure 1). This made me wonder why muses receive so little attention, despite the crucial role they've played in inspiring countless great artists (figure 2)?

I then embarked on an effort to try and recreate what I imagined was the mental landscapes of various renowned artists. Using mini beamers, I projected digital images of iconic artworks onto models posing freely in a darkened studio. The outcome was a series of composite images, each with its distinct geometry, texture, and tone.

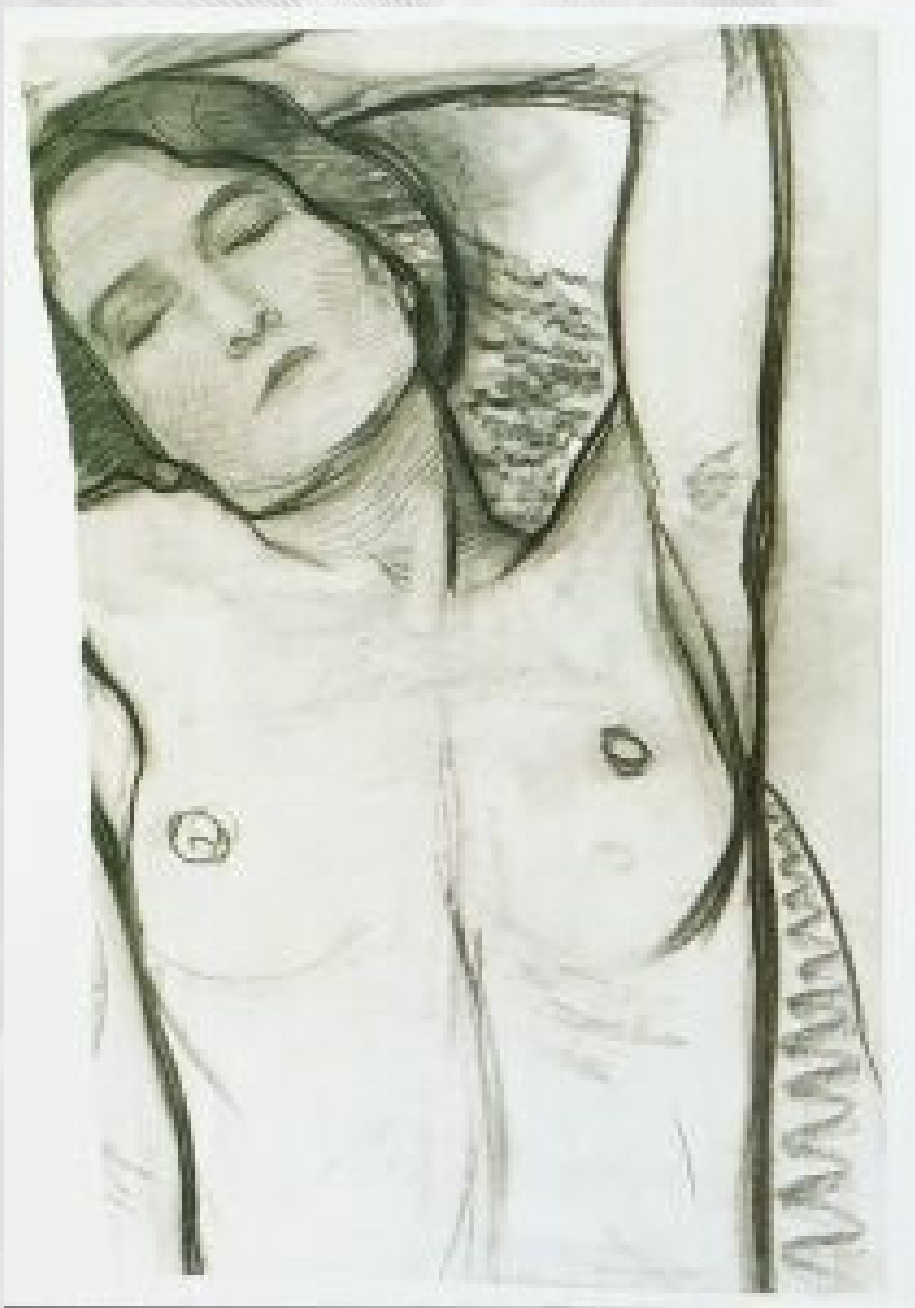
In this series, I envision a world where the muses take center stage in the world's great museums. Leveraging AI technology, I generated imaginary museum backdrops to display projection photographs of the digitally painted muses. My gratitude is extended to the inspiring muses Ameria, Anahi, Ankie, Ashleigh, Dafne, Diedre, Drew, Ellen, Iris, Kate Ri, Kim, Maya, Mira, Manya, Nicky, Noa, Sanne, Valentina and Zoi, and to the iconic artists Rembrandt van Rijn, Johannes Vermeer, Piet Mondrian, Vincent Van Gogh, Rafael, Leonardo da Vinci, Pieter Bruegel de Oude, Jan Steen, Peter Paul Rubens, Hieronymus Bosch, Maurits Escher, Hendrick Avercamp, Roy Lichtenstein, Kazimir Malevich, Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo, Andy Warhol, Fernand Léger, Mark Rothko, Yves Klein, Edgar Degas, Claude Monet, Wassily Kandinsky, Jean Dubuffet, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Jackson Pollock, Kunisada, Marlene Dumas, Bram Bogart, Herman Brood, and Andrew Wyeth.

Figure 1. Nude photos on Mondrian's Atelier wall



Figure 2: Mondrian's representation of beauty becomes more abstract over time

An early Mondrian nude

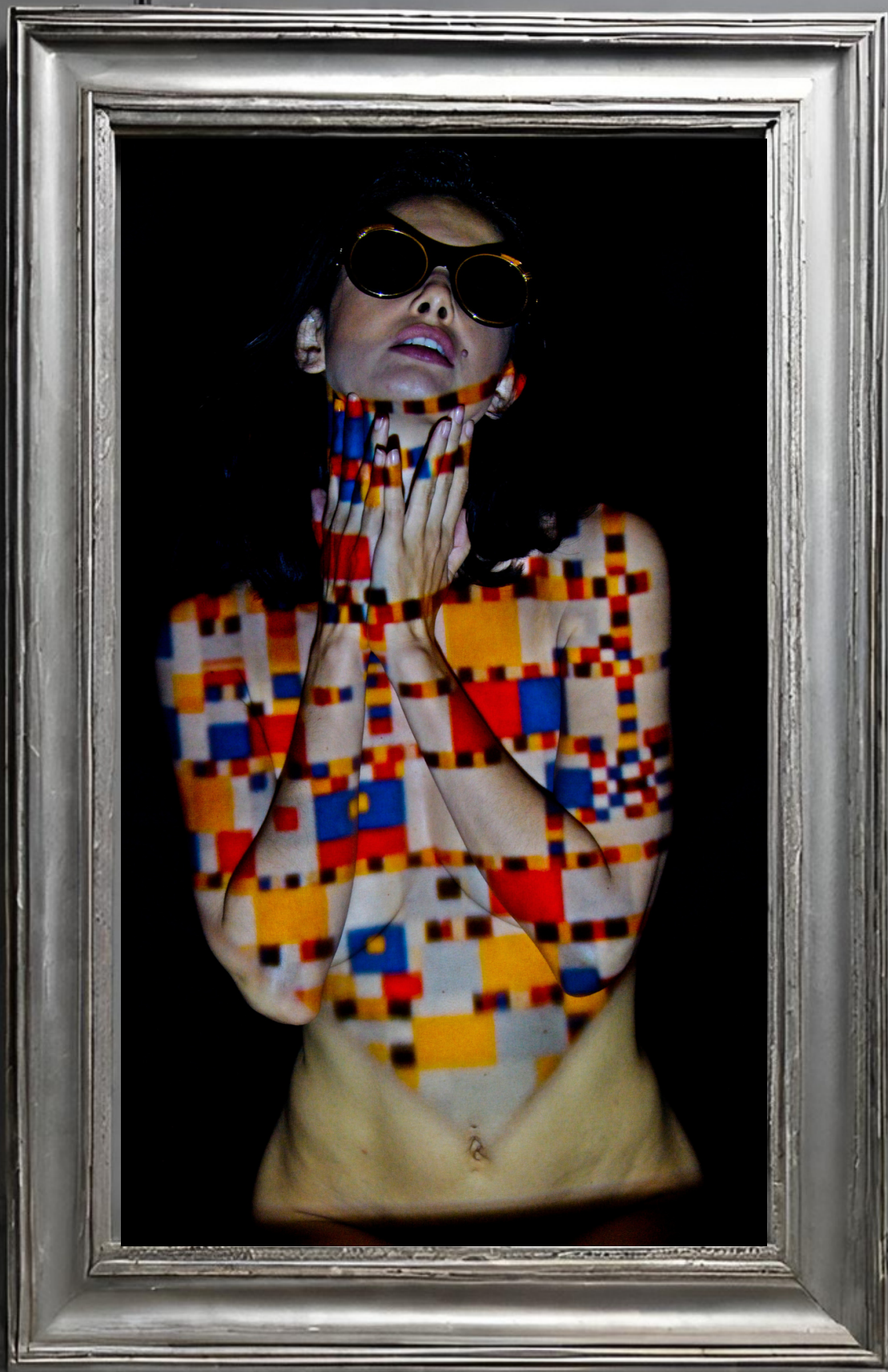


Mondrian's Evolution, 1911

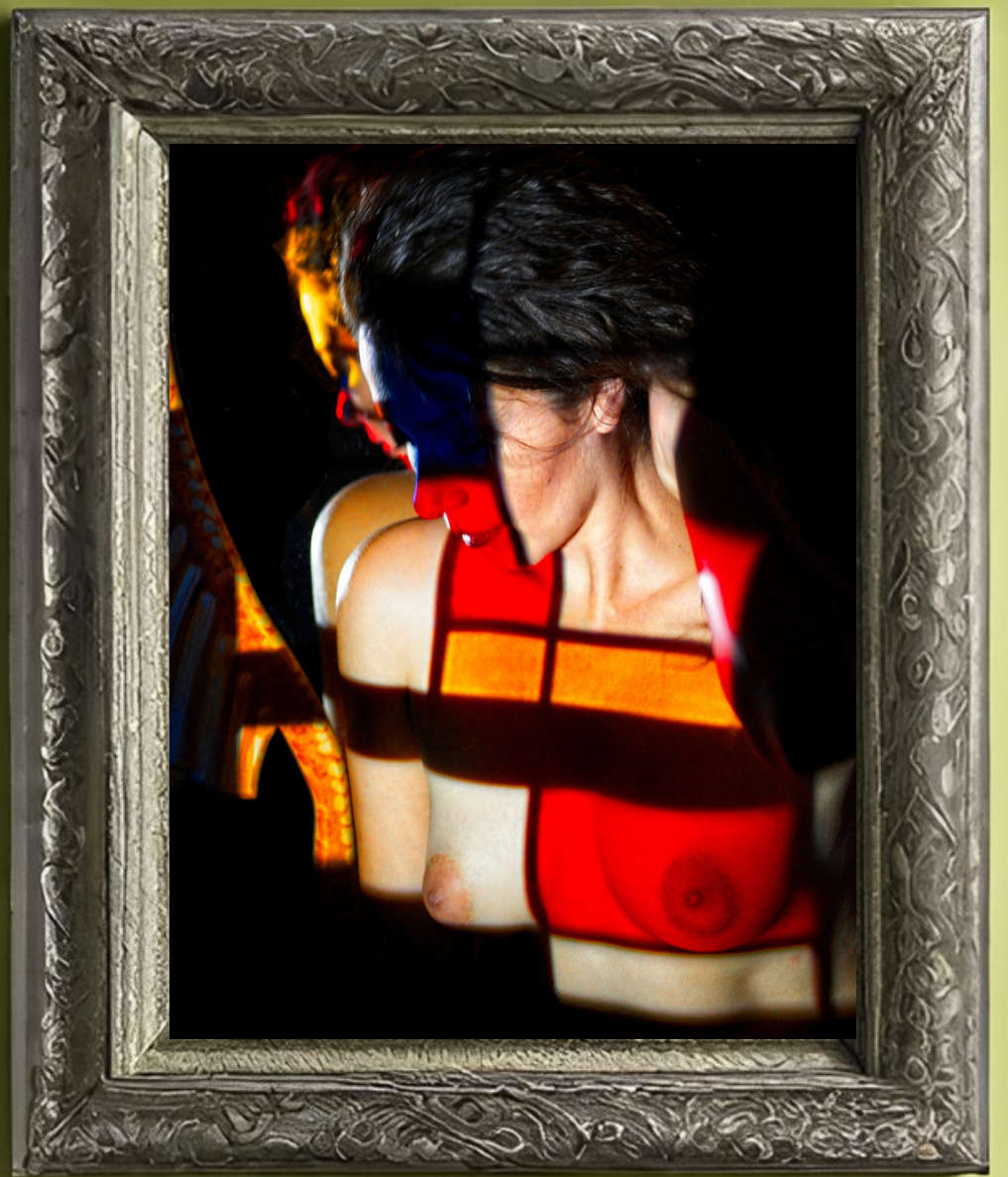
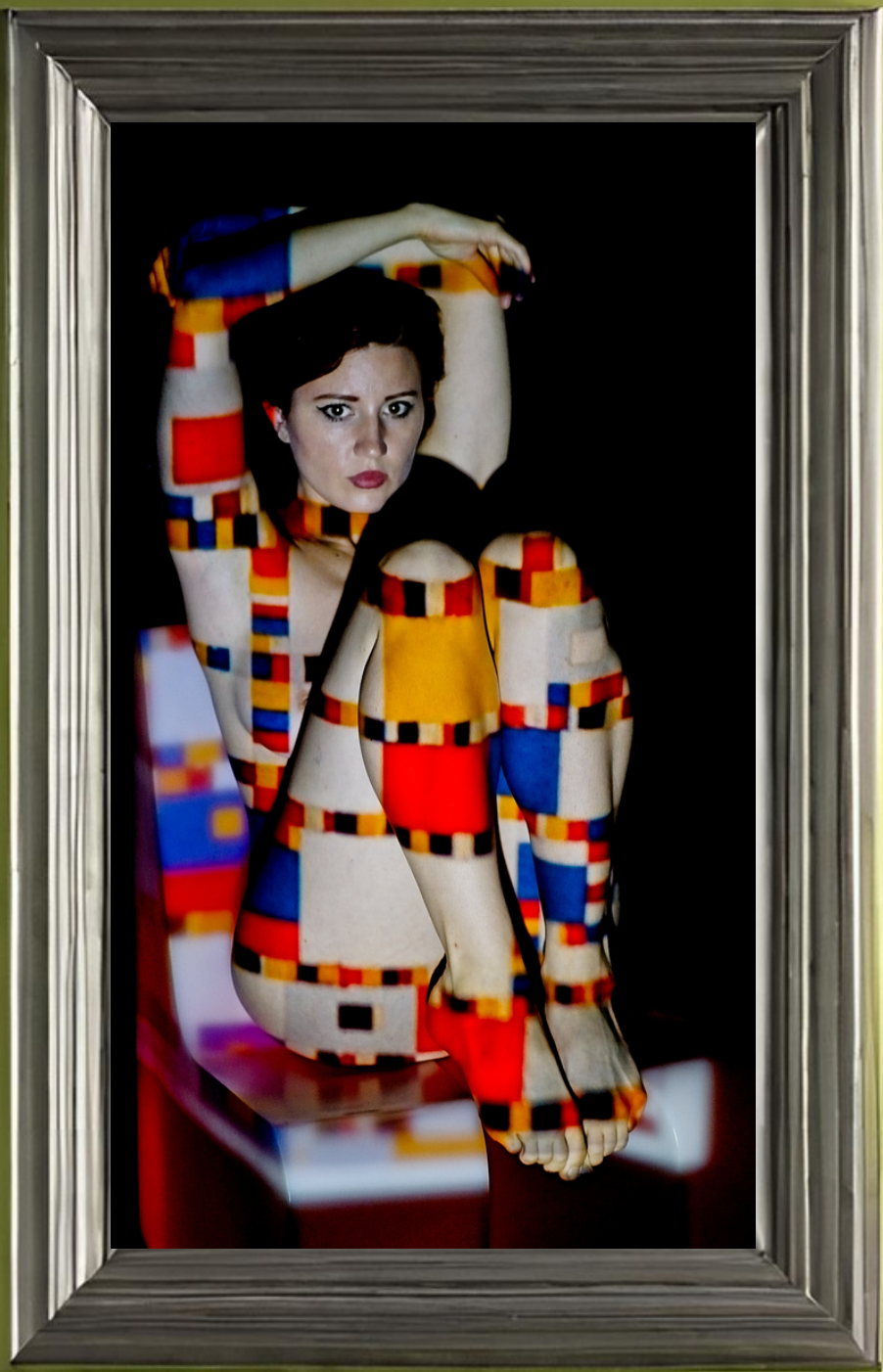


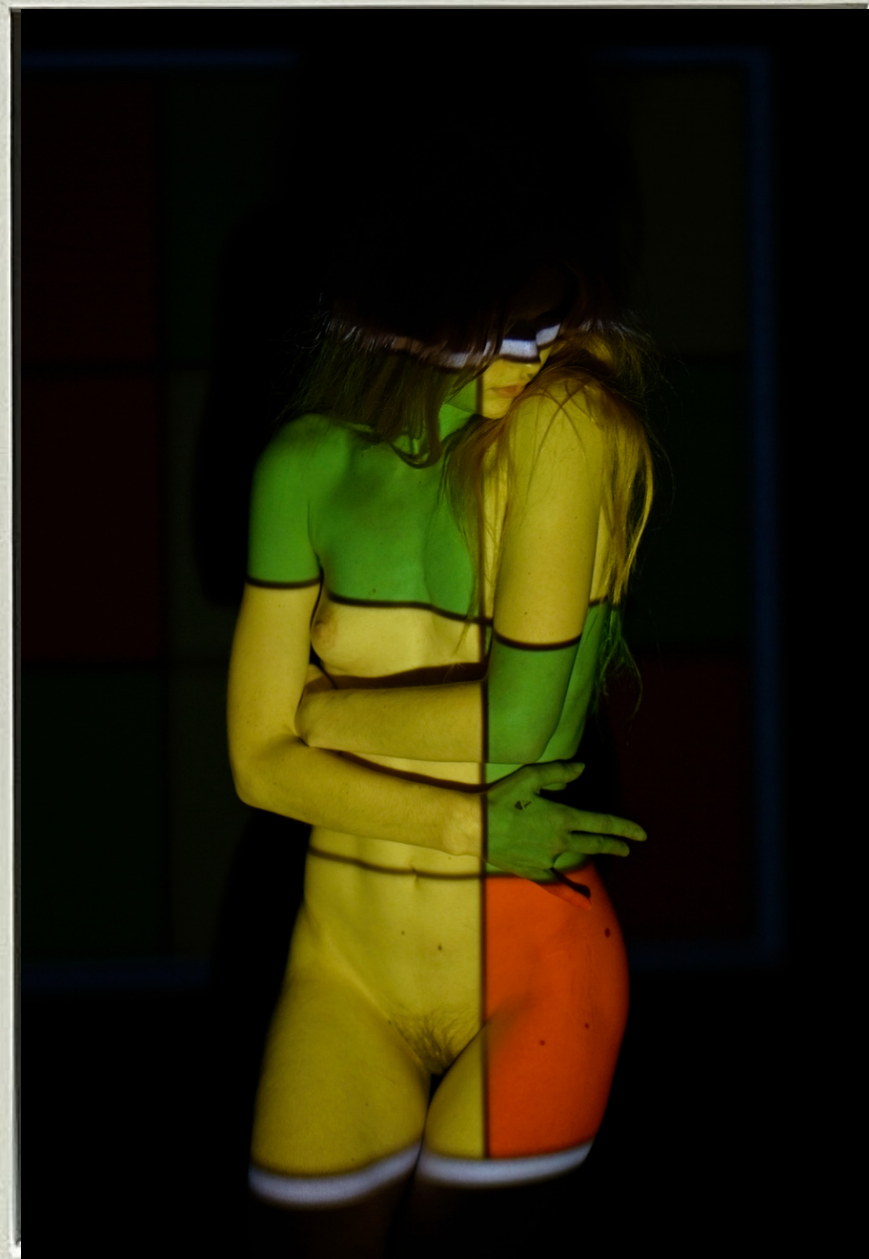
Mondrian's Broadway Boogie Woogie
1942

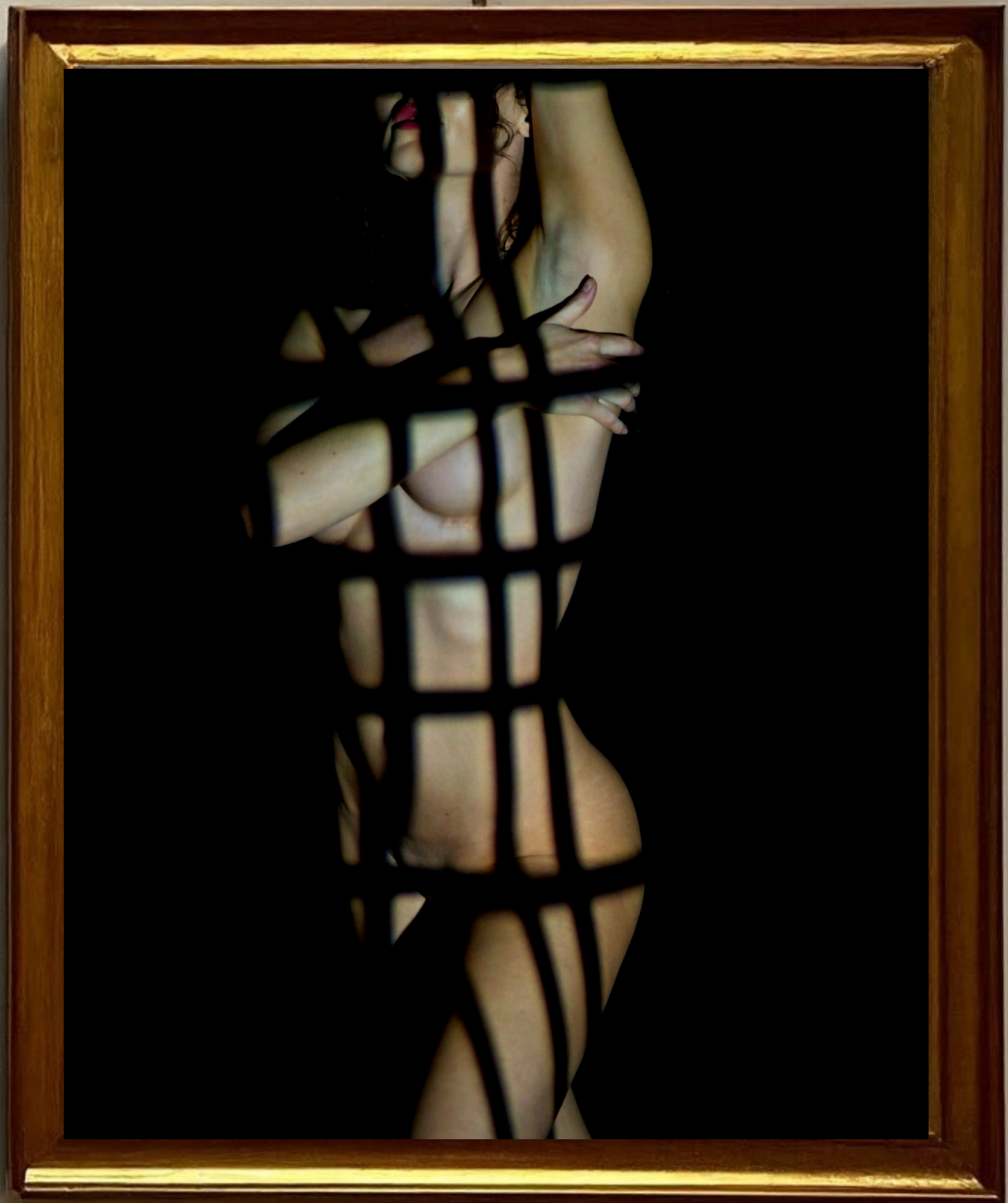






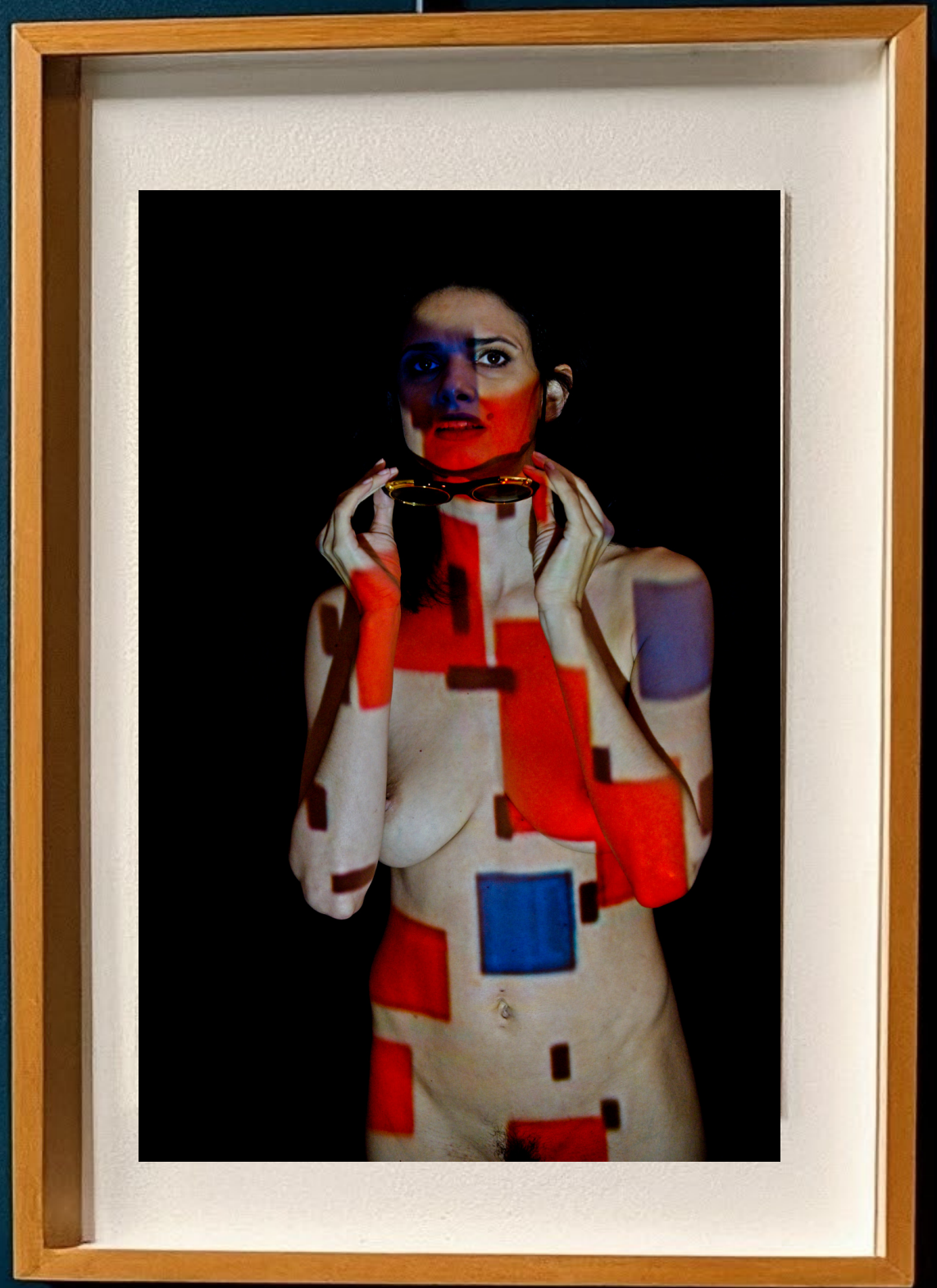
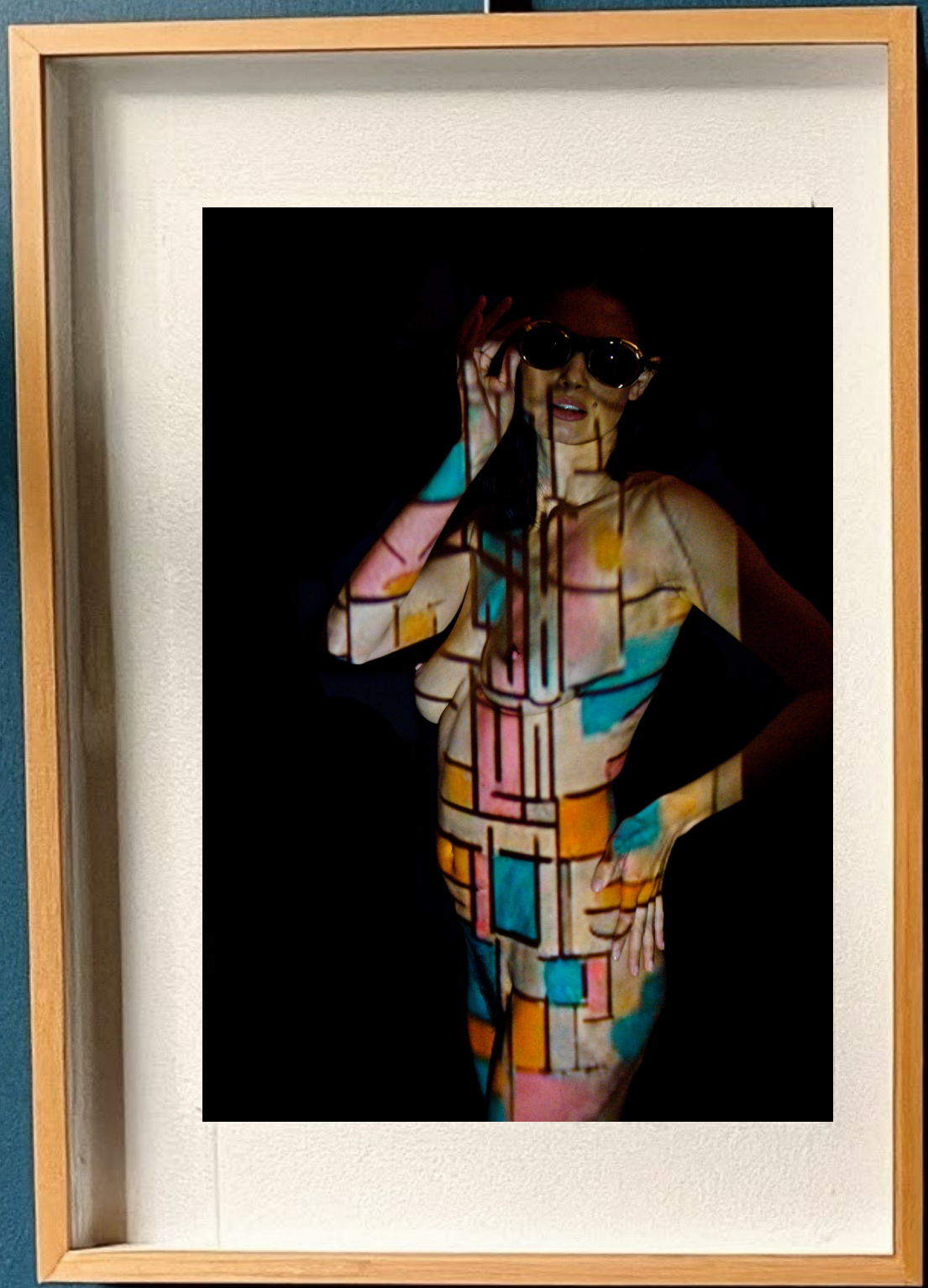






Small, illegible text label on the wall below the left photograph.





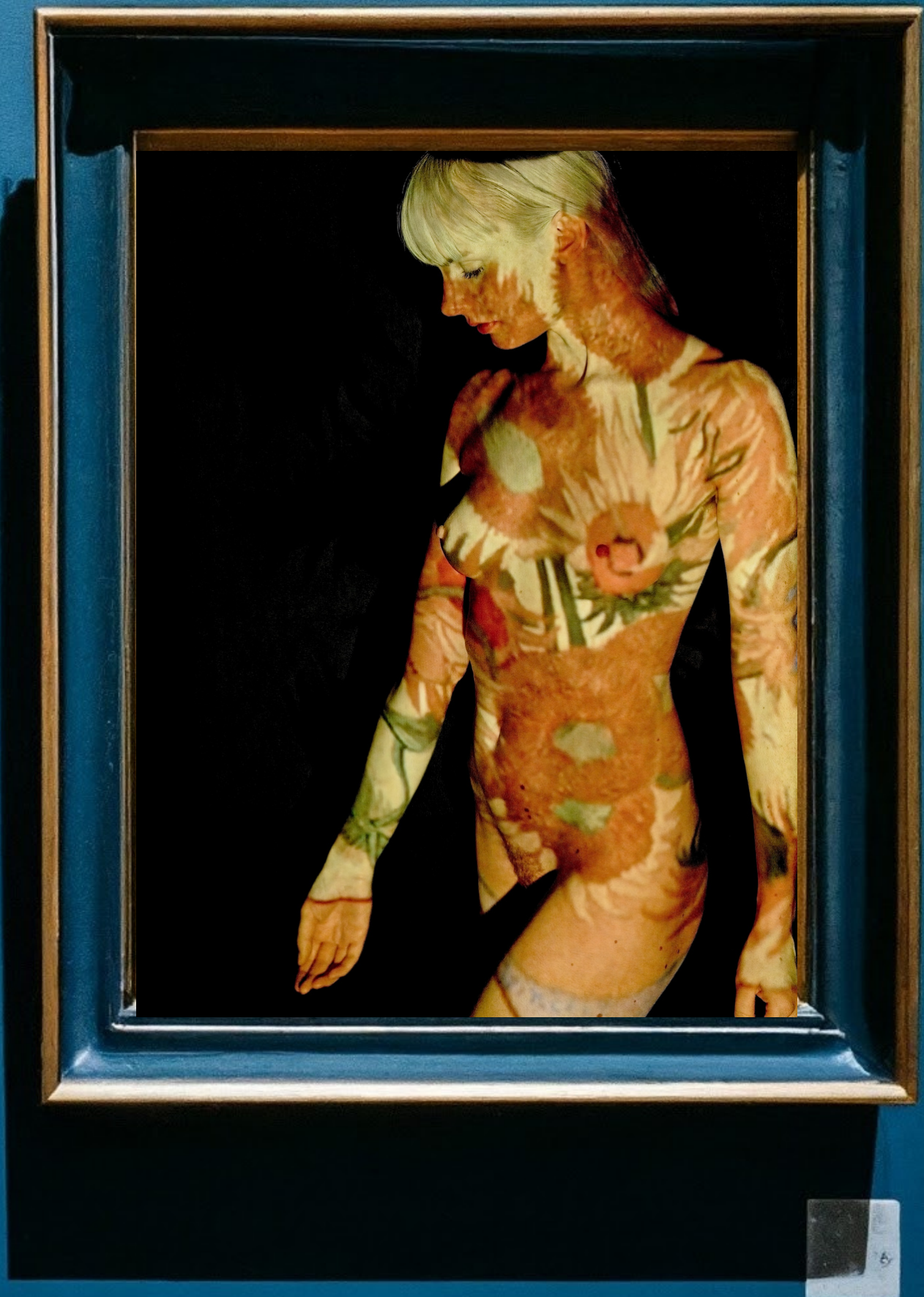




Small white label on the left wall.



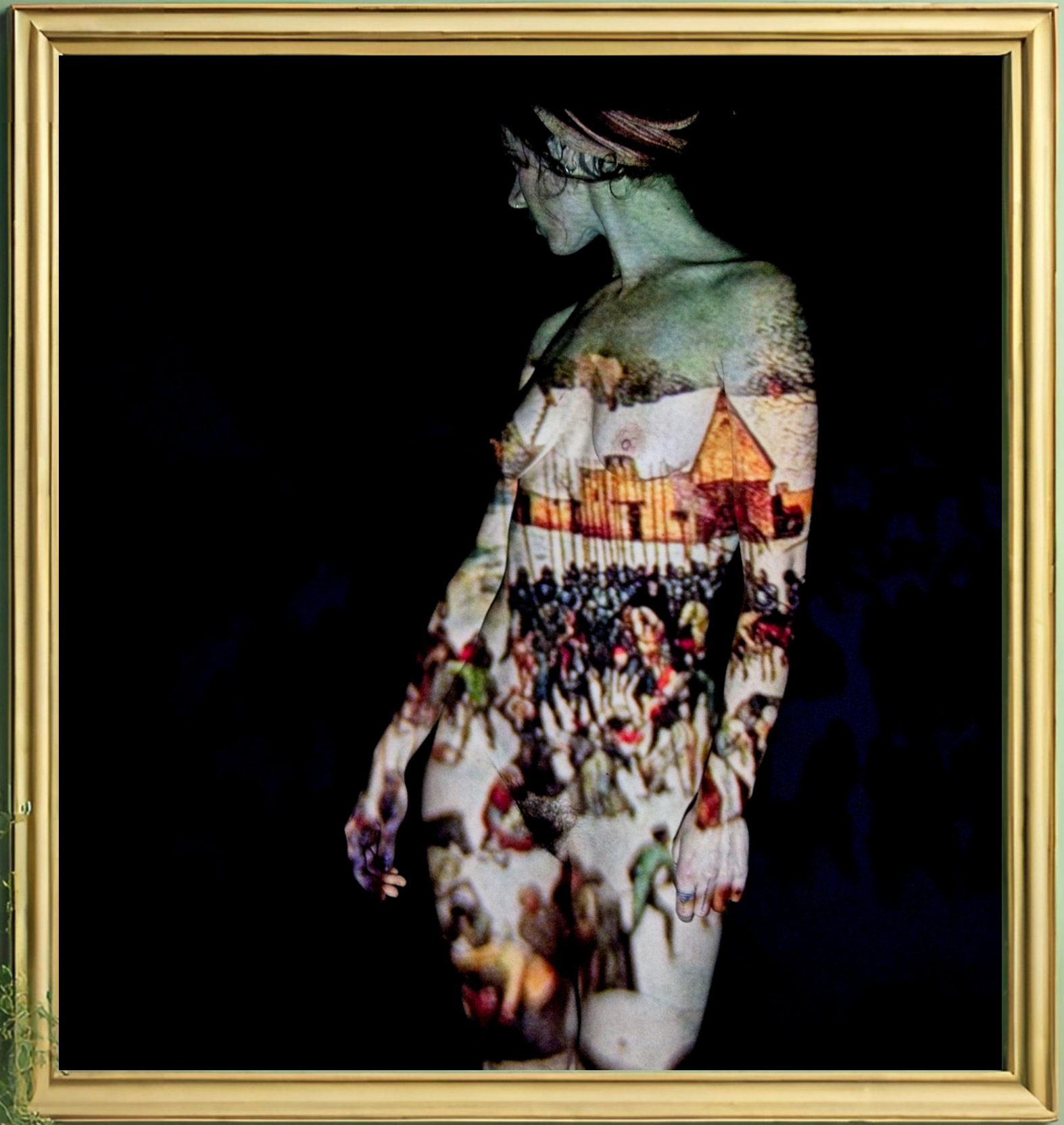
Small white label on the right wall.









































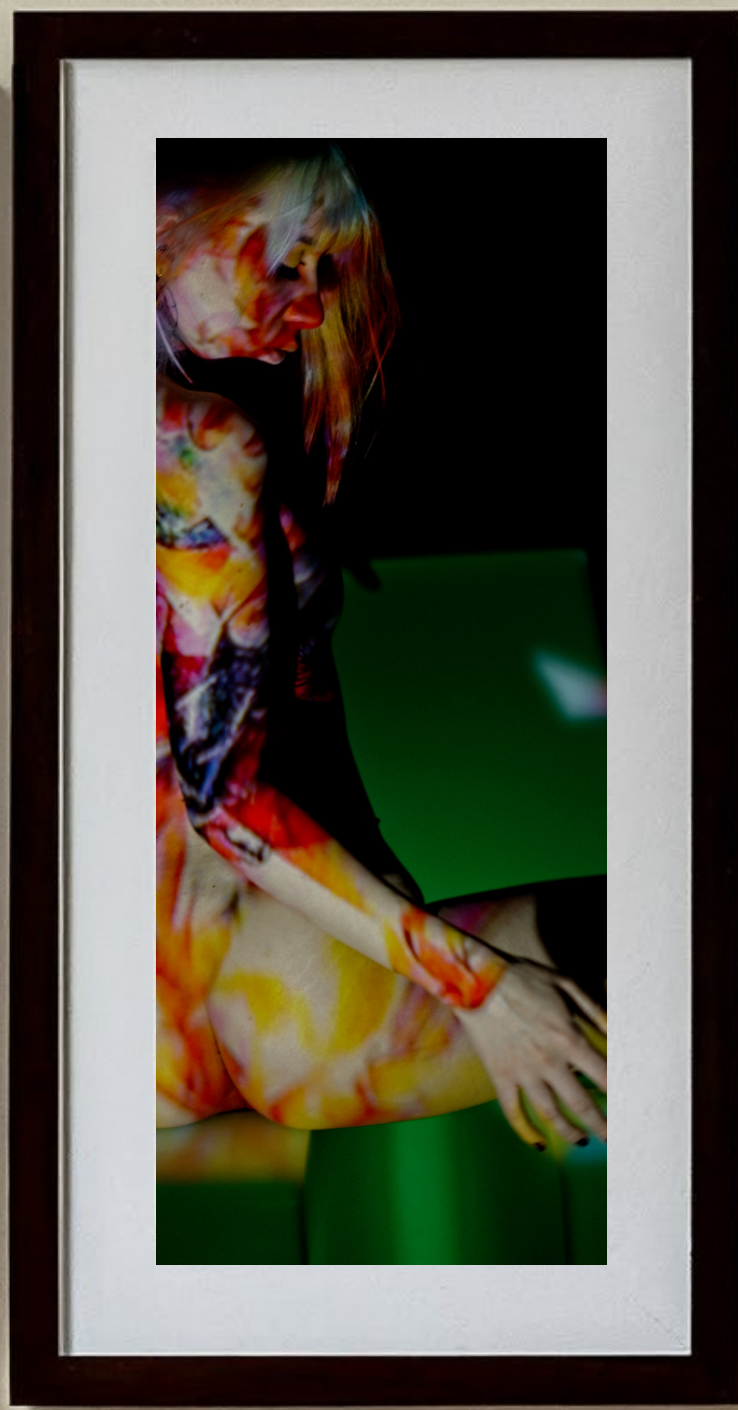
















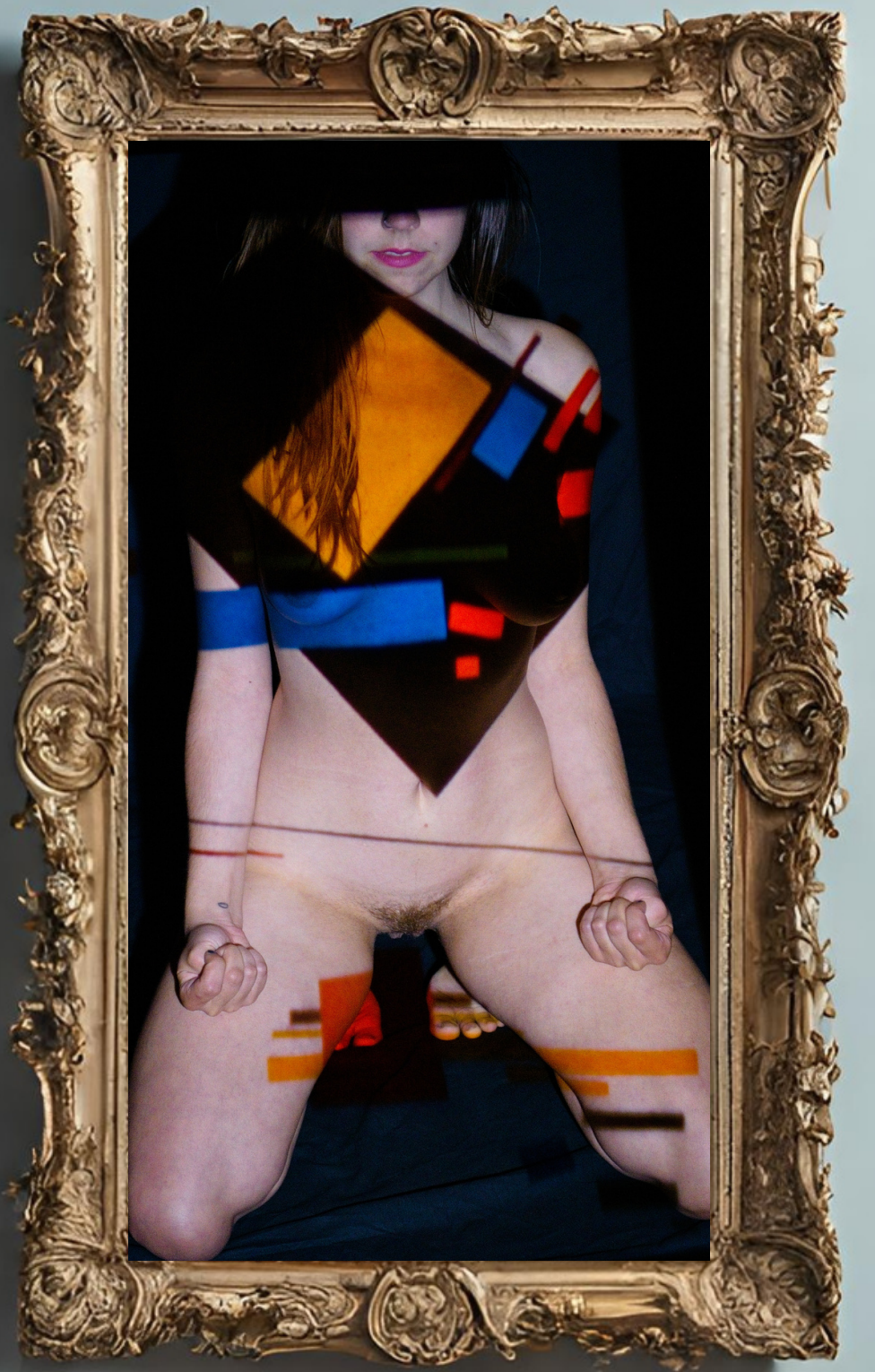


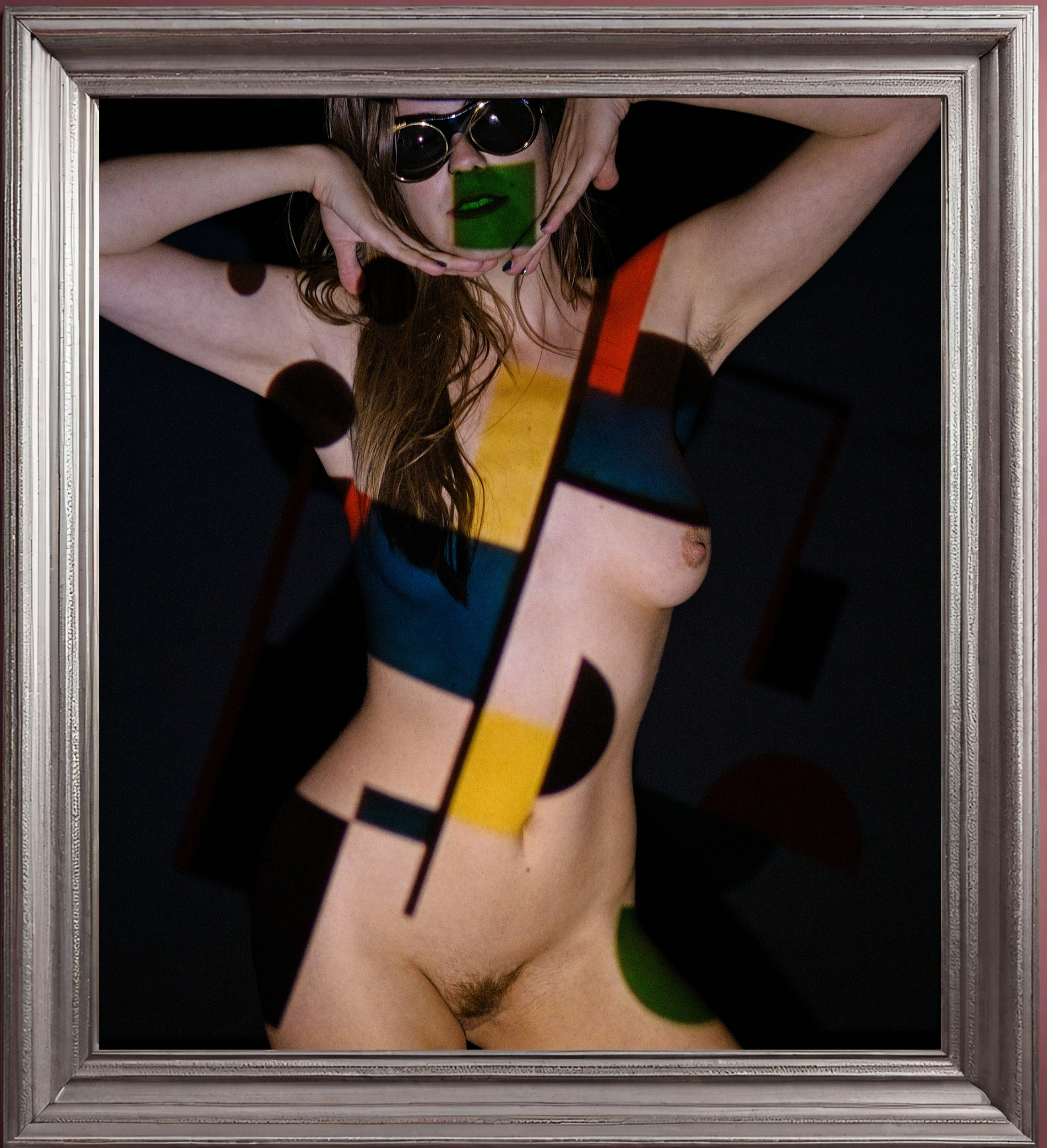






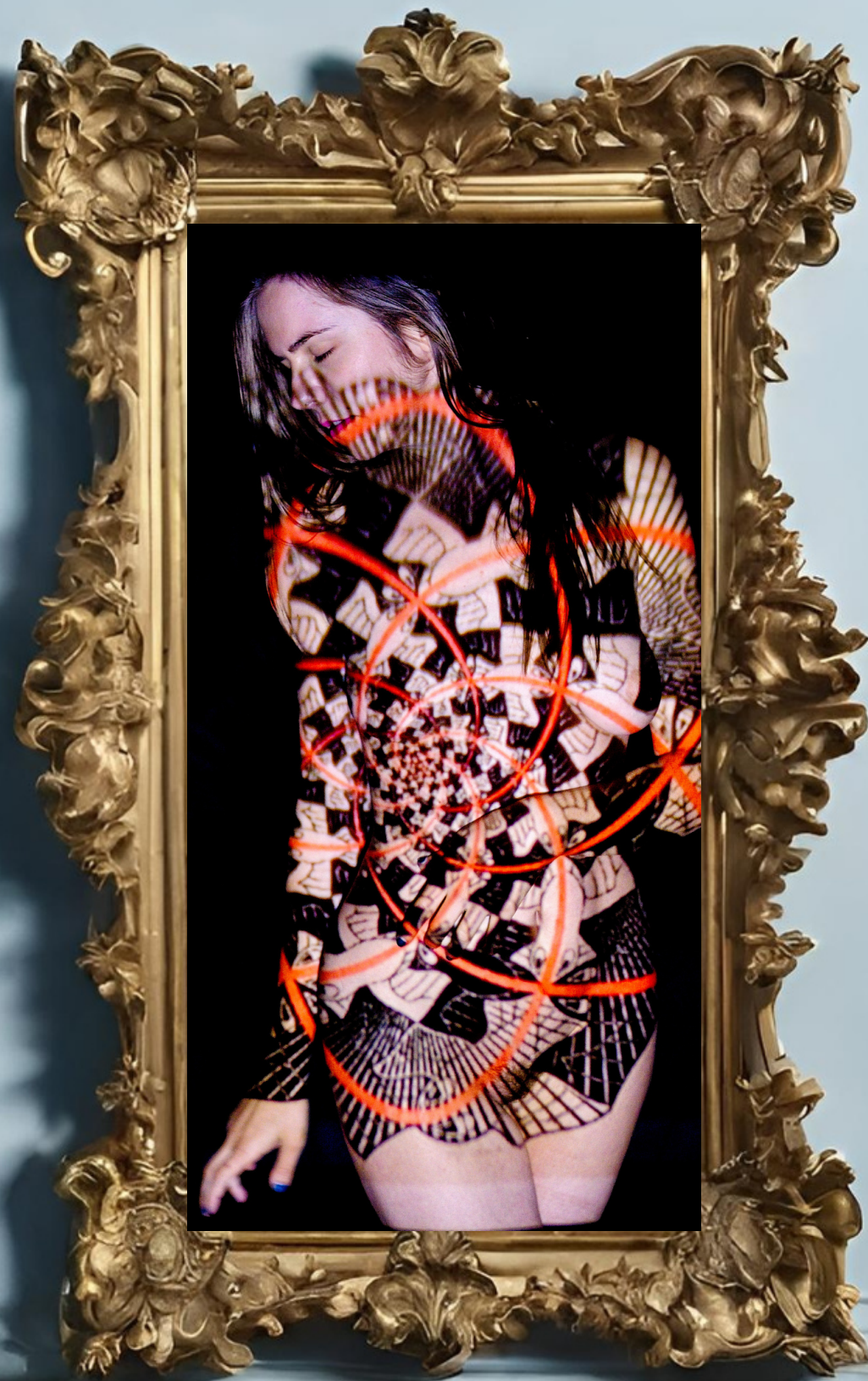


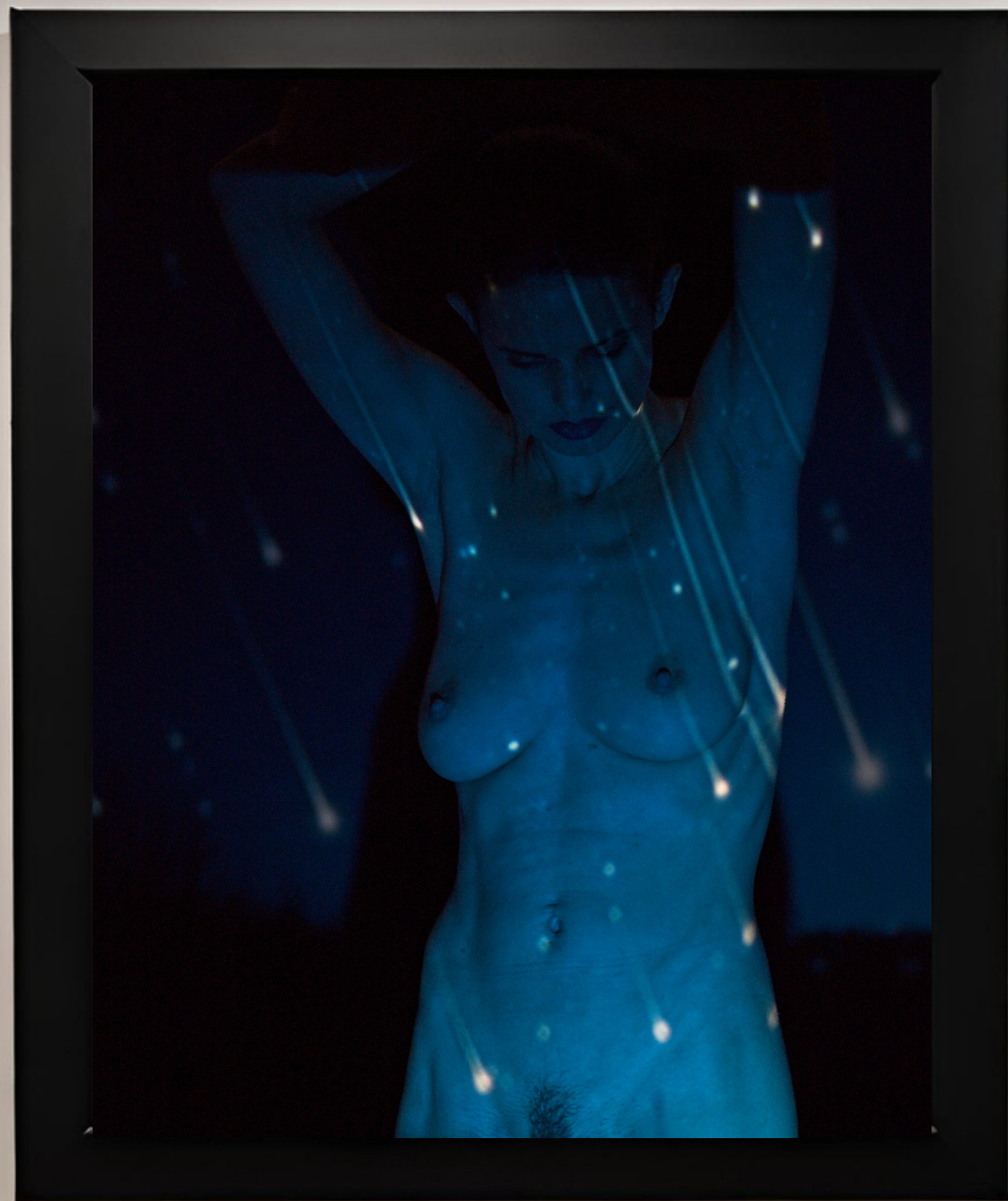


























Small white label with text, likely providing information about the artwork.

Larger white label with text, likely providing information about the artwork.



les Muses

