

Working with light takes Antwerp-based duo Daems van Remoortere in different directions. On the one hand, they produce gallery works that draw on geometric abstraction and astrophysics. On the other, they make challenging multimedia installations that raise questions about public space and society.

daems van remoortere





*Lichtlijn, 2013*

Lichtlijn are several geometric cut-outs in the stairwell of the arts center, De Studio in Antwerp. The duo was inspired for this work by the architect Gordon Matta Clark.

Lena Daems (b.1988) and Frederik van Remoortere (b.1986) met at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp and collaborated in their final years as students. Daems specialised in photography, graduating in 2011, while van Remoortere followed the academy's In Situ programme, which focuses on site-specific art. He graduated in 2012.



*After Hours, 2021*

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## AFTER HOURS

### Ode to Gordon Matta Clark







*Track Tracy, in Antwerp, 2019*

Track Tracy is an interplay of biological and artificial intelligence, a choreography where it is not always clear who is taking the lead.

Some of the installation works made just after Daems van Remoortere's study period contained content that would be the initial structure of their later work. The relationship between private and public space in the two projects, Het [Raam](#) (2012) and [FRESCO](#) (2013) would become an important theme in the duo's work. But looking back, [Lichtlijn](#) (2013), turns out to be the first key work in which light and geometry play an important role.

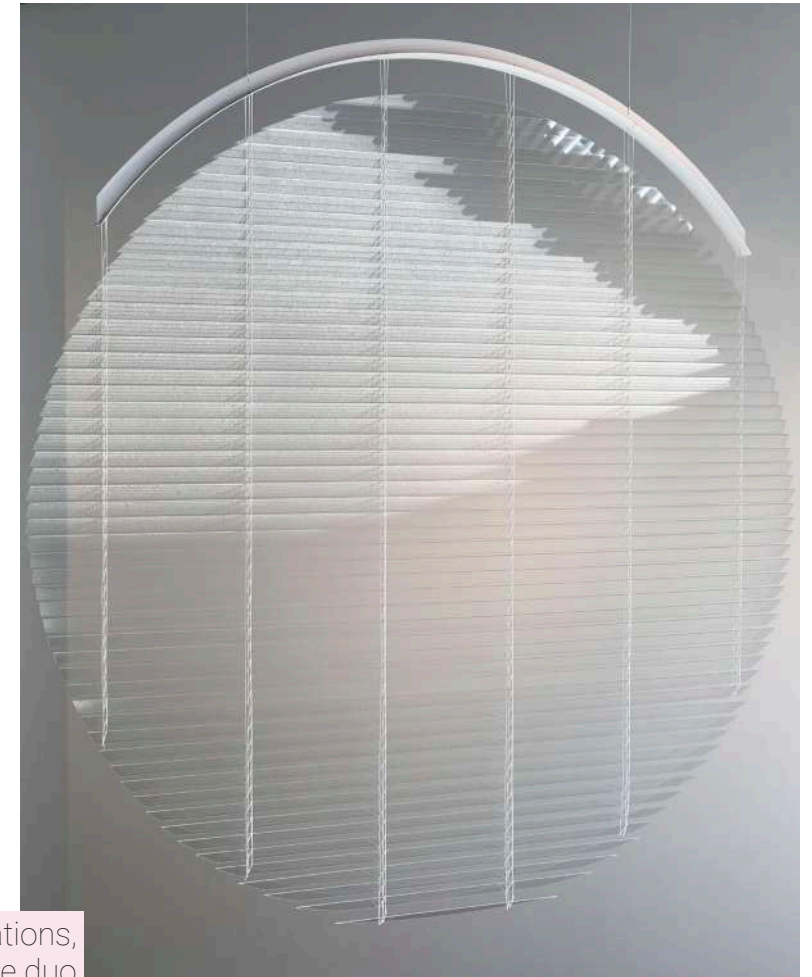


*Track Tracy, in Leuven, 2019*

[PRESS](#) the art couch

[PRESS](#) de studio

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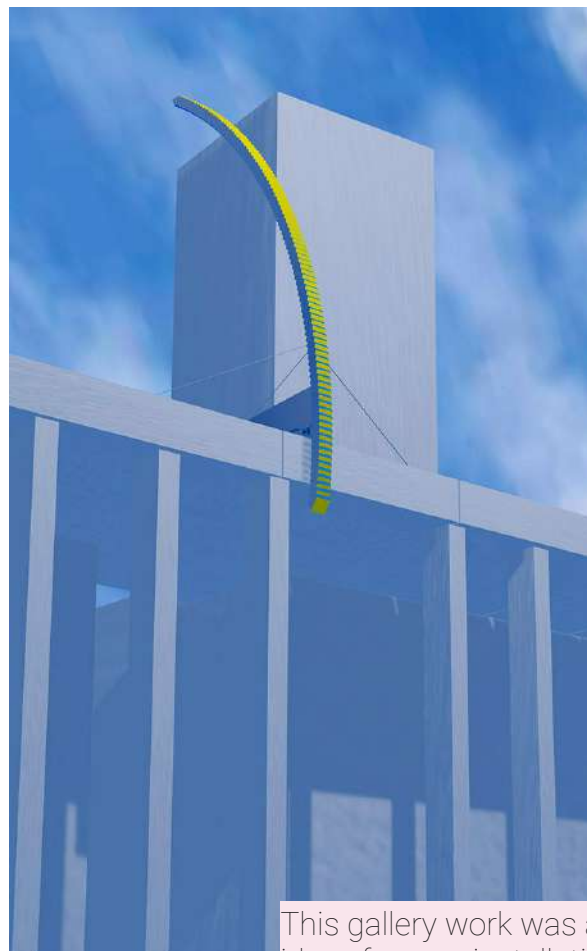
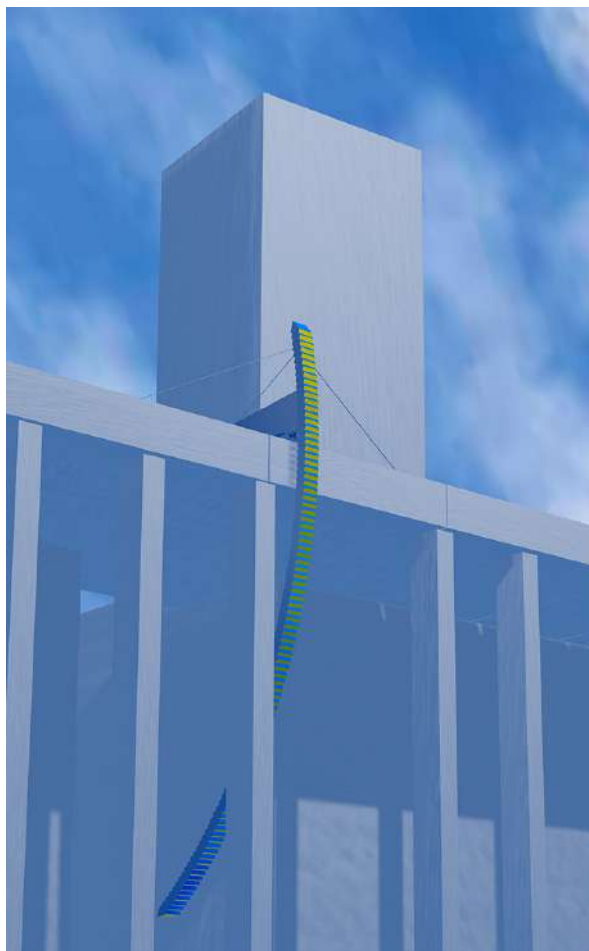
*blinds, 2018 glass, metal, rope - 170 x 170 cm*

In addition to these installations, the Daems van Remoortere duo began to create independent gallery works that developed their interest in geometry, light, time and the interaction between public and private space.

While clearly in the tradition of geometric abstraction, these works are unusual in maintaining a clear connection to observable reality.

Blues of Pools (2019), for example, reproduces the geometry of lane lines in a swimming pool, distorted by movements in the water. Then there is Blinds (2018), a circular venetian blind with slats made of glass. As geometrical abstraction this can be seen as a composition of lines and a circle, but as an object it subverts the function of a blind, letting in both light and sight.





3D scetches, work in progress - *Meetingpoint*, kinetic sculpture 2022 - Haren prison, Belgium.

This work is based on the idea of the sculpture *Meetingpoint* from the solo exhibition Daems van Remoortere showed in 2018.

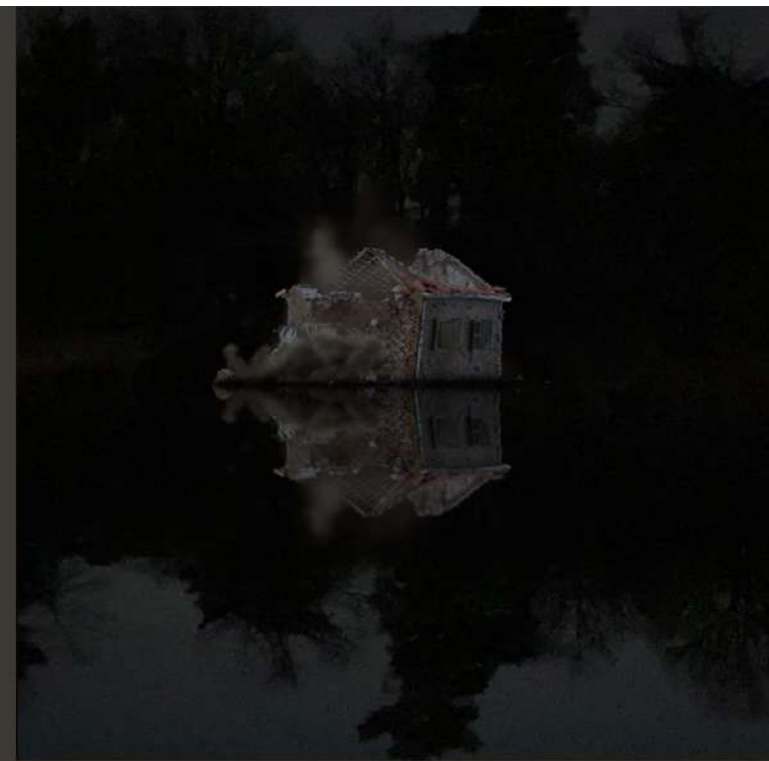


*Meetingpoint* maquette, 2018  
motor, wood, dichroic glass, foil, lacquer  
110 x 60 cm

This gallery work was also a way for Daems van Remoortere to explore ideas for new installations. Their 2018 solo exhibition *Meetingpoint*, at the Callewaert Vanlangendonck Gallery in Antwerp, proposed a public sculpture that would allow people to experience a solar eclipse.

Once again, this is geometry in observable reality: one circle moving to obscure another. Yet at the same time it concerns a momentous change in the world around us, movements in the heavens that are awe-inspiring even when we understand them. The artists wrote a detailed narrative (initially developed as a script for a sci-fi film) that inspires their formal language.

Ballooning a House (2019) shows a growing sphere that can be seen as the unstoppable force of nature, confronting the human urge for order and definition.



[PRESS](#) [subbacultcha](#)

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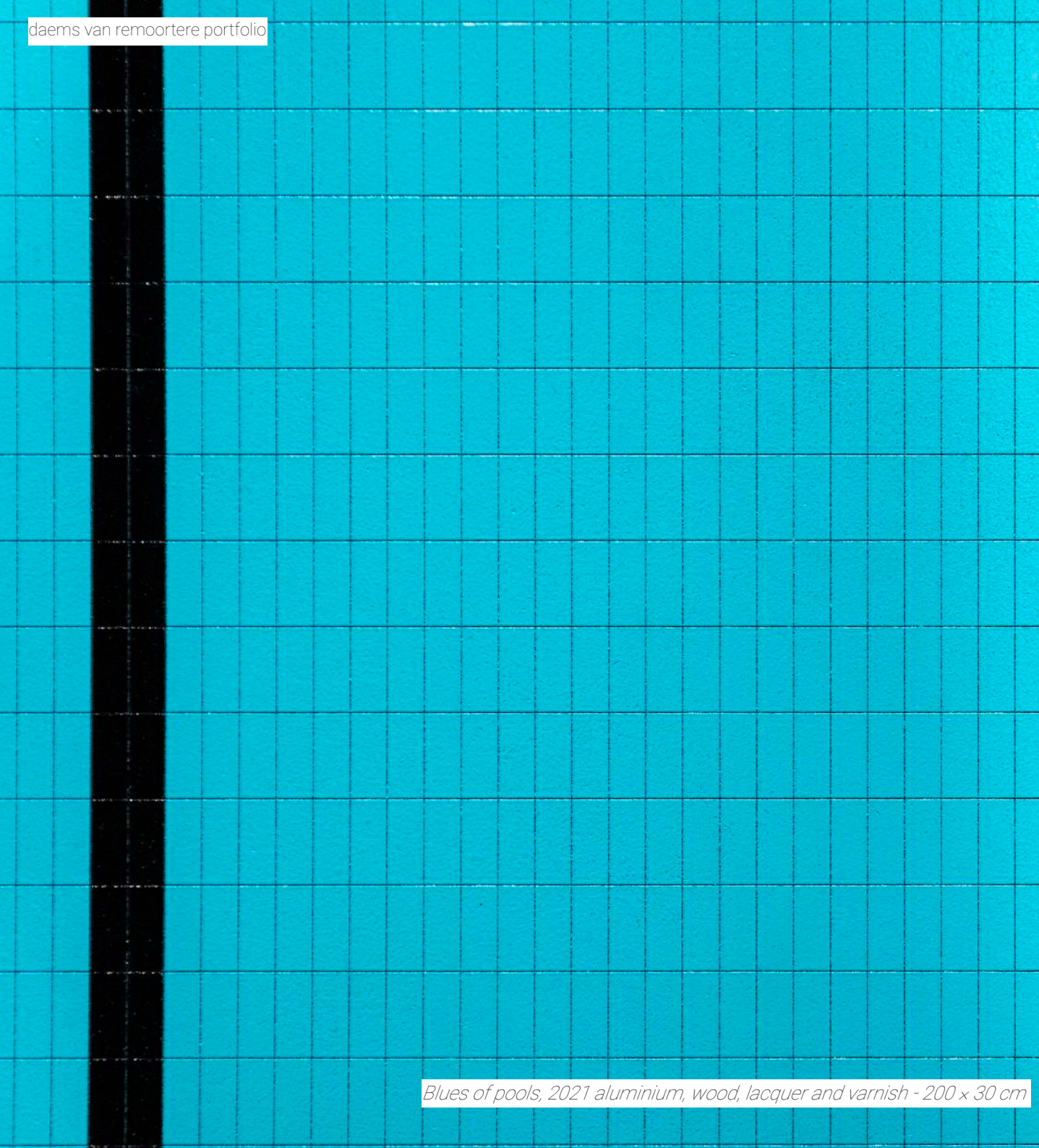


The relationship between Daems van Remoortere's installations and gallery pieces becomes clearer in their most recent work. The installation *After Hours* (2021) consists of a shape cut from the wall of an empty factory on the outskirts of Antwerp, the gap filled with a giant pink venetian blind. Seen from outside it is a patch of colour and a change in the texture of the steel shell. Inside, it scatters light in a dramatic way. The halo created when the sun is behind the blind brings home that this is another eclipse.

The artists call it an ode to Gordon Matta-Clark, following his example of turning architecture into sculpture, cutting from public into private space. It also brings home how much Daems van Remoortere are working on a long-term project, pursuing themes from one piece to the next, creating many layers

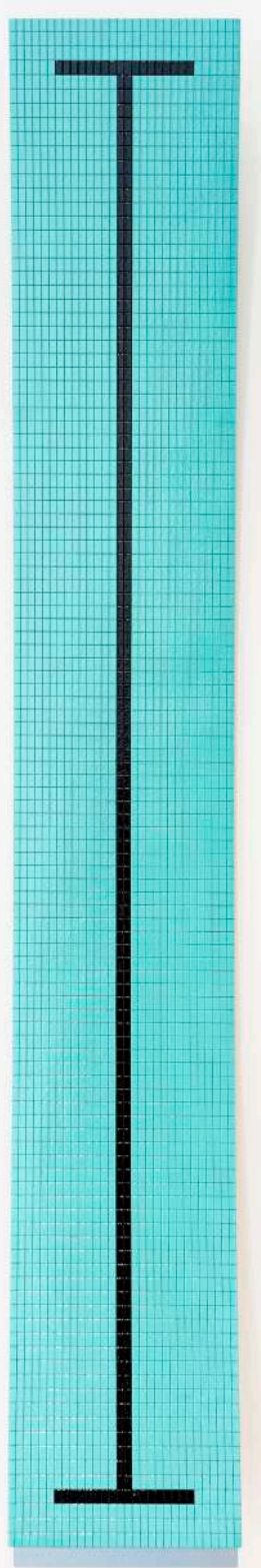


daems van remoortere portfolio

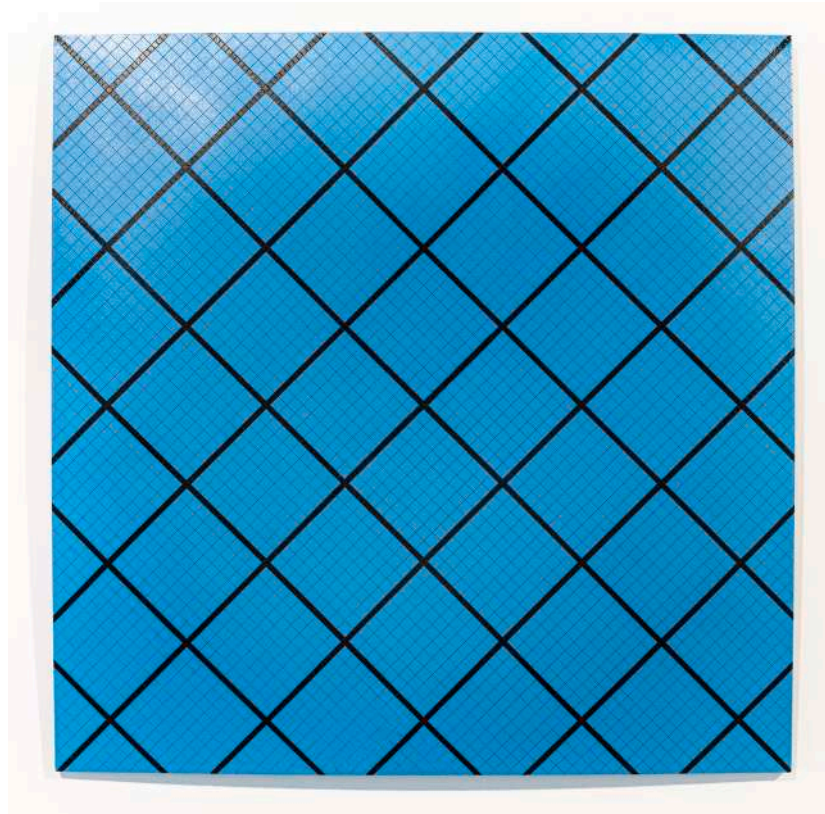


*Blues of pools, 2021 aluminium, wood, lacquer and varnish - 200 x 30 cm*

*Blues of Pools, 2021  
aluminium, wood, lacquer and varnish  
100 x 15 cm*







*Blues of pools, 2019 wood, lacquer, polyester - 55,5 x 55,5 cm*





06-05-2121, 2021  
Pencil on paper  
35 x 53 cm

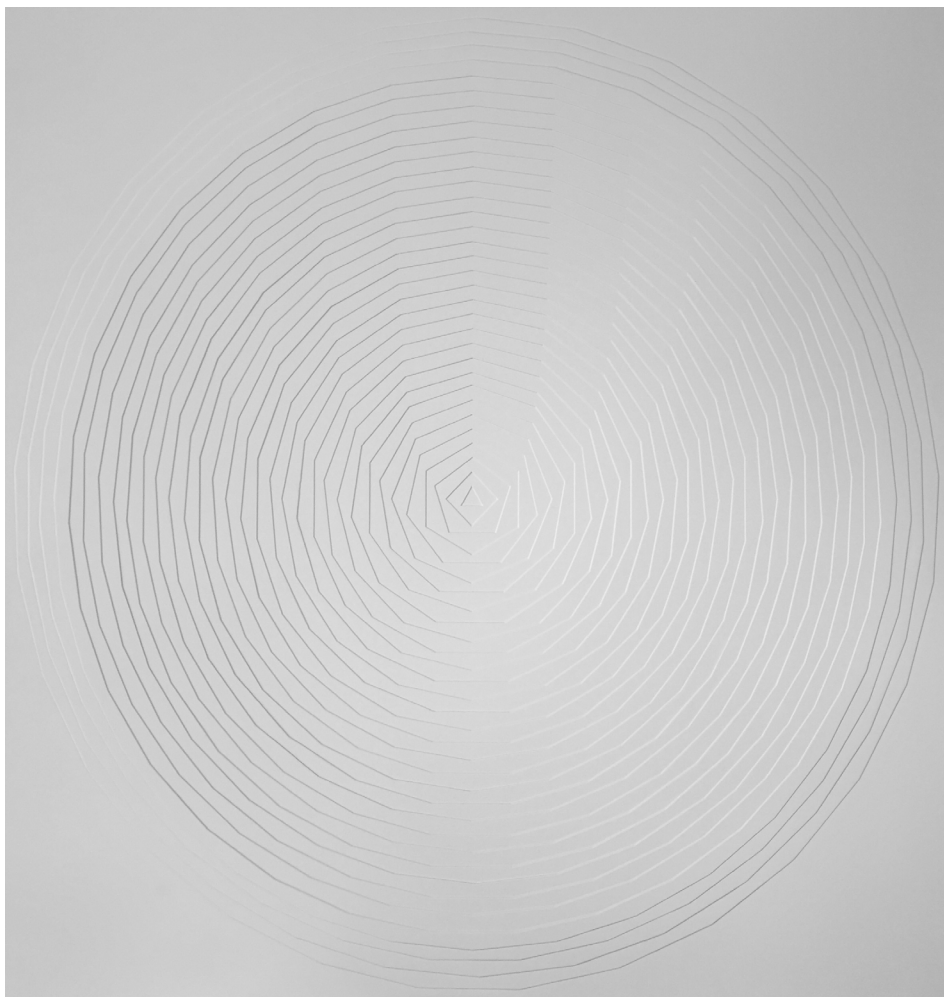


06-05-2221, 2021  
Pencil on paper  
35 x 53 cm

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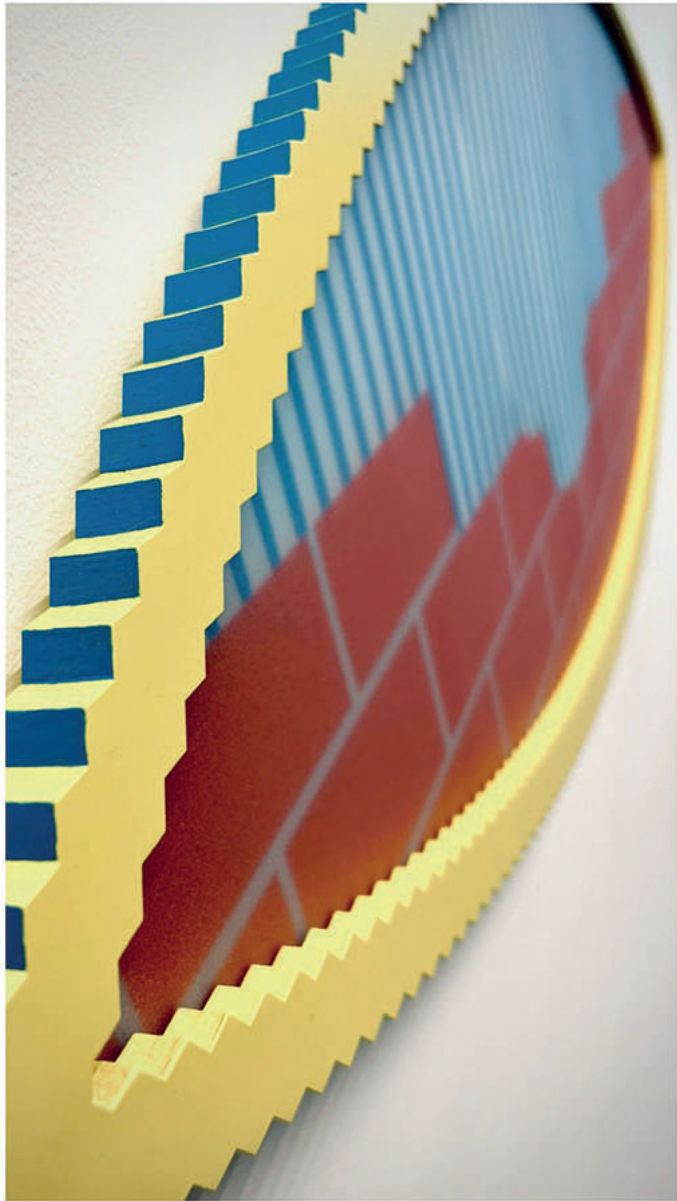




*Wave #1- aluminium and lacquer  
55,5 x 55,5 cm*



*Wave #2- aluminium, brass and glass 55,5 x 55,5 cm*



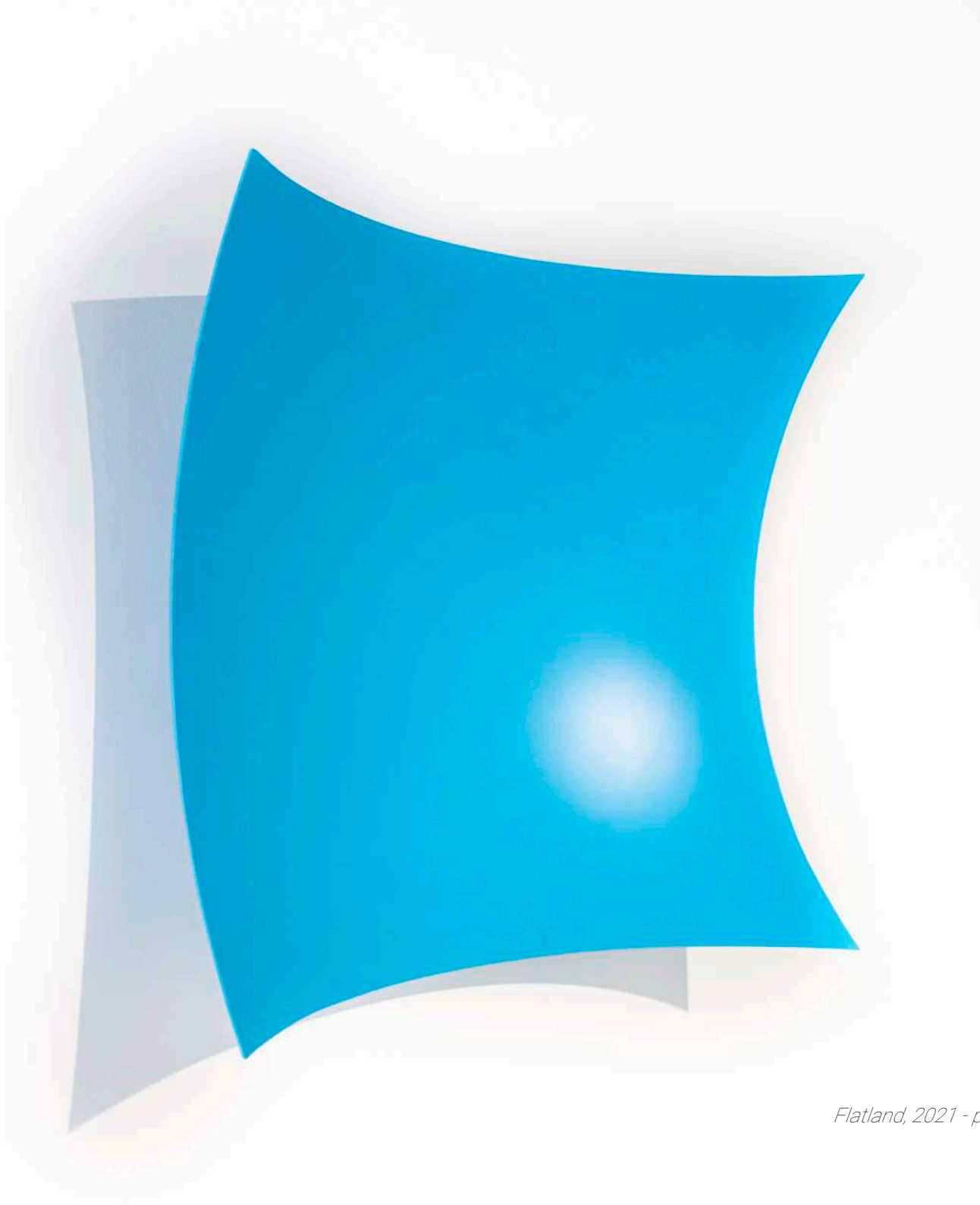
*Dollhouse, 2022, glass, foil, lacquer - 130 x 40 cm*



daems van remoortere portfolio

*Meeting Point Palace, 2021 - film, glass and aluminium - 66 x 66 x 2 cm*





*Flatland, 2021 - polyester and lacquer - 65 x 65 cm*



*After Hours, 2021 - glass, foil, rope and wood - 56.5 x 47 cm*

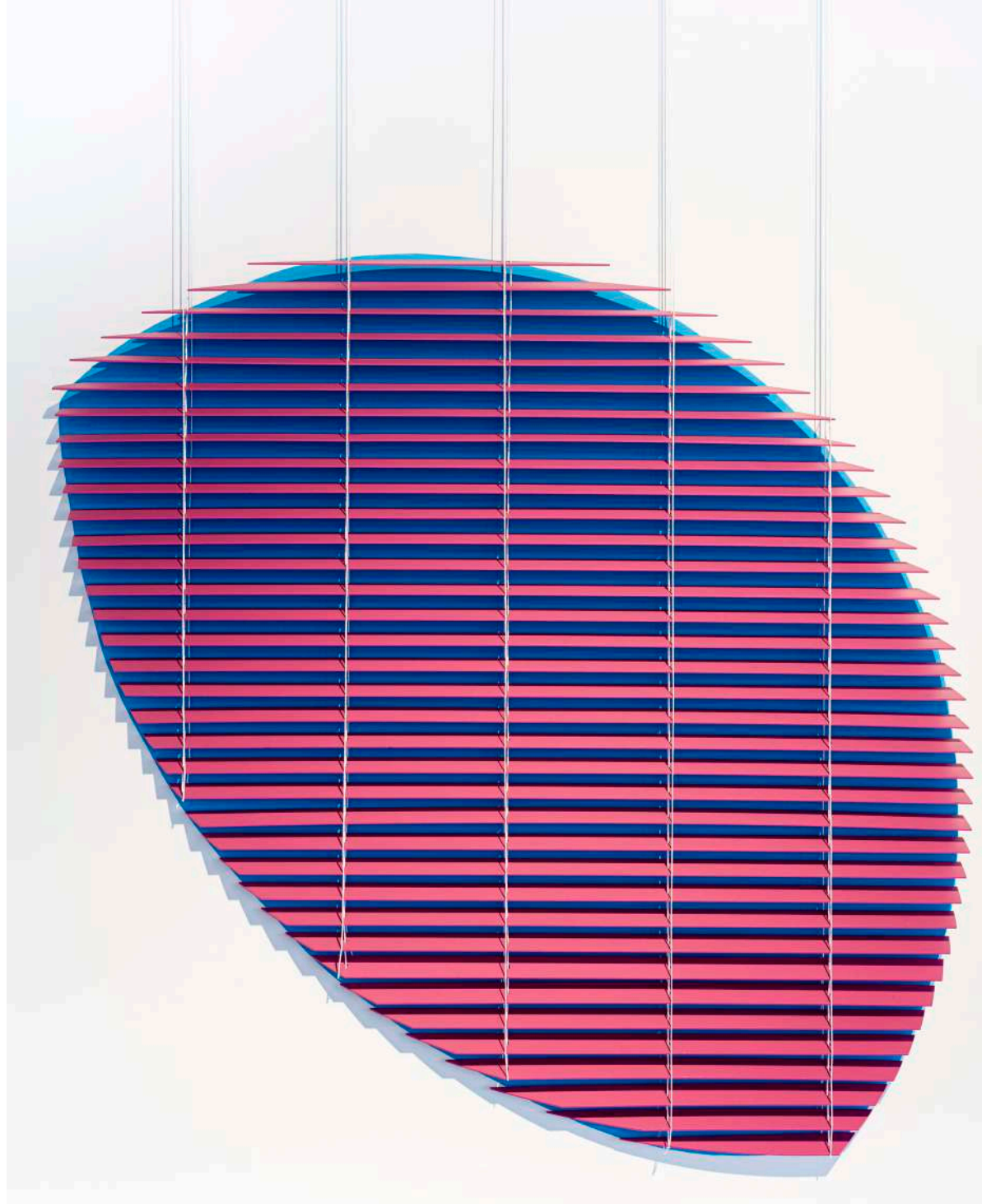
*It used to be here and now, 2021 - glass and foil - 151 x 26 cm*







*End, 2021 - glass, lacquer, foil and brass - 48.5 x 100 cm*



*After Hours, 2021 - aluminium, lacquer, wall paint and rope - 175 x 102 cm*

## Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Hantrax dolls @ Casstl, Antwerp (B)
- 2021 Callewaert Vanlangendonck @ Bulthaup Metropool, Antwerp (B)
- 2020 een blik achter de muur @ Blikfabriek, curated by Lieven Segers, Antwerp (B)
- 2020 cercle et carré @ Callewaert Vanlangendonck gallery, Antwerp (B)
- 2020 Art Brussels @ Callewaert Vanlangendonck booth, Brussels (B)
- 2019 Redefined, Callewaert Vanlangendonck gallery, Antwerp (B)
- 2016 Lichtkegel, Antwerp Art Weekend, Antwerp (B)
- 2013 Lichtlijn, DE Studio, Antwerp (B)
- 2012 Lichtsculptuur #2, Imposition, curator Leon Vranken, KASKA, Antwerp (B)
- 2012 Rek, Villanova - DE Studio, Antwerp (B)
- 2012 Cloud lines, Bouckenborgh, Merksem (B)
- 2012 Cloud lines, De Nieuwe Vrede opening, Antwerp (B)
- 2011 Photo Meetings Luxembourg, kunsthaus beim Engel, Luxembourg (L)
- 2011 'Konsoorten', curator Hans Theys — Wouter Boulangier, Herman Teirlinckhuis, Beersel (B)
- 2011 Random walk, Extra city, Antwerp (B)
- 2010 Now comes the monkey out of the sleeve..., Recyclart, Brussels (B)
- 2010 Site-seeing, Macke Zaal KASKA, Antwerp (B)

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2021 Are we movin' too slow?, Callewaert Vanlangendonck gallery, Antwerp (B)
- 2018 Meetingpoint, Callewaert Vanlangendonck gallery, antwerp (B)
- 2010 I've got Bubbles on my Mind, S.A.L.T. Warehouse, Antwerp (B)





## Installations

- 2022 Track Tracy, Turnhout, winter in Turnhout (B)
- 2021 Ballooning a House, Antwerp, Antwerp Art Weekend (B)
- 2021 After Hours, Antwerp, Blikfabriek, (B)
- 2020 Ballooning a House, Oostende, The crystal ship by night (B)
- 2020 Ballooning a House, Ronse, 'alle rechte lijnen zijn gebogen' (B)
- 2020 Ballooning a House, Uit het donker 3, kasterlee (B)
- 2020 Track Tracy, Cultuurnacht, Breda, (NL)
- 2019 Track Tracy, Into The Great Wide Open, Vlieland, (NL)
- 2019 Track Tracy, Oslo Night, Hek, Basel, (CH)
- 2019 Track Tracy, Uit Het Donker 2, Turnhout (B)
- 2019 Track Tracy, MoMeNt Festival, Tongeren (B)
- 2018 Track Tracy, and& summit & festival, Leuven (B)
- 2018 Track Tracy, Antwerp Art Weekend, MAS, Antwerp (B)
- 2016 Fresco, Cement Festival, 's Hertogenbosch (NL)
- 2015 Fresco, Incubate Festival, Tilburg (NL)
- 2015 Fresco, De Markthallen, Herk-de-stad (B)
- 2014 re:fresco, Zomer van Antwerpen, Antwerp (B)
- 2014 Fresco, Cultuurcentrum, Kortrijk (B)
- 2014 Fresco, Anderzijdsfestival, Strombeek-Bever (B)
- 2014 Klotski, STORM OP KOMST, De Warande, Turnhout (B)
- 2014 Fresco, DEStudio, Antwerp (B)
- 2014 Fresco, Malpertuis, Tielt (B)
- 2013 Fresco, Première - DEStudio, Antwerp (B)
- 2014 Scenografie & Assistance, curator Annemie Van Kerckhove, Happy Birthday dear Academy (350 years KASKA), (B)
- 2012 Het raam, 24h Podiumkunsten, Antwerp (B)
- 2012 Het raam, Première – op en rond de Meir, Antwerp (B)
- 2011 Fresco Try-out, opendag KASKA, Antwerp (B)
- 2010 Klotski, Wouter van Veldhoven (NL), Eric Thielemans (BE), Kavka, Antwerp (B) Klotski, Nadia (CA) Ultraphallus (BE) Klotski, Amiina (IS) Brave Timbers (UK)
- 2010 Fresco Try-out, Red Bull Space, de studio, Antwerp (B)
- 2009 Paradise Lost, De Nachten, deSingel, Antwerp (B)
- 2009 Paradise Lost, Villanella, Studio Herman Teirlinck, Antwerp (B)
- 2008 gewoon evolutie, M HKA, Antwerp (B)
- 2008 de perser, Entrepot, Bruges (B)
- 2008 de perser, Museum Voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerp (B)
- 2008 de perser, St-Lucas, Antwerp (B)

# daems van remoortere

[daemsvanremoortere.be](http://daemsvanremoortere.be)

[berserk.be](http://berserk.be)

[pontispace.com](http://pontispace.com)

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