

Little

Giraffe



Hosted at Drawing Room's Family Studio, part of Rock, Paper, Scissors programme.

DRAWING ROOM

Welcome to Little Giraffe Magazine.

When I was invited by Hauser & Wirth to produce a “Children’s Takeover” event, inspired by Takesada Matsutani’s Shifting Boundaries and the Gutai Art Association, I knew that Drawing Room’s Family Studio programme would provide the perfect environment.

Family Studio is a monthly event which welcomes children and their caregivers to use the large studio space, together with an artist to explore new ideas, materials and approaches.

In visiting Shifting Boundaries, what struck me most were my questions about Matsutani’s process: how vinyl was blown, shaped and poured? How much time passed between graphite marks scribed? And how much chance versus his own will had shaped the outcome?

This mostly private, personal exchange between artist, material and moment, became the centre of my exploration for the Children’s Takeover.

How do children interact with materials in a way that is entirely personal, unique to the moment and unshaped by conformity? And how can we give them freedom to have that dialogue, without interruption. Without us “sense-making” their every move and decision?

Children, before they become overly self-aware, approach art-making with a natural freedom.

They move quickly between ideas, respond instinctively to materials, and experiment without worrying about the outcome. In workshops with adults, I often emphasize quieting the inner critic. One way to do this is to focus on the process, letting materials, movement, and small accidents guide the work. In this way, Gutai artists explored unpredictability, physical action, and experimentation.

The word Gutai can be translated as “embodied action,” that physical encounter between man and matter. Jirō Yoshihara, Gutai’s founding artist urged members to “create what has never been done before!” a principle reflecting a post-war commitment to radical, independence thought.

Led by these philosophies to art-making, I created four simple statements to guide the Children's Takeover:

Make something truly your own

Throw yourself into it

Be open to new ways

Let the materials guide you

The studio had three workspaces: a tabletop with both loose and viscous media like inks, glue, shredded paper, and pipettes. A table of ink and letter stamps for printed wordplay. An installation - a sheet of calico tied around a pillar, with paint sticks taped to lengths of bamboo.

The works created that day have been collected and brought together in this magazine.

I have titled this magazine Little Giraffe, a rather blatant nod to the 1948 Gutai publication, Kirin - giraffe in Japanese - an animal whose elevated perspective offers a useful metaphor for seeing the world differently.

This one-off edition of children's art celebrates curiosity, experimentation, and the unique perspectives of every child who contributed during our workshop on March 1st 2026.

A big thank you to Hauser & Wirth for initiating the project, and to Drawing Room's Family Studio for hosting it.

From here, the children's work does the talking.

Amanda Wayne

MAKE
SOMETHING
TRULY YOUR
OWN

BE OPEN
TO
NEW WAYS

THROW
YOURSELF
INTO
IT

Let the fabric fall and
be open to what it
does. It will tell you
what something truly is.

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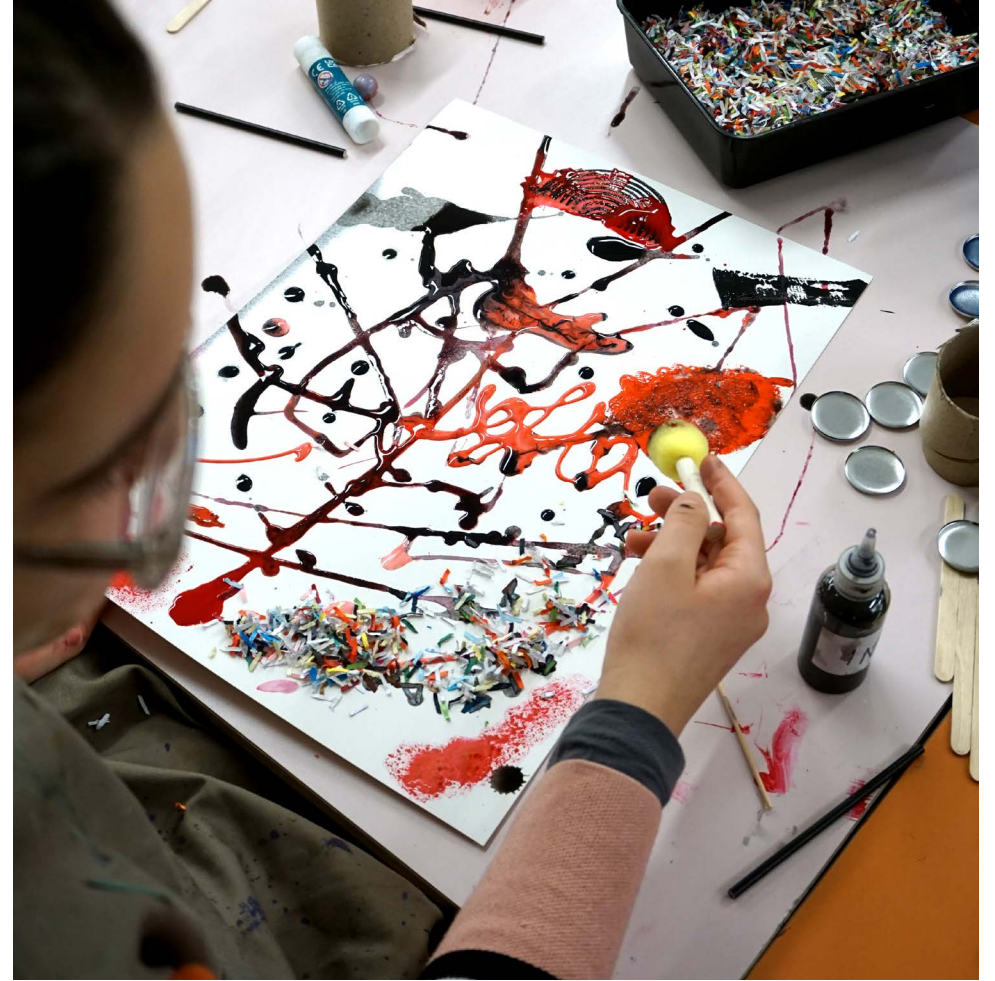
Make

something

truly

your

own



ALWAYS

be

FULL

of

joy!





"We have decided to pursue enthusiastically the possibilities of pure creativity. We believe that by merging human qualities and material properties, we can concretely comprehend abstract space."

— Gutai Manifesto, Gutai bijutsu sengen, Geijutsu Shinchō 7, no. 12 (December 1956), pp. 202–04.



Shiloh



Levi



Aaliyah



Eva

N a , t u R E

i s

F u , I I O F

k i N D N E S S



Ami



Remy



Roc



Elissia

Throw yourself into it

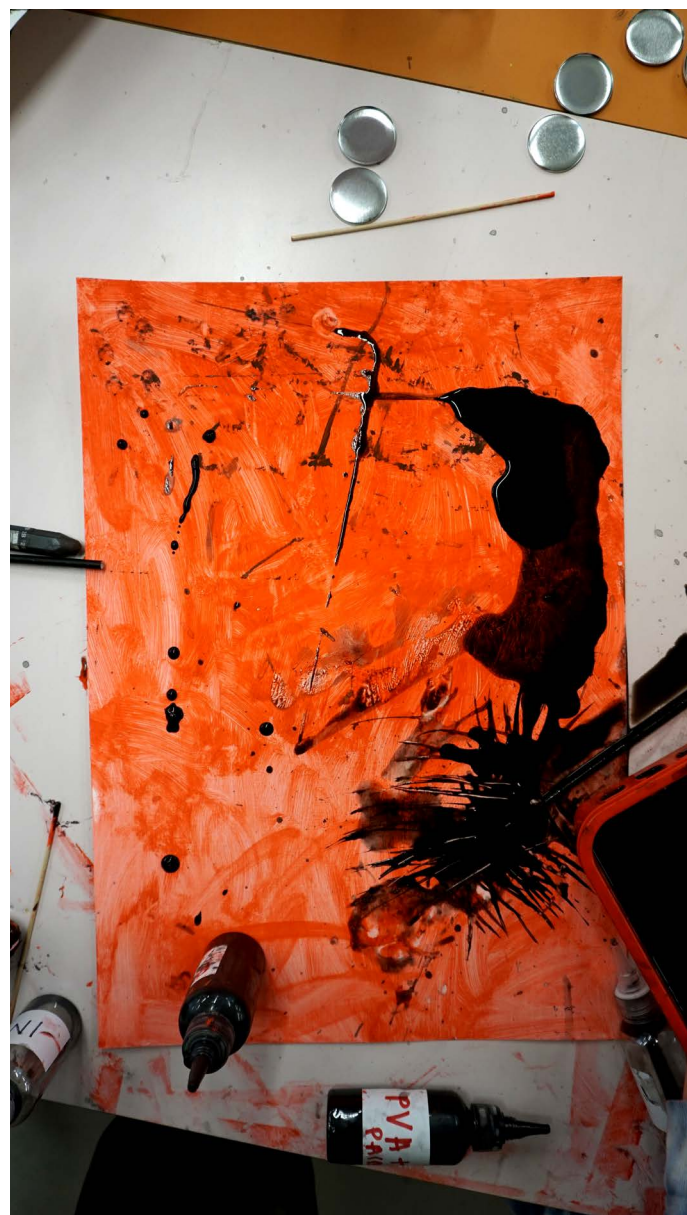
















Be open to

new ways



The sun sets
And Rises



Gabriella



Ophelia



Tristan



Marceau



Paul



anon

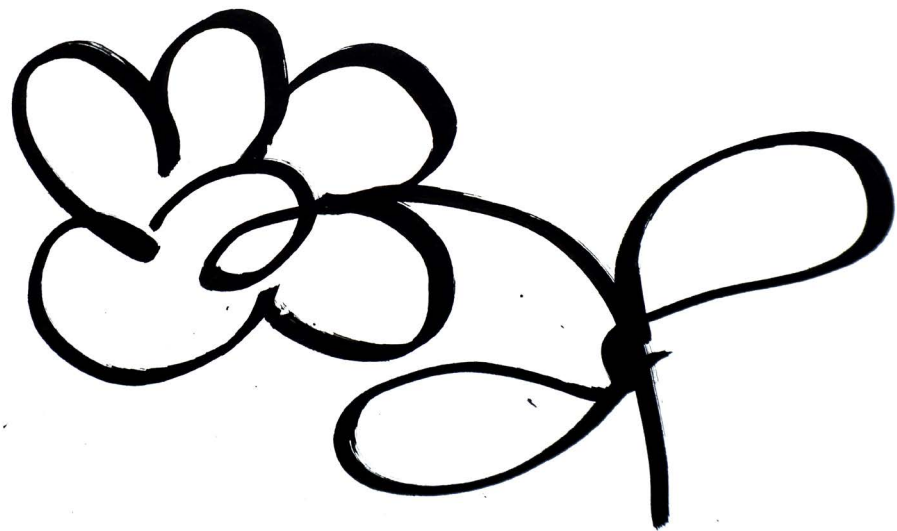


Let the materials guide you

“Materials have personality that
I shape. My material is glue.”

— Takesada Matsutani, interview with Sursuma Magazine (2023).

'Life' is full of ☺
surp r i s e ' s



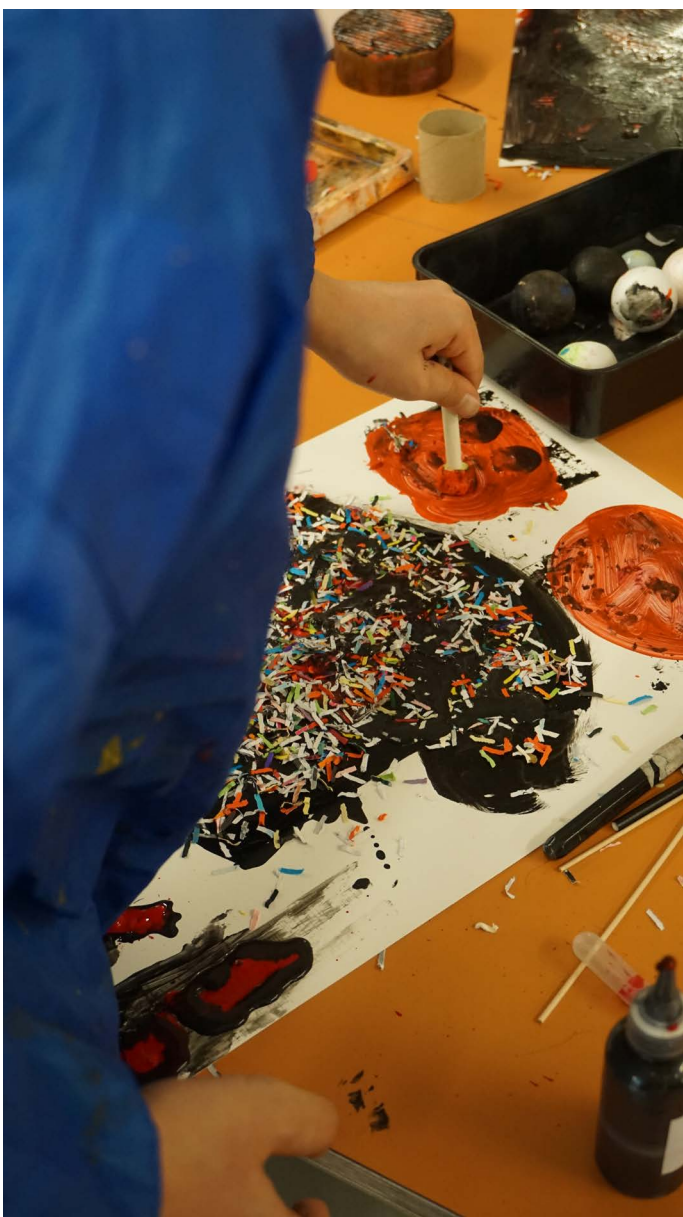
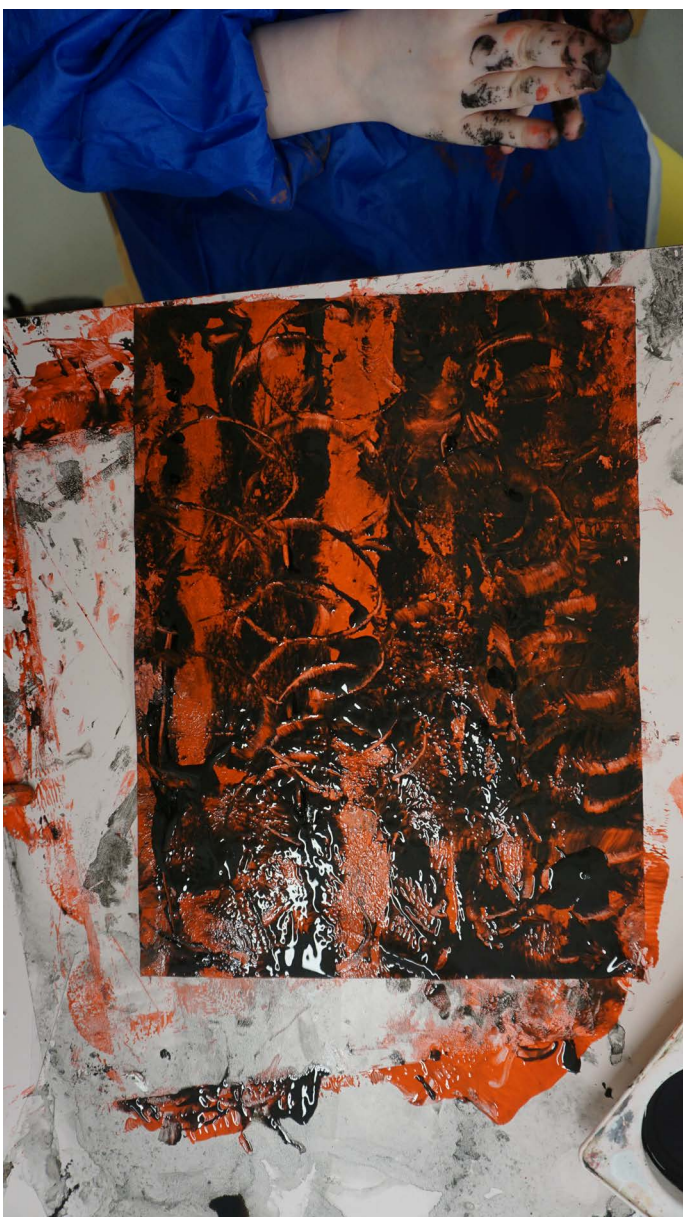


Vera



Daphne







anon



Reya

ROOTED

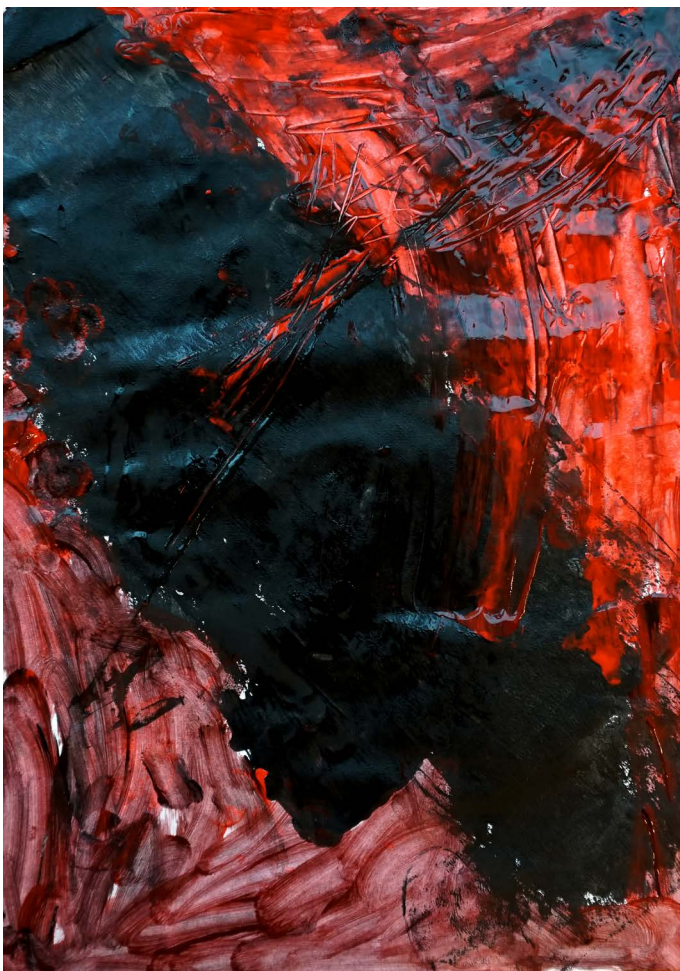
IN

SILENCE

STRENGTH

GROWS





Shiloh



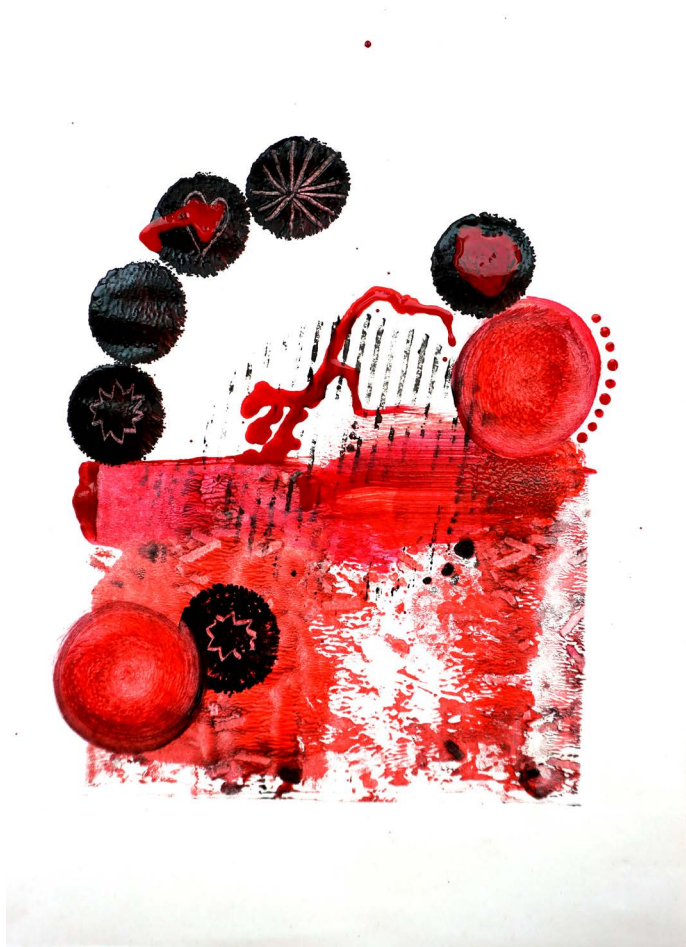
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anon



Rob



Carm



Aaliyah







anon



anon

HAUSER & WIRTH