

DELPHINE VAN SAKSEN-COBURG

WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY



Delphine van Saksen-Coburg

WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY

This expo is my deliberate attempt to focus on positive themes including everyday things that make me happy to think about. Each painting features a simple theme that is surrounded by web-like calligraphy that is really the word "love" written over and over again with each "o" letter filled in with colorful paint.

Writing love repeatedly in this way is a sort of brainwashing that puts me into a peaceful meditative state. I leave the central subject in black and white to convey the message to the viewer that these are images in my imagination, and are meant to represent an ideal situation in my head... they are not all meant to be a representation of my actual daily reality.

Here are a few the painting titles: I Love a Rose, I Love Music, I Love the Idea of a Large United Family, I Love Football, I Love the Idea of Nurturing Generations, I Love Kissing, I Love Simple Signs of Affection, I Love Having Dinner With My Family ...

Delphine
van Saksen-Coburg

Oh, what joy!

A rebel at heart, driven by a sense of justice and affection, and above all, a princess of the heart, the happily Pop, colorful figure of our walls, Delphine van Saksen-Coburg has been regularly returning to show her work at the Galerie Guy Pieters since 2006. This loyalty, on both sides, signifies a kind of attachment to the fundamental values of our society, which too often breaks its moorings for no reason.

This artist lives her life radiating in diversity. She doesn't play at playing. She plays by creating what keeps her standing and guides her.

We know where she comes from and how hard her journey was to make her voice heard. Case closed. Since then, she has been going her own way with the joy of quiet mornings in her studio. Palette wrapped in colors and drips, the landmark exudes the serenity of the tomorrows that enchant her. And they enchant her, because they stir her with words that, if they are also, more or less, the same, are, like her dreams, of those realities that she intends to share with the vivacity of laughter that galvanizes her and the satisfaction of new daring.

"Y a d'la joie!" sang Trenet, the singing madman, to the rhythm of those holidays for everyone - in the time of the Popular Front around 1936 - that he enchanted with his exhilarating refrains. In this new exhibition, Delphine van Saksen-Coburg answers the question "What makes me happy?" And she goes about it with her words that sing, of love and fresh water, one and the other intertwined in wild and joyful sarabandes of lines and colors. Of materials that stand out on thick canvases that bear witness to the durability of her vows and attachments to a life that surprises her more and more beautifully.

"Love," repeated from work to work, but also in the interlacing of her canvases rounded with mysteries and scattered magic, arranged between each other as so many chromatic and light gallops that delight the eye and offer peace for the soul.

"In this moment - she says - I am in love!" A light blouse all aureoled with her most spontaneous vocabulary, a trademark of a beautiful and tall woman, without frills or prerogatives, jovial, spontaneous, inhabited by a long-awaited new breath of life, pushing desires that drive an artist to sublimate herself, Delphine will have prepared in the fever of expectations her expo at Galerie Guy Pieters.

Monumental canvases, on the one hand, and smaller ones on the other, the artist, a new deal, breaks the rhythm of words, dots and colors by, here and there, a familiar scene that she traces in black and white. It is about hands that join, fists that agree, a child's hand clinging to an adult's. Of family scenes. With the idea of having a large, close family. All this in a halo of colors.

"Children touch me enormously. They are so vulnerable. And the act of 'touching' means a lot to me. I missed it so much."

Elsewhere, there is the question of football. "I love football. It is a sport that can bring together children and adults. We can play it all day long. This sport can make everyone happy."

A universal symbol, there is the representation of fingers that, joined together, form a heart... "My new paintings show simple things that can make us happy. I try to show that affection, gestures are so important in life."

Obsessed with work, which is made more enjoyable by the complicity of Jim, her companion and father of her two children, Delphine laughs heartily. She, who loves tenderness, respect for others, and the conviviality of encounters, enjoys her own daring.

"People don't know my figurative work - a still life, roses, for example - but I wanted to surprise around the repetition of the word 'Love.'" Painted in acrylic, even on their sides, her canvases soothe or color her words, her refrains.

Decorative? And why not! In a corner of the studio, a colored neon sign reminds us that she has never been afraid to experiment... "I have always created with my guts!"

Admitting her attachment to the works of Niki de Saint-Phalle and Tracey Emin, Delphine van Saksen-Coburg follows the path dictated by her imagination, her conscience, her very special voice. She creates with joy. And, what's new, her little jewels - gold, diamonds, rubies, of guaranteed provenance - give another dimension to her adventure: from the infinitely large - canvases of more than two meters - to sculpture in miniature. And to conclude: "Writing Love all day long, It Makes Me Happy!"

Roger Pierre Turine

STUDIO VIEWS



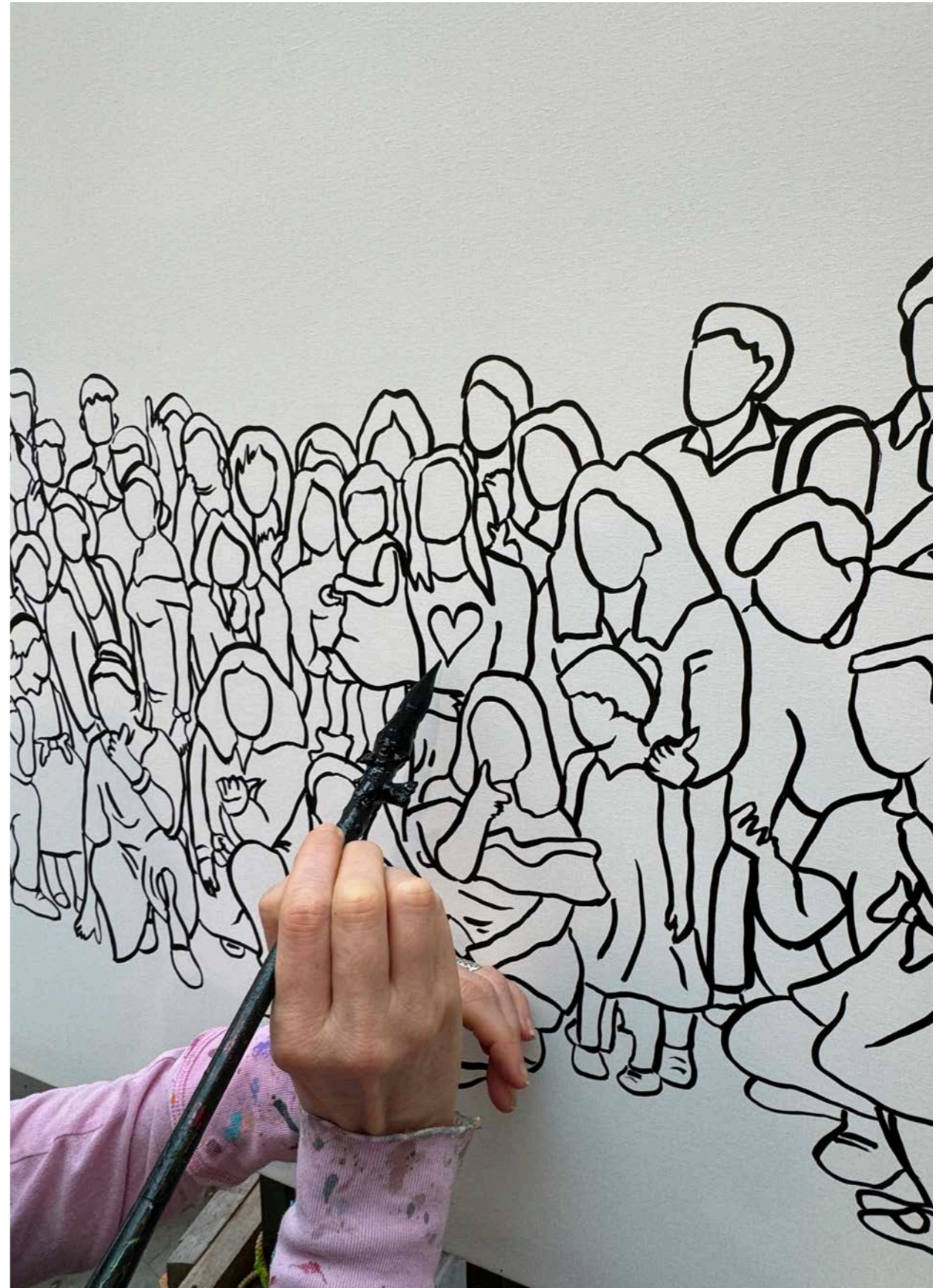
7 June 2015
Pop Quiz

love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not
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love me not	love me not	love me not
love me not	love me not	love me not

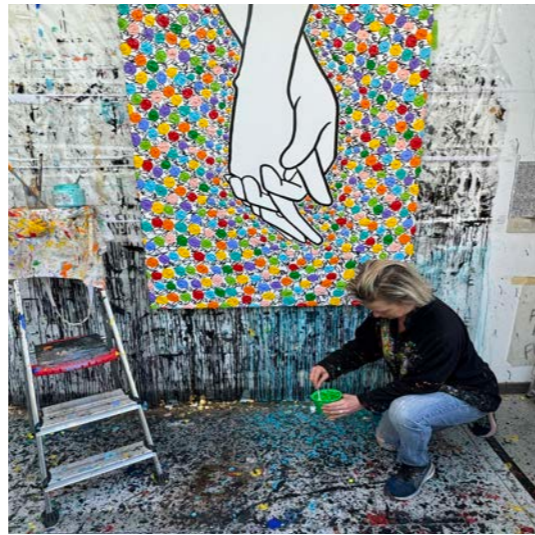
Correct Answers: love me not

LIFE IS ALL WE HAVE

EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE FINE

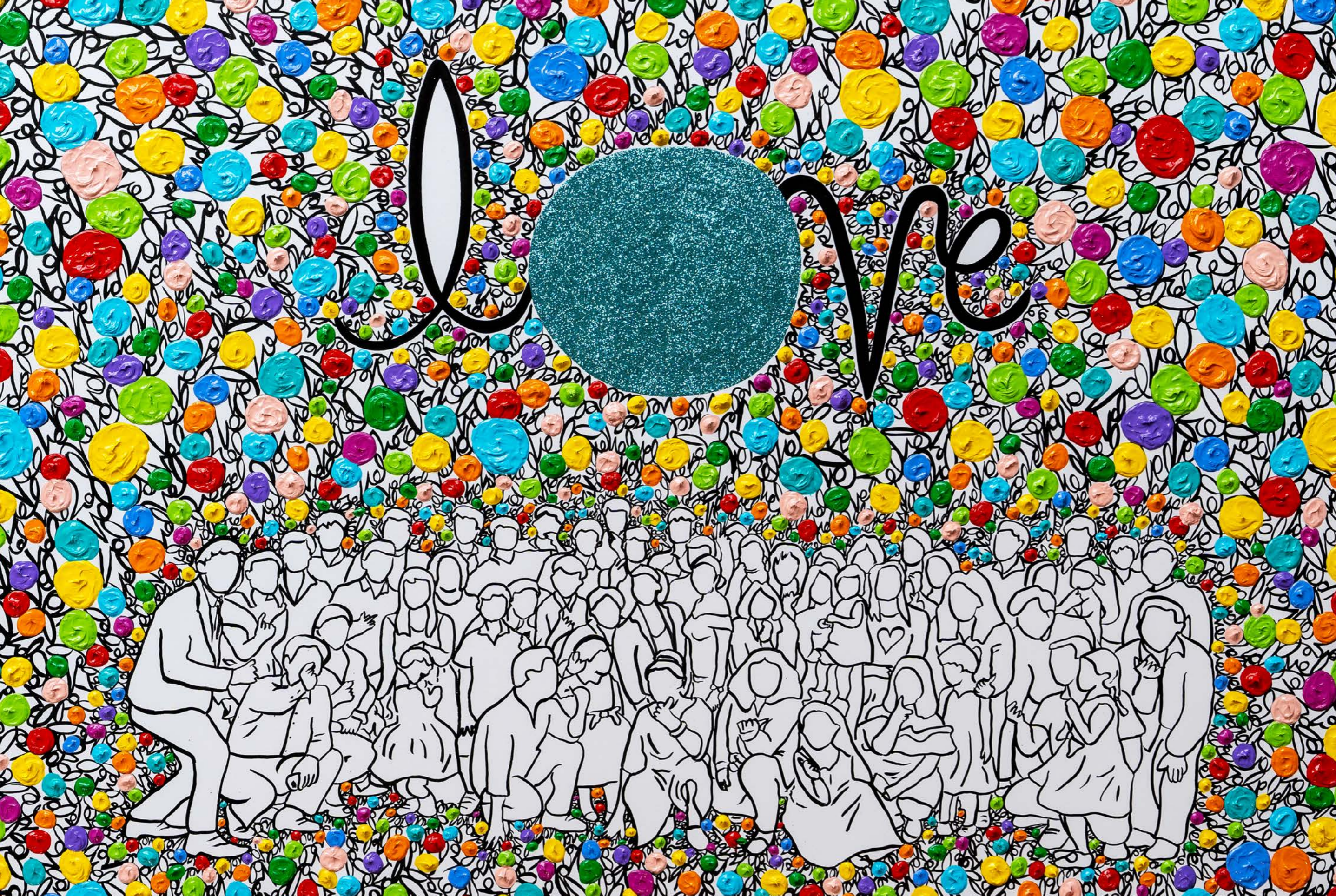








WORKS ON SHOW



I Love the Idea
of a Large
United Family



acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
120 x 160 x 8 cm

I Love a
Bouquet of Roses





acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

I Love a
Rose



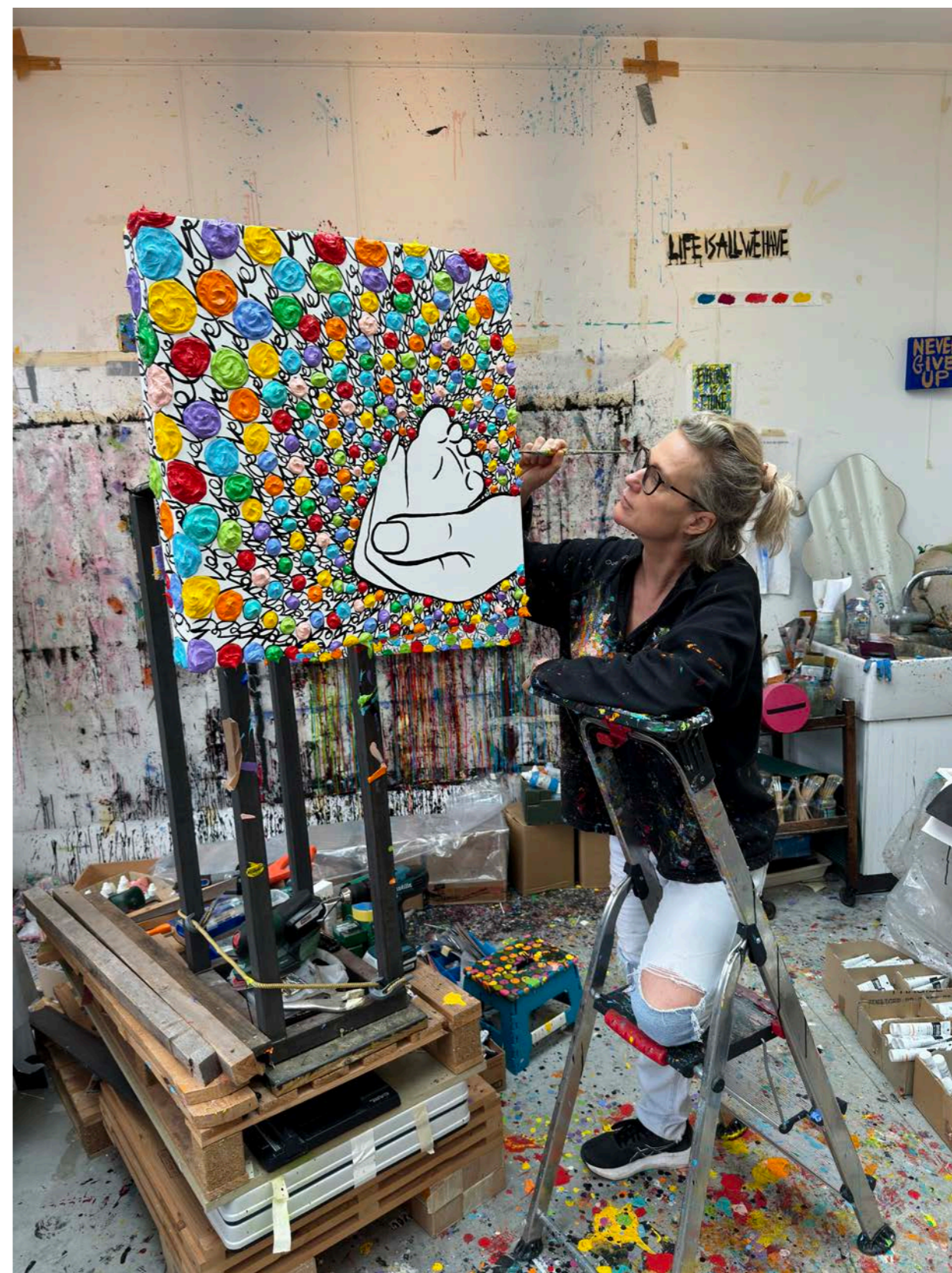


acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
150 x 90 x 8 cm

I Love
Baby Feet



acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm



I Love
Comforting





acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
80 x 60 x 8 cm

I love
Dogs

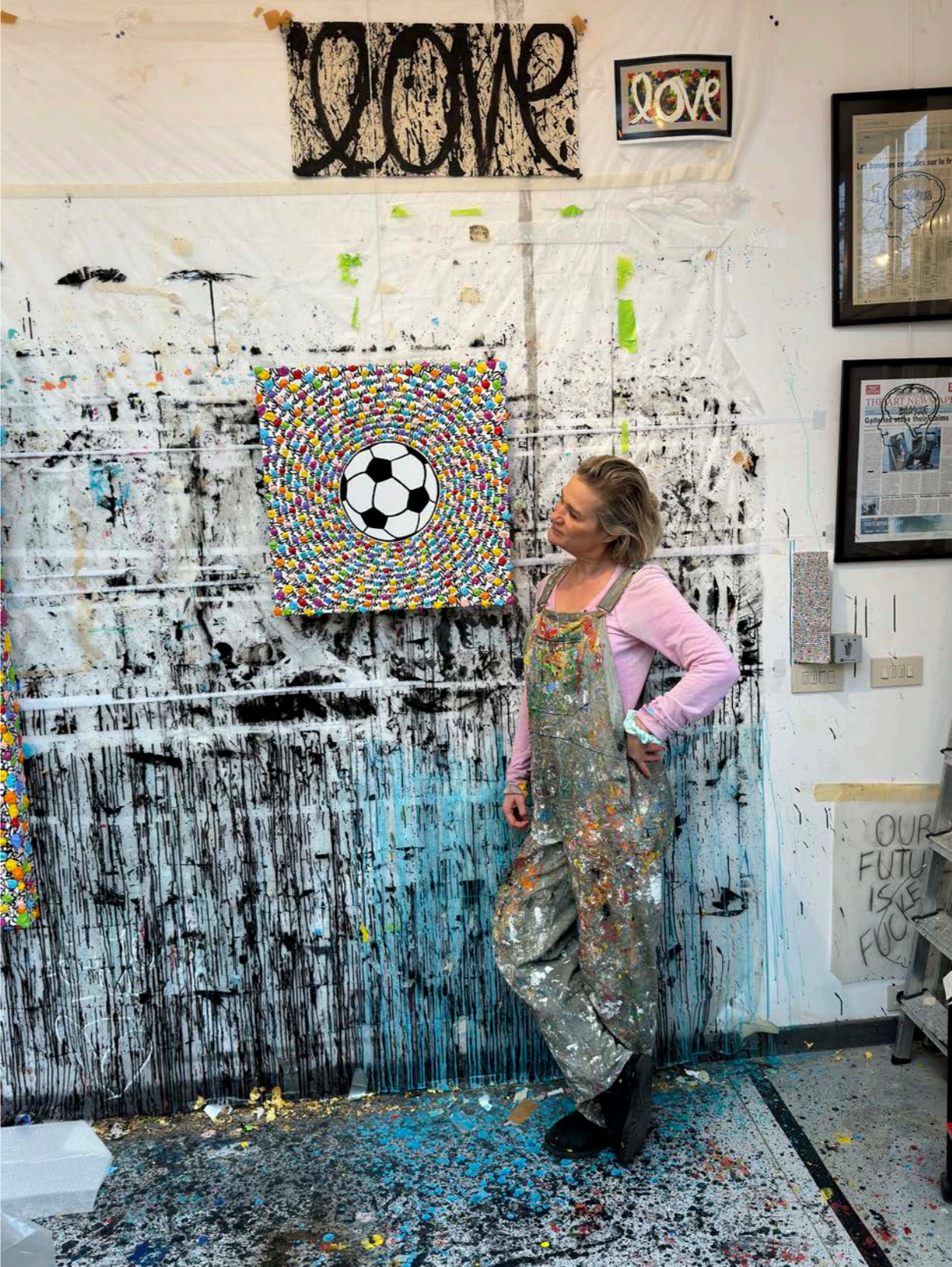




acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 80 x 8 cm

I Love
Football





acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

I Love Having
Dinner with
My Family





acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

I Love
Kissing





acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

I Love
Music



acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm



I Love
Receiving a
Bouquet of Roses





acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
100 x 100 x 8 cm

I love
Giving a Rose



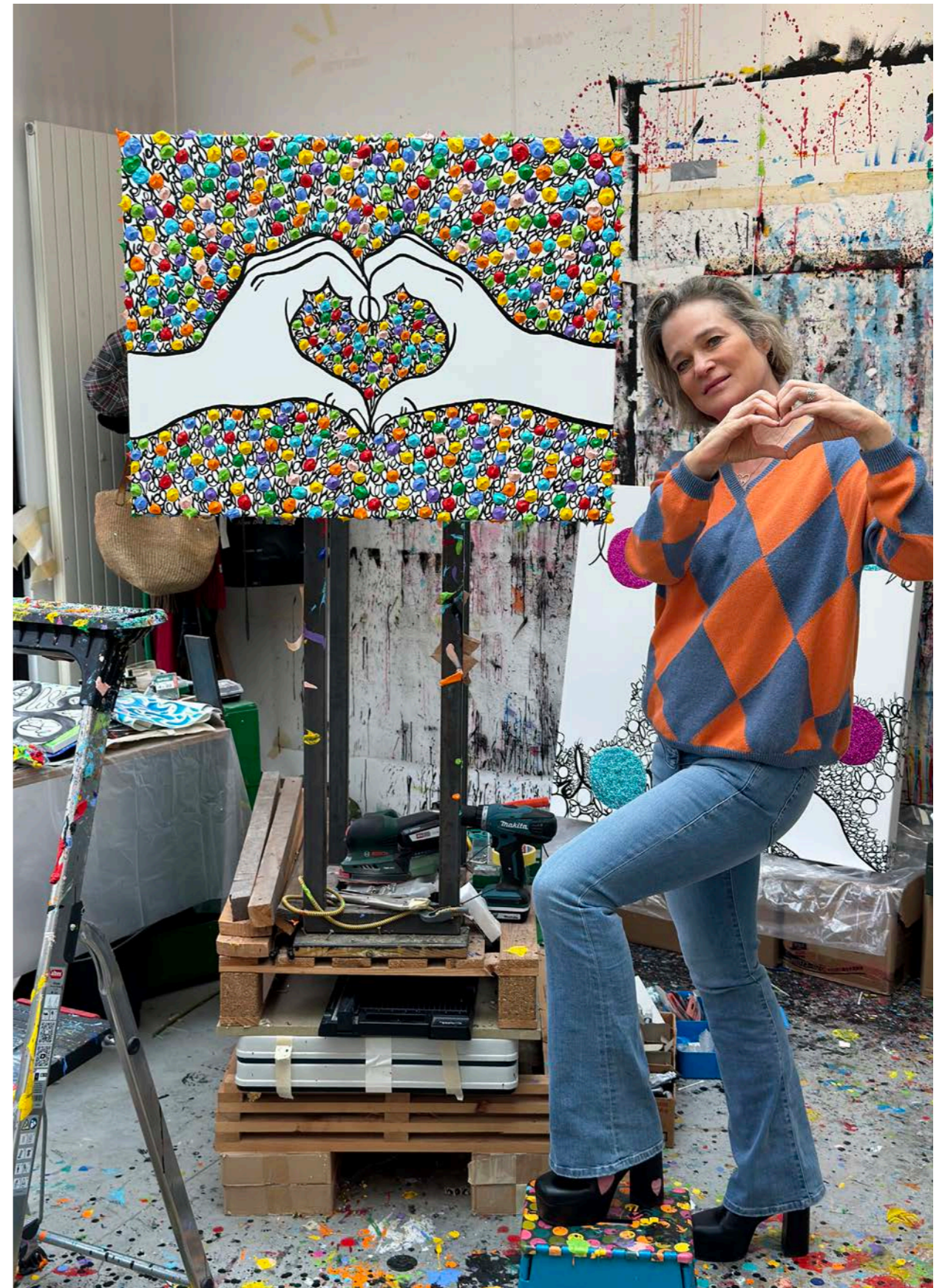


acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
100 x 100 x 8 cm

I Love
Simple Signs
of Affection

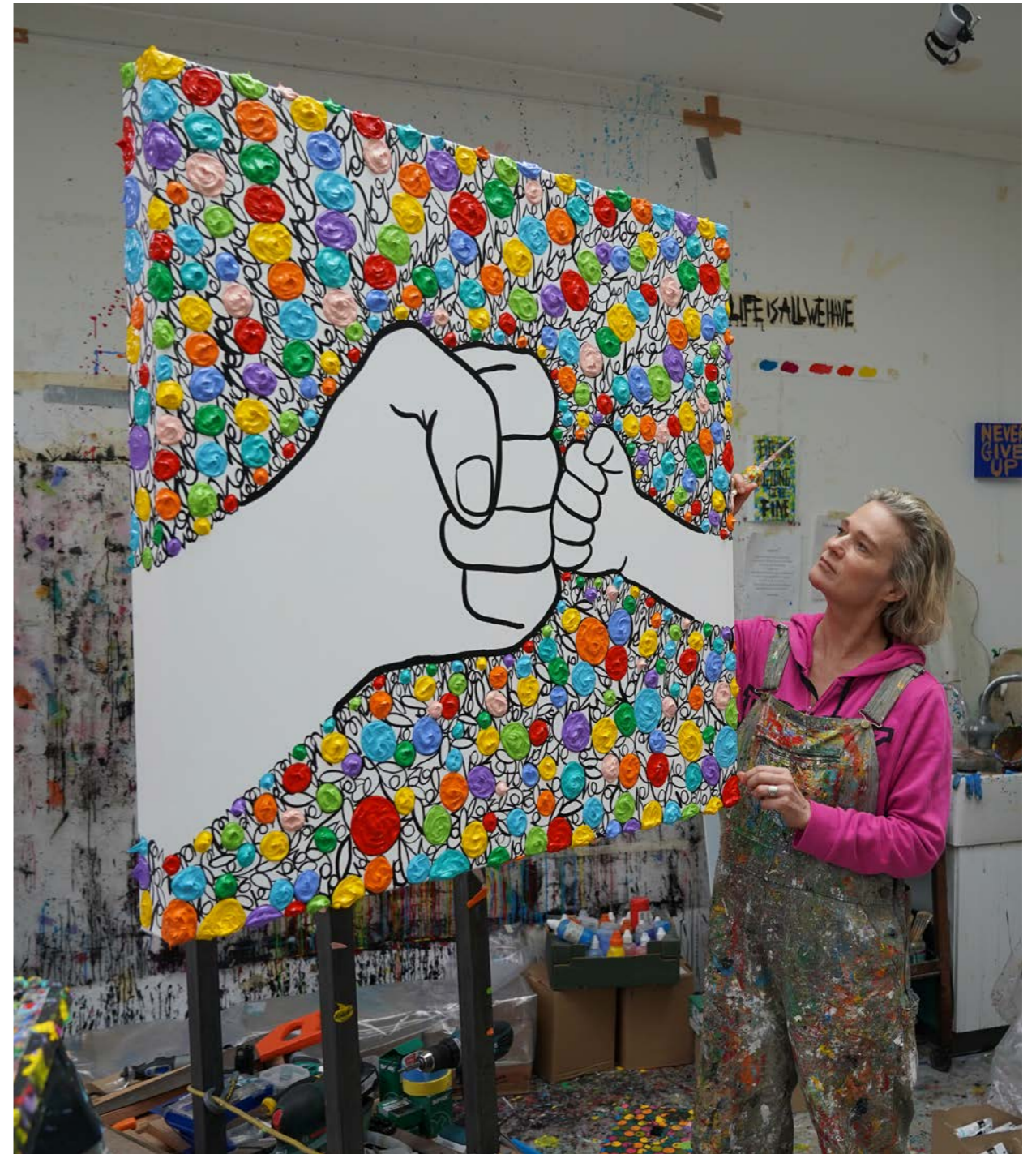


acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 80 x 8 cm



I Love Strong &
Sincere Communication
With My Children



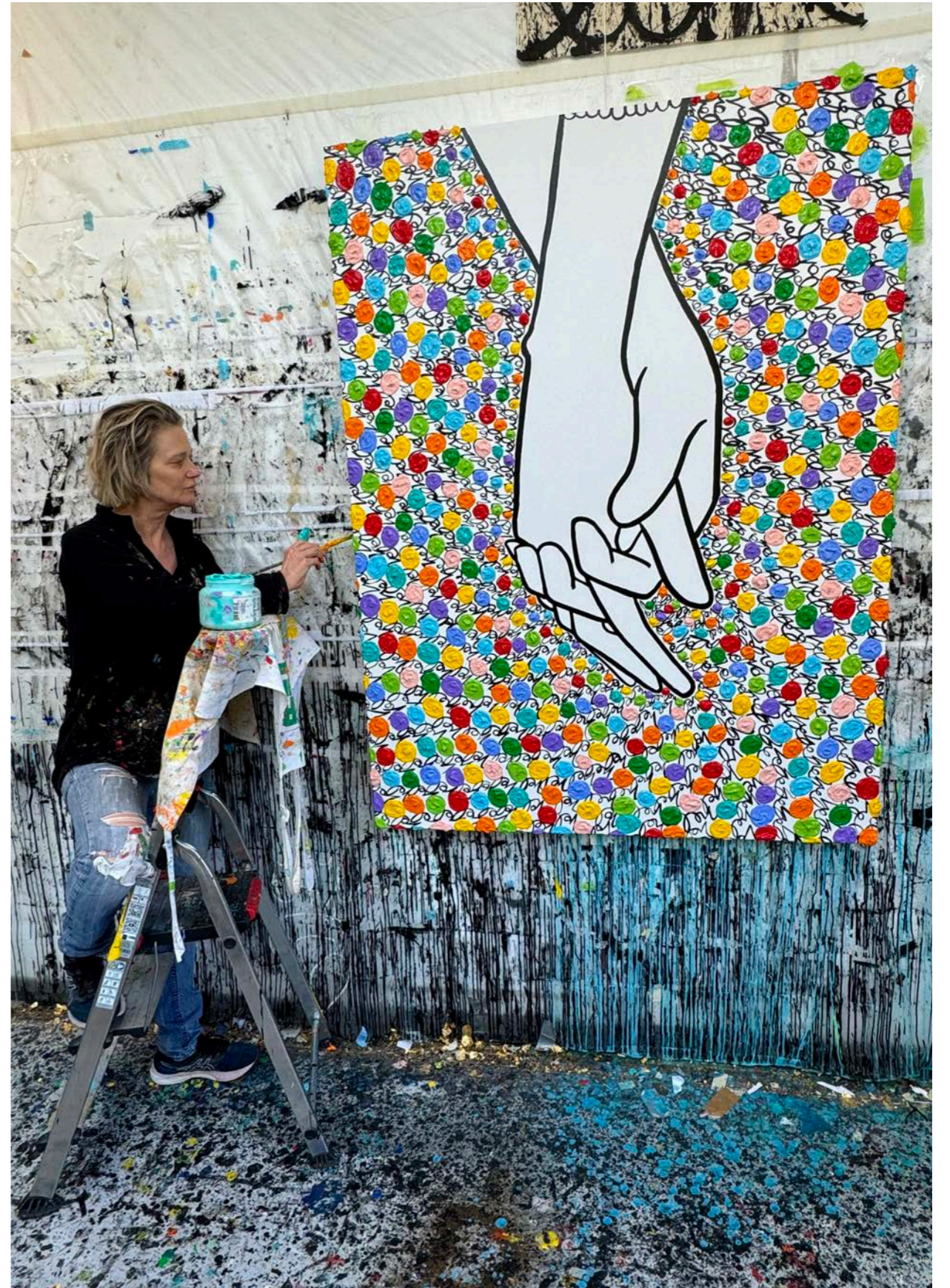


acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
100 x 100 x 8 cm

I Love the
Idea of Holding
Hands



acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
160 x 120 x 8 cm



I Love the
Idea of
Justice





acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
100 x 100 x 8 cm

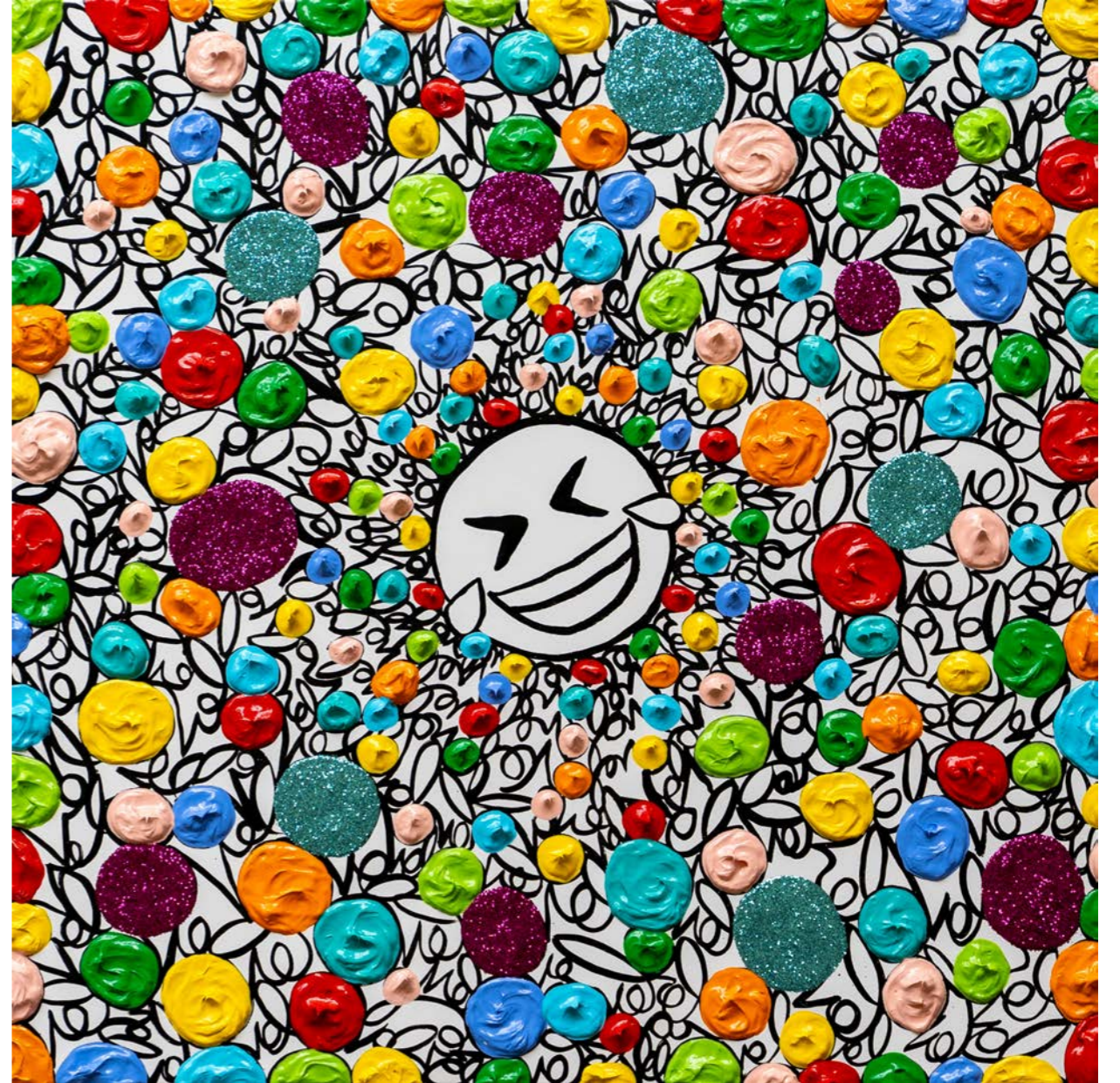
I Love the Idea
of Nurturing
Generations



acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
150 x 150 x 8 cm



I Love to
Laugh





acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

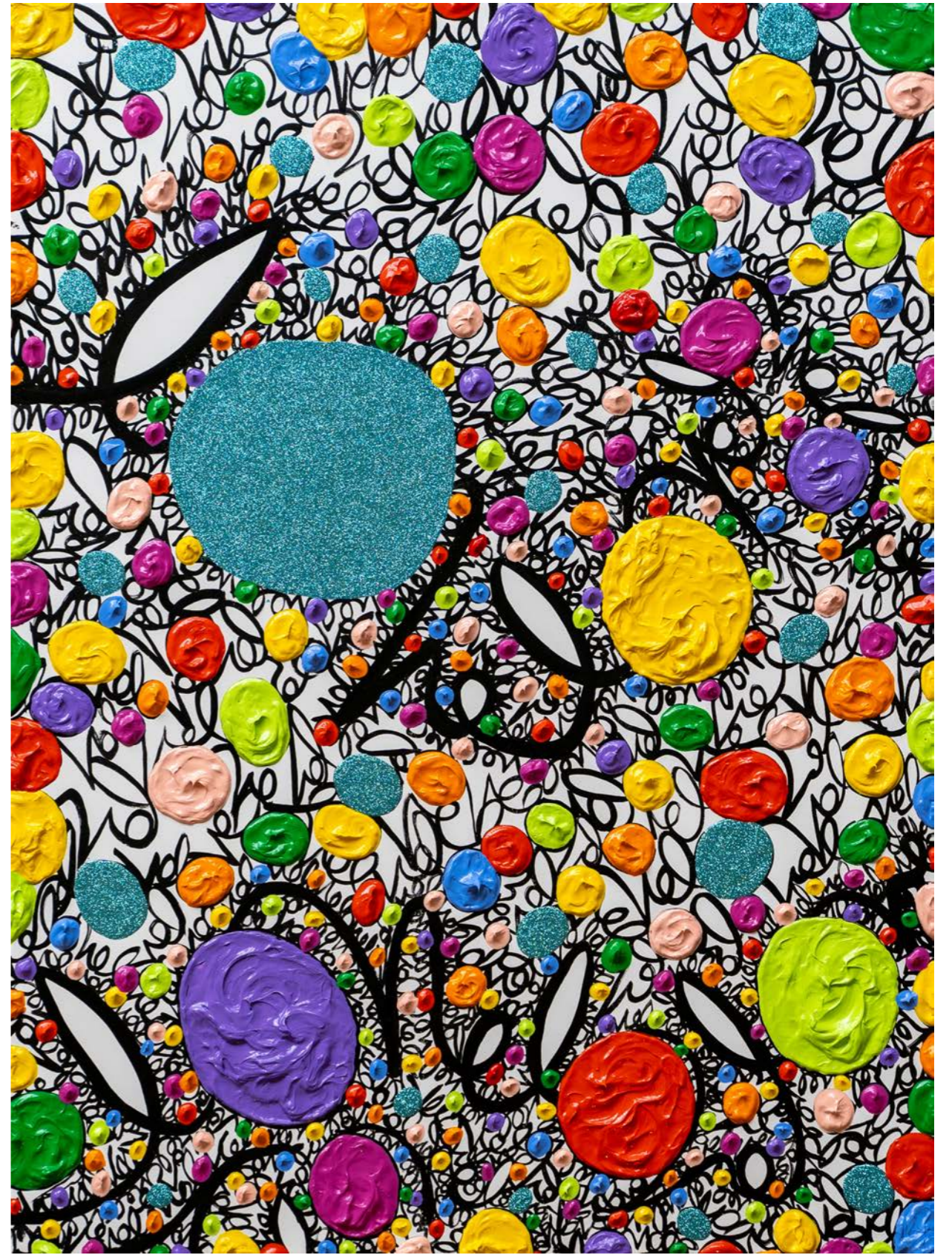
I Love to Sing



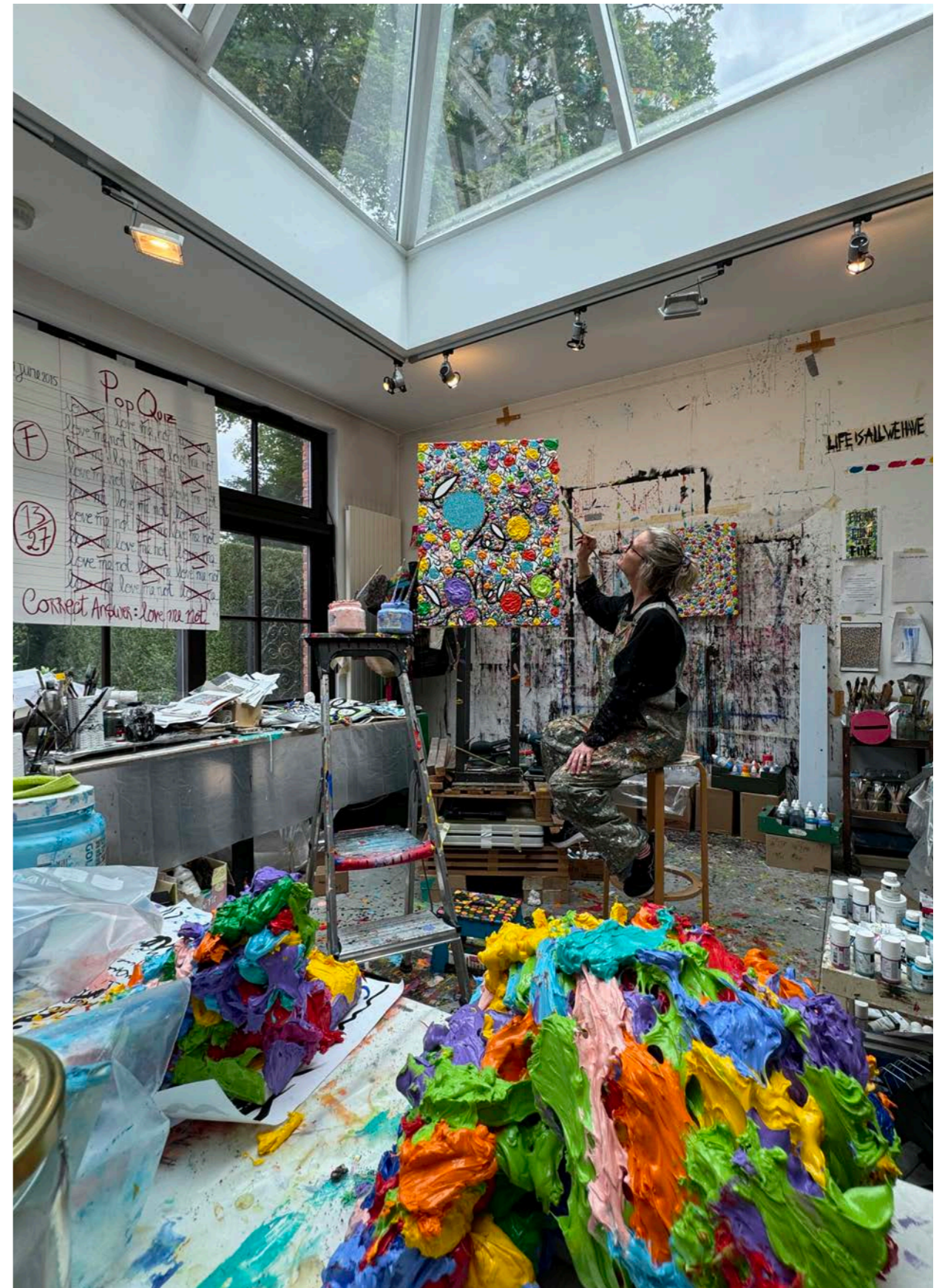


acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 60 x 8 cm

I Love
Painting
Love

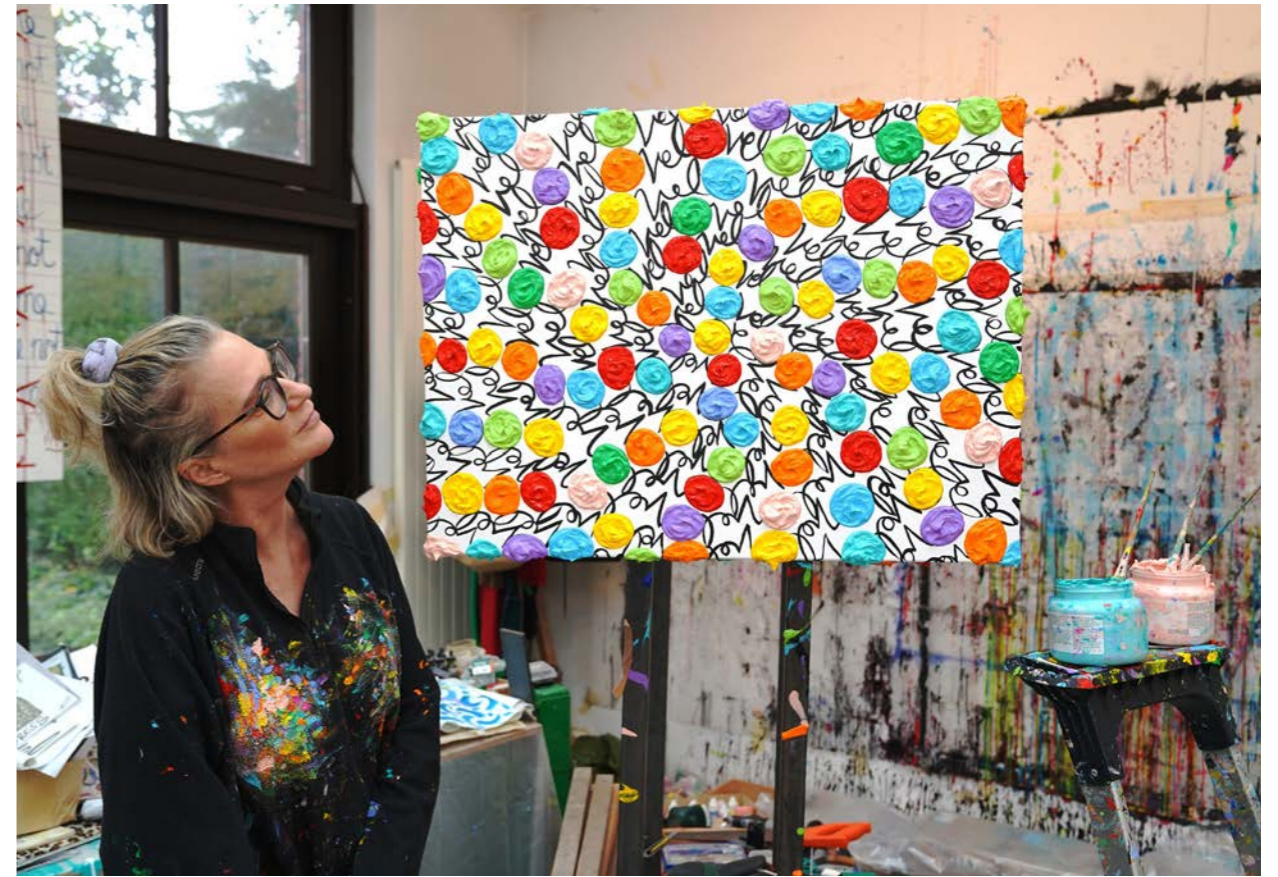


acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
80 x 60 x 8 cm



I Love
Celebrating





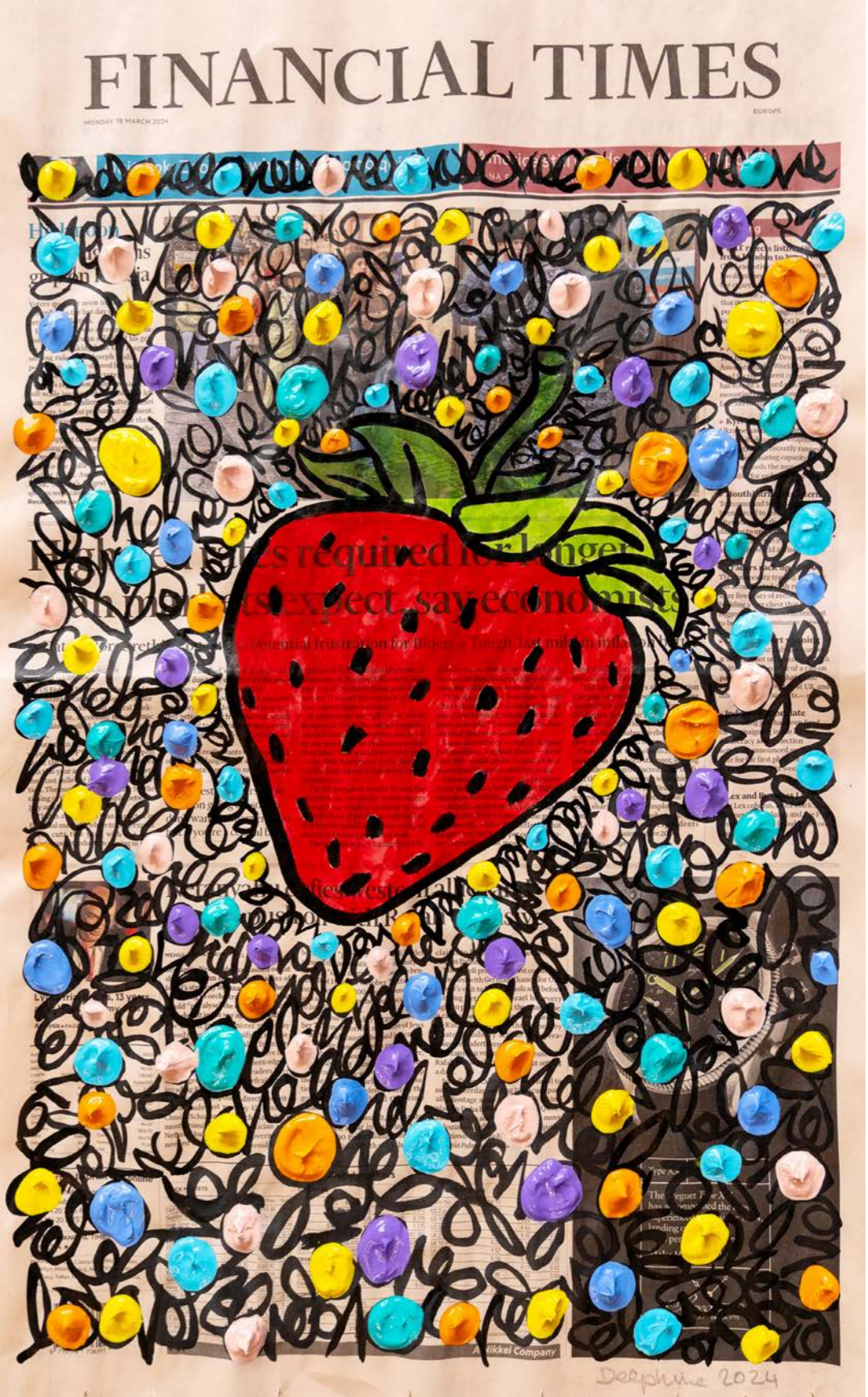
acrylic paint and Indian ink on canvas
60 x 80 x 8 cm

I love
fruit

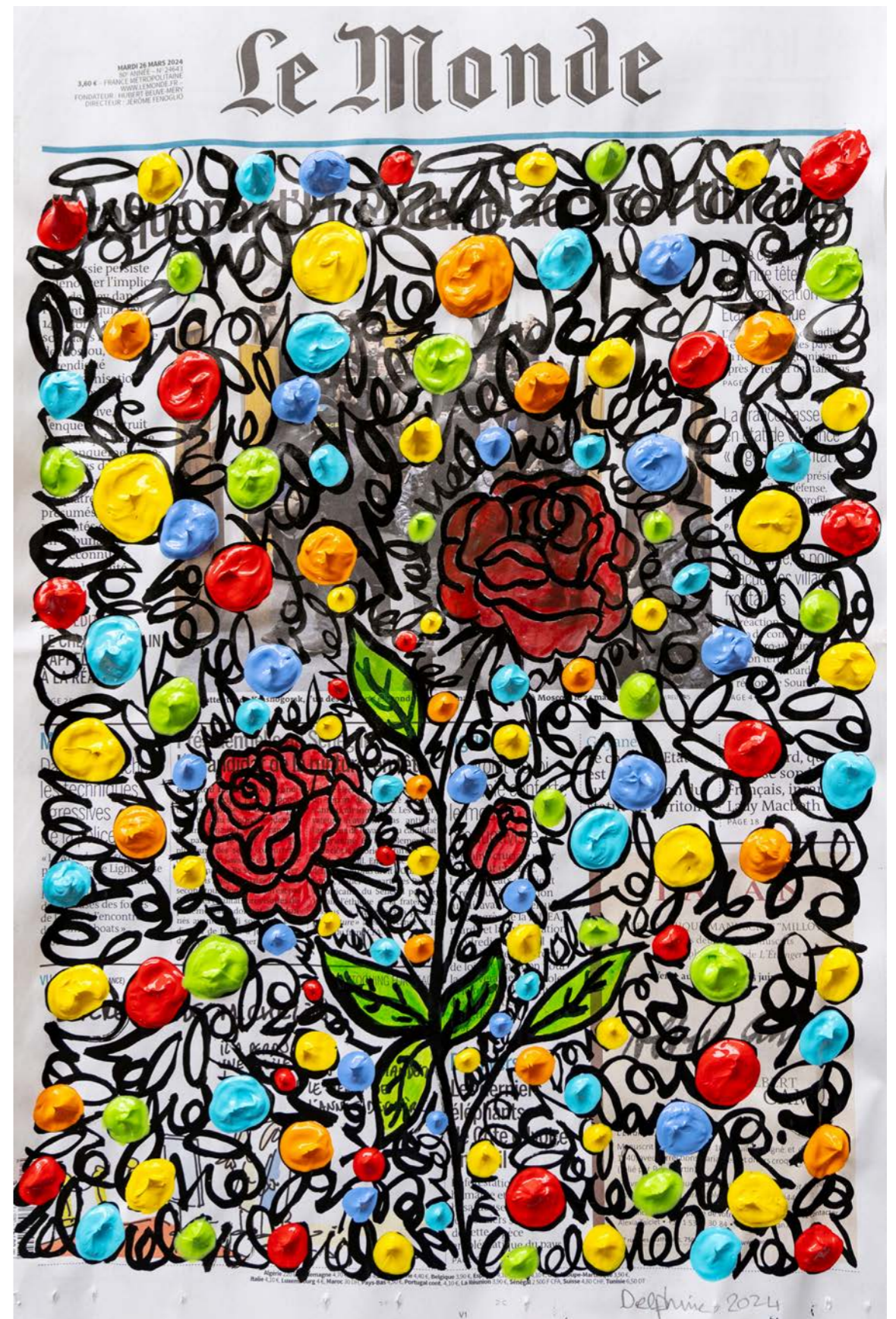




acrylic paint, Indian ink and glitter on canvas
60 x 80 x 8 cm



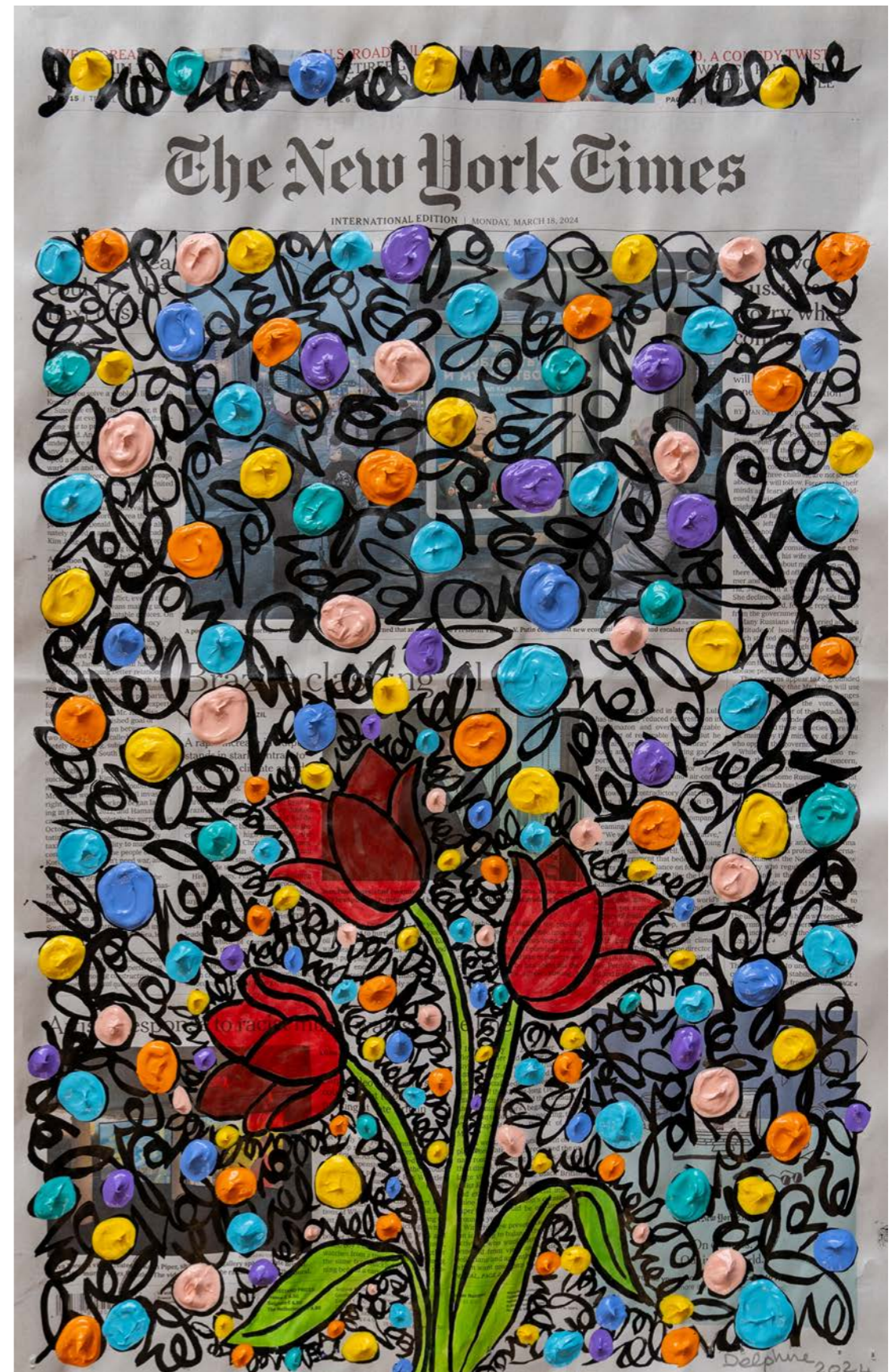
FINANCIAL TIMES - STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER, 2024
acrylic ink and paint, and Indian ink on newspaper
56 x 33 cm



LE MONDE - MY ROSEY WORLD, 2024
acrylic ink and paint, and Indian ink on newspaper
47 x 32 cm



LE MONDE - LOVE HOLDS THE WORLD TOGETHER, 2024
acrylic ink and paint, and Indian ink on newspaper
47 x 32 cm



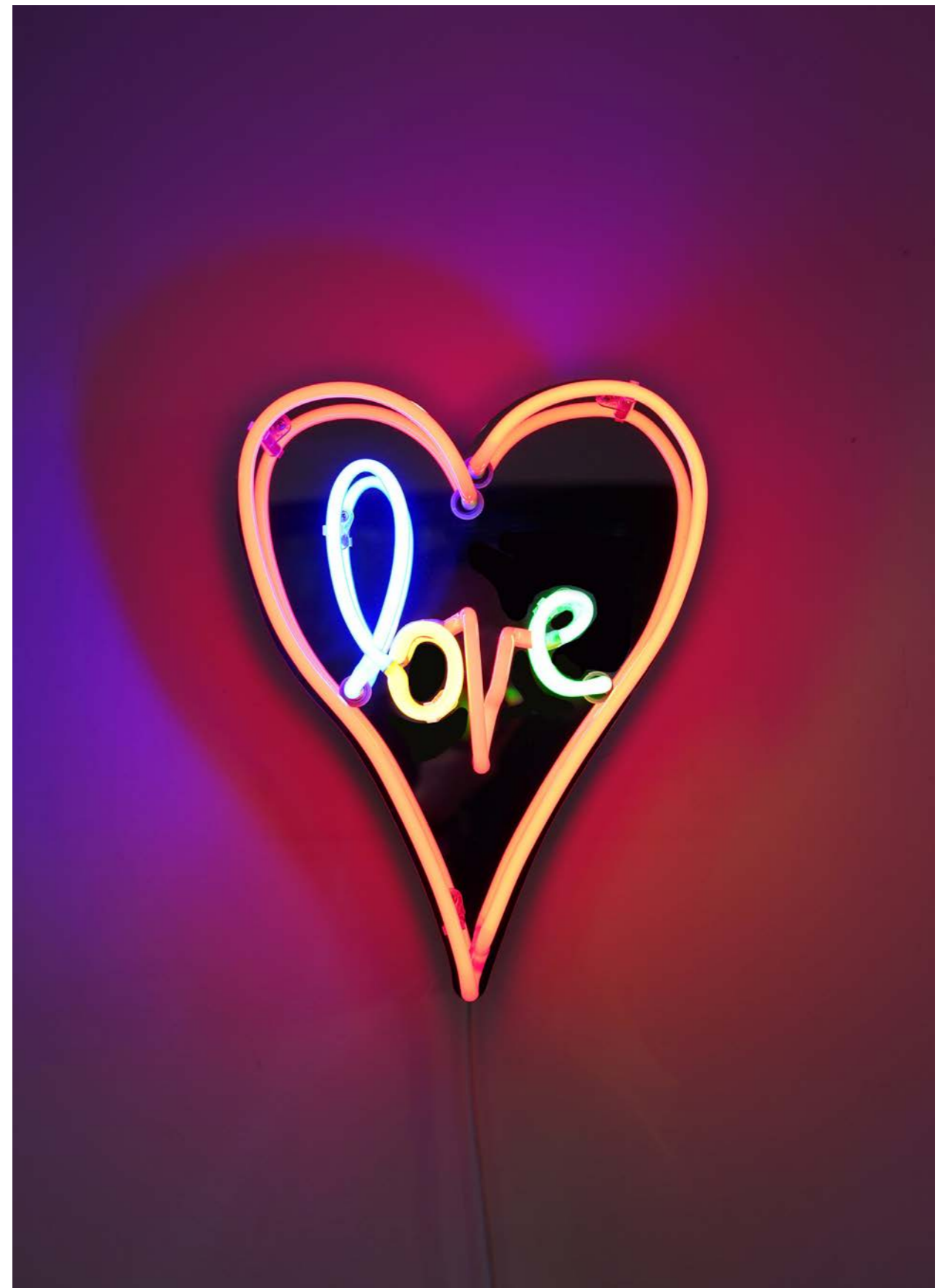
NEW YORK TIMES - FRONT PAGE TULIPS, 2024
acrylic ink and paint, and Indian ink on newspaper
56 x 36 cm



NEW YORK TIMES - LOVE TAKES HOLD, 2024
acrylic ink and paint, and Indian ink on newspaper
56 x 36 cm

NEONS

I LOVE MY NEON LOVE, 2024
neon
42 x 32 x 14 cm





GLOWING WITH LOVE, 2021
mirror finish stainless steel
100 cm Diameter
LED Light Sculpture



GLOWING WITH LOVE, 2021
white steel
100 cm Diameter
LED Light Sculpture

MINI SCULPTURE JEWELRY



Why I Made These Precious Mini-Artworks

I wanted to express how love is precious to me and should be treasured. Hence, I created these tiny sculptures using precious and durable materials—gold, diamond and ruby.

In a world where people move around a lot, we travel across continents for new challenges and experiences. In all this change, the idea of having a symbolic treasure, a small work of art, really connects. It becomes a link between past, present, and future—a comforting reminder of lasting love and special memories.

Each mini-artwork is housed in a handmade velvet heart box, which symbolizes warm and comforting love. As they're passed from loved one to loved one, they can carry the memories of special times and deep connections. Even though they're small, they're really important, staying close to us throughout life's journey, whether worn close to the heart or displayed in its open velvet box. In this way, they go beyond being just jewelry.

Each artwork and box are handcrafted in Antwerp. Each piece is engraved on the back with its number and signed "Delphine de Saxe-Cobourg 2023" along with "Crafted in Antwerp David Gotlib."

The diamonds and ruby are exclusively of natural origin and untreated. They have been purchased from legitimate sources not involved in funding conflict, in compliance with United Nations Resolutions and corresponding national laws. These diamonds are conflict-free and adhere to the World Diamond Council Guidelines. The 18k Rose gold is from recycled sources.



DIAMOND LOVE (pendant) - Limited edition 8 + 4 AP, 2023
Height 3cm / Width 2.5 cm
Brilliant cut white diamonds
18k Rose Gold pendant & 18k Rose Gold chain (44 cm)
Custom velvet box



RUBY LOVE (pendant) - Limited edition 8 + 4 AP, 2023
Height 3cm / Width 2.5 cm
Brilliant cut ruby
18k Rose Gold pendant & 18k Rose Gold chain (44 cm)
Custom velvet box



DIAMOND LOVE CUFFLINKS - Limited edition 8 + 4 AP, 2023
Height 2,5 cm / Width 2 cm
Brilliant cut white diamonds
18k Rose Gold cufflinks
Custom velvet box



b. 1968
Brussels, Belgium
BA (Honours) 1991, Chelsea School of Art, London UK

Delphine van Saksen-Coburg is an Anglo-Belgian artist. Delphine grew up in London and worked there as an artist until 2003, when she moved to Brussels to set up a new studio. In addition to her gallery and museum exhibitions, she has successfully worked on art-related projects with several global companies including Coca-Cola, Bic, Absolut, the Red Cross and the Bicester Collection.

Delphine has earned a voice in the European art world as a non-conformist statement artist and colourist. She is known for creating multimedia artworks overflowing with colour, texture and humour that address universal themes.

From painting, video, neon sculpture and metal design pieces, her artworks are vibrant, playful and quirky. They are capable of lovingly inspiring the dispossessed, while also abruptly bringing the powerful and prideful back to reality. Issues of identity, power and justice often inspire Delphine's work. Part of her artistic motivation is to offer the viewer a chance to see the bright side of life.

Delphine's explicit use of words and language make her messages very straightforward, while her use of colour and composition leaves space for whimsy and irony.

EXHIBITIONS

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY - Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- EUROPEAN LOVE - WM Gallery, Spuerkeess, Luxembourg city, Luxembourg
- 2023 LOVE IMPERFECTION - Bicester Collection, Maasmechelen Village, Belgium
- 2022 WHAT IS TO COME IS BETTER THAN WHAT WAS - Fondation Linda et Guy Pieters, Saint-Tropez, France
- 2021 I LOVE YOU. NO MORE BLABLA. - Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- 2020 ATTITUDE - Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- 2017 NEVER GIVE UP - Museum of Ixelles, Brussels, Belgium
- OBSESSED WITH LOVE - WM Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2016 LOVE LIFE - Eastmen Gallery, Hasselt, Belgium
- 2015 LOVE ME, LOVE ME NOT - Gallery Francis Noel, Liege, Belgium
- 2014 PRAY HARDER - Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- 2013 HAPPY SADNESS - Galerie Paul Janssen, Grimaud and Saint Tropez, France
- 2012 TALKING TO THE DEAF - WM Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2011 Galerie Dany Liehrmann, Liege, Belgium
- We Are Different Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- Gallery Studio 2000, Blaricum, The Netherlands
- 2010 OBSESSED WITH THE TRUTH. SEEKING SINCERITY AT ALL COSTS - Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- 2009 Guy Pieters Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
- 2008 Guy Pieters Gallery, Sint Martens Latem, Belgium
- 2002 Hyper-Space Gallery, curated by Marie-Puck Broodthaers, Brussels, Belgium
- 1999 L' Equipe Anglaise, London, UK

EXHIBITIONS

GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS

- 2021 COME WHAT MAY - Aeroplastics Gallery, Brussels
BIJOUX D'ARTISTES - DE PICASSO A KOONS - Diane Venet Collection, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
- 2020 CLAIRE-OBSCURE - Galerie Paul Janssen, St. Tropez, France
- 2019 HABITER L'INTIME - Fondation Thalie, Brussels, Belgium curated by Anne Pontégnie
ART PARIS - Grand Palais, represented by The Belgian Gallery
H2EAU - Galerie Paul Janssen, St. Tropez, France
TOUT EST POP - The Belgian Gallery, Namur, Belgium
NAMUR FINE ART FAIR - Namur, Belgium, represented by The Belgian Gallery
- 2018 SEPT FEMMES - La Galerie Nardone, Brussels, Belgium
- 2016 ADOPTIE - Museum Doctor Guislain, Gent, Belgium
VOYOLLES - Trois Rivières, Florac, France & Bibliotheque Nucera, Nice, France and L'Ambre Art Center, Casablanca, Morocco, curated by Christian Balmier
BRAFA ART FAIR - Brussels, Belgium, represented by the Lancz Gallery
ART UP! - Lille, France, represented by Gallery Francis Noel
BELGIAN ART AND DESIGN - Ghent, Belgium, represented by Eastman Gallery
FOREVER BUBOX - Kortrijk, Belgium, curated by Jerome Jacobs and Gery Van Tendeloo
8E AVENUE CONTEMPORARY AND URBAN ART FAIR - Paris, France, represented by Galerie Francis Noel
- 2015 ART AS JEWELRY FROM PICASSO TO JEFF KOONS - Vittraria Glass +A Museum, Venice, curated by Diane Venet and Ewald Stastny, Italy
L'ART QUE PARLE - Galerie Paul Janssen, Grimaud and St. Tropez, France
- 2013 ART-A - WM Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
ART MIAMI 2013 - represented by the Cynthia Corbett Gallery
- 2012 FACE IT! ABSOLUT DELPHINE - Spritmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden curated by Mia Sundberg
NERVOUS WOMEN - Museum Doctor Guislain, Gent, Belgium
SUPERSTITION: 13 PAINTERS AND ME - Galerie Valerie Bach, Brussels, Belgium curated by Pascal Bernier
WOMEN'S ROUNDABOUT - Artiscope Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
THE KISS - Galerie Emilie Dujat, Brussels, Belgium
LET'S COMMUNICATE - Gallery Salve Europa, Leipzig, Germany
ART SOUTHAMPTON - Southampton, New York, represented by The Cynthia Corbett Gallery UK
- MULTIPLIED - Christie's South Kensington, London, represented by the Cynthia Corbett Gallery UK
HOUSTON FINE ART FAIR - Houston, Texas, represented by The Cynthia Corbett Gallery UK
ART MIAMI 2012 - Special Public Sculpture Project curated by Julia Draganovic, Claudia Löffelholz, and Elena Forin, Miami, Florida, represented by The Cynthia Corbett Gallery UK
- 2009 THAT'S ALL, FOLKS! - Hallen Belfort, Brugge, Belgium, curated by Michel Dewilde and Jerome Jacobs
- 2008 POWER TO THE PEOPLE - Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium curated by Pierre-Yves Desaiève
ARTISTS FOR AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL - Brenart Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2007 CONCEPT - Pierre Bergé, Le Sablon, Brussels, Belgium, Gallery L'Espace Art 22, Brussels, Belgium
TRUC TROC - Wolu-Culture Centre, Hosted by BOZAR, Brussels (2007-2014)
- 2004 LOOKING INSIDE: AN INTROSPECTIVE JOURNEY - with Fernand Vanderplanke Abdijhoeve Ten Bogaerde/Abbaye de la Dunne, Koksijde, Belgium
ON S'EST DEJA RECONTRE QUELQUE PART? - Bruxelles En Scene Museum, Brussels, Belgium, curated by Serge Goldwicht, International AIDS Awareness Day
LOVE IS IN THE AIR - curated by Marie-Puck Broodthaers, Matrix, Brussels, Belgium
- 2003 ABSOLUT DELPHINE - ABSOLUT GENERATIONS - Palazzo Zenobio, Venice Biennale representing Belgium for ABSOLUT with Wim Delvoye
Emporio Armani, Knights Bridge, London
Sculptures Du Paradis, Hondschoote, Belgium
- 2001 FUNNY PECULIAR - with Sir Terrace Conran, Hulton Getty Gallery, London, UK
- 2000 WOMEN BY WOMEN - Portobello Art Festival 2000, Mattomando Gallery, London, UK
Nicolas Guedroitz Gallery, London, UK
The Round House, London, UK
- 1992 - 2000 OPEN STUDIOS - Great Western Studios, London, UK
The Lemonade Factory, London, UK
- Guest Lecturer, Higher Institute for Fine Arts (HISK), Antwerp, Belgium 2002
Guest Lecturer, Maastricht Art School, Maastricht, Holland 2002



COLOPHON

Delphine van Saksen-Coburg
What Makes Me Happy

This book is published to commemorate Delphine's *What Makes Me Happy* exhibition at Guy Pieters Gallery in Knokke during August and September 2024.

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guypietersgallery.com

GUY PIETERS GALLERY

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART