

2025

Alquimia para tiempos turbios
(Alchemy for troubled times)

Ruth Benzacar Gallery, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Sala 2

MARINA DE CARO

Alquimia para tiempos turbios

Con texto de Guadalupe Maradei

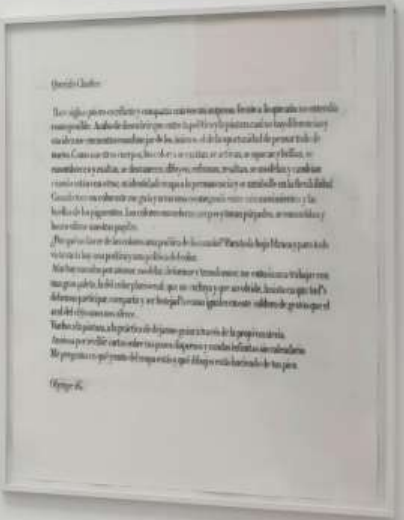


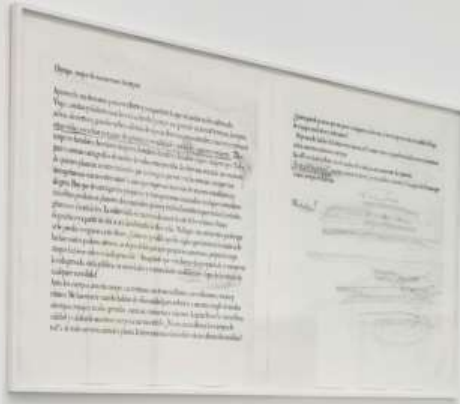
The fictional correspondence between **Olympe de Gouges** and **Charles Fourier** was part of the exhibition *Conjuro contra la Crueldad*, held in 2024 at the **Musée MAC VAL** during the Olympic Games. This project sought to evoke the moment when Ancient Greece, in order to hold the first Olympic Games, pacified the territory so that both athletes and spectators could travel through it safely.

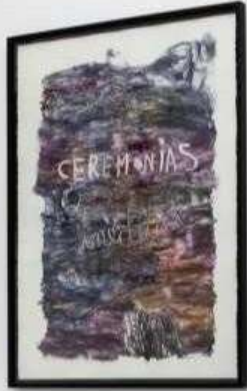
The proposal is framed as a call for peace in response to an increasingly cruel contemporary situation. Olympe de Gouges and Charles Fourier were present through this correspondence, as active spirits, citing many of their political proposals in the letters.

The texts were created using drypoint on 100 x 70 cm Canson Edition paper, while the color works were produced using the monotype technique in the same size. All the prints were made at the Malevo Estampa studio in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

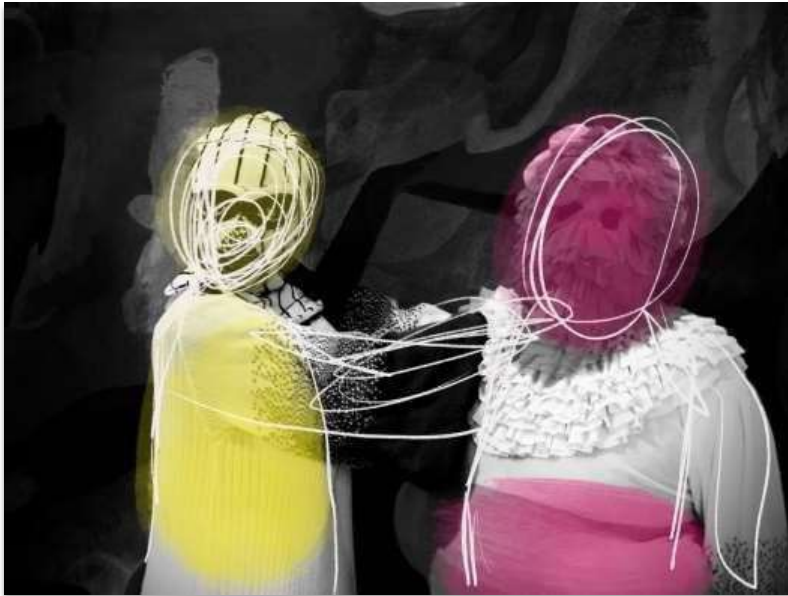
For the **Ruth Benzacar Gallery**, a Spanish-language edition of this literary and visual project was produced.







Live reading of the fictional correspondence between Olympe de Gouges and Charles Fourier



Cast: Natalia Di Cenzoy Ariel Osiris

Music: El PIYI

Costumes: Marina De Caro

Directed by: Marina De Caro y Pablo Foladori (Opera Periférica)

Friday, March 29, and Thursday, April 10, at

Runtime: 30 minutes





















“I’d rather be a witch than an artist,” Marina de Caro quips when asked about her recent work. The 32 engravings gathered in this temple-like room underscore that calling, as they invite us to connect with a ritual that unfolds and is reimagined across diverse spatiotemporal coordinates. Three levels of an ambitious creative project intertwine within these walls:

1- The fictionalization of an epistolary exchange between two leading figures of utopian thought: the philosopher and women’s rights advocate Olympe de Gouges and the utopian socialist Charles Fourier. By invoking these two figures from French history, she uses the letter as a device for thought that draws on the characters’ mutual and affective dialogue.

2- The multiform chromoutopias embodied in the interventions of Cromoactivismos (a group of “poetic and transversal activism against Pantone” that has been active in Buenos Aires since 2013 and of which De Caro is a member). In these prints, certain chromoactive procedures and aesthetics reverberate, with their inevitable allusion to the alchemy involving the alloy of collective art, public space, and political urgency.

3- The mantras (“regain your strength,” “shake until you lose control,” “move in silence”) that enabled the dancers to keep dancing for 24 hours as part of the exhibition *Conjurar el horizonte* that De Caro presented at the Mac Val Musée in January 2025. The action titled “Alchemy Against Troubled Times” was a powerful coven that—take it or leave it—altered the course of the last elections in France. De Caro records on paper, possessed by the energy of that gathering, the dancing bodies (including her own) and the voices of a lineage of utopians who imagined, debated, attempted, failed, and tried again, other ways of life. And, at that point, she fulfills the role of a medium for a set of vibrations that shake the consensus regarding what should happen in an exhibition space and what interactions are possible and desirable between works, bodies, and perceptions. Like a reversed Rorschach test, instead of revealing signs of personality through images, here it is the images that capture meanings no longer of an individuality, but of collective historical processes. No element is obvious or banal in De Caro’s universe. From concept to spontaneous collective action, from there back to concept again, leading to artistic technique and restarting the cycle, in a loop, ad infinitum. A chromo-corporo-conceptual art has been born. The potency of its magic promises it a long and intense life.

Guadalupe Maradei