

Portfolio Jannis Besen

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CV education:

5.2.2026	Diploma Academy of Fine Arts, Munich
2024-2026	Academy of Fine Arts, Düsseldorf, Guest Alexandra Bircken
2024/25	ADBK Munich Raphaela Vogel - <i>Meisterschüler (Master student distinction)</i>
2022-2024	ADBK Munich Alexandra Bircken
2021	ENSBA Paris Bojan Šarčević (Art School Alliance/Erasmus exchange)
2018	HFBK Hamburg Martin Boyce

CV shows (upcoming):

1.10.2026	<i>Surface Matter</i> , international traveling exhibition: Tsukuba, Japan (group show)
13.10.2026	<i>Zimmer frei</i> , Hotel Mariandl, Goethestr. 51 Munich (group show)

Jannis Besen's work navigates between glamour and violence, between inscription and transience. His portraits, sculptures and interventions trace how the systems we inhabit pull at bodies, creatures and domestic forms. They overwrite the familiar without erasing it. The works act as mirrors of contemporary life, holding codes and displacement in the same gesture.

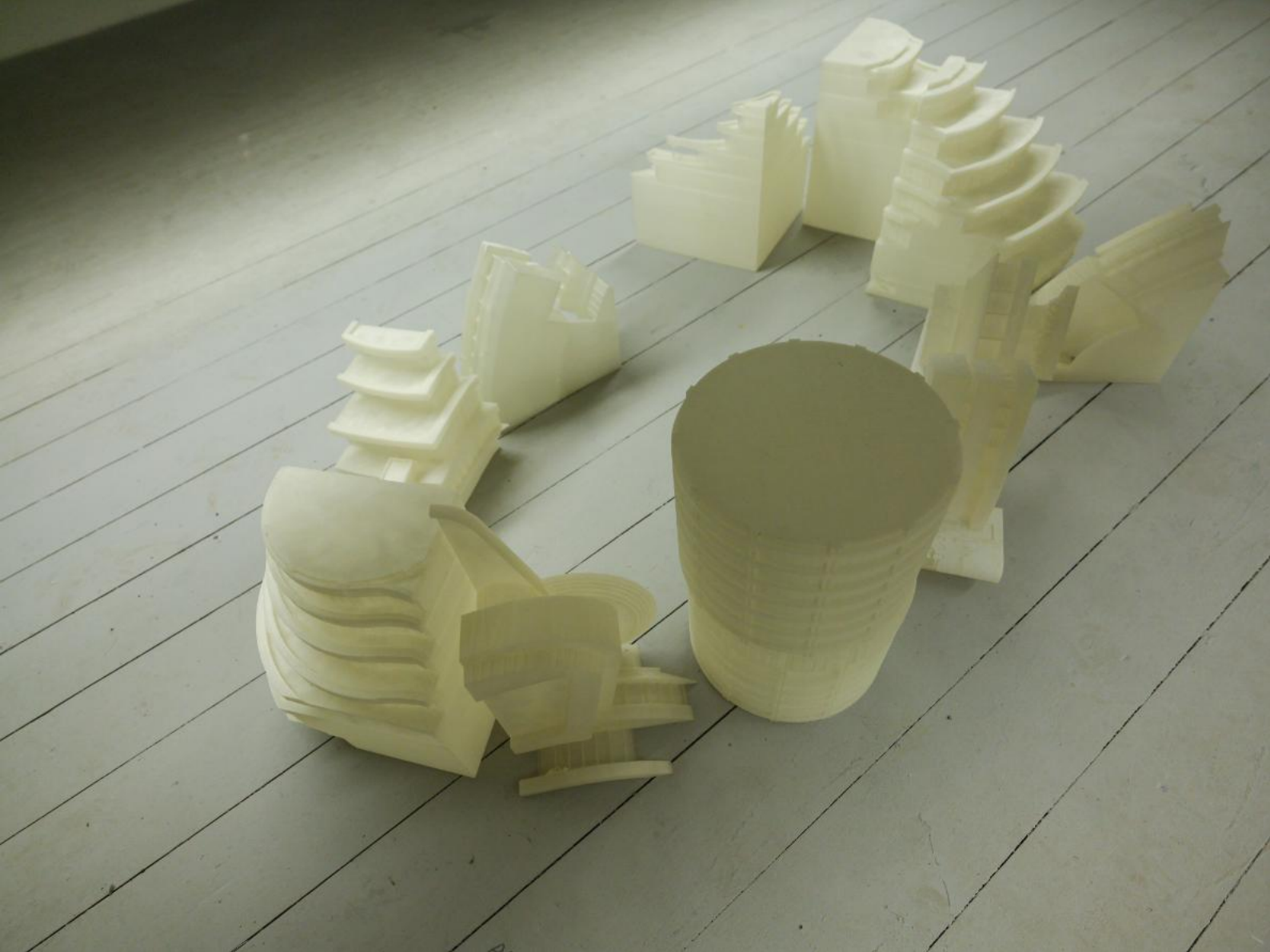


Pawlicker, 2026
Wood, wood glue, steel pedestal
136x62x52cm
Diploma *Clean paws*, ADBK Munich 2026

In my diploma show *Clean paws* (02/2026) I was working with two bodies of work that flow into one another. The first layer centers on the cat as a sculptural and iconographic motif. The „domestication“ of this animal opens onto layered questions of freedom, projection, and sacred dependency from historical contexts to its current digital depiction in internet culture.

The second layer engages with polycrisis and financial structures. Painting onto photographic prints on canvas, I combine documentary realism with abstraction. The works in this layer are titled after software brands from the office sector and carry a painterly gesture throughout. In the middle of the room, below the lowered lights, a deconstruction of the BIS (Bank for International Settlements) is installed, making visible the architecture of global financial power that underlies both the office logic and the in/stability of the world the cat quietly inhabits.

The wild and independent nature of the animal runs against the power driven, rationally calculated logic of the business world. Two poles that the work holds in tension rather than resolving. At the center of the space, a sculptural intervention grounds both bodies: the ceiling lights were lowered, making a shift in perception physically felt.



Platform, 2026

Polyactid, Acetone

Diploma *Clean paws*, ADBK Munich 2026



Reddit, 2026

Dimensions vary with installation
Plaster, polyactid, acrylics, wired glass

Diploma *Clean paws*, ADBK Munich 2026

"Cloud", 2025
"Outlook", 2026



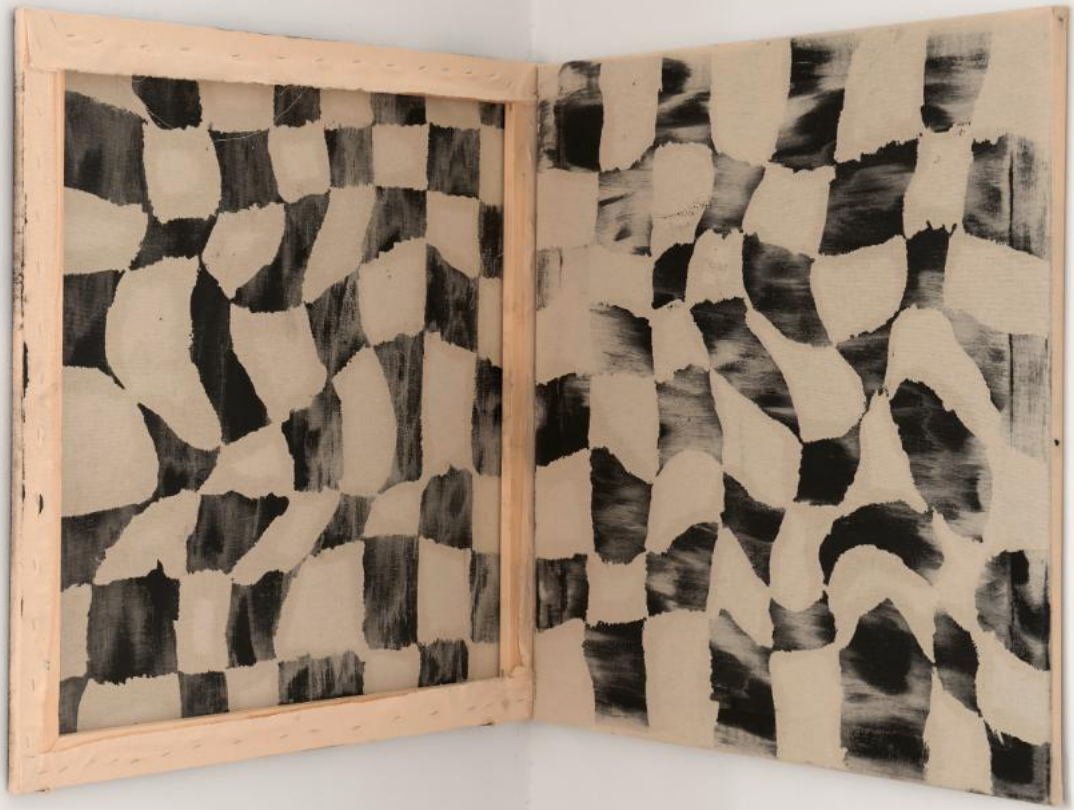
Cloud, 2025 (painting on the left)
Oil, ink, acrylics on photo print on canvas

130x165, 3,0cm (each)
Diploma *Clean paws*, ADBK Munich 2026

Outlook, 2026 (painting on the right)
Oil on photo print on canvas



Clean paws installation view



128, 2025

Diptych
77x77x2,5cm (each)
Oil on canvas

EAREAR space, Munich 2025



Untitled chess painting, 2024

Diptych
Oil on canvas
115x115x2,5cm (each)

Akademiegalerie, Munich 2024



Chess hair, 2026

Diptych
Oil on canvas
120x60x2,5cm (each)

Studio 17000, Berlin (Duo show)



Projections, 2025

Polyamid foam, wood, steel, HEB 160
height: 56cm

Tower, Munich 2025



Fools of chance, 2025

Aluminium, black spinel, cognac diamonds, bubble wrap, tape

height: 43cm

EAREAR space, Munich 2025 (Duo show)



Times are real estates, 2020

Wood, chalk, pigments, wire, candle spindles
33x66x115cm

Annual Exhibition HFBK Hamburg 2020



sHaMe 2022

62 x 78 x 6cm

Drawing sewn into city map Paris sewn into cushion

Artist studio Paris 2022



Die Leiden des jungen Posers (The sorrows of the young poser), 2025

Triptych

80 x 180 x 3cm

Oil on photo print on canvas, oil on found object

Artist studio Munich



Clown school FUN (abstract), 2025

Oil on photo print on canvas, newspaper, leather upholstery
Dimension painting: 80x60x3cm

Group show, Munich



If by skin we don't include the eardrum, 2022

63x41x5cm

Doormat, insulation tape, Zig Zag, wood

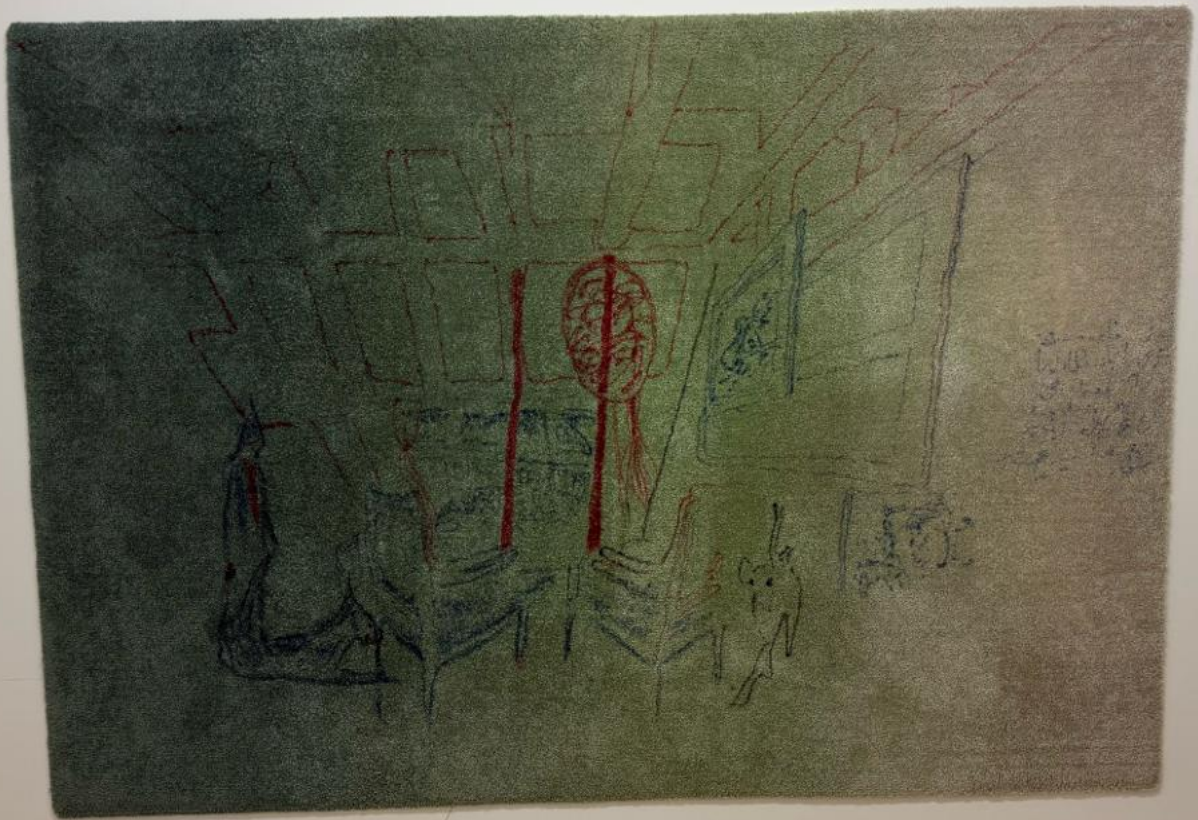
Artist studio Paris 2022



Sinking ceiling, 2022

85x85x13cm
Metal, rust, brick stones

Groupshow Nokwoodang Culture and Arts Foundation, Heanam, South Korea



Family affairs, 2026

235x165cm
Ink, felt pen on rug

Studio 17000, Berlin