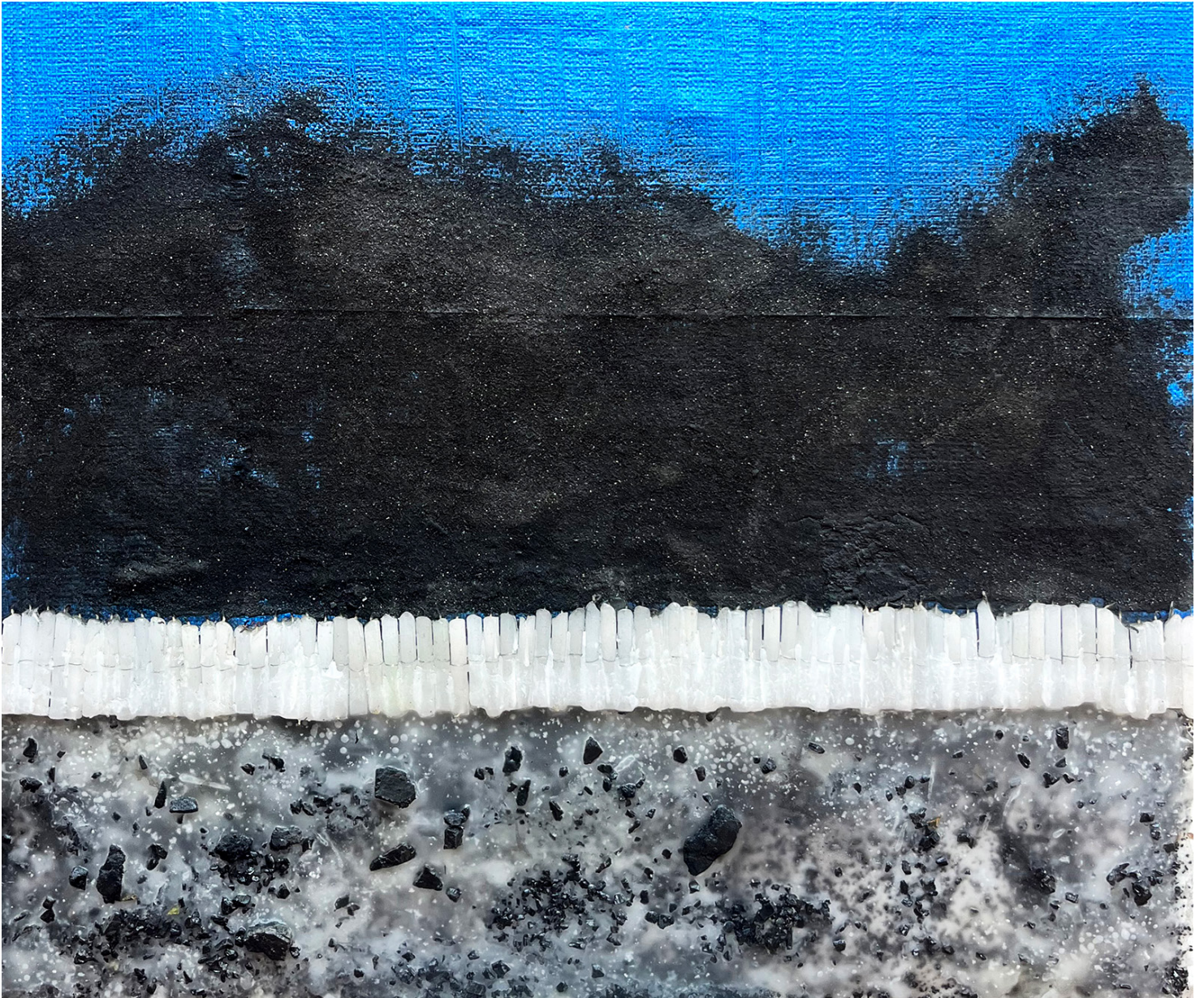


# MOUHCINE RAHAOUI



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MOUHCINE RAHAOUI WAS BORN IN 1990 IN JERADA, MOROCCO. HE LIVES AND WORKS IN MARRAKECH.

Mouhcine Rahaoui graduated from the Tetouan School of Fine Arts in 2017. His work explores the experience and history of miners in the Oriental region, particularly in his home town of Jerada. He offers an immersion into the meanders of his memory and his relationship with the raw reality of a town where the only way to survive is to 'take the rabbit trail', confronting the likelihood of not getting out. According to urban legend, a Belgian forest ranger stumbled upon a coal deposit in the late 1920s after having followed a black rabbit covered in coal. This event led to the first mining operations in the town of Jerada.

Mouhcine Rahaoui questions the absurdity of life in its unreasonable and unfair nature. The mine confirms humans' fragility in the face of the unpredictability of the mountain that feeds them and

sometimes swallows them up. Mouhcine Rahaoui tells the story of these dangerous, clandestine expeditions to extract the coal that sustains life and gently consumes it. Mouhcine Rahaoui wonders why working there, in Jerada, leads to death rather than life.

Through a series of reproductions, installations and ready-mades, cataloguing the miner's tools - torches, helmets, gloves, ropes - in a dominant shade of black, Mouhcine Rahaoui plunges the viewer into the aesthetics of the worker and informs us, through a visceral gesture, of his fate, sealed by the mine like an immutable destiny.

# MOUHCINE RAHAOUI

b. 1990, Jerada, Morocco  
Lives and works in Marrakech, Morocco



## SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2024

Mouhcine Rahaoui, AFIKARIS Gallery, Paris, France

2023

*Enfant des mines*, Comptoir des Mines Gallery, Marrakech, Morocco

2019

*Labor isn't destiny*, Le 18, Marrakech, Morocco

2018

Dasthe Art Space, Casablanca, Morocco

2008

Jerada Cultural Center, Jerada, Morocco

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

2024

Art Geneve, AFIKARIS Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland

2023

1-54 London, AFIKARIS Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Art Paris, Comptoir des Mines Gallery, Paris, France

2017

*The Start is Mine*, Galerie 1x1 Art, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Saida Contemporary Art Gallery, Tétouan, Morocco

2016  
Moulay Elhassan Gallery, Oujda, Morocco

2015  
Moulay Elhassan Gallery, Oujda, Morocco

2014  
National Prize for Young Painters, Ahmed El Fassi Gallery, Rabat, Morocco

2013  
Théâtre Mohammed VI Gallery, Oujda, Morocco

2011  
Moulay Elhassan Gallery, Oujda, Morocco

## EDUCATION

2017 - National Institute of Fine Arts, Tétouan, Morocco

2014 - 1st year in Arabic Law, University of Mohammed 1, Oujda, Morocco

2013 - Fine Arts A-level, Oujda, Morocco

2012 - Diploma of Specialized Technician in Automated Systems Electromechanics, ISTA Sidi Mâafa, Oujda, Morocco

## RESIDENCIES

2019 - Le 18, Marrakech, Morocco

2019 - Sakhra, Moulay Bouchta Ikhmar, Morocco

2017 - FLATTA Land Art Festival, Tanger, Morocco

2016 - Biennale of Marrakech, Marrakech, Morocco

## PRIZES

2013 - Oriental Regional Prize for Young Painters, Oujda, Morocco

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

FONDATION H, Antananarivo, Madagascar



*LUMIÈRE NOIRE VII, 2023*  
Resin, coal and wax mounted on panel  
150x150 cm / 59x59 in

By combining wax and coal, Mouhcine Rahaoui plays with the material and its asperities. He plunges the viewer directly into the depths of a coal mine. He translates the magic of the light projected onto the walls by the miners' lamps, making the dark rock look like a precious stone.



*MINEUR*, 2023

Charcoal and wax on canvas mounted on panel

100x120 cm / 39x47 in



*MINEUR*, 2023  
(detail)





*MINEUR*, 2023

Resin, coal and wax on canvas mounted on panel  
150x150 cm / 59x59 in

*Mineur* features a line of candles. Attached to each other, they evoke the image of sticks of dynamite. They signify a situation of danger and uncertainty. At any moment, everything could collapse - evoking the fate of miners who risk their lives and health on the job.





*MINEUR*, 2023

Charcoal and wax on canvas mounted on panel  
150x150 cm / 59x59 in





*SOLIDAIRE*, 2023

Coal and wax on canvas mounted on panel

150x150 cm / 59x59 in

The *Solidaire* series, showing white candles lined up and blackened by coal, is a metaphor for miners preparing to go underground, even before daybreak.



VUE D'EXPOSITION  
1-54 London, Londres, Royaume-Uni  
Octobre 2023



*SOLIDAIRE*, 2023  
(details)



*SOLIDAIRE*, 2023  
Charcoal and wax on canvas mounted on panel  
150x150 cm / 59x59 in



*SOLIDAIRE*, 2023  
(detail)



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 1*, 2023  
Mixed media (charcoal, wax, glue)  
100x100 cm / 39x39 in





*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 1, 2023*  
(details)





*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 2, 2023*  
Mixed media (charcoal, wax, glue)  
100x100 cm / 39x39 in



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 2, 2023*  
(detail)



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 3, 2023*  
Mixed media (charcoal, wax, glue)  
100x100 cm / 39x39 in



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 3, 2023*  
(detail)



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 4*, 2023  
Mixed media (charcoal wax, glue)  
100x100 cm / 39x39 in



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 4, 2023*  
(detail)



*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 5, 2023*  
Mixed media (charcoal wax, glue)  
100x100 cm / 39x39 in





*LUMIÈRE OBSCURE 5, 2023*  
(detail)