

SERGE ESSAIAN

PROJECT 12

“BACKS, SQUATS, HOSPITAL”

“The descriptive language of modern art is somewhat impoverished, lacking a set of basic words - "project", for instance, is as if armless. [...]

We must introduce more precise clarifications. Most representatives of so-called "actual art" do indeed think protectively. That is, in projects.[...]

Thus, the actual artist lives from project to project. [...] with each project, he inevitably gets caught up in the marathon of various biennales [...].

Serge Essaian is not at all an artist of the actual sort. He does not live from project to project [...] So that if term "project" is applicable to Essaian "case", it has a different meaning [...] it is his life's project, an existential project.”

A.Borovsky. Art historian, author of numerous works concerning contemporary art, head of the contemporary art department of St Petersburg's Russian museum.

“BACKS, SQUATS, HOSPITAL”

“And all the living things, and all peoples,
Were keeping an imperishable being,
And me, I was not nature's brainchild,
But was it's thought! But was its fragile mind!”

N. Zabolotsky. *Yesterday, while thinking about death ...*



The back. Molloy. Acrylic on black paper, 65 x 50 cm, Paris, 1980

“He fancied that the nape of the neck and the back right down to the loins were more venerable than the chest and belly.” S. Beckett. *Malone dies*



Night squat. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 119 x 60 cm, Paris, 2006



Night n°1. Acrylic on cardboard, 40 x 27,5 cm, Paris, 1992



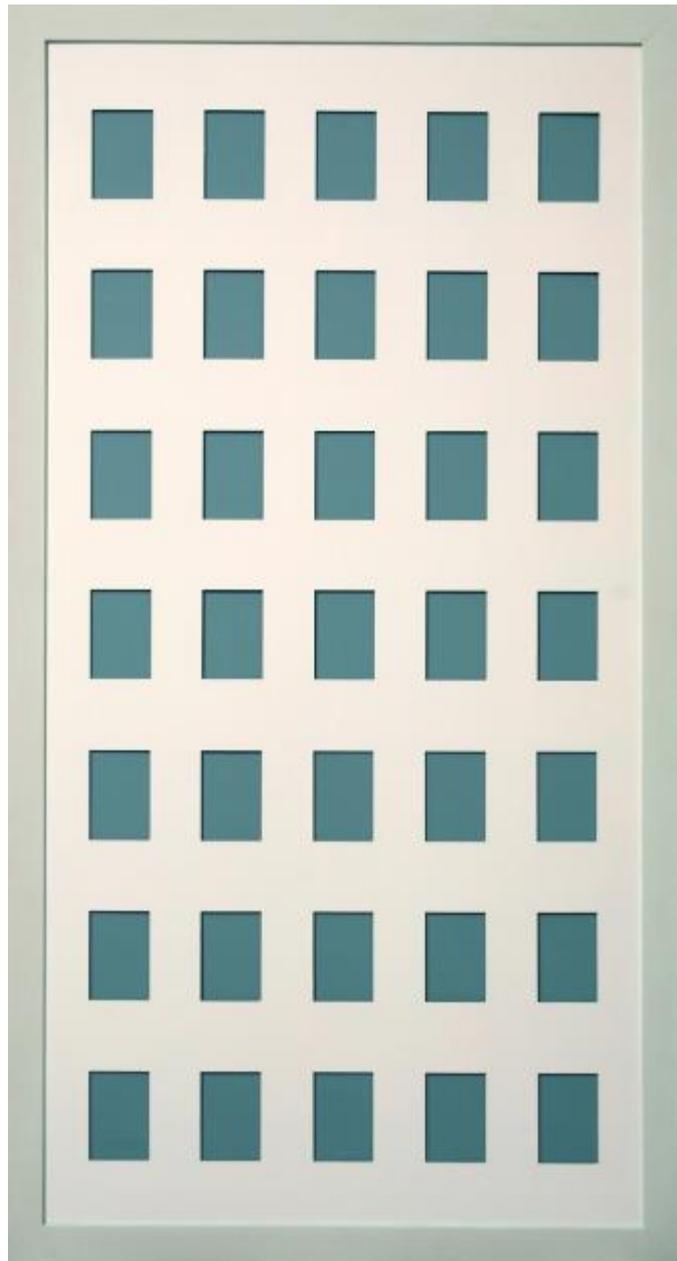
Waiting. Acrylic ad watercolour on paper, 20,8 x 29,5 cm, Paris, 2000



Night n°2. Acrylic on cardboard, 40 x 27,5 cm, Paris, 2001



Love. Acrylic on paper, 29,5 x 20,9 cm, Paris, 2000



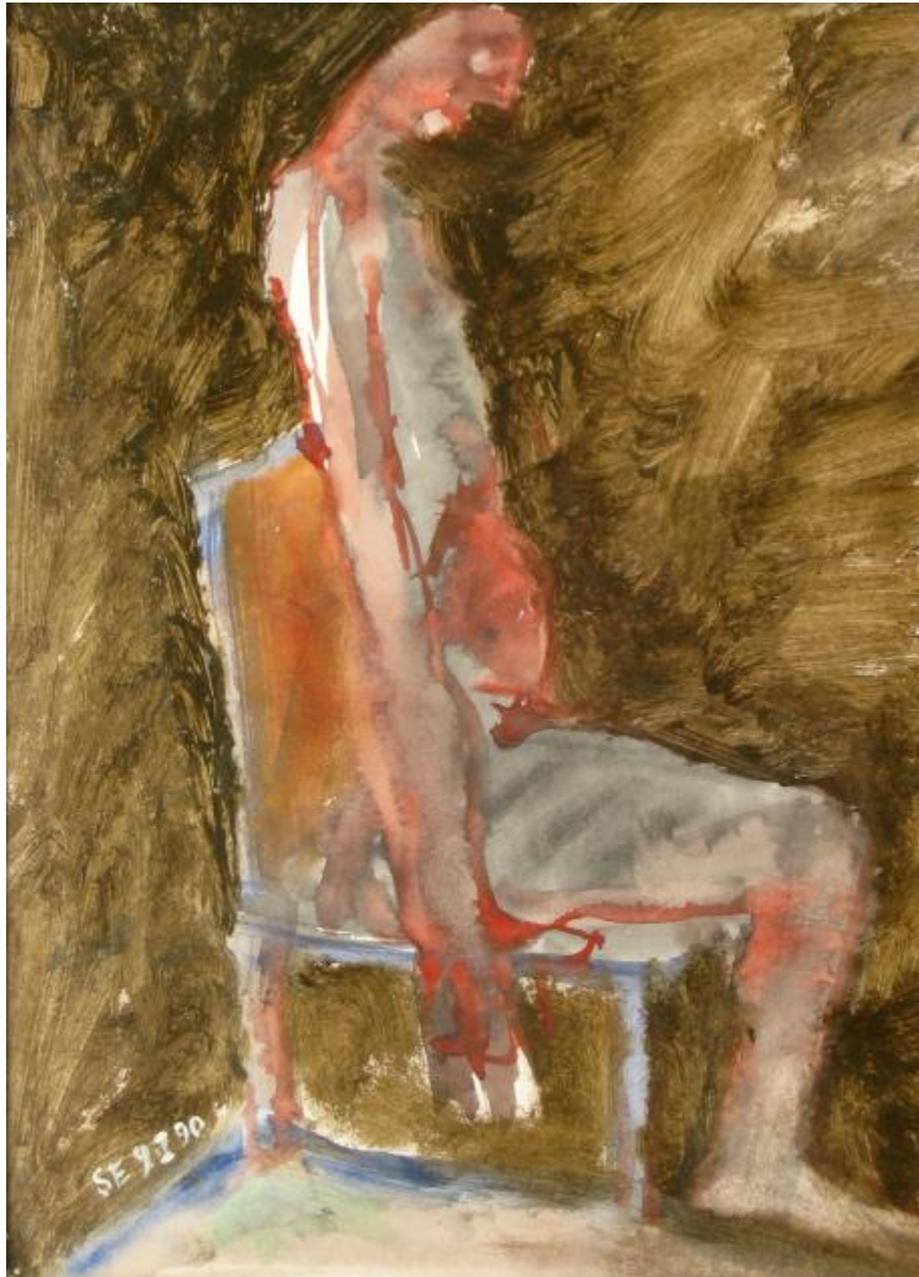
Ecological squat. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 119 x 60 cm, Paris, 2006



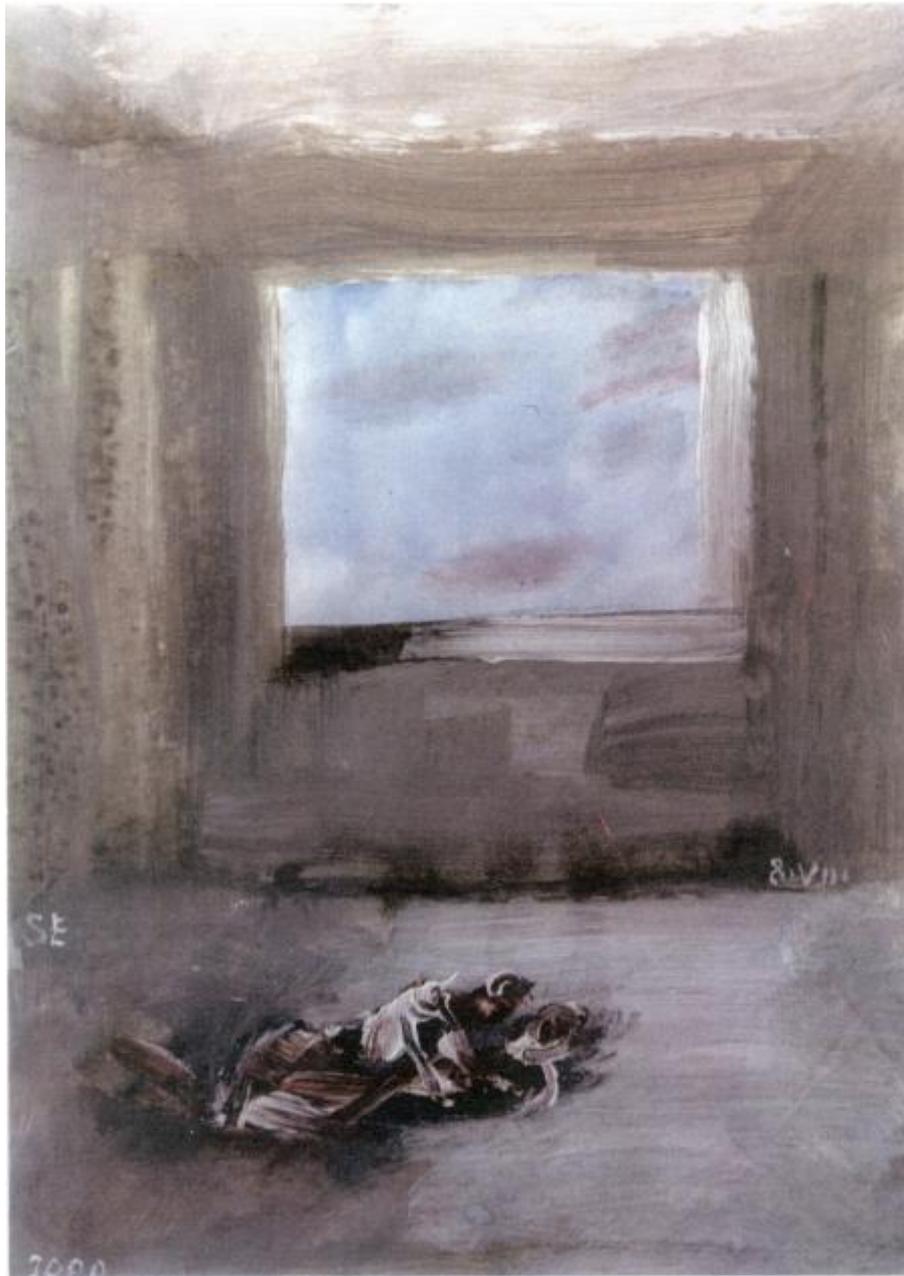
Seated female figure. Acrylic on paper, 29,4 x 20,8 cm, Paris, 1990



Two seated figures. Acrylic on paper, 22 x 24,7 cm, Paris, 1990



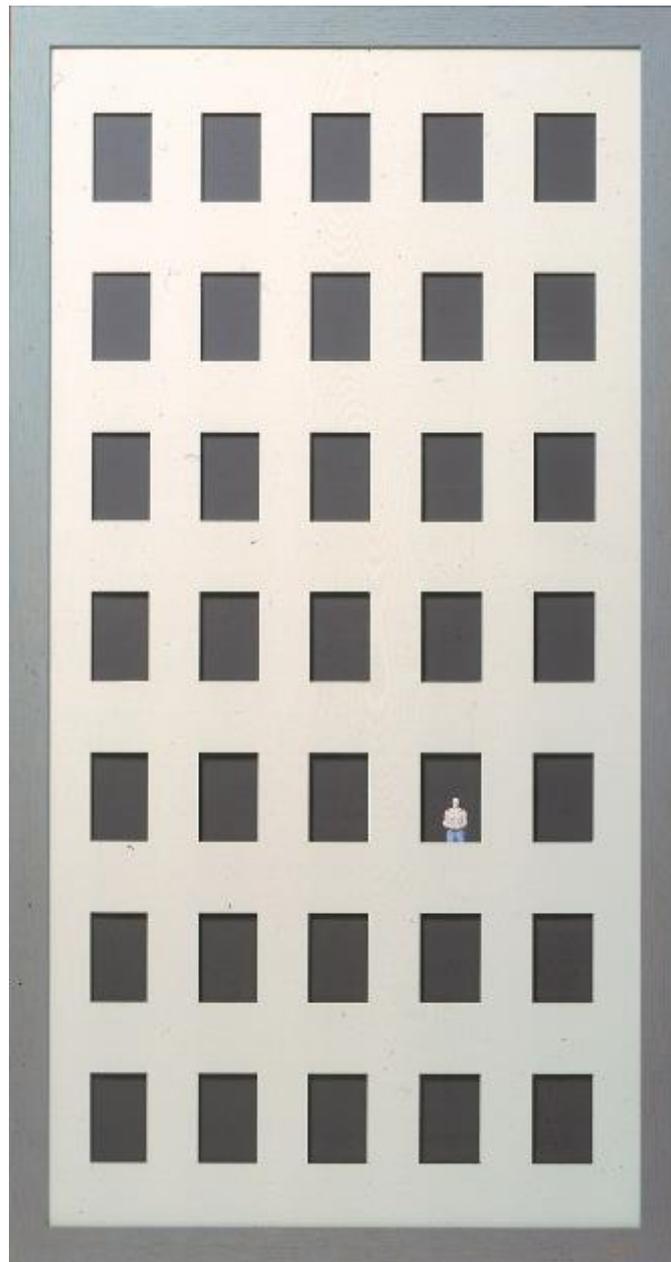
Seated female figure. Acrylic on paper, 29,4 x 21 cm, Paris, 1990



Love. Watercolour on paper, 29,5 x 20,8 cm, Paris, 2000



Two figures in a field. Chinese ink and watercolour on paper, 28,8 x 40,1 cm, Moscow, 1975



Lonely squatter. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 119 x 60 cm, Paris, 2006



Lonely squatter. Detail

“No, not happy. I was never that, but wishing night would never end and morning never come when men wake and say, come on, we'll soon be dead, let's make the most of it ”

S. Beckett. *Malone dies*



Molloy. Gouache and watercolour on paper, 75,5 x 58,7 cm, Vienna, 1979



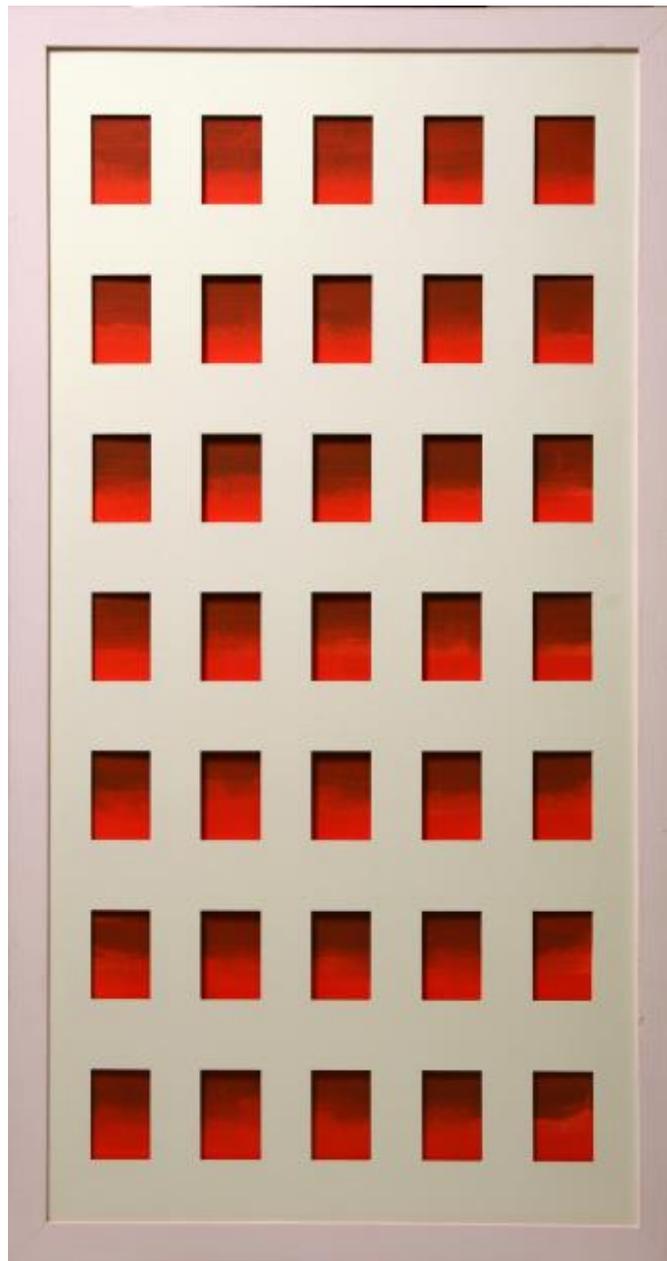
Molloy. Gouache and watercolour on paper, 84 x 61 cm, Vienna, 1979



Molloy. Gouache and watercolour on paper, 69,5 x 50,5 cm, Vienna, 1979



Bearing of cross. Tempera on paper, 70 x 55 cm, Vienna, 1979



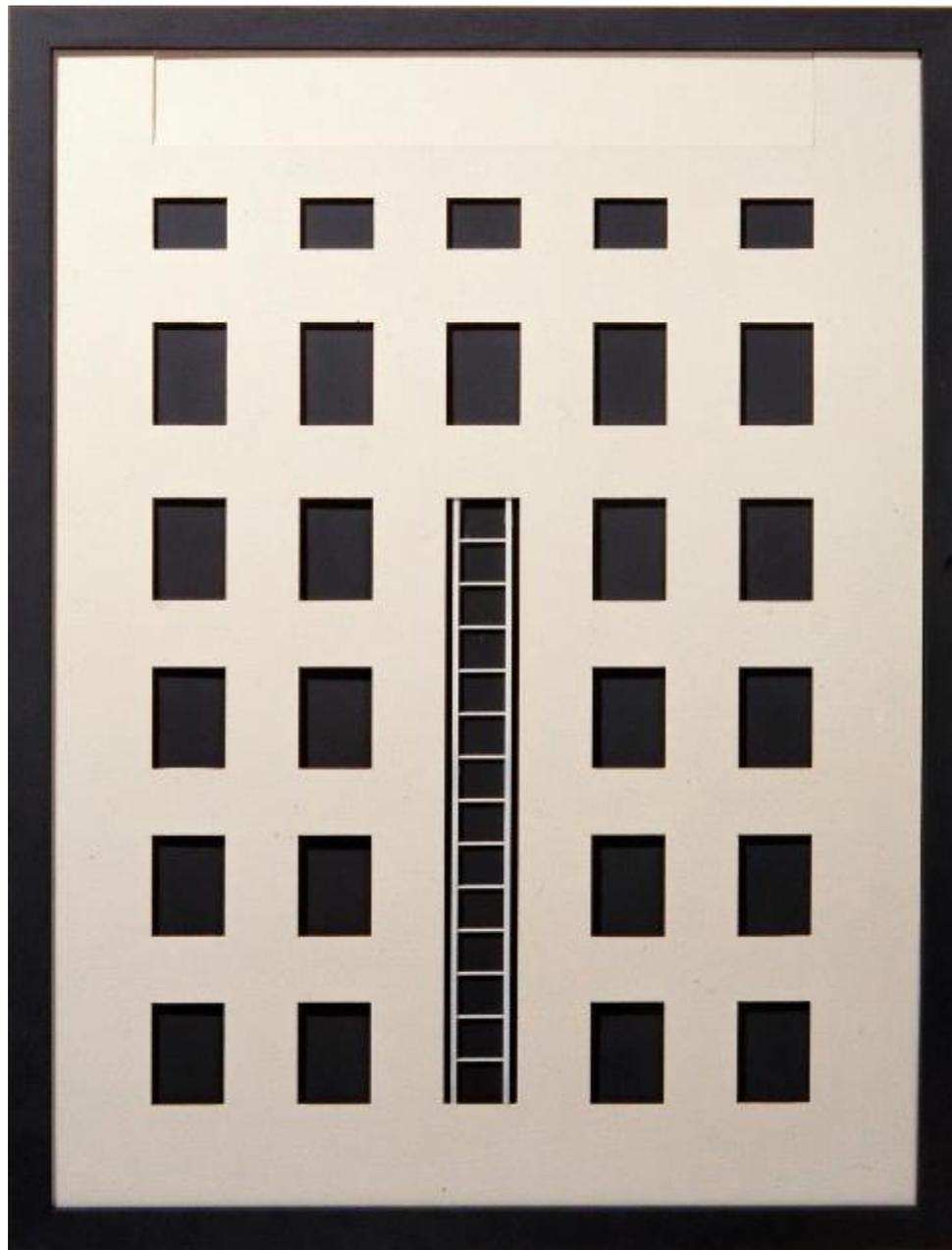
Burning squat. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 119 x 60 cm, Paris, 2006



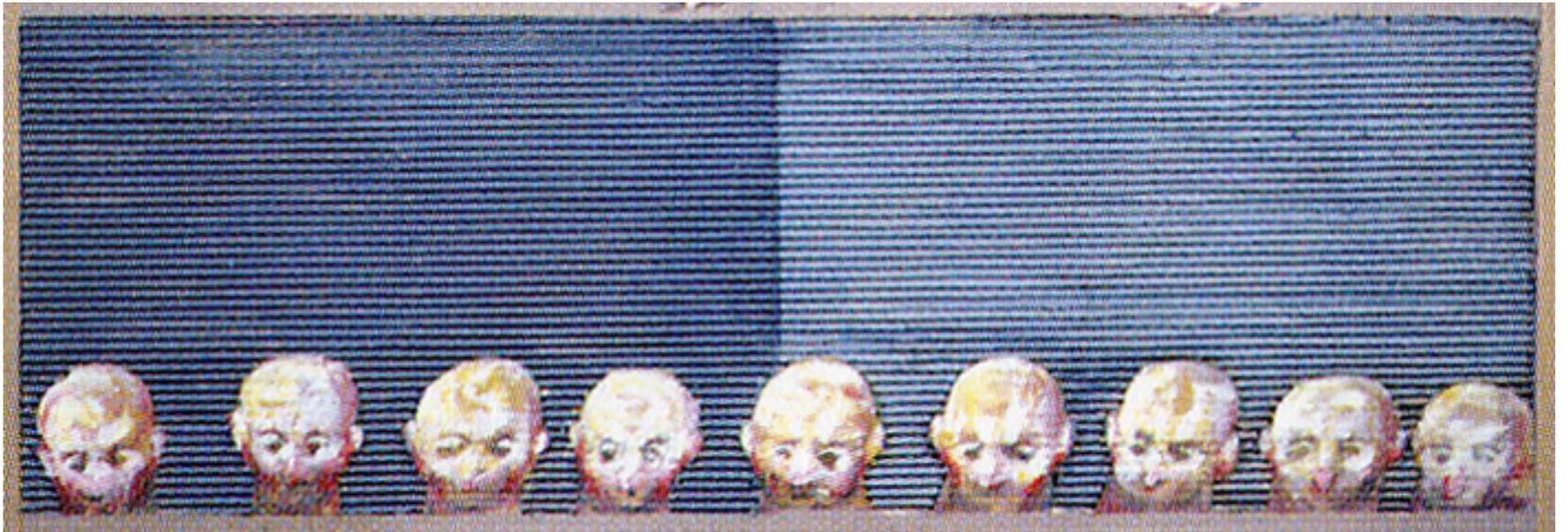
Outgoing man n°1. Tempera on paper, 61,5 x 44 cm, Moscow, 1978



Outgoing man n°6. Tempera, collage on paper, 66,7 x 52,5 cm, Moscow, 1978



Hospital. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 85 x 65 cm, Paris, 2006



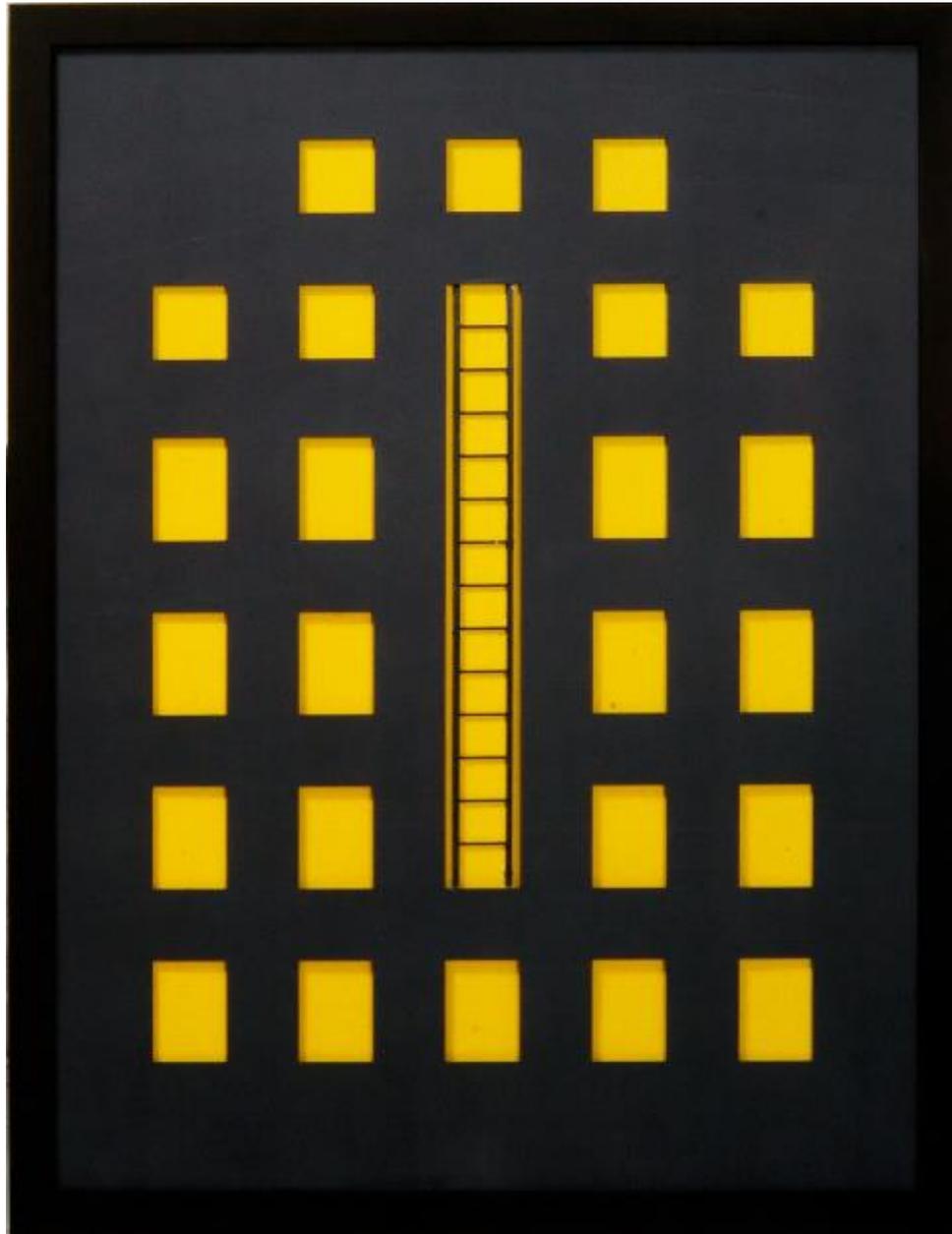
Hospital. Detail. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 80 x 65 cm, Paris, 1991



Cold wave. Acrylic on paper, 29,5 x 20,9 cm, Paris, 2000



Rest. Acrylic on paper, 29,5 x 20,9 cm, Paris, 2000



Hospital at night. Cardboard cutting, acrylic, 85 x 65 cm, Paris, 2006

“Be born, that is the brainwave now, that is to say live long enough to get acquainted with free carbonie, then say for the nice time and go.”

S. Beckett. *Malone dies*



Breaststroke swimmer. Pen, watercolour and acrylic on paper, Paris, 1992

“Again, I repeat this is not a project. It is the projection of the artist Essaian living his own life, the state of the experience of that living, so to speak, as of today.”

A. Borovsky