

silvia sellitto



is the world coloured or black & white?

portfolio
www.silviasellitto.com

Silvia ellitto

My portfolio features 20 works across different media: drawing, photography and video. I also wrote a short story and illustrated it. More works and my collaborative web-based projects can be viewed online on my personal website at www.silviasellitto.com

N a r r a t i v e s

I've always loved listening to stories and telling them since I was a child. Life itself is a big narration, I think. Things, events, places, people are all pieces of a story I tell and I am told everyday. Even emotions and my own identity are stories. I think we all "construct" the phenomenal world by stories, by linking things, feelings and perceptions together and then sharing the result of this kind of hand-knitting or weaving work with the others. About stories I like their subjectivity and collectivity at the same time: I weave my own story but the wool and the loom and all the tools I need come from my culture, from the people I have in front of me or in my mind when I make up or tell my story. That's why I like collaborative and interactive art projects and works like Allan Kaprow's or Beuys's, because they say: art is not a solipsistic thing but a creative collective and ongoing process, something alive and never still, like life, something that can also promote personal and social change. And change means life. Indeed narration and art can be powerful tools for enhancing personal and social well-being as recent works across several disciplines show.

In my work I want to show by using different media how important is narration in my life and in the way I look at the world around me and at things that happen to me every day, and this is why you will find photo-collages for a narrative photography, a book and drawings and videos because words are not enough, then a web-site for telling the story about myself and my work in a more interactive way. Every life-story is amazing as you tell it to someone who loves listening to stories. And as you tell it everything acquires a new meaning, everything starts fitting into its proper context.

M U L T I M O D A L I T Y

Stories can be told in several ways and by using different media. People are used to think that stories can be just listened to or read or watched but I think that they can also be touched and smelled.

For my work I draw inspiration from Bruno Munari who told amazing stories by using various materials and taught kids and adults how to create "tactile books": books to touch and not to read. I like experimenting materials and creating multilayered drawings and collages which one can also interact with, by lifting layers and discovering how they "work" together or separated, by touching and smelling, thus reading the story through one's own five senses, that is one's own personal "sensorial" point of view. For example in "Women or birds?" I used different materials and types of paper and I made them as part of the story and not just as a channel to tell the story through. Perfume, soft paper, tissue and transparent paper, rough materials and wrapping paper that makes sounds if you press it....they are all as "words" in my story, and they are there to convey different emotions, feelings and meanings depending on who is touching, smelling, watching, flipping them, depending on his or her hopes, dreams, desires and "glasses" she is wearing, to say her culture.

I N T E R A C T I V I T Y & C O L L A B O R A T I O N

I'm also interested in Interactivity and Collaboration, that is being part of the narration and of the creative process, being author of the story and not just listening to it. I would like to carry on interactive art projects in public spaces where people would be able to take part in the creative process by using their normal way for interacting with the social and physical environment such as movements and relative dynamics or their natural way of expressing emotions. At the moment I'm trying to develop a project called "MOVING SQUARE" where movements of people (walking, running, cycling) are tracked and informations about their dynamics are converted into shapes, colours and dynamic patterns projected onto a screen that everybody in the public space can see. My aim is to make people aware of their spaces, of their social and physical environment and of the fact that this is something to share by letting them co-narrate it by using usual body schemata and movements. I would like to carry on similar projects using also emotions and their way of expressions instead of movements and their dynamics, that is converting emotional signals into shapes, colours and so on by exploiting and exploring for example psuedo-synaesthetic processes.

In fact my background is psychological: I've worked as psychologist for three years by now with a team of engeneers and informatic scientists in order to develop tools that are able to track movements and detect and recognize psychophysiological and expressive-behavioral indexes of emotions. Now I would love to move from my psychological training and experience to a new "path" in art without throwing away my background but exploiting it for developing new interactive and collaborative art projects in public spaces and in community art projects.

1. Book: "Women or Birds?"
2. Videos: "Life Ball"; "Narratives"; "Flowing Dirge to the False Self"; "Drawing Love"
3. Photography: "The World at My Feet"; "Swing"; "Following Ghirri"; "Lama Temple"; "Building or Destroying?"; "Pear or Apple?"; "High Heels"; "Chinese Box"; "Walking Night"; "Sunset"
4. Drawings: "Yeats Softly"; "Changes"; "Flying Thoughts"; "Friendship"

Women or Birds?

donne o uccelli?

December 2007

Book, 30 pages, 12.7cm x 17.8cm

Various materials and techniques



watch the video on www.silviasellitto.com
or on youtube searching for italianlassie81

VIDEOS

1. Life Ball



February 2008

video 4' 14"

Cd-R, .mov & .wmv

Performance and editing
by S.Sellitto

Shooting by F. Sellitto

Music by Yann Tiersen

2. Narratives



January 2008

video 32"

Cd-R, .mov & .wmv

Performance,
video shooting & editing by
S.Sellitto

Music by Gianni Boscarino

3. Flowing Dirge to the False Self



March 2007

video 2' 41"

Cd-R, .mov & .wmv

Video shooting & editing
by S.Sellitto

Music by several artists

4. Drawing Love



February 2007

video 1' 12"

CD-R, .mov & .wmv

Video shooting and editing
by S.Sellitto

Music performed by
Alistair Leaver

The World at My Feet

il mondo ai miei piedi

September 2007

Photo-composition 28cm x 14cm

Laser Print on photographic paper

--> this picture is part of a collaborative web-based project I've just started to develop using GoogleMaps: anyone can collaborate, edit the map and put his "world at my feet"

--> see projects on my website

isle of mull



charlotte's



edinburgh



north berwick



milano



arthur seat



the falls of clyde



loch lomond



temple of heaven



the great wall



iona



beijing



dundee



glasgow



liguria



villasimius



salone del mobile



carnasserie castle



Swing
altalena

September 2006

Photo-composition 10cm x 26cm

Laser Print on photographic paper



Following Ghirri

segundo Ghirri

October 2007

Photo-composition 20.9cm x 21.4cm

Laser Print on photographic paper

following



ghirri

Lama Temple

lama temple

October 2007

Photo-composition 10cm x 29.7

Laser Print on photographic paper



Building or destroying? costruzione o distruzione?

November 2007

Photo-composition 29.7cm x 21cm

Laser Print on photographic paper

--> this picture is part of a collaborative web-based project about how people live changes in the places where they live/that they live

Using GoogleMaps I created a map where people can add pics, texts, videos about building (or destroying?) sites in the place where they live or work.

-->see "projects" on my website

Building or destroying?

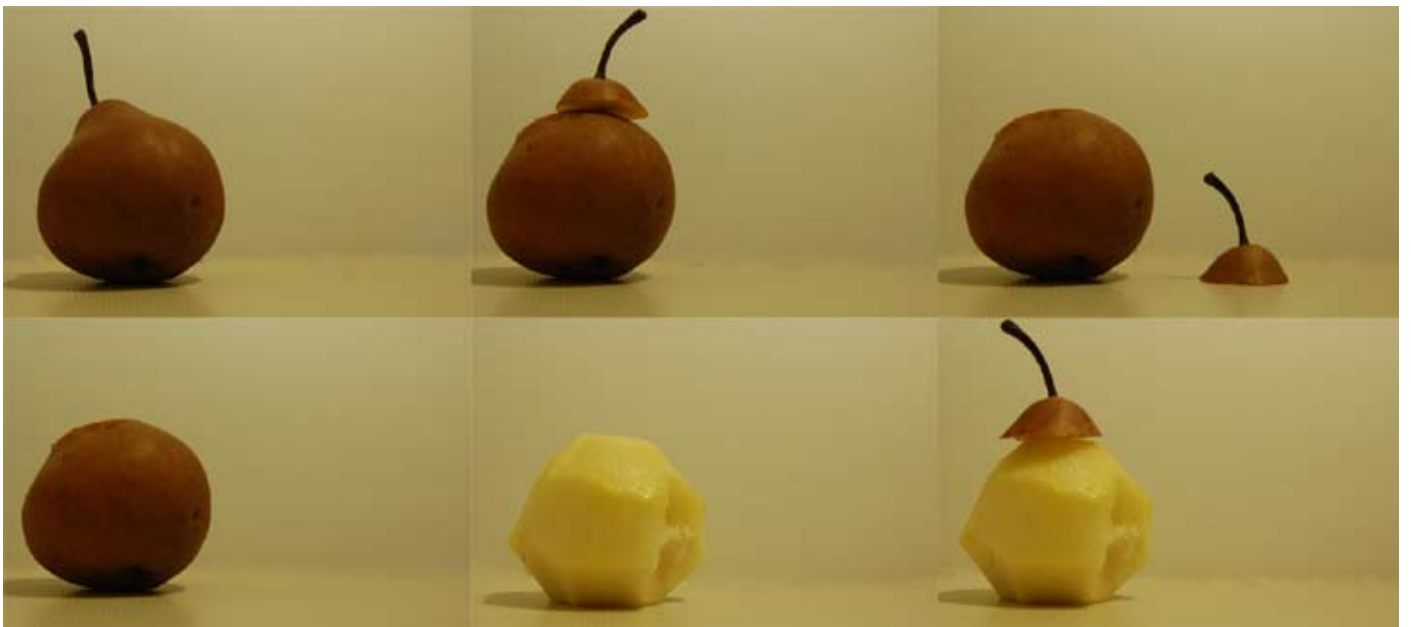


Pear or Apple?
pera o mela?

February 2008

Photo-composition 29.7cm x 13.5cm

Laser Print on photographic paper



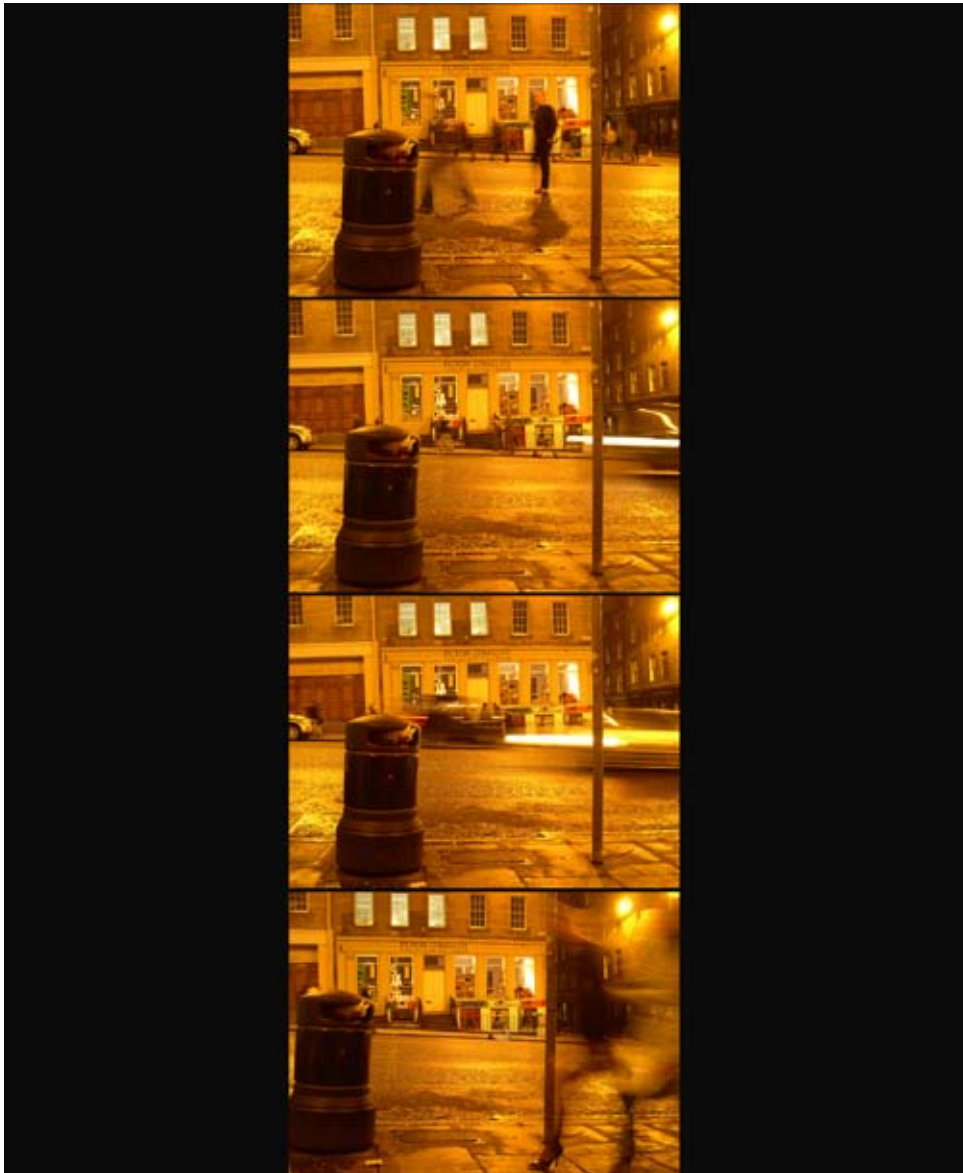
High Heels

tacchi alti

May 2007

Photo-composition 26.2cm x 20.9cm

Laser Print on photographic paper



Chinese Box

scatola cinese

August 2007

Photo-composition 21 cm x 29.7 cm

Laser Print on photographic paper



Walking Night
la notte che cammina

August 2007

Photo-composition 16.5cm x 29.7cm

Laser Print on photographic paper

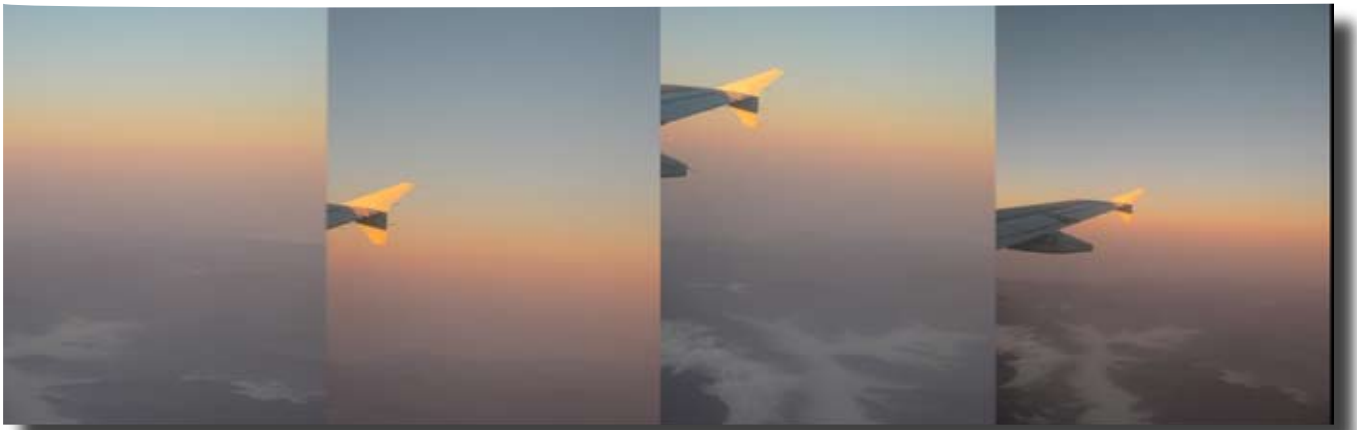


Sunset
tramonto

February 2007

Photo-composition 9.4cm x 29cm

Laser Print on photographic paper



Yeats Softly
yeats dolcemente

October 2007

Multilayered Drawing 17.5cm x 17.8cm

Collage and Ink on various papers

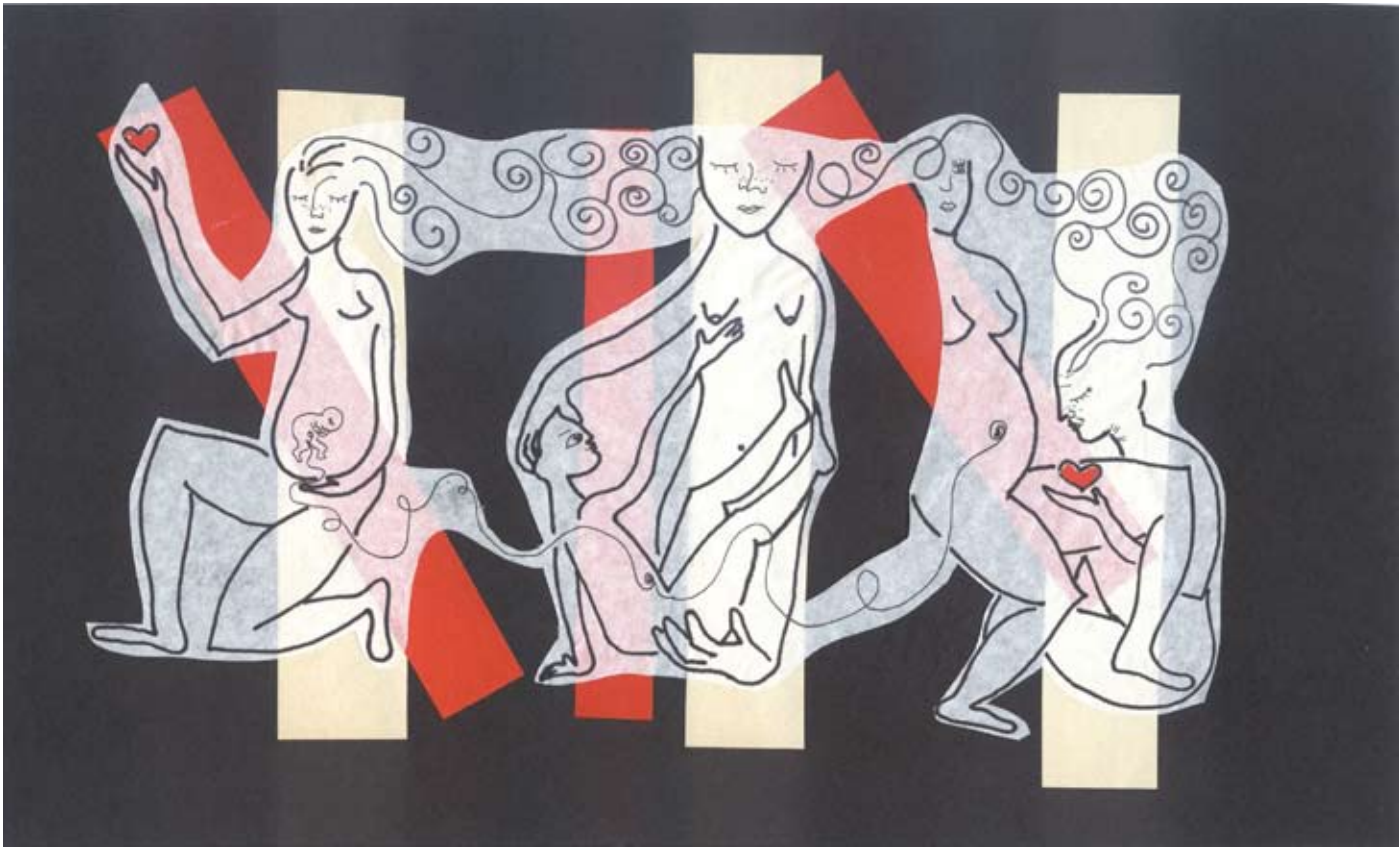


Changes
cambiamenti

December 2007

Collage 17cm x 28.3cm

ink and various papers (tissue paper,
cartboard, coloured paper)



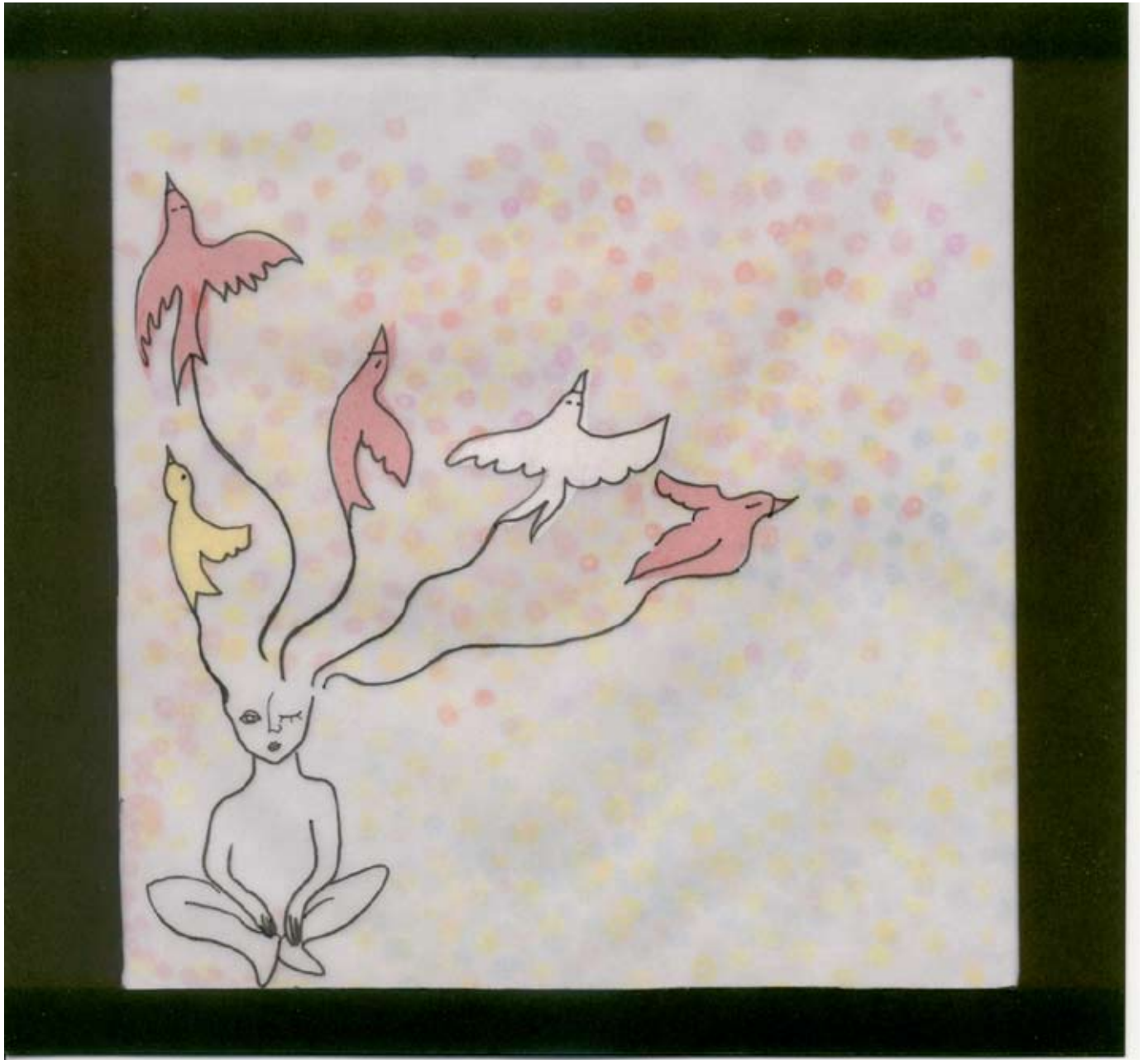
Flying Thoughts

pensieri volanti

January 2008

Multilayered Drawing 17.5cm x 18.7cm

Ink and pencil on transparent paper and
black cardboard



Friendship
amicizia

December 2007

Collage 29.4cm x 21.7cm

Ink on tissue paper; origami paper

