EXHIBICION

ODA NA E PISCADOR

Visual art exhibition showcasing works by SAMUEL SARMIENTO, with the curation of ANA MARIA HERNANDEZ

STICHTING RANCHO
Conservando historia y cultura di Rancho

plataformA

mondriaan fund
for visual arts & cultural heritage

The exhibition "ODA NA E PISCADOR" was the final part of a research, art, and community project of the same name. Through ODA NA E PISCADOR we collected stories and fragments from one of the oldest neighborhoods on our island of Aruba: the neighborhood of Rancho. The project focused on the origin of Rancho as a fishing community and the impact of social and ecological developments on this community.

ODA NA E PISCADOR was developed in collaboration with local visual artist Samuel Sarmiento, Plataforma Aruba, and Stichting Rancho. The research, public program, and exhibition with funding from the Mondriaan Fund. It was developed and coordinated by Ana Maria Hernandez.

To read more about the project, visit:

www.plataformaruba.org/ode-to-the-fisherman

The exhibition took place from 16 June to 4 August 2023 in the headquarters of the Rancho Foundation in the heart of the neighborhood of Rancho, Aruba. It offered visitors the opportunity to engage with the stories of the Rancho community and the fishing tradition to deepen the connection with a part of Aruba's cultural heritage.

The exhibition presented large-sized paintings on canvas, framed drawings, and ceramics by Samuel Sarmiento. In these works, we see how Sarmiento employs his mastery of narratives and the fluidity of ambiguous spaces to capture in watercolors, ceramics, and acrylics, fragments of stories on the brink of being forgotten. Sarmiento draws on oral traditions related to the Caribbean region and the artistic traditions of the region to provide a show full of colors, textures, symbols, and characters. The works reflect the complexity and interconnectivity of different themes related to this fishing community, such as its traditions, fishing methods, the flora and fauna of the region, and the social and ecological impact.

Sarmiento's interest in ceramics stems not only from the tactility of the material but also from the unpredictability of the results when the works are placed in the kiln Colors, textures, and forms are at the mercy of the fire, which dictates the outcome regardless of the will of the artist.

WAFI RANCHO
TIN PISCA

It is this quality of clay that successfully evokes the roughness of the high seas, the diversity of the community's people, the joy and energy of human connections, and the fragility of the stories.

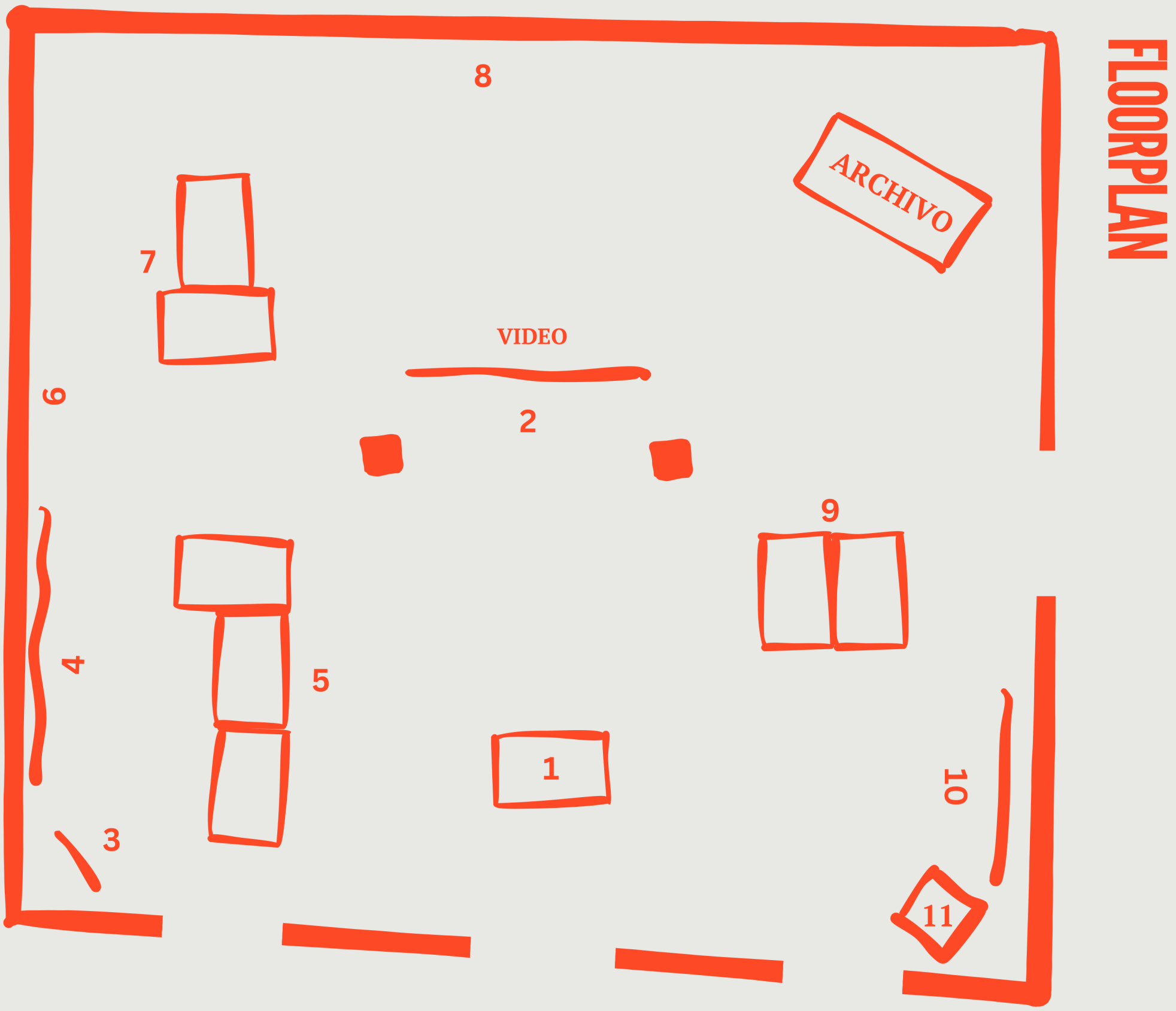
The curatorial approach to the exhibition design focused on the intersections between stories, sub-themes, and artistic mediums while distancing the presentation from the standard gallery aesthetic. Inspired by fishing nets, the structure of the exhibition was designed with the idea of guiding the visitor through thematical anchor points.

The central focal point of the layout was the work Oda na e Piscado (Taray), a big canvas with acrylic that showcases a group of Rancho fishermen pulling at a fishing net. This work includes symbols from the neighborhood such as the Forn'i Kalki. It illustrates the community aspect not only of the neighborhood but also of the fishing tradition. The surrounding works were loosely divided into subthemes, including the neighborhood of Rancho and its community, the craft of fishing, nature, and fauna, and allegories of bodies of water. This thematic arrangement enhanced the overall coherence and flow of the exhibition.

To provide a more immersive experience and visualize the research component of the project, the exhibition featured a table accessible to visitors throughout the duration of the exhibition. This table showcased various research materials that were integral to the development of the project, including books, photographs, and artifacts. Every two weeks, the items on the table were updated to offer different references that had influenced the research and blog entries related to the exhibition. Additionally, fragments of interviews with local fishermen were projected at the back of the central canvas. The video projection showcased old video fragments of Oranjestad and the sea around the island with fragments of the interviews in both Papiamento and English. Unfortunately, we didn't get access to video materials about the neighborhood itself. The addition of this video projection was meant to provide contextual material, allowing the audience to engage with the stories and experiences of the fishermen. They showcased the emotional connection the fishermen had with their craft and the significance of fishing in their lives.

Ma haya soño.
I got tired.

FLOORPLAN



1 *Sin Titulo (Bahia di Cabai)*, medio mixto riba papel, 2023.

2 *Oda na e Piscado (Taray)*, verf acrilico riba canvas, 2023.

3 *Bendedo di pisca (Rancho)*, medio mixto riba papel, 2023.

4 *Yobida riba e forno di kalki, verf acrilico riba canvas*, 2023.

5 Pagina 3.

6 *Conbersacion tocante lama cu un piscado,* medio mixto riba papel, 2023.

7 Pagina 3.

8 Pagina 4.

9 Pagina 4.

10 *Cocolishi di colo*, verf acrilico riba canvas, 2023.

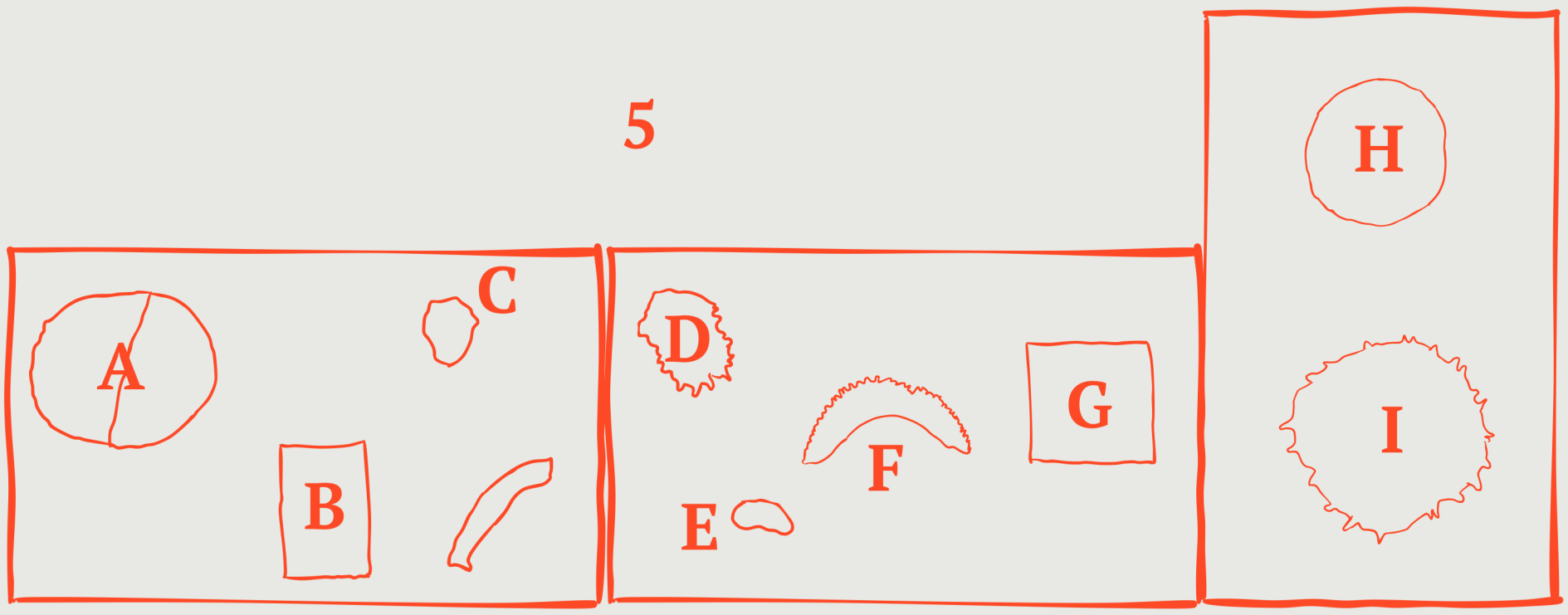
11 *Sin titulo (narativa oral)*, medio mixto riba papel, 2023.

VIDEO Fragments of the interviews with some of the still active fishermen of Rancho.

ARCHIVO In this space, we presented some elements of the archive we have collected in this project. Each week during the exhibition, we shared new material.

1

2
2



A *Nacemento di civilizacionnan, clay and vernis, 2023.*

B *Un encuentro riba lama,* clay and vernis, 2023.

C *Corona*, clay and vernis, 2023.

D *Nazareno,* clay and vernis, 2023.

E *Sirena,* clay and vernis, 2023.

F *Retrato,* clay and vernis, 2023.

G *Aw'i Playa,* clay and vernis, 2023.

H *Rancho,* clay and vernis, 2023.

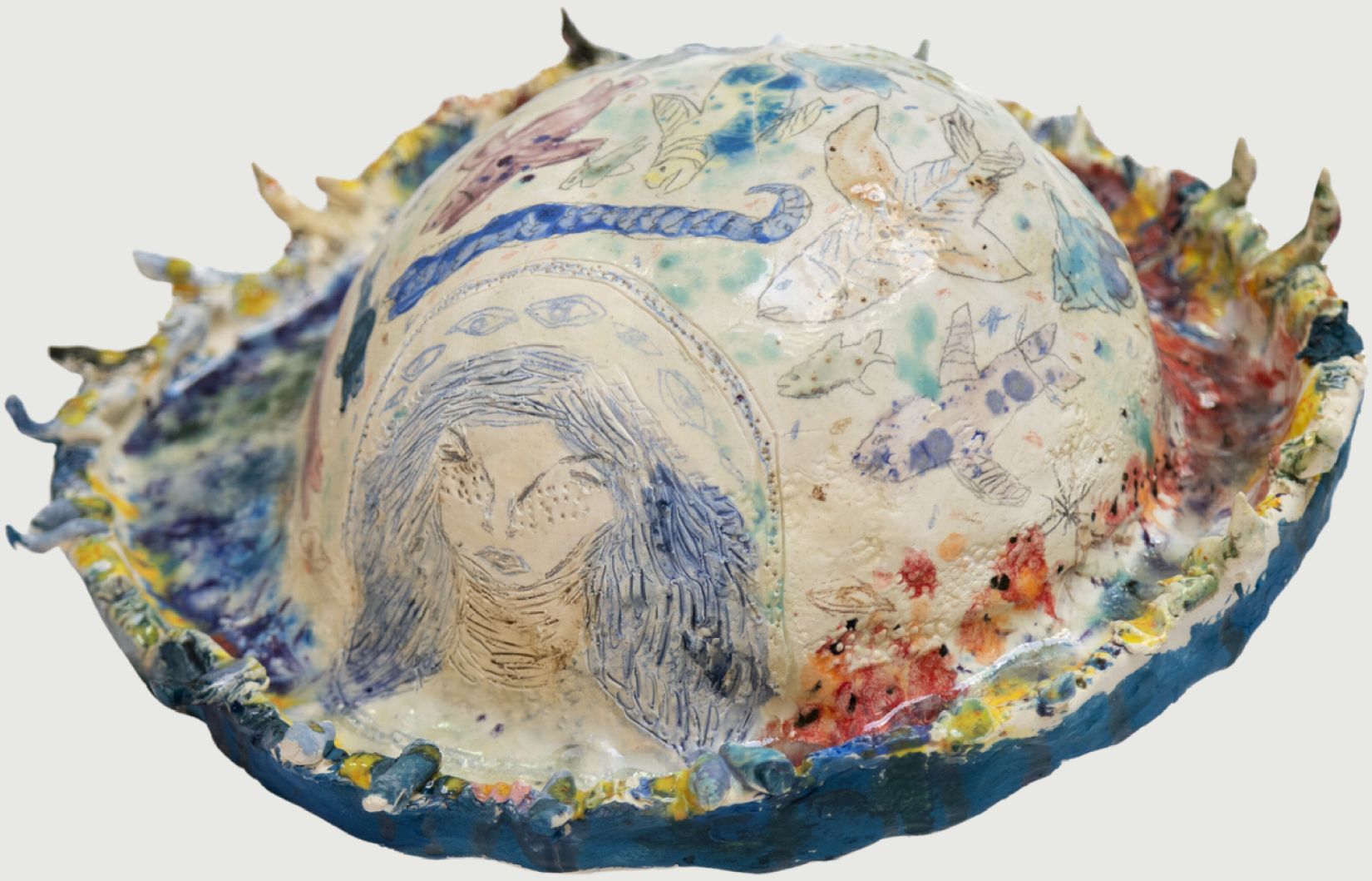
I *Undus Mundus*, clay and vernis, 2023.

3

4

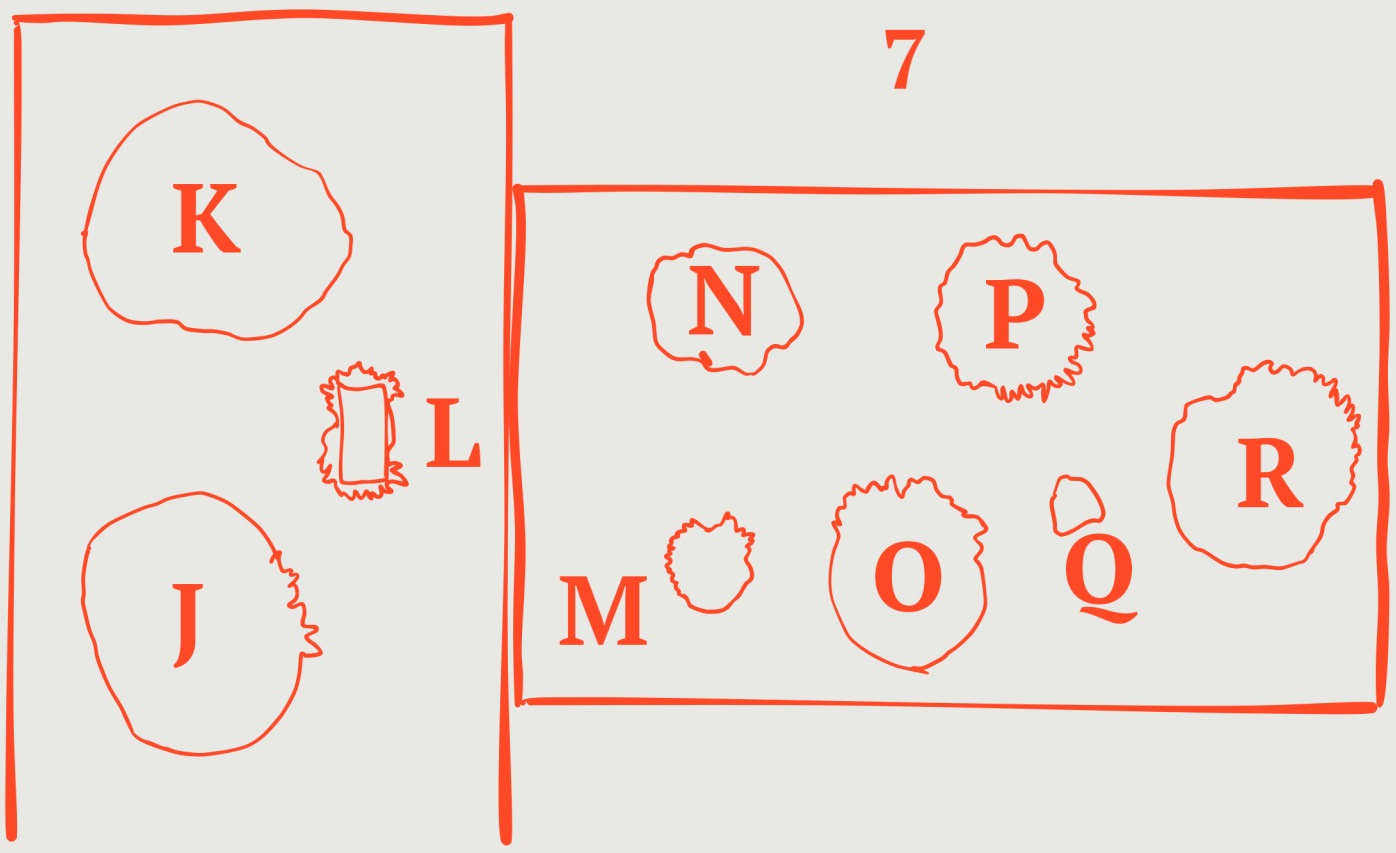
H

G



I

Conversación tocante la mar en un pisçado, medio mixto riba papel, 2023.



J *Piscado di Rancho, clay and vernis, 2023.*

K *Piscado di perla,* clay and vernis, 2023.

L *Waf,* clay and vernis, 2023.

M *Sin Titulo (E yiunan di Olokun),* clay and vernis, 2023.

N *Piscamento den oranan di madruga,,* clay and vernis, 2023.

O *Fauna marino,* clay and vernis, 2023.

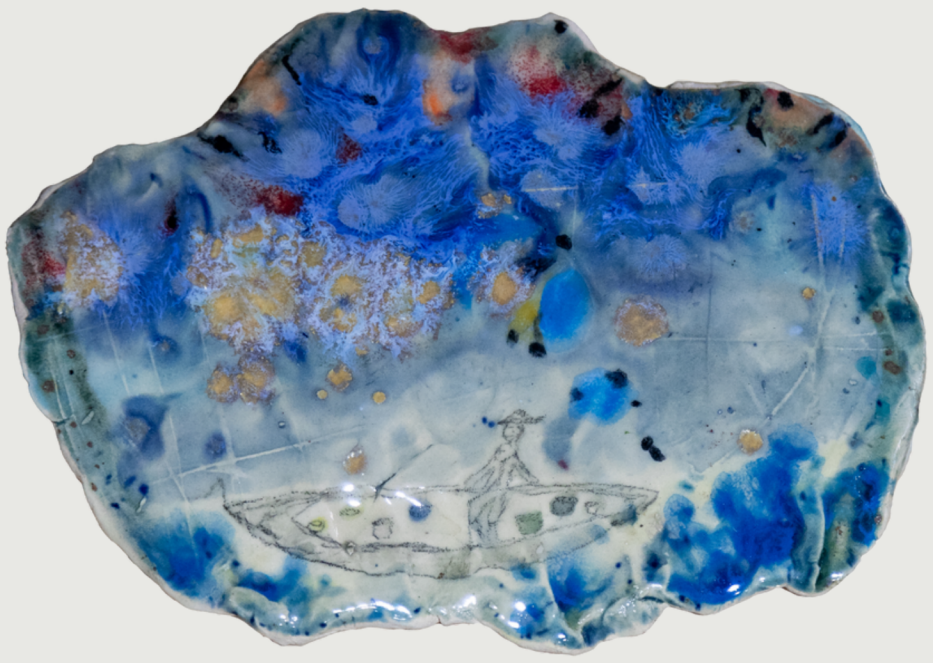
P *Boto di vela,* clay and vernis, 2023.

Q *Angel,* clay and vernis, 2023.

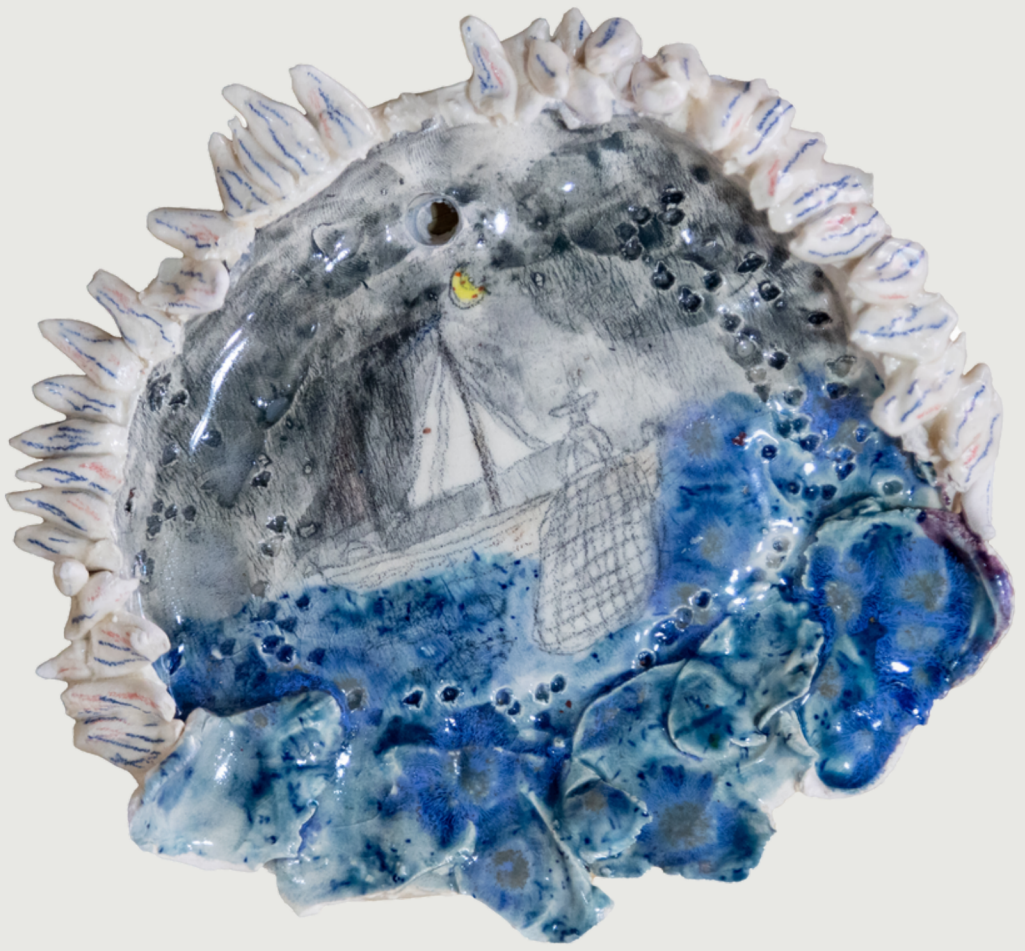
R *Piscado di Rancho,* clay and vernis, 2023.

J

M

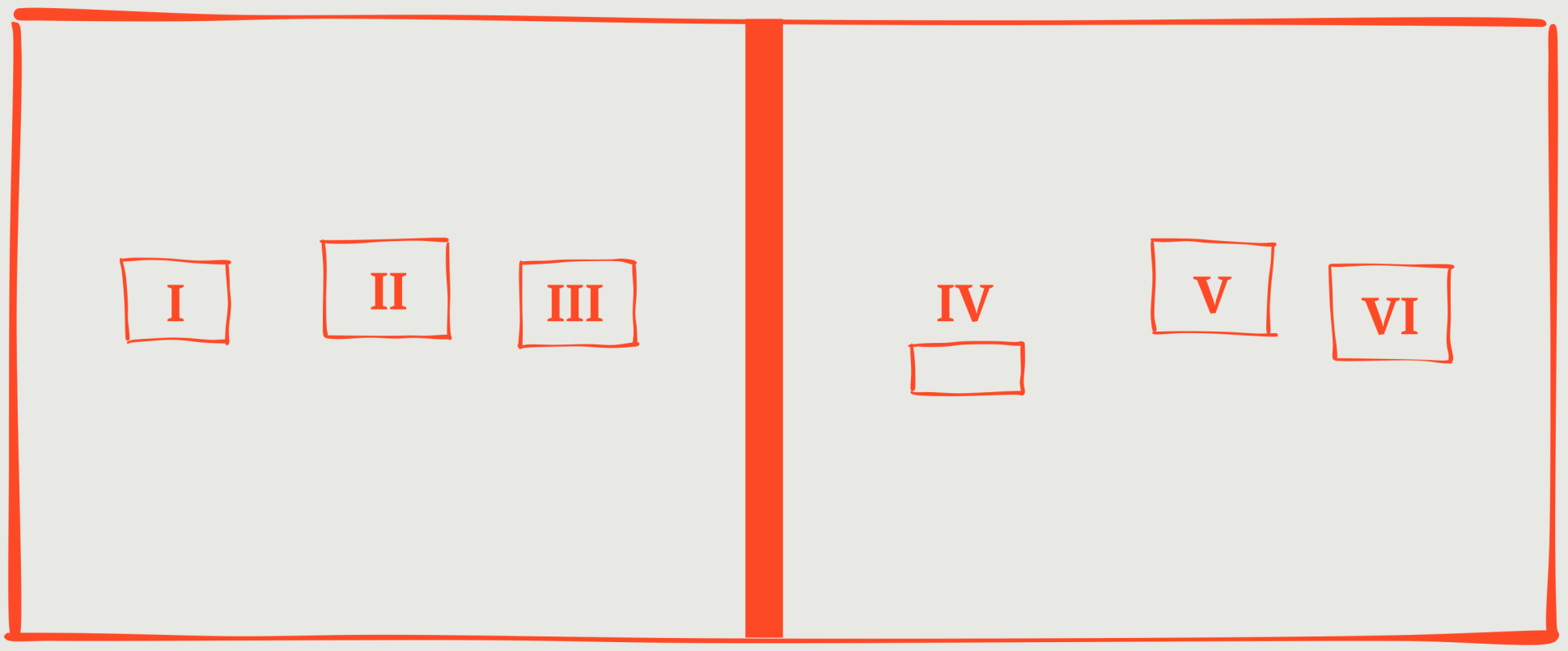


N



P

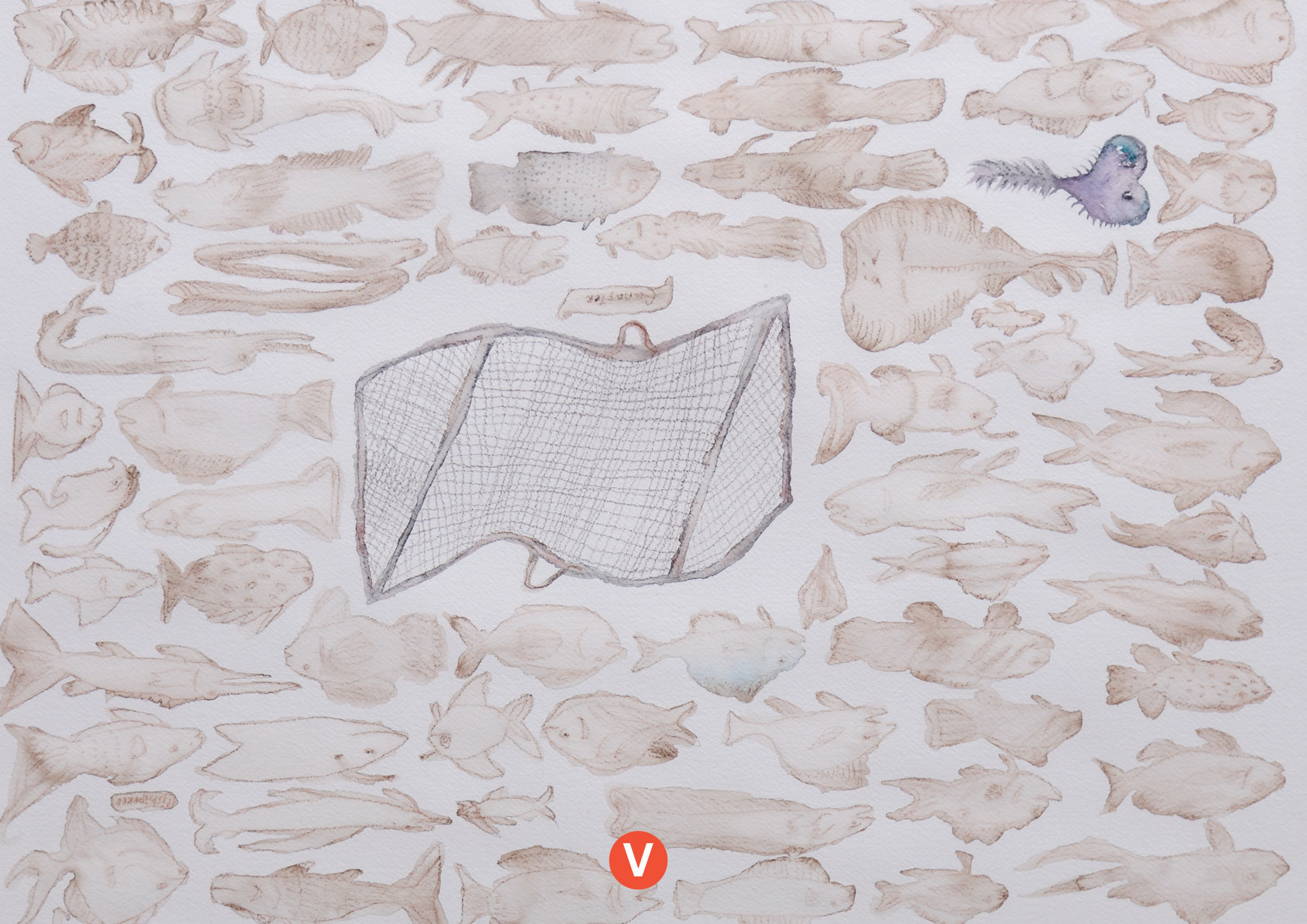
8



I *Piscamento di rosario y un Bristol,* mixed media on paper, 2023.
II *Oda Na e Piscador (madruga),* mixed media on paper, 2023.
III *Piscadonan ta trek reda,* mixed media on paper, 2023.
IV *Conbersacion tocante lama #2,* mixed media on paper, 2023.
V *Fauna marina di Aruba (‘catch of the day’),* mixed media on paper, 2023.
VI *Luz riba palo di coco y cocoloshi,* mixed media on paper, 2023.

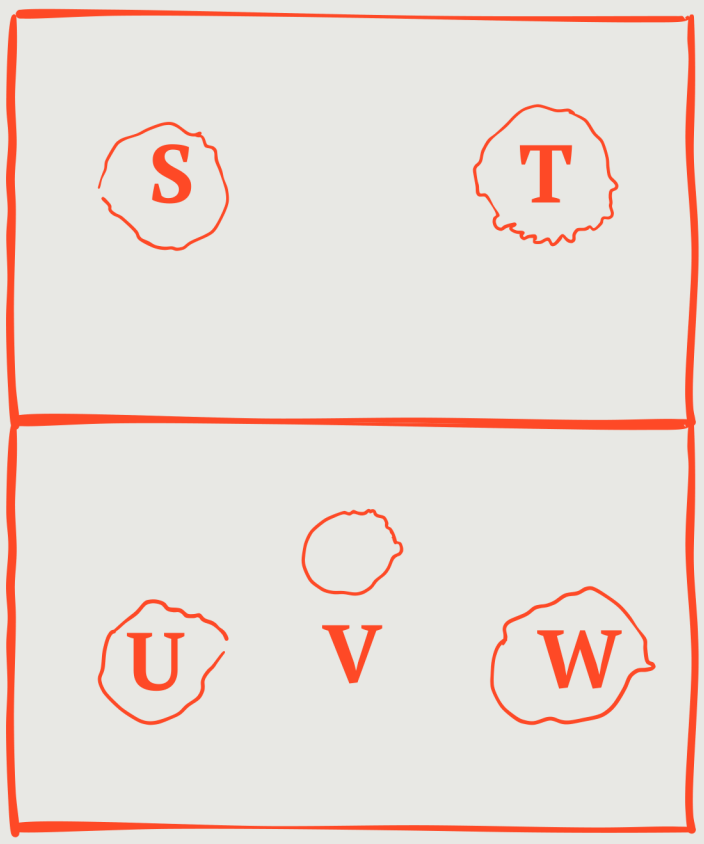
IV

IV



VI

9



S *Awanan di Caribe (awa cla), clay and vernis, 2023.*

T *Awanan di Caribe (e mito),* clay and vernis, 2023.

U *Awanan di Caribe (awa profundo),* clay and vernis, 2023.

V *Mama awa,* clay and vernis, 2023.

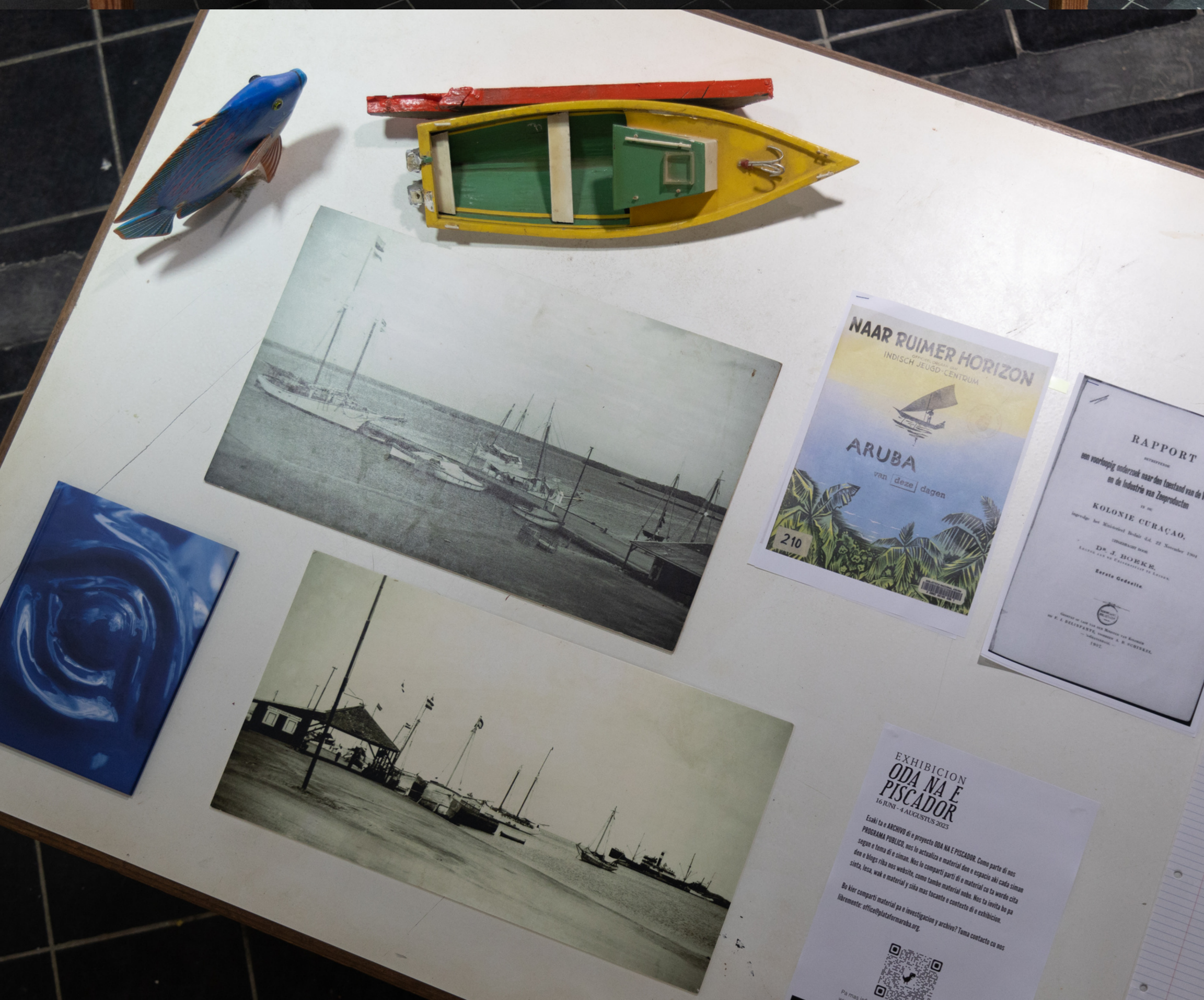
W *Awanan di Caribe (soñonan),* clay and vernis, 2023.

V

REMOTE
SETUP
VOL –
VIDEO
DISPLAY
Armitano Editores
el Gigante del Tisure
Juan Félix Sanchez
Hannah Weitemeier: Klein
Hajo Düchting: Kandinsky
TASCHEN
Yoroko
Confidencias de un Chamán Panare
Armitano Editores
L'opera pittorica completa di Rembrandt
CLASSICI DELL'ARTE · RIZZOLI
KEN FERGUSON TALKING WITH THE WHEEL
GRAZIANO GASPARINI
CARLOS GONZALEZ BATISTA
LUISE MARGOLIES
PARAGUANA
Ernesto Armitano Editor
ENCYCLOPEDIE
ANTILLEN

Archivo

Archivo


NAAR RUIMER HORIZON
INDISCH JEUGD-CENTRUM
ARUBA
van deze dagen
210
RAPPORT
KOLONIE CURAÇAO,
Dr. J. BOEKE.
EXHIBICION
ODA NA E PISCADOR
16 JUNI - 4 AUGUSTUS 2023
Esaki ta e ARCHIVO di e proyecto ODA NA E PISCADOR. Como parte di nos PROGRAMA PUBLICO, nos lo actualiza e material den e espacio aki cada siman segun e tema di e siman. Nos lo comparti parti di e material cu ta wordo cita den e blogs riba nos website, como tambe material nobo. Nos ta invita bo pa sinta, lesa, wak e material y sika mas tocante e contexto di e exhibicion.
Bo kier comparti material pa e investigacion y archivo? Tuma contacto cu nos libremente: office@plataformaruba.org.

ODA NA E PISCADOR

UN PROYECTO DI INVESTIGACION, ARTE Y COMUNIDAD

ARUBA 2022-2023

UN PROYECTO DI INVESTIGACION, ARTE Y COMUNIDAD

WARNING Protected by SafeCom SECURITY

Artist:
Samuel Sarmiento
@samuelsarmientostudio

Curator and project manager:
Ana Maria Hernandez
@anamher_

Installation shots:
Rafael Barragan
@rafa13barragan

Stichting Rancho
www.stichtingrancho.org
@stichtingrancho

Plataforma Aruba
www.plataformaruba.org
@plataformaruba

All rights reserved. The photographs in this book cannot be used without prior consent. Information in this document may be published and copied for educational and noncommercial purposes, provided the source and author are acknowledged.

www.plataformaruba.org/ode-to-the-fisherman

STICHTING RANCHO
Conservando historia y cultura di Rancho

plataformA

mondriaan fund
for visual arts & cultural heritage