

Eduardo Navarro

1 Oct — 20 Dec 2020 at Gasworks in London, United Kingdom

21 SEPTEMBER 2020



Eduardo Navarro, *In collaboration with the sun*, 2019. MAC Niterói, Rio de Janeiro. Courtesy of the artist and Nara Roesler, São Paulo. Photo: Margarita Ogolceva

Gasworks presents the first UK solo exhibition by BuenosAires-based artist Eduardo Navarro. His work moves away from representation, instead creating sensorial experiences with the potential to induce a radical transformation of the self and others.

In recent years, Navarro has sought to adopt the slow metabolism of a reptile, experimented with ways of embodying the physical properties of light, and invited a large group of people to animate a giant mechanical octopus, in order for them to become part of its decentralised nervous system. Originally scheduled for April 2020, Navarro's plans for the exhibition at Gasworks had consisted of transforming the gallery's architecture into a living, breathing organism: a large-scale artificial lung that would inhale and exhale air from the street. Conceived months before the COVID-19 outbreak, this immersive installation was designed for visitors to sync their body's most vital functions with one another, offering a space for collective meditation and oceanic breathing.

As the exhibition was postponed indefinitely due to the pandemic, Navarro started drawing daily during the lockdown in Buenos Aires. In his words, this practice enabled him to 'relocate the studio to inside my own head', revealing the act of drawing as a timely medium for speculative thinking. Produced in self-isolation, the hundreds of sketches that result from this experience act as a portal connecting dimensions, past and future visions, unrealised and perhaps unrealisable ideas.

Inspired by the insights of quantum physics, according to which information in the universe cannot be created nor ever destroyed, Navarro's work resists the prevailing sense of melancholia towards all the possibilities foreclosed by the pandemic. Instead of looking back at what the exhibition could have been, Navarro's unpretentious drawings metabolise the original breathing installation, enacting its transformative spirit in a more intimate language.

Eduardo Navarro's exhibition is commissioned and produced by Gasworks. Commissioning partners and exhibition supporters: Catherine Petitgas and Gasworks Exhibition Supporters.

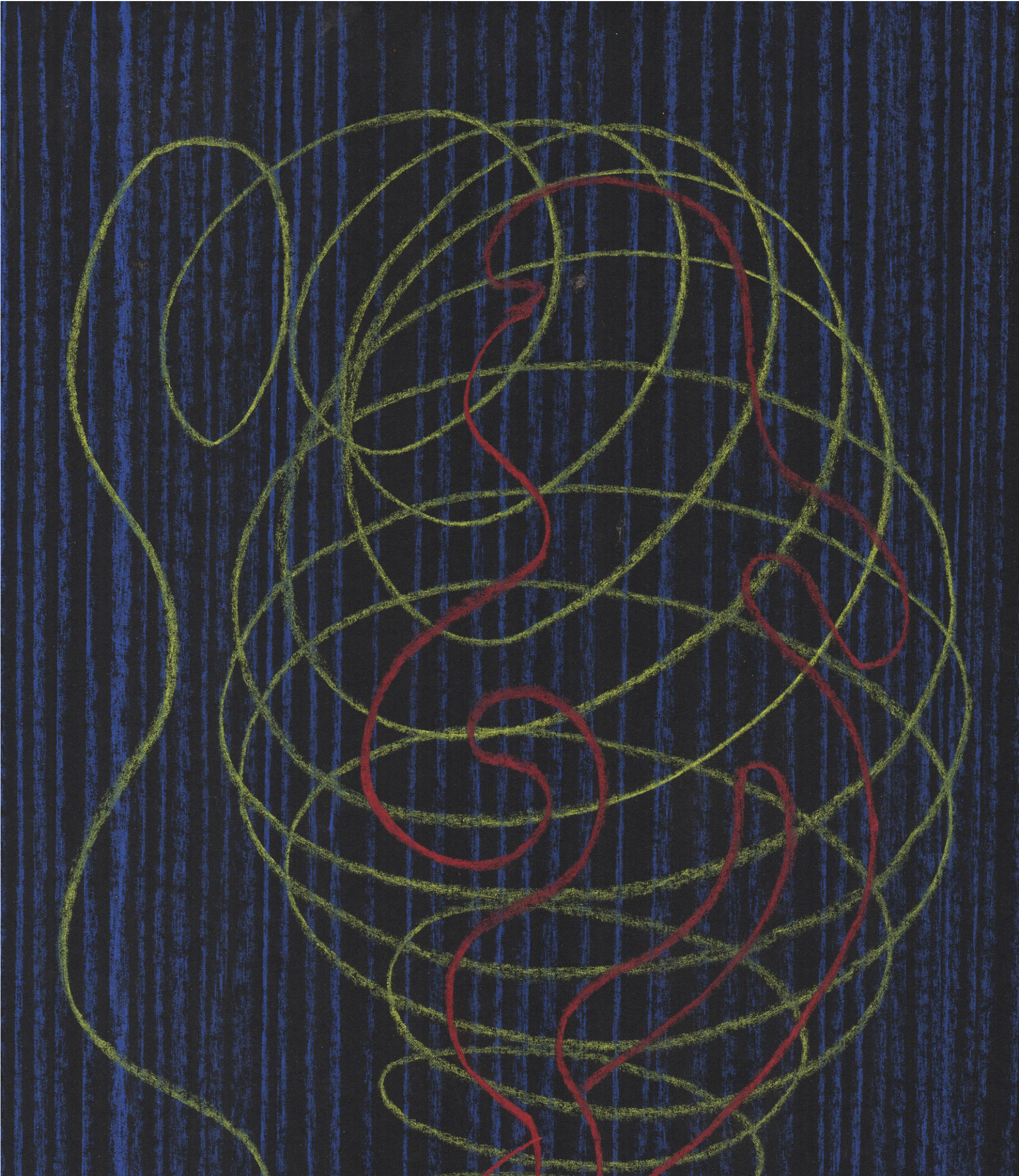


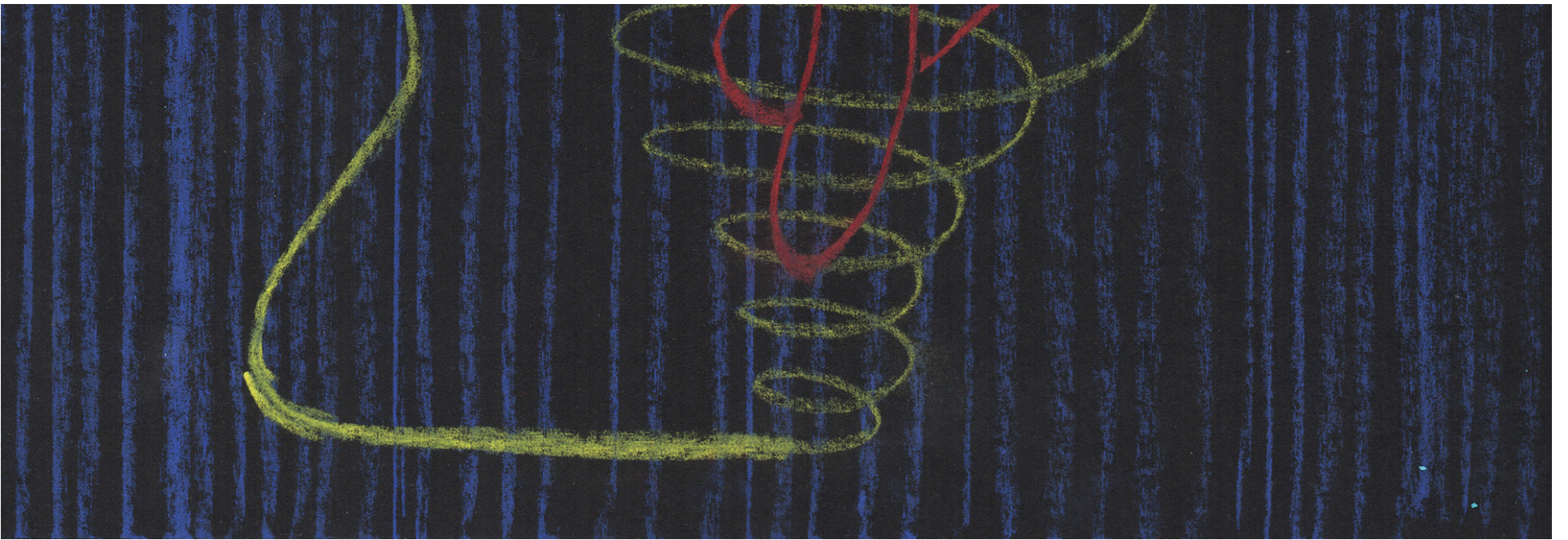
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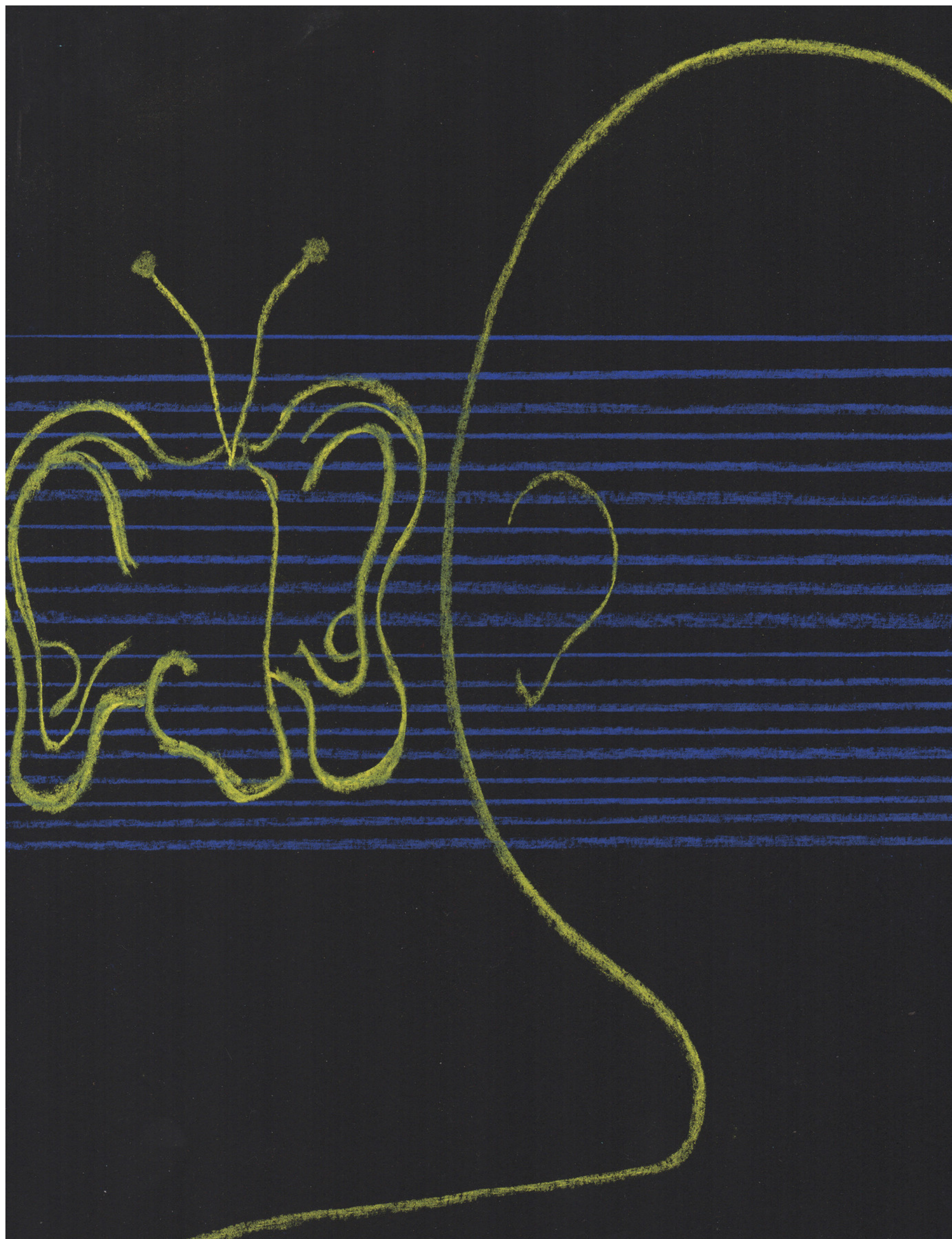
Gasworks is a non-profit contemporary visual art organisation working at the intersection between UK and international practices and debates. We provide studios for London-based artists; commission emerging UK-based and international artists to present their first major exhibitions in the UK; and develop a highly-respected international residencies programme, which offers rare opportunities for international artists to research and develop new work in London.

Gallery profile

Location	Founded in
London, United Kingdom	1994









1. Eduardo Navarro, (breathspace), 2020. Pastel drawing on paper. Courtesy of the artist
2. Eduardo Navarro, Breathing drawing, 2019. Ink on paper. Courtesy of the artist
3. Eduardo Navarro, (breathspace), 2020. Pastel drawing on paper. Courtesy of the artist

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