

CHARLOTTE LEIMER

*Wet Dream*

Leimer's series *Wet Dream* consists of drawings with delicate watercolors over charcoal. The minimalist nature of these works on paper construct an almost abstract subject matter, which consists of the same female figure in different positions during one sexual experience. The artist uses red water color to selectively highlight certain passions in sections of positions, creating a dispersion of sexual and passionate energy. The delicate nature of the materials and process contrast the layered figures in the work that confidently move from different positions, creating a busy, thrusting performance, which is indicative in the display of the works, as side by side the scene starts to unfold. The charcoal blurs certain predictions in the same way a recollection of a memory might play in one's mind, not unlike a photograph taken at a slow shutter speed.

*Disconnected*

*Disconnected* is a body of work that conveys the anxiety felt during the isolation of the last few months. The subjects in this body of work come from Leimer's experience of meeting friends, fellow artists and therapists digitally on video calls. The artist described the creation of these paperworks as "violent and anxiety ridden". The oil sticks have been pressed on the surface of the paper with such force that the works evoke incredible rawness with their thick layers and strong markings. The figures float bodiless on the wall, ungrounded by any gravity, the same way a zoom call consists of floating heads in an unknown world of a black background somewhere online. The facial expressions, unrecognizable yet familiar, are based on the artist's research on the mental implications of screen time. Some therapists recognized the development of narcissistic tendencies during long hours of Zoom and FaceTime calls due to the tendency to look at oneself during a call rather than the other people on the screen. Rather than concentrating on the other, the individual focuses on changing their facial expressions to look more 'appropriate', which inevitably makes them harder to read, leading to a lot more miscommunication and a growing anxiety around how one is perceived by the outside world. Leimer has included aspects of technology in her body of work as a number of the subjects are holding phones but seem to be disconnected from the reality of the other individuals around them, resulting in an increased sense of isolation between the person as an individual and their broader reality.