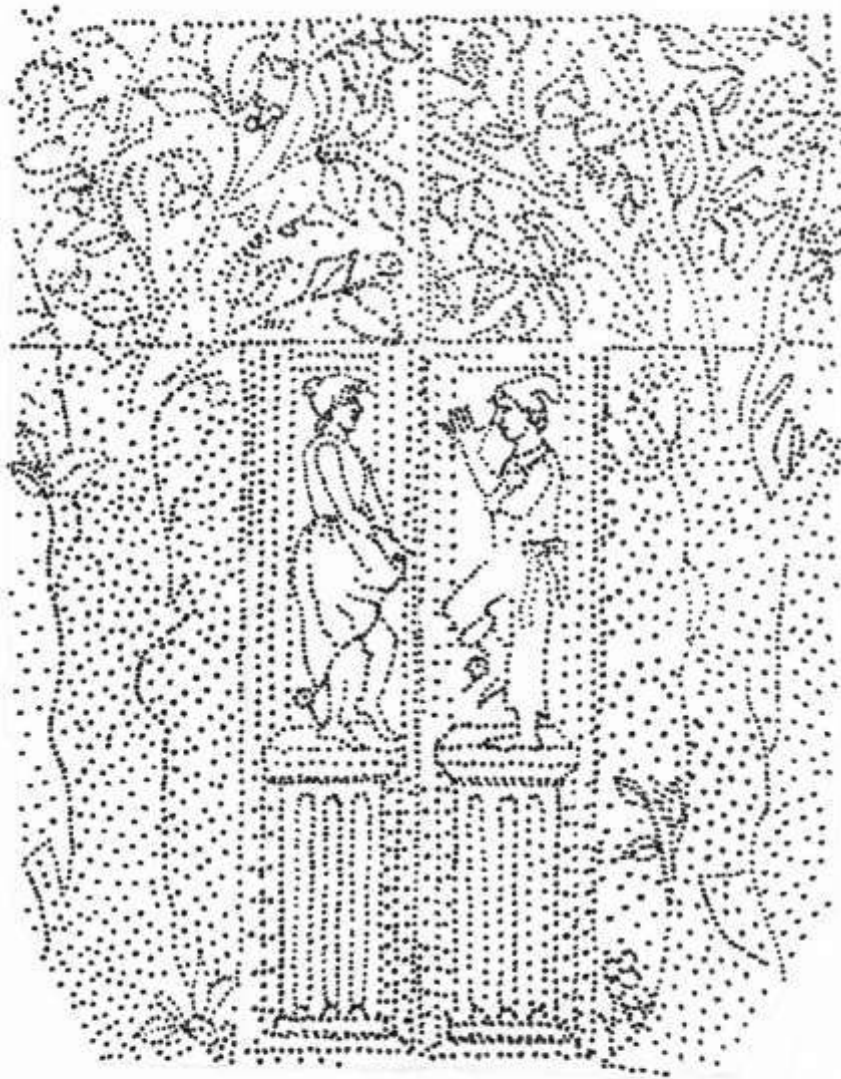


Interiorizing Portals

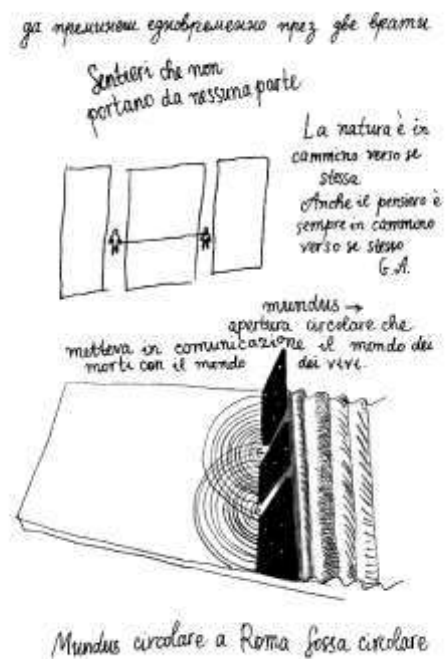


My project explores the theme of "portals"—both as literal thresholds and as symbolic spaces of transition. Several years ago, a vivid dream revived this concept in my mind: I found myself wandering through a Bulgarian forest, where I discovered a hidden passage between the branches that led directly to Venice's Piazzale Roma. This symbolic opening between two places became a central motif in my practice, where I explore portals as spaces where different cultures, identities, and personal histories intersect, opening channels for transformation and self-discovery.

In my artistic practice, portals emerge in both natural and abstract forms, often quietly inviting us to move into new spaces or states of mind, frequently unnoticed. This idea resonates with me on both a spiritual and artistic level and finds a powerful echo in scientific concepts, such as quantum mechanics and relativity. For instance, the phenomenon of entanglement—a mysterious, long-distance correlation between particles—suggests a kind of

"portal" where two entities are intrinsically linked across space. Similarly, the dual nature of matter, as shown in experiments like the double-slit experiment, where a photon can behave both as a wave and as a particle, reflects the notion of coexisting states and realities. In this way, portals in my work represent the possibility of bridging worlds—whether they are physical, emotional, or conceptual—and invite us to consider the hidden connections that bind us to what lies beyond our immediate perception.

For me, portals are spaces of change, both subtle and profound. They could be arches formed by plants, beams of light, or even thoughts, words, or a piece of music that transports us to new realms. These everyday portals invite us to cross from one state of awareness to another, becoming mindful of the invisible boundaries we navigate each day. Mathematics, too, functions as a portal, shifting our understanding and inviting us to internalize new perspectives. In my artistic practice—whether through painting, installations, or storytelling—I aim to capture these moments of transformation and invite others into these symbolic spaces. The moment we internalize new information, we cross through the portal.



1. **Research and Conceptual Development:** The first phase will focus on deepening my exploration of the concept of portals—both physically and metaphorically—by engaging with the rich intellectual resources in France. I will study the cultural, historical, and scientific dimensions of portals, drawing on the expertise of local institutions and the collaborative exchange with artists, philosophers, and scientists. This research will provide the foundation for the visual and conceptual aspects of the project.
2. **Creation and Experimentation:** Parallel to the first phase, the second phase will involve translating my research into tangible artworks. This will include painting, sculpture, and spatial interventions, where I will experiment with the idea of portals as “transitional spaces.” I plan to create environments that invite transformation through both visual and spatial elements, blurring the boundaries between artwork and space.
3. **Collaboration and Engagement:** Throughout the first two phases, I can organize workshops with the residency community to expand and deepen my research on portals. These workshops will allow participants to create their own portals and engage in collaborative dialogue, enriching the development of the project. This participatory aspect of the project will encourage shared growth through the creation of new works and a collaborative exploration of ideas, enriching my understanding of portals within France’s cross-cultural context and fostering an active exchange with the community.

By the end of the residency, my goal is to have a body of work that reflects my research, creative process, and collaborative experiences, while also contributing to a broader dialogue on how portals, as symbolic and transformative spaces, influence our understanding of culture, identity, and perception.