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Thurs – Sat: 1:00 pm – 7:00pm  
Sun: 1:00pm – 5:00pm  
and by appointment

## ***Sculpted***

February 25 – April 8, 2023

### **Lis Costa Vero Reato**

Opening Reception: February 25, 2023  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Vero Reato "Organik"  
Ivory concrete, oxides

"Concrete creates wonder by its possibilities,  
challenges by its finesse, and surprises  
by its apparent lightness."

-- Vero Reato



Lis Costa "Canyon"  
Copper pigment on sculpted paper

"In my hands, under the scalpel,  
that white canvas comes to life."

-- Lis Costa



Were you under the impression that scalpels were just for doctors and concrete just for construction? Think again! Lis Costa and Vero Reato, the artists in TINT's latest exhibition "Sculpted," use tools and materials traditionally used for other practices, bringing the unexpected to fine art.

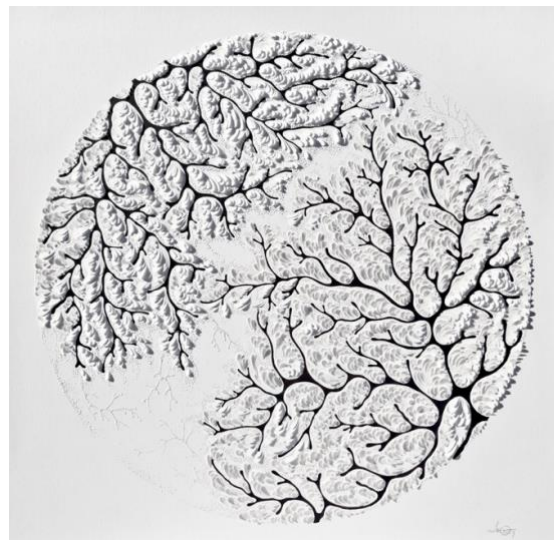
Costa's journey into paper carving emerged from a desire to recreate different designs by exploring both organic and abstract shapes. Through experimentation, she found her unique style of sculpting paper. Using different sized scalpels, Costa makes light, clean, shallow incisions in white cotton paper. These cuts animate the paper, turning the pure white sheet into a complex pattern of shadows and light that give three-dimensionality to her works. Costa releases the fire, the dynamism, and the rhythm trapped inside a blank page.

In Reato's search for a flexible material suited to indoor and outdoor spaces, she discovered Ultra High Performance Fiber Concrete (UHPC). Using UHPC, Reato explores and interprets forms from nature as contemporary living design, seamlessly blending mineral and organic elements. In some works, Reato incorporates wood and bamboo, leaning into concrete's ability to mimic other materials, giving the illusion of wood stumps or bark. In other works, glass beads evoke dewdrops and coral reefs. In yet other works, stainless steel rings provide an intergalactic experience. With the use of oxides, such as manganese, iron, and copper, concrete takes on metallic aspects, looking like cast iron, rusty steel, or black metal. Vero plays with concrete's imitative capabilities, breathing life into an otherwise plain static material.

For Costa and Reato there are infinite possibilities stemming from one single element: paper for Costa, concrete for Reato. Both artists find endless ways to animate these materials, constantly discovering ways for their art to evolve.

## About the Artists

**Lis Costa** grew up in Goiânia, Brazil. She studied plastic arts at Federal University of Goiás (UFG), followed by a degree in architecture at UCG University. Costa worked as an architect and interior designer for many years before turning her focus back to fine art. In 1991, Costa moved to Bologna, Italy, where she decided to pursue an artistic career full time. She missed working with her hands and creating physical works.



Lis Costa "Coral Branches"  
Black acrylic on sculpted cotton paper

For this exhibition, Costa prepared a series of works showing her latest approach to her art form. In her most recent work, she has been experimenting with different colors and materials such as gold leaf and copper pigment. Colors are not the main focus of the works, as that remains the light and shadow from the scalpel cuts. Rather, colors fill in gaps and dig coves inspired by nature. Costa continues to experiment with new colors and materials as her work evolves. There's infinite potential enclosed in the one simple element, paper, which Costa animates and turns into artwork.

**Vero Reato**, lives and works in Metz, France. She studied product design at the Beaux-Arts de Nancy, followed by a degree in computer graphics at the CNBDI in Angoulême. She has worked in several media, including: video, computer graphics, illustration, murals, and fresco restoration. In 2013, her desire to reconnect with object design and create outdoor artwork led her to a material that has become revolutionary in the construction field: Ultra High Performance Fiber Concrete (UHPC). UHPC is a versatile material that is suited to indoor and outdoor spaces – an unusually perfect material for Reato to experiment with. Inspired by the organic, mineral, and plant realms, Reato explores and interprets forms from nature as contemporary living design.



Vero Reato "Duramen"  
colored mass concrete, oxides

Reato's concrete is a mixture of cement, extra fine sand, water, and fiberglass, which she kneads into a smooth paste that she then molds. Depending on the results she wants to obtain, Reato either leaves the concrete white or colors it. She then uses a brush to paint oxides onto the concrete after it has dried. Iron, manganese, and copper oxides work by eating away at the surface to reveal their underlying tones after drying. The concrete is not polished, with the intended purpose of highlighting imperfections such as air bubbles and cracks. As a result, it becomes even more animated, giving it a soul, bringing it to life. For Reato, concrete creates wonder by its possibilities, challenges by its finesse, and surprises by its apparent lightness.



## **About TINT Gallery**

TINT Gallery opened and joined the San Francisco art community in October, 2021 and became an Associate Member of the San Francisco Arts Dealers Association (SFADA) in January, 2023. TINT showcases contemporary artists who innovate across media, spotlighting women artists in particular. We look for the unusual, the surprising, the unordinary. Our artists find unexpected ways to use common media, creating a craft of their own along the way.

TINT is a new kind of gallery: there's no intimidation, prices are always listed, and the process of acquiring art is made transparent and accessible. We've even created a seating area so you can linger and take in the art. TINT's goal is to connect to the local community, to provide a space for meaningful conversations, and to bring a feeling of warmth and welcome to an art gallery.

Founder Michelle Edelman is an art historian, stone sculptor, and lawyer. She holds an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, an MA in art history from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, and a JD from The George Washington University. Michelle loves searching for undiscovered gems in the contemporary art world. She created TINT to share her finds, to celebrate artistic talent, and to cultivate community through art.

### **For additional information, images, or exclusive interviews please contact:**

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