

# HÅKAN BERG

MAPS : landscapes

KÅSEHOLM



NORTHERN  
EXPOSURE  
SOUTHERN

THE FOURTH

## About The Artist

*Born in 1958 in Skepparslöv, Sweden*

Håkan Berg was born in Skepparslöv, Sweden in 1958 and currently lives and works in Maglähem, Sweden. His work has been exhibited internationally in galleries in the United States, Germany, Japan and China.

Berg writes in his own words:

*“Everything we think and feel, all of our senses, sensations, every idea - all things relate to and interact with others. Every surface is in relation to other surfaces, every room converses with other rooms. What we are is unthinkable without these exchanges..The landscape is our first room - our lives are maps. The maps sometimes knows more than we do. It is both worrying and hopeful.”*

CECILE MEJER, founder of Galerie Birthe Laursen, writes:

To open one's eyes, one has to be able to close them. The eye that always is open and awake dries up. We need tears to understand what we see. In front of Håkan Berg's pictures we apparently don't see anything but tautological games of obviousness and unity. Every illusion and expression is eliminated. Any iconographic content which invites imaginary identification and fixation of our memories, worries and desires is stifled. All that is left is literalness.

As pictures, they represent very little, almost nothing: they are stuck in their development and just are there in front of us. Clear, minimal forms and simple, solitary fields are groping their way onto the picture surface like blind letters in different shades hunting for meaning. Some are fixed. Others disintegrate or transcend themselves by grouping themselves as trains of thought in numerous layers - rhythmical but devoid of content. Even though they exist somewhere between mass and spaciousness, they are too empty to be shadows from an underlying significance and too different to present themselves as shades of each

other, indicating a shared meaning.

They are BLIND LETTERS. Blind letters are incomplete letters with indistinct or faulty addresses, directed to the people we will become when we have read them. The emptiness in the blind letters makes them places of possibility, and as such, Håkan Berg's pictures are letters to those we become in the viewing of them. The pictures borrow our bodies, eyes, visions and experiences, thus possibly becoming sighted and creating new messages. As in the reading of blind letters, we are with Håkan Berg forced to see because we lack something. But here we do not find the meaning of the real composed of familiar visions. Here the visualisation rather means that the viewer's vision is disturbed in the act of viewing.

To see becomes an opening. As viewers, we are invited to think with our eyes, to let the eye and the thought transcend the restricting bars of vision and see in the visible that which the visible hides.

Håkan Berg's pictures look at us but, contrary to our daily, allegorical exchange of gazes with pictures, they do not satisfy our simple desire for the recognisable because of their blindness. They remind us of eyes that are seeking the visual. They look at us blindly, so that the act of viewing in front of these pictures opens up a void Håkan Berg himself often closes his eyes in the moment he paints and draws.

Håkan Berg broaches current questions about vision and allows the viewer to get a glimpse of new openings based on perception.

As recipients of Håkan Berg's blind letters, we must expectantly close our eyes and wait a while.

“Shut your eyes and see” -  
James Joyce



## MAPS : landscapes by Håkan Berg

*Kåseholm, Black Gallery Barn, Tomelilla, Sweden*

Kåseholm, in affiliation with THEFOURTH, presents the second exhibition under the Northern / Southern Exposure project.

Maps: Landscapes is a solo show by Swedish contemporary artist Håkan Berg, exploring tension relationships between maps and landscapes. The dialogue between maps and landscapes is the byproduct of Håkan's recent work and was not intentional, but an incidental discovery.

Håkan's landscapes delve into the realm of the subconscious and the emotional. These artworks transcend the literal representation of physical environments, instead seeking to convey the essence of a place through non-representational forms, colors, and textures. In the realm of abstraction, landscapes become a mirror for the artist's inner world, a reflection of their emotions, memories, and spiritual connections to nature. Such landscapes are often characterized by fluidity, ambiguity, and a sense of the ethereal. They invite viewers to explore their own inner landscapes, encouraging introspection and the contemplation of both universal and personal themes.

Håkan's maps are a departure from conventional cartography, venturing into the mystical and symbolic. These maps transcend the mere representation of geographical data, transforming into metaphysical blueprints that guide us through the inner and outer realms. They chart not only physical landscapes but also spiritual or psychological terrains. They are symbolic diagrams that decode hidden meanings and offer pathways to understanding

our relationship with the cosmos and the intricate workings of our minds. In the esoteric realm, these abstract maps become keys to unlocking hidden knowledge, helping us navigate the mysteries of existence.

The tension between maps and landscapes is a means to explore our inner landscapes through the lens of the outer world and conversely, to deal with the transcendental and symbolic, providing a bridge between the seen and the unseen. This incidental dialogue is a tool for navigating the esoteric, guiding seekers on spiritual or intellectual journeys toward deeper understanding.

Håkan's work invites viewers to look beyond the surface, encouraging contemplation and introspection. In the esoteric realm, both serve as mirrors, reflecting the inner and outer worlds, evoking transformation. They challenge our preconceptions of reality, urging us to explore the hidden realms of consciousness and the interconnectedness of all things.

*The tension and dialogue between maps and landscapes is the byproduct of Håkan's recent work and was not intentional, but an incidental discovery.*

KÅSEHOLM

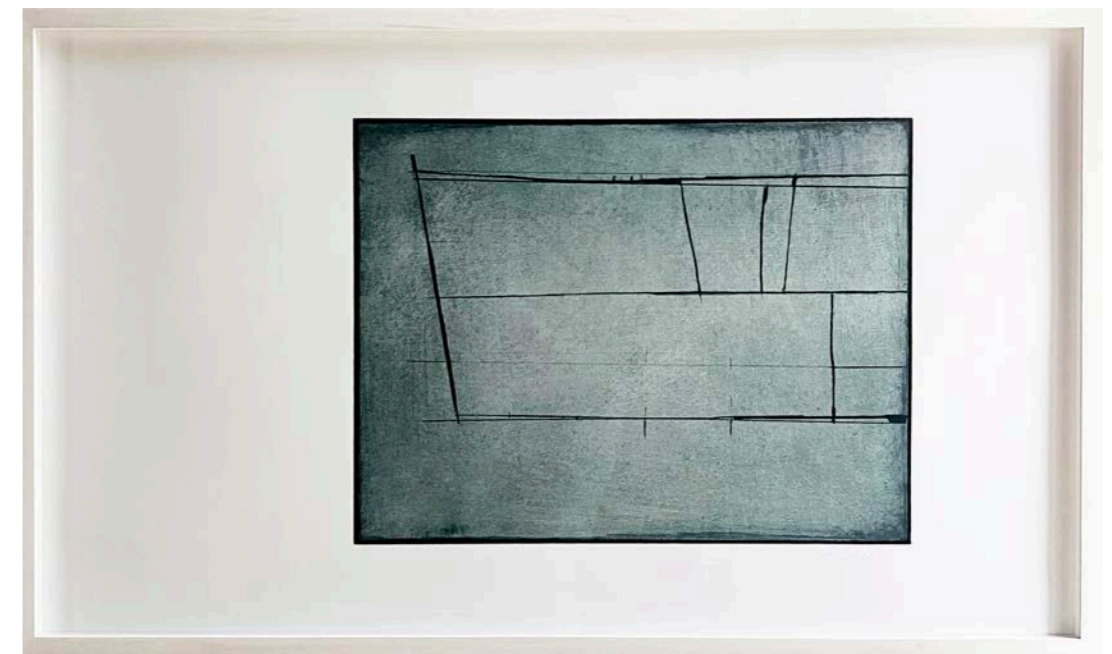


THEFOURTH

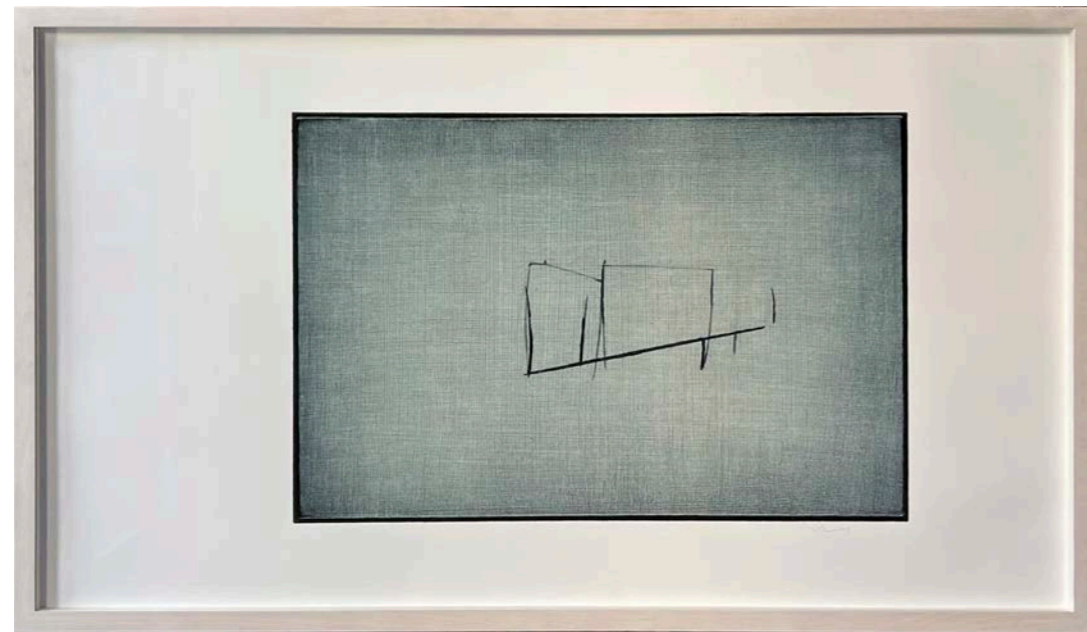
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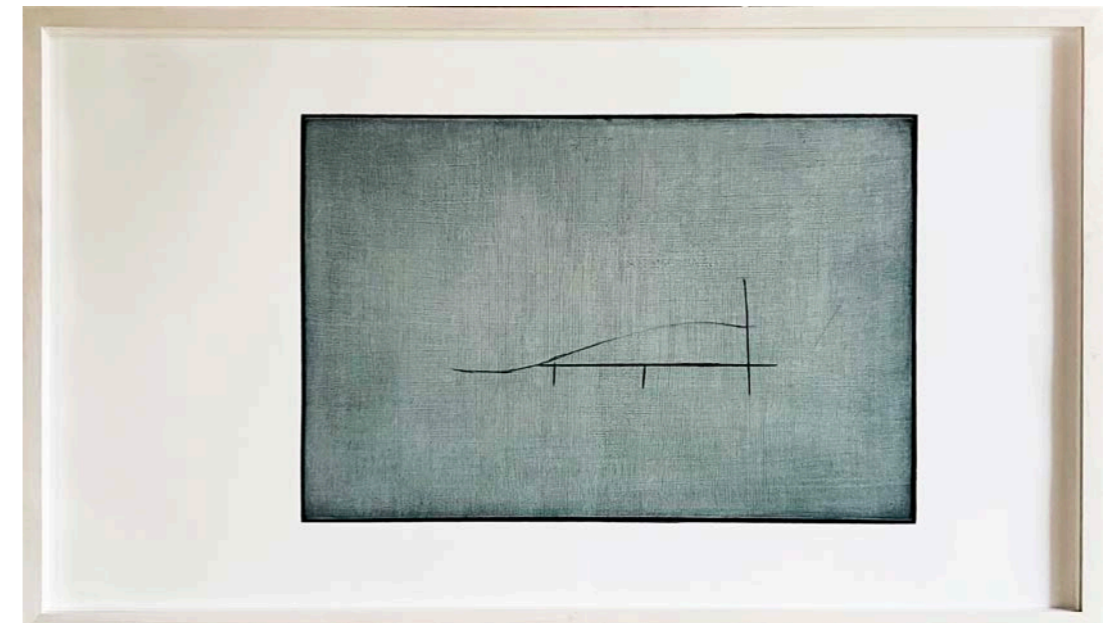
KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 1  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 2  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100



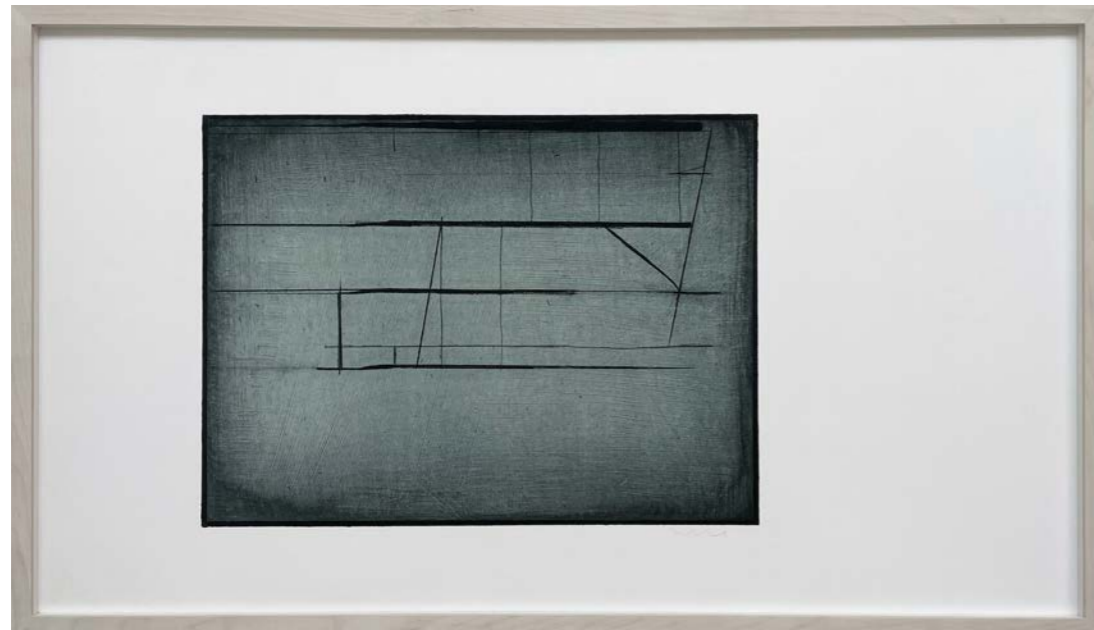
Håkan Berg  
Landscape 3  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100

KÅSEHOLM

THE FOURTH

THE FOURTH

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 4  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 5  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100

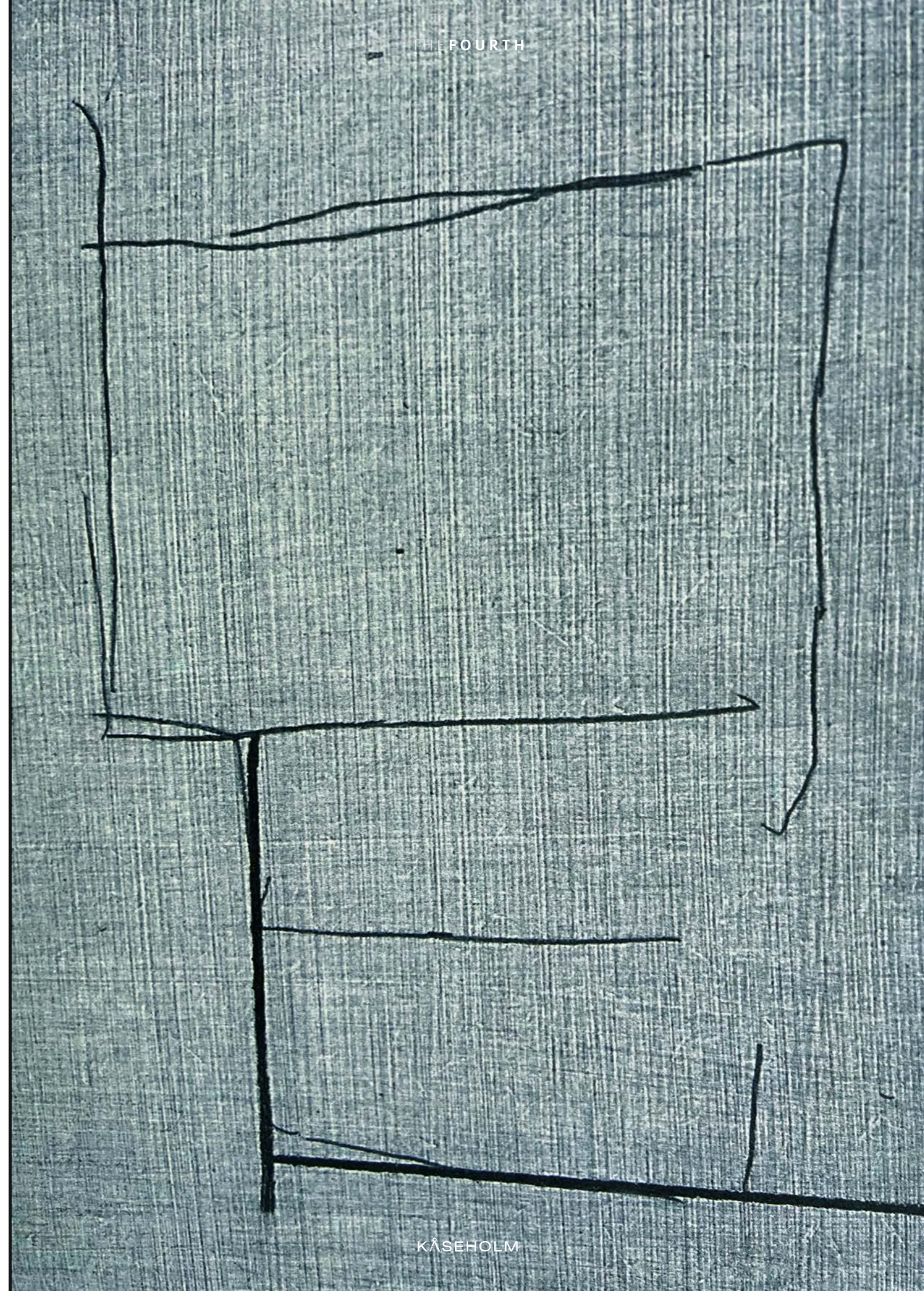




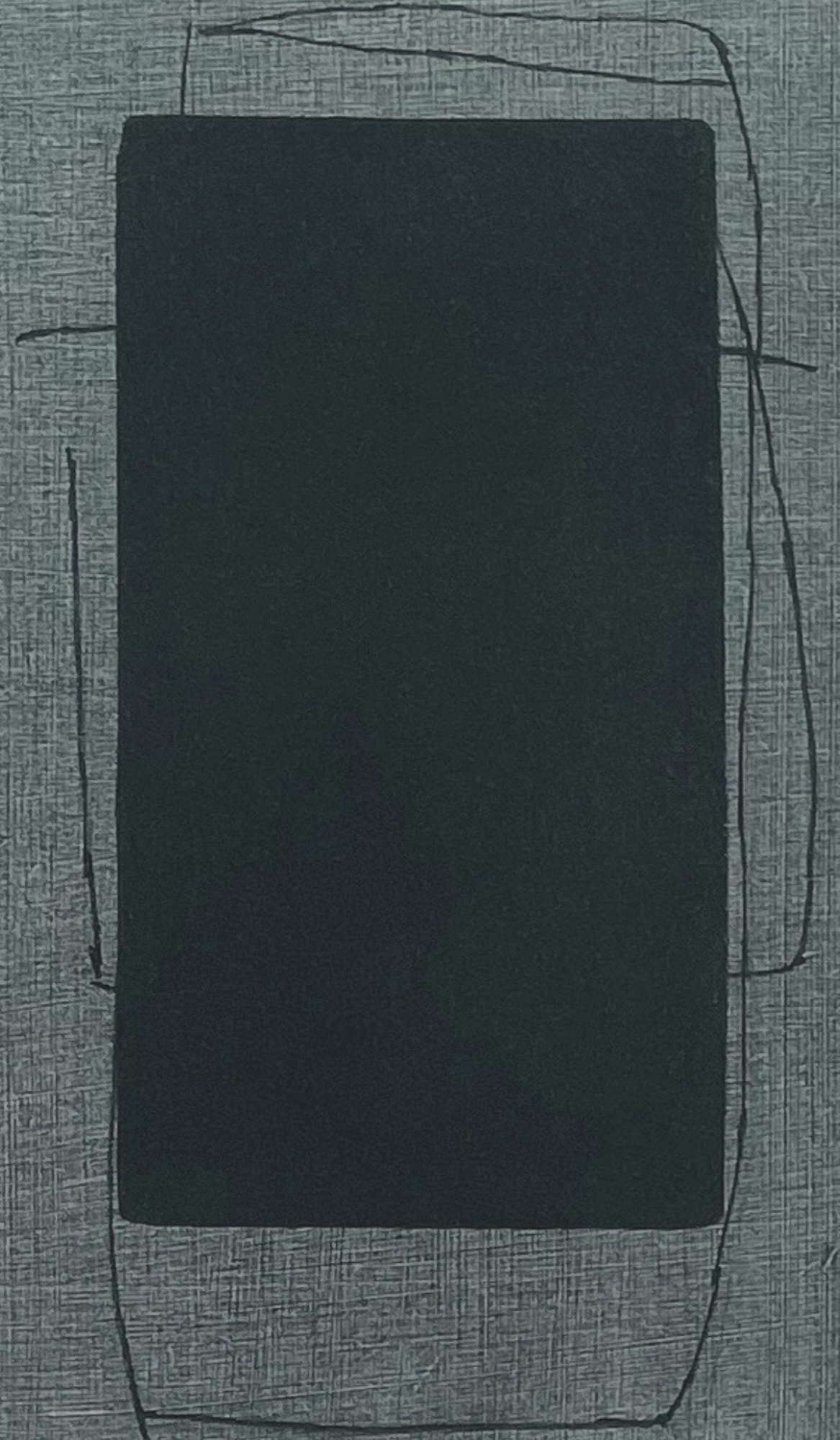
Håkan Berg  
Landscape 6  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 7  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100



KÅSEHOLM



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Håkan Berg  
Landscape 8  
2023  
Pigment Print (Edition of 5)  
90 x 154 cm  
€ 2,100

THE FOURTH



KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



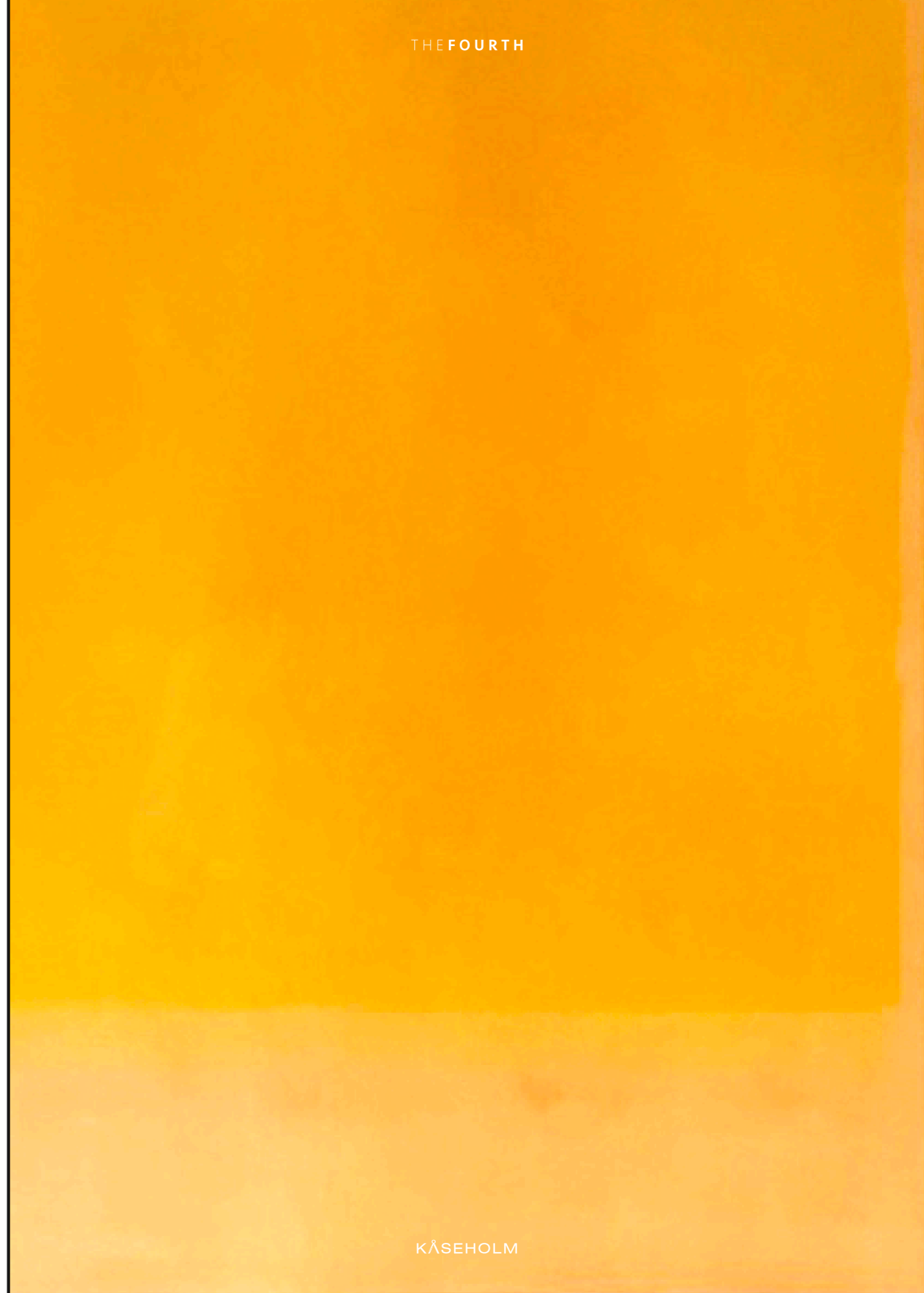
Håkan Berg  
Landscape 9  
2023  
Oil on Paper  
64 x 91 cm  
€ 1,500

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Håkan Berg  
Landscape 10  
2023  
Oil on Paper  
81 x 110 cm  
€2,100





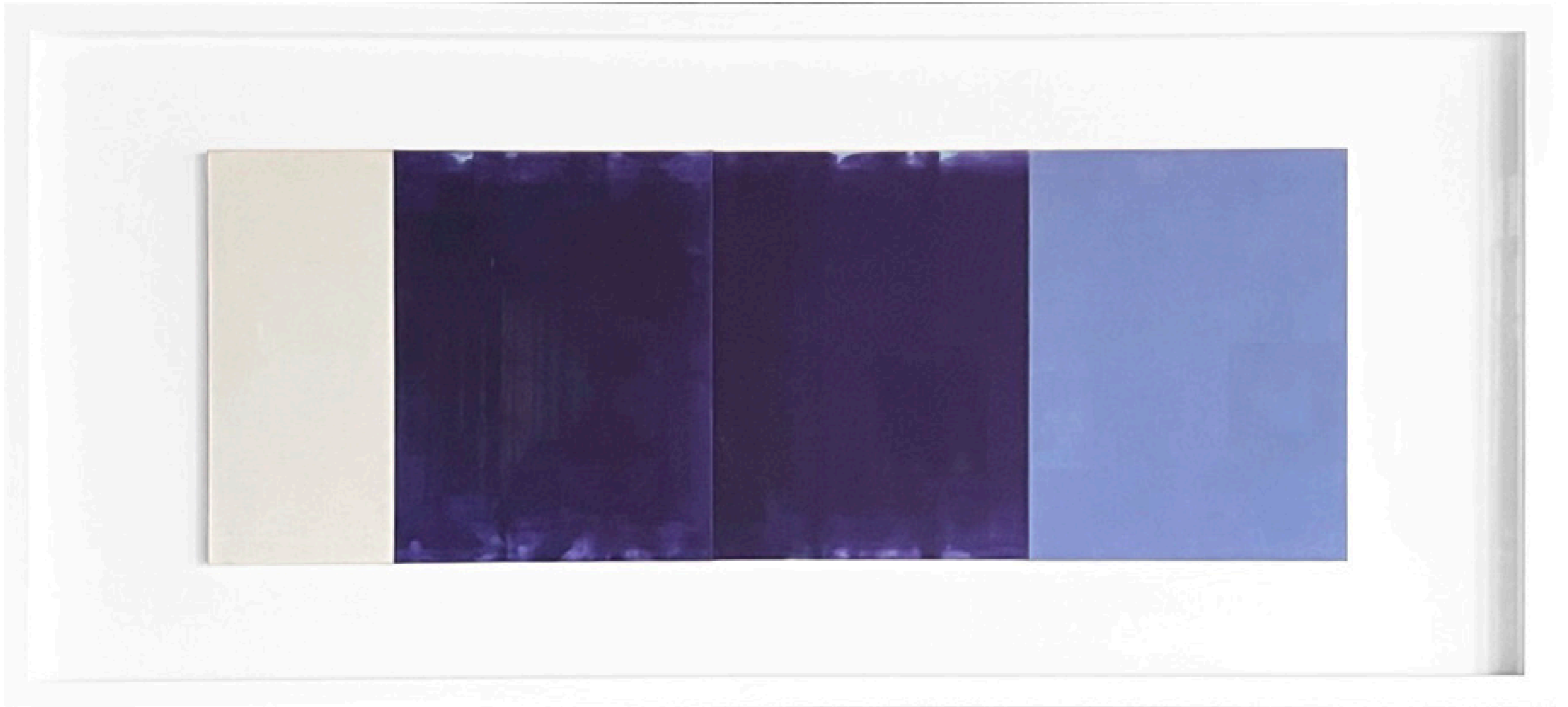
Håkan Berg  
Landscape 11  
2023  
Oil on Paper  
81 x 110 cm  
€ 2,100



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 12  
2023  
Oil on Paper  
81 x 110 cm  
€ 2,100







Håkan Berg  
Landscape 13  
2023  
Oil on Panel  
70 x 154 cm  
€ 3,530



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 14  
2023  
Oil on Panel  
70 x 154 cm  
€3,530



KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 15  
2023  
Oil on Panel  
70 x 154 cm  
€ 3,530

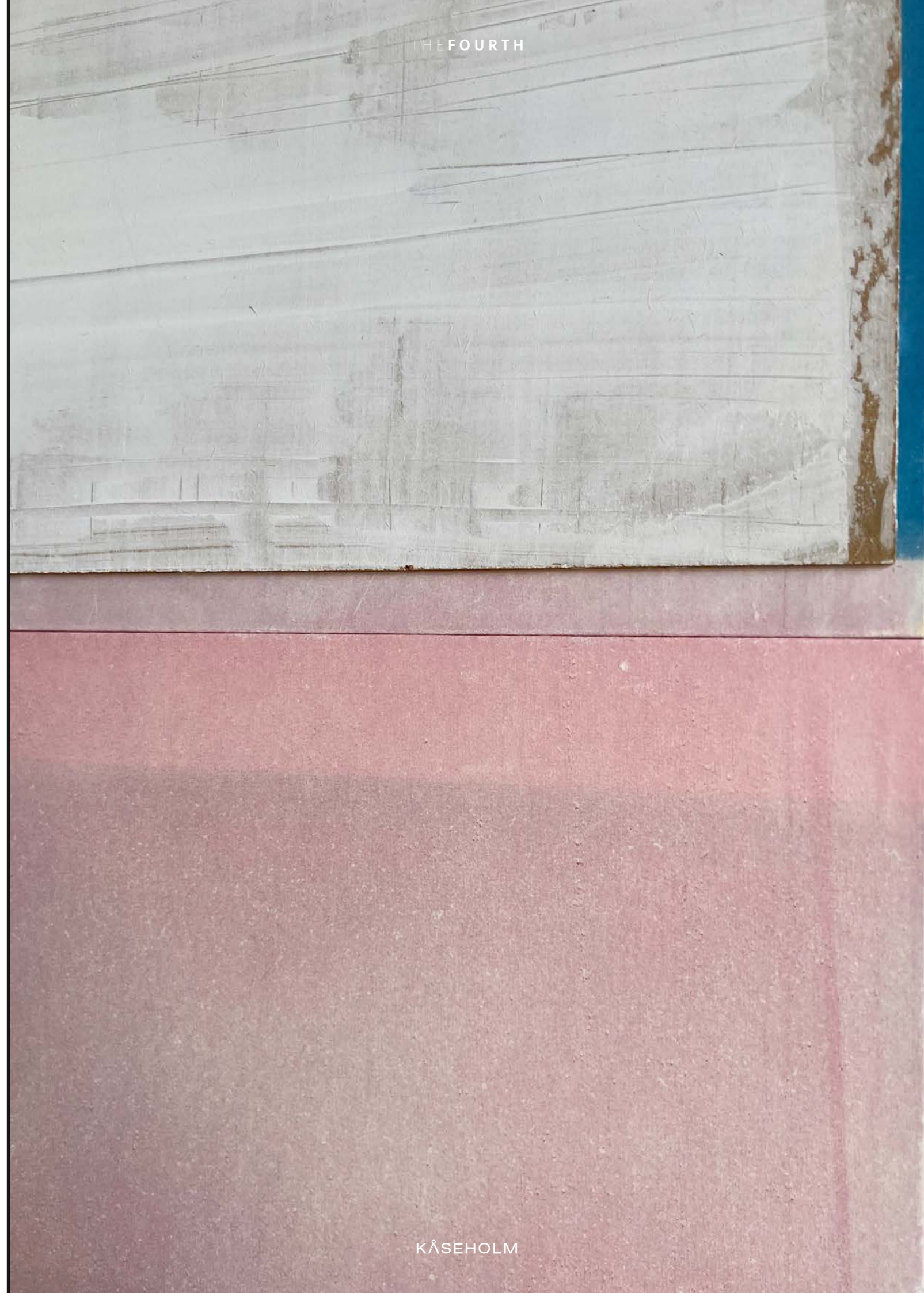
THE FOURTH

THE FOURTH





Håkan Berg  
Landscape 16  
2023  
Pigment Print  
70 x 154 cm  
€ 3,530



KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Landscape 17  
2023  
Pigment Print  
70 x 154 cm  
€ 3,530

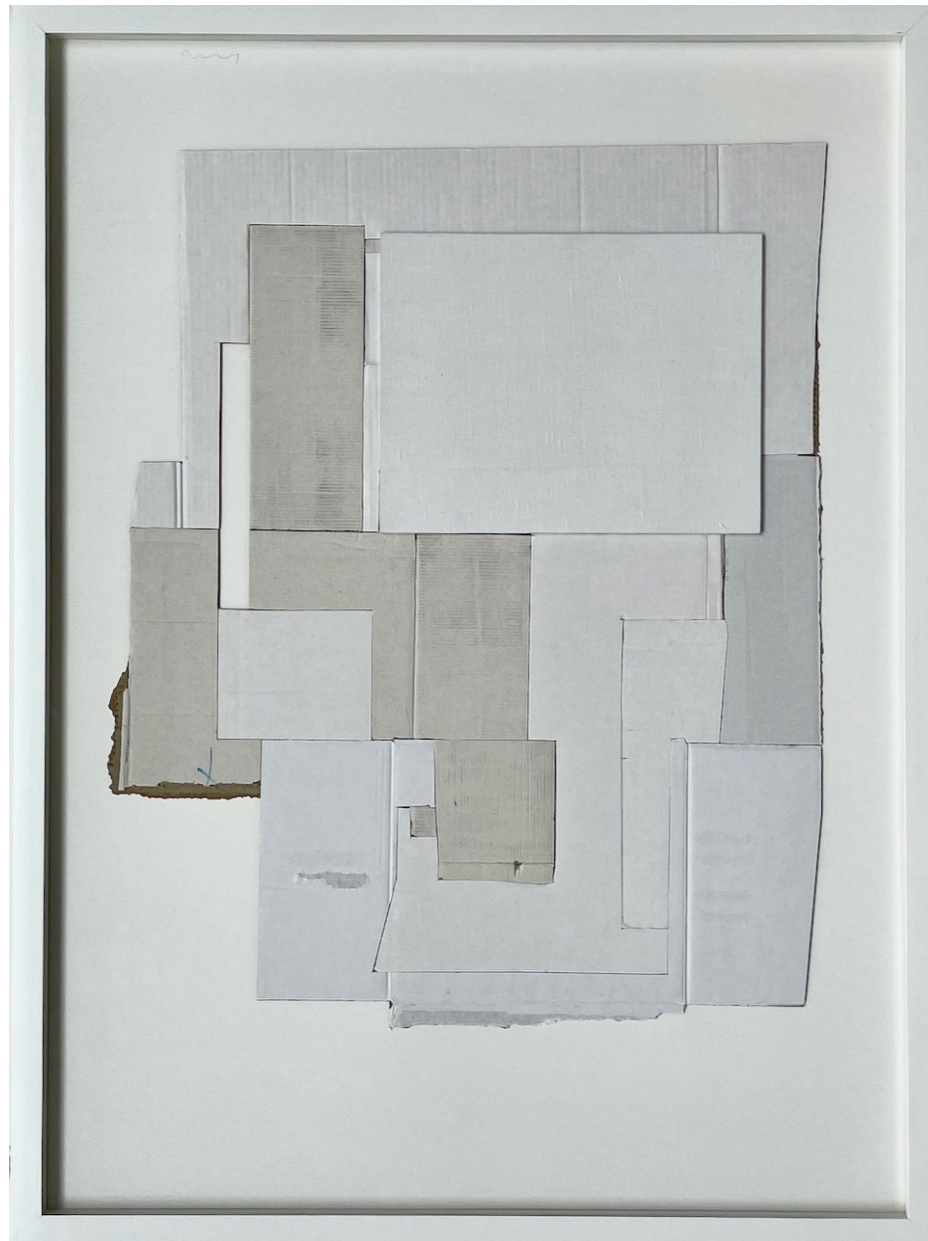
THE FOURTH

THE FOURTH





THE FOURTH



Håkan Berg  
Map 1  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€2,945

KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Map 2  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€2,945

THE FOURTH

THE FOURTH

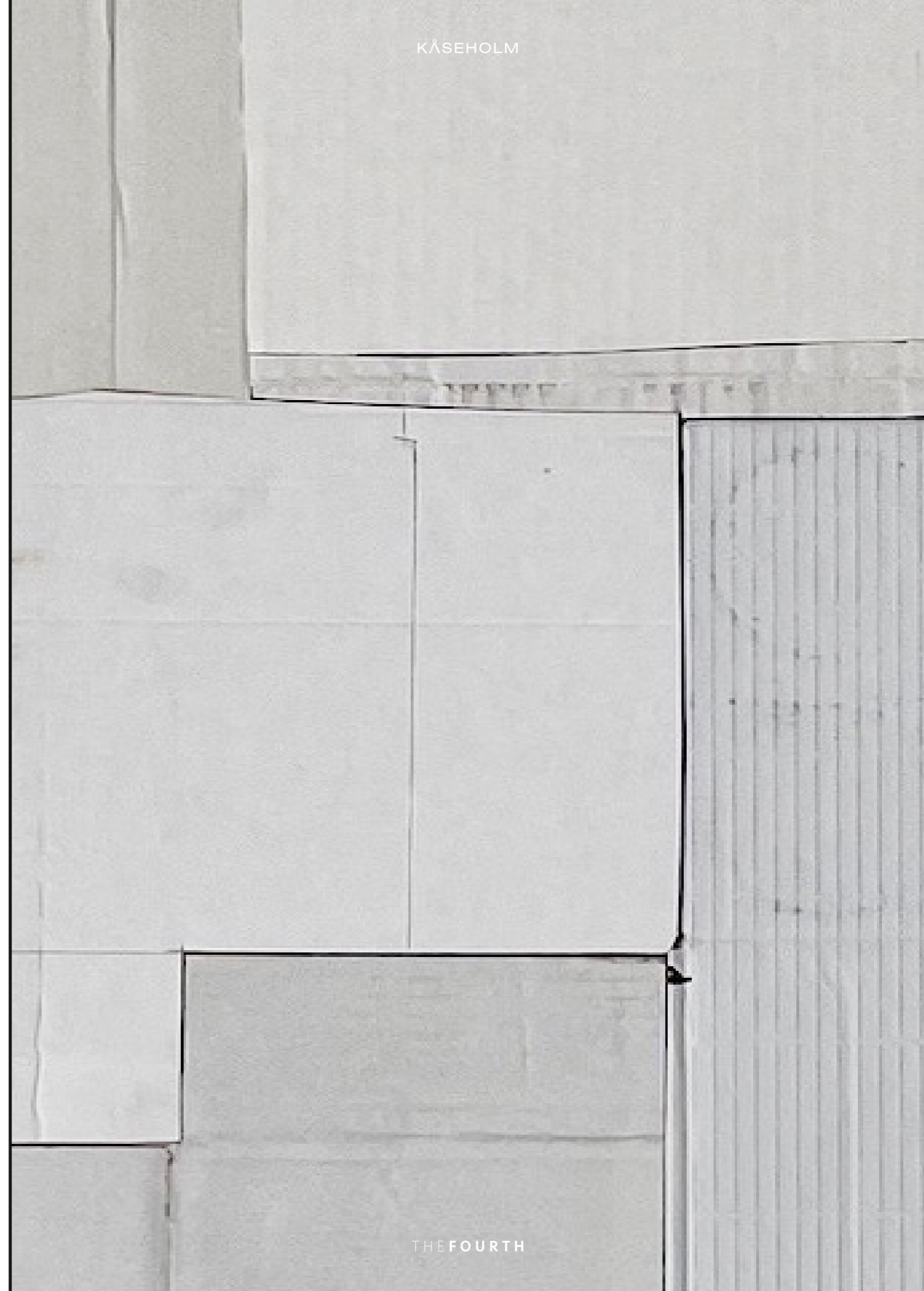


Håkan Berg  
Map 3  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€ 2,945

KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM

THE FOURTH



THEFOURTH



KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Map 4  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€2,945

THEFOURTH

THE FOURTH



Håkan Berg  
Map 5  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€2,945

KÅSEHOLM

KÅSEHOLM



Håkan Berg  
Map 6  
2023  
Mixed Media  
98 x 132 cm  
€2,945

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THE FOURTH

PHOTO; ELSA YOUNG



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# BLACK GALLERY

KÅSEHOLM

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For artwork inquiries or further information about "Northern Southern Exposure," please contact us at [buzz@thefourth.co.za](mailto:buzz@thefourth.co.za) or Whatsapp +27 728025658.

To visit the exhibition at Kåseholm email [jamescwhite3@gmail.com](mailto:jamescwhite3@gmail.com). The Black gallery is open by appointment only.

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[@kaseholm](#)  
[@northernexposedesigncenter](#)

<https://thefourth.co.za/>  
<https://www.kaseholm.se/>

BLACK  
GALLERY

KÅSEHOLM

26.08.2023  
23.09.2023