

SHENGYI CHAO



Shengyi Chao, a Venice-based artist, possesses a diverse artistic journey, previously studied traditional Chinese painting before attending Venice Fine Art Academy. After graduation, she assisted at Atelier 16 and was involved in Venice Biennale's research training, later being recognized by the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation.

Her art portrays a fairy-tale realm for adults, using delicate colors to evoke dreamy visuals inspired by innocence. Chao's works offer a retreat from reality, merging dreams with everyday life.

She researches color relationships and art therapy, skillfully crafting peaceful dreamscapes. Believing in the narrative strength of transparent materials, she captures powerful emotions with gentle hues.

A Corner of Her Studio

2021-2023
Silk, Tracing paper

This work showcasing a slice of my studio, the play on transparency, with my daily sketches, creating a dual world between the atelier (reality) and the artwork (ideal).

“Double & Duality” elucidates the coexistence of diverse elements in our world, offering a meticulous exploration of the delicate interplay between the abstract and the realistic, the conventional and the innovative, the raw and the refined.

Drawing inspiration from Tao Yuanming's fable "The Peach Blossom Land", the artworks present ethereal miniatures of idealistic serenity. The artist recreates a fragment of her studio within the exhibition, merging oriental painting traditions with color therapy. The pieces immerse viewers in tranquil realms, exploring the balance between personal autonomy and external influences.





The Peach Blossom Land

2023

Ink on silk 25x25cm each x 19

The Peach Blossom Land was a fable written by Tao Yuanming, a Chinese poet, in 421 AD about a chance discovery of an ethereal utopia where people lead an ideal existence in harmony with nature, unaware of the outside world for centuries. The phrase can be used to describe an idealistic place of beauty and repose, although it is sometimes used to refer to an unrealistic dream.

Driven by a passion to evoke affectionate emotions in people, my artistic endeavors revolve around the creation of miniature worlds within frames. This original concept behind my works aims to foster a shared emotional experience for all. It is influenced, in part, by the rich tradition of oriental painting, which seeks spiritual resonance through aesthetics.

My artistic research centers around the interplay between color and art therapy. I consistently employ light, pure, and gentle hues to transport individuals into a small, peaceful realm of dreams. By utilizing a smaller scale for my works, I intend to captivate viewers' attention gradually, enticing them to approach closer and explore the intricate details.

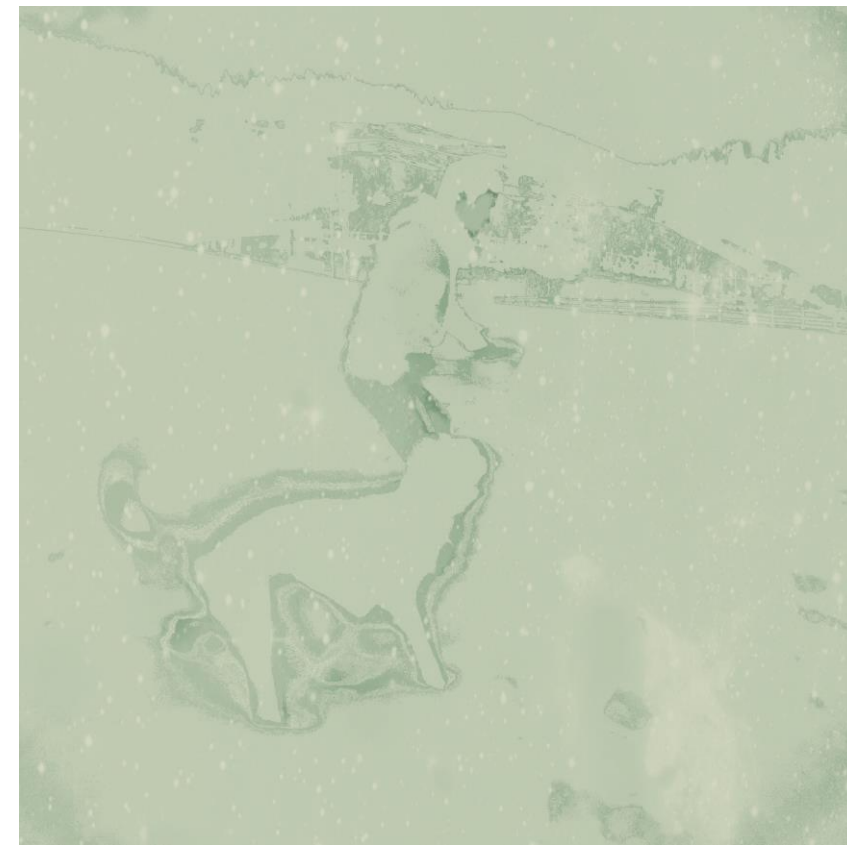
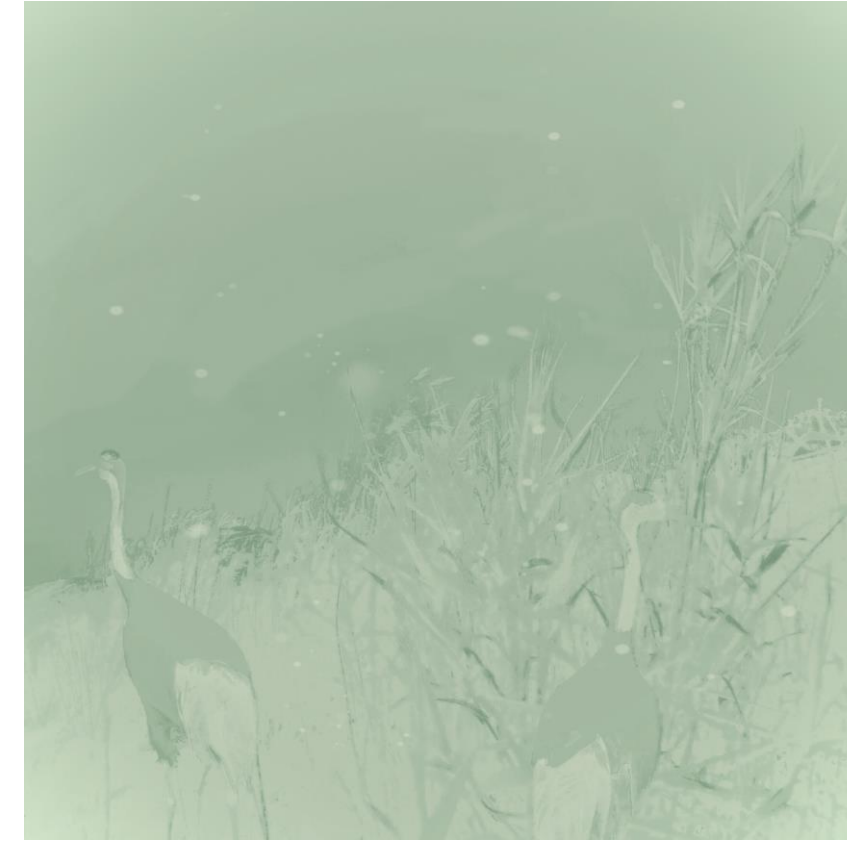
The motivation driving my artistic pursuit lies in the recognition of our contemporary need for tranquil spaces. In an era characterized by relentless development and an overwhelming influx of information, our connection with the world, with others, with time, and even with our immediate surroundings has undergone profound changes—changes that often go unnoticed.



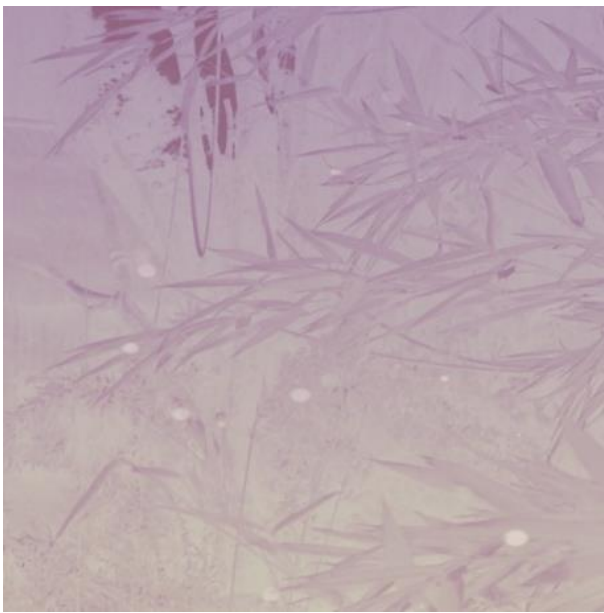


The Peach Blossom Land

2023

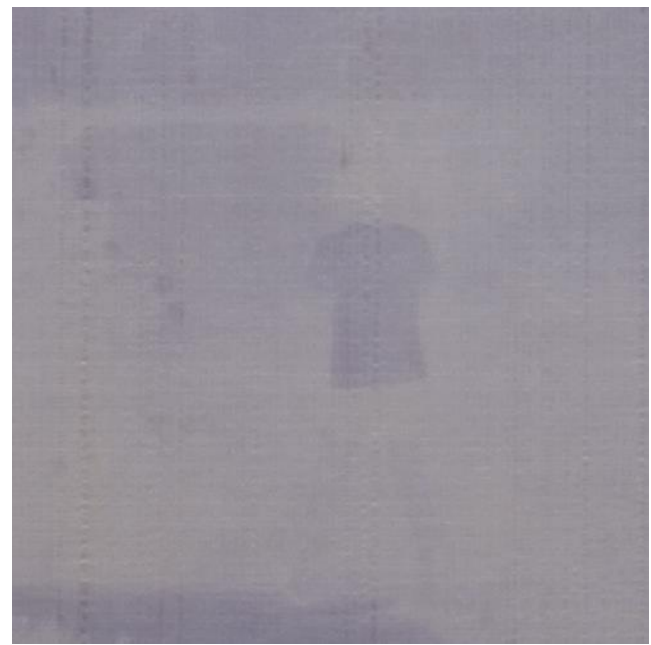
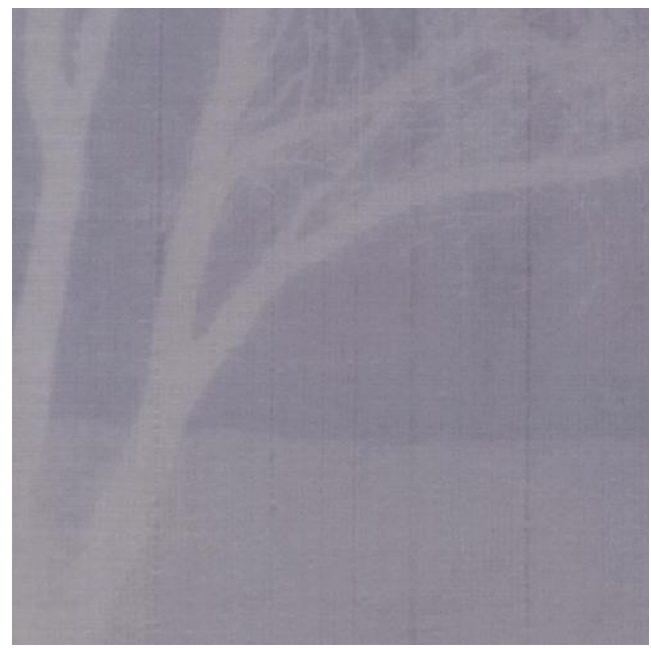


The Peach Blossom Land



Cottage

2023
Ink on silk 50x50cm



Sogno o Son Desto

2023
Ink on silk 40x30cm



Nella Foresta

2023
Ink on silk 130x130cm

This is a unique artistic creation that combines childhood memories and dreamscapes using a blend of Eastern and Western painting techniques and media.

Through delicate color presentation on silk, it captures the beauty of dreamlike scenes, such as a pink sky and children playing.

This innovative approach aims to redefine traditional painting boundaries, inviting viewers to revisit their own childhood experiences and emotions while pushing the limits of artistic expression.





Sweet

mixed techniques on semi-transparent papers,
supported by a series of frames (25x25cm each)

Trees

2021-2022

mixed techniques on semi-transparent papers,
supported by a series of frames (18x24cm each)





You Can't Take It with You

2022
Tracing paper, 25x25cm x 9

Family, lovers, friends, affections, gatherings and separations, all kinds of relationships make up the most important parts of our emotions.

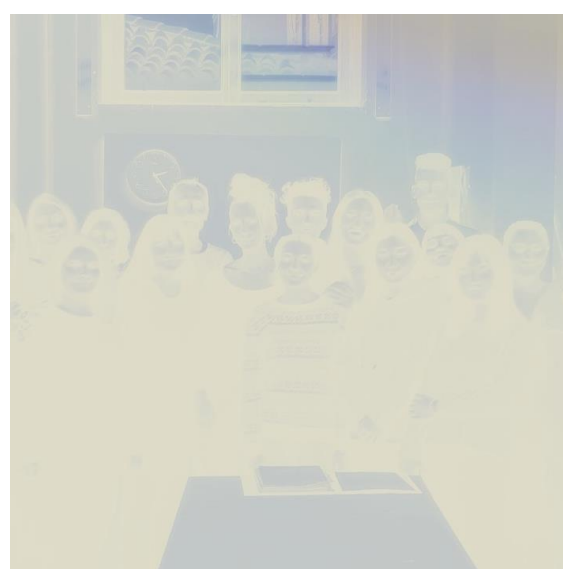
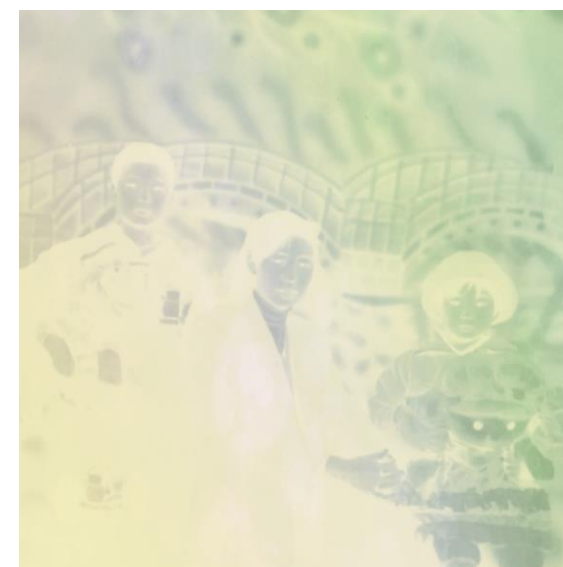
What we love, what we cherish, all the moments that we want to take with us but never succeed. as time goes, these memories are blurring, disappearing.

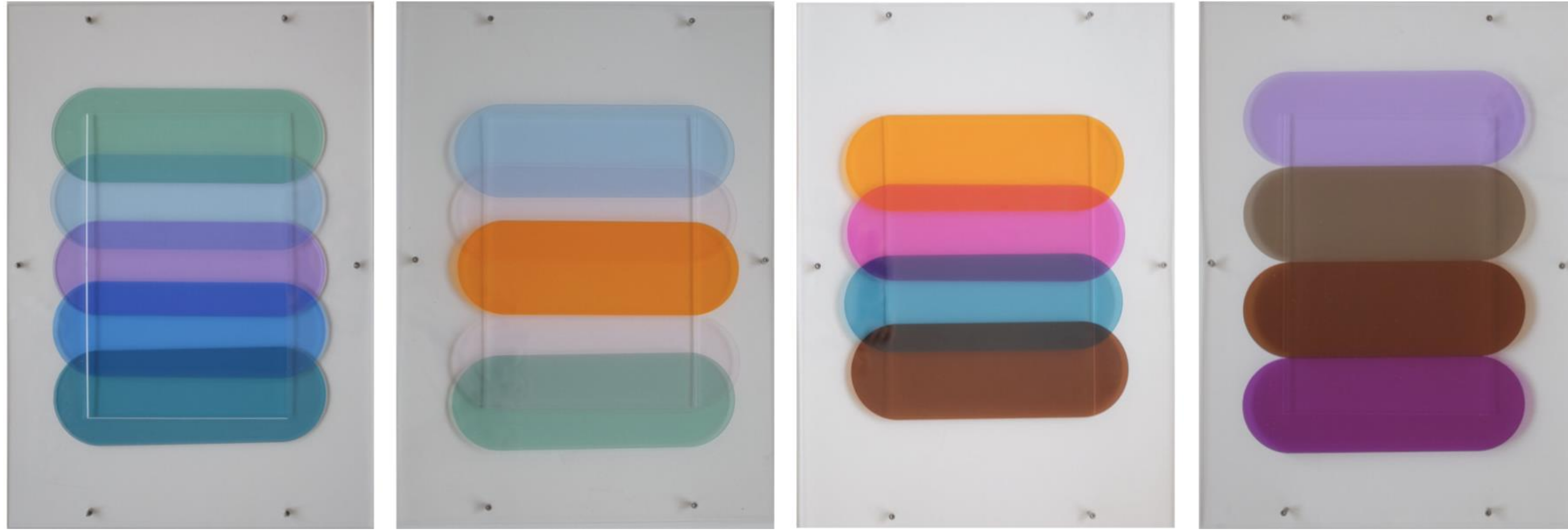




You Can't Take It with You

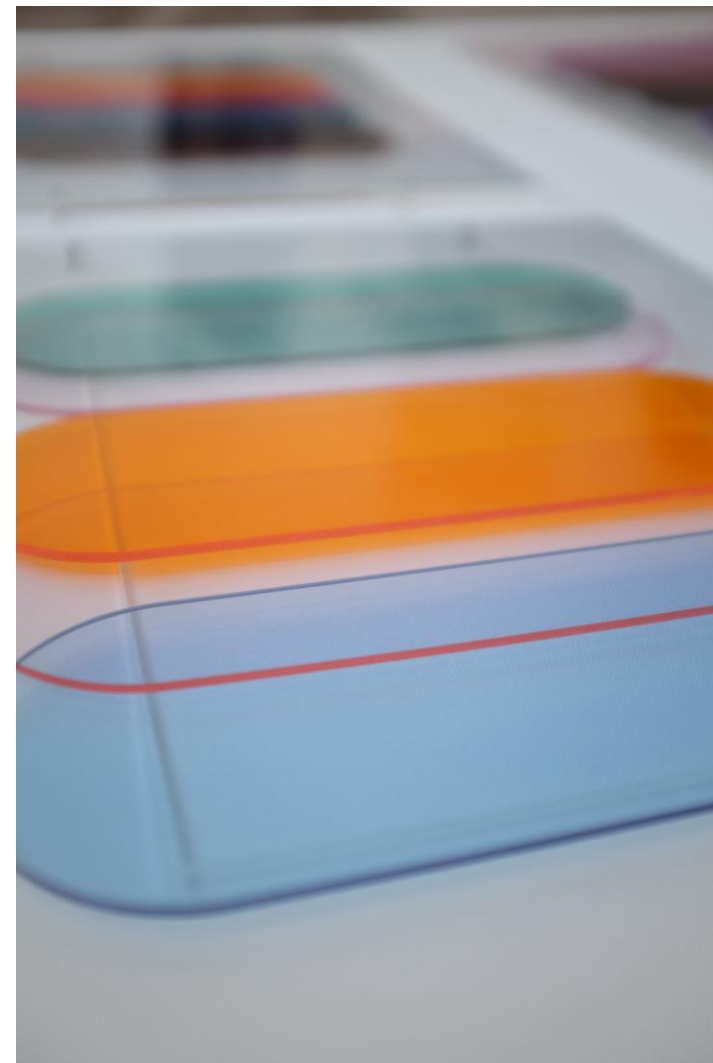
2022





The Sweet Pills

2021
Plexiglass, 50x30cm x 4



The Sweet Pills





...
siamo alti, siamo l'altri
siamo tutti turisti troppo veloci
...



...
siamo come l'acqua
che non si ferma mai
...



...
siamo privi di bellezza
se non ci incontriamo

Alta Più dell'Acqua

2023
mixed techniques on silk, 50cm x 50cm) x 3

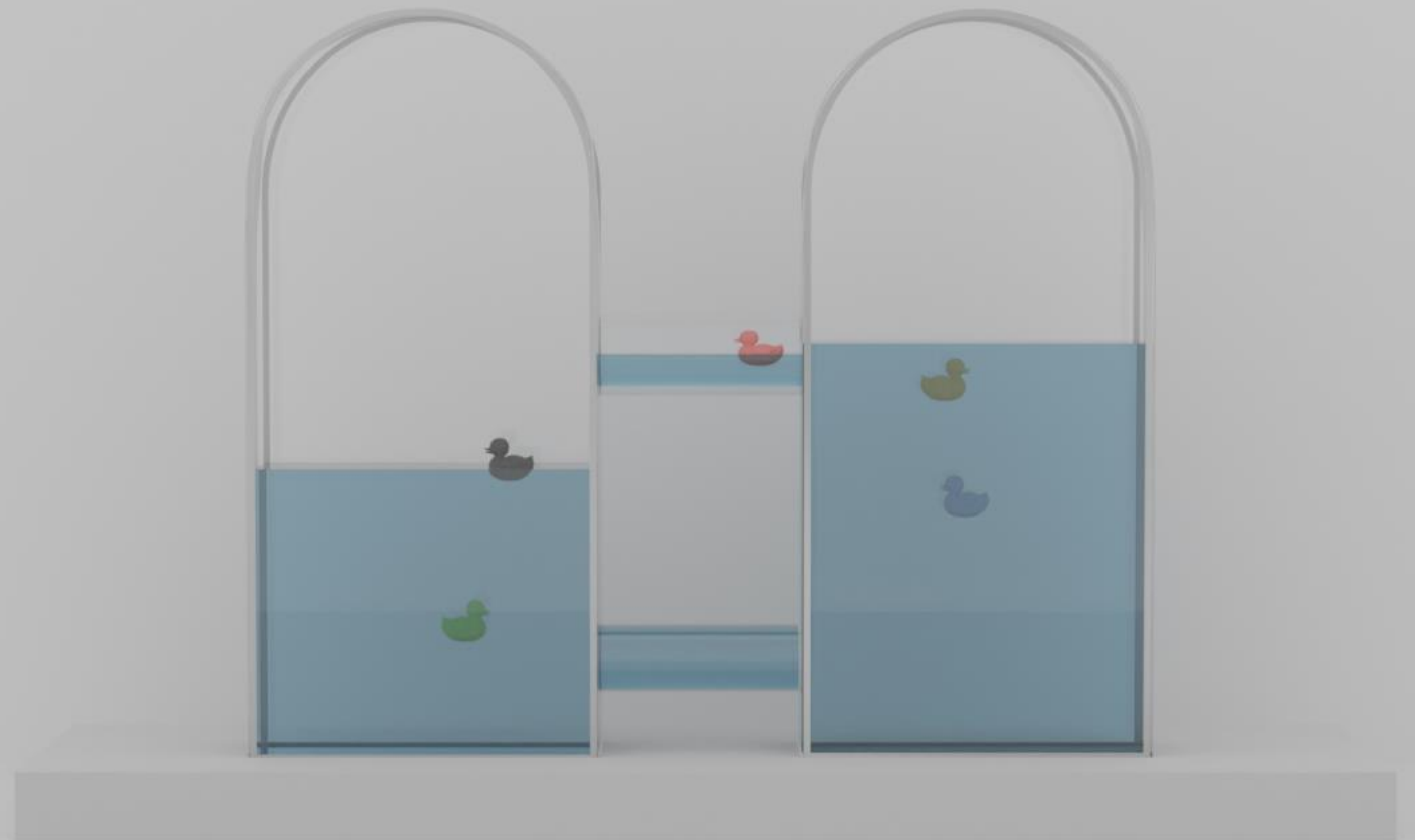
Flow

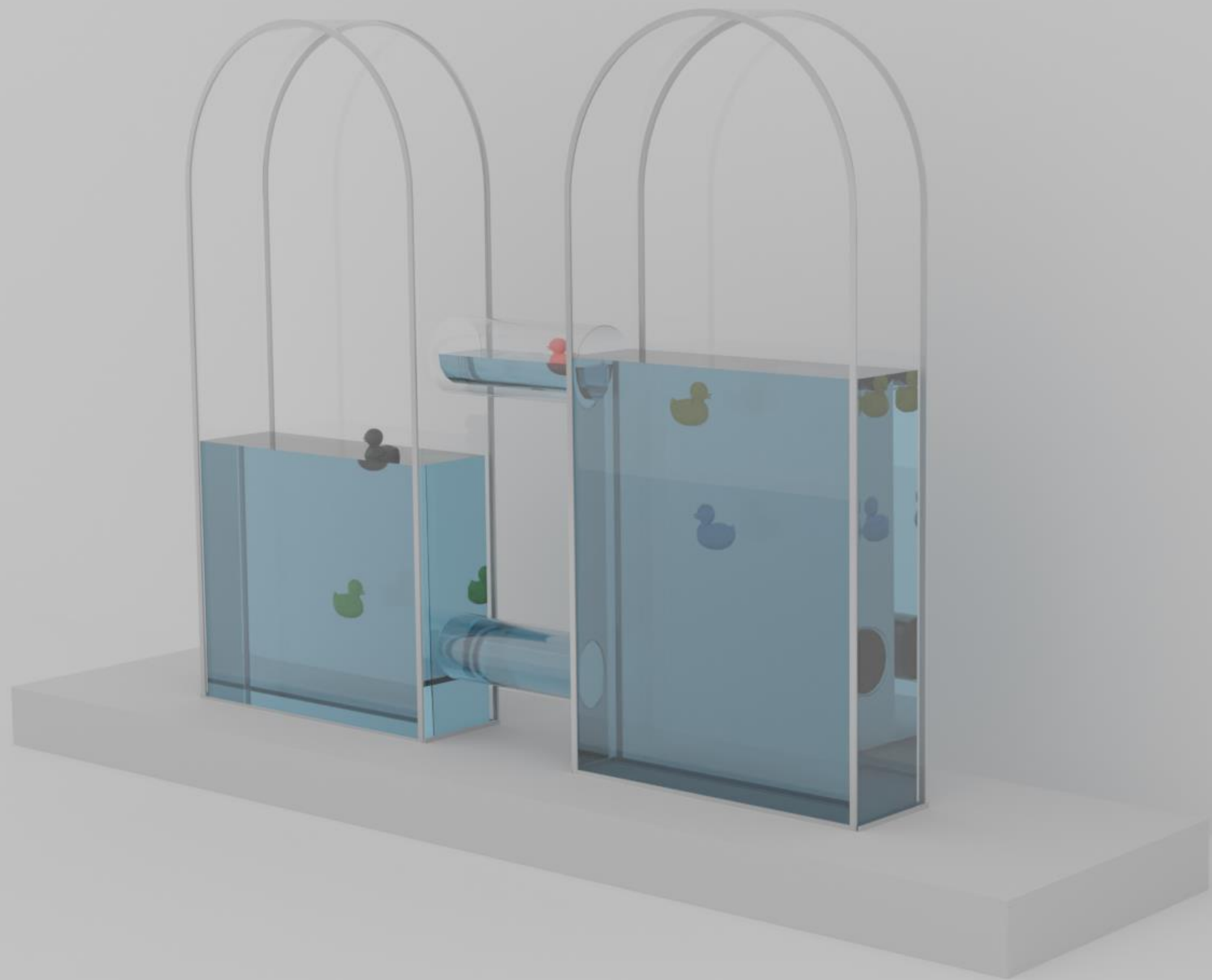
2023
Plexiglass, water

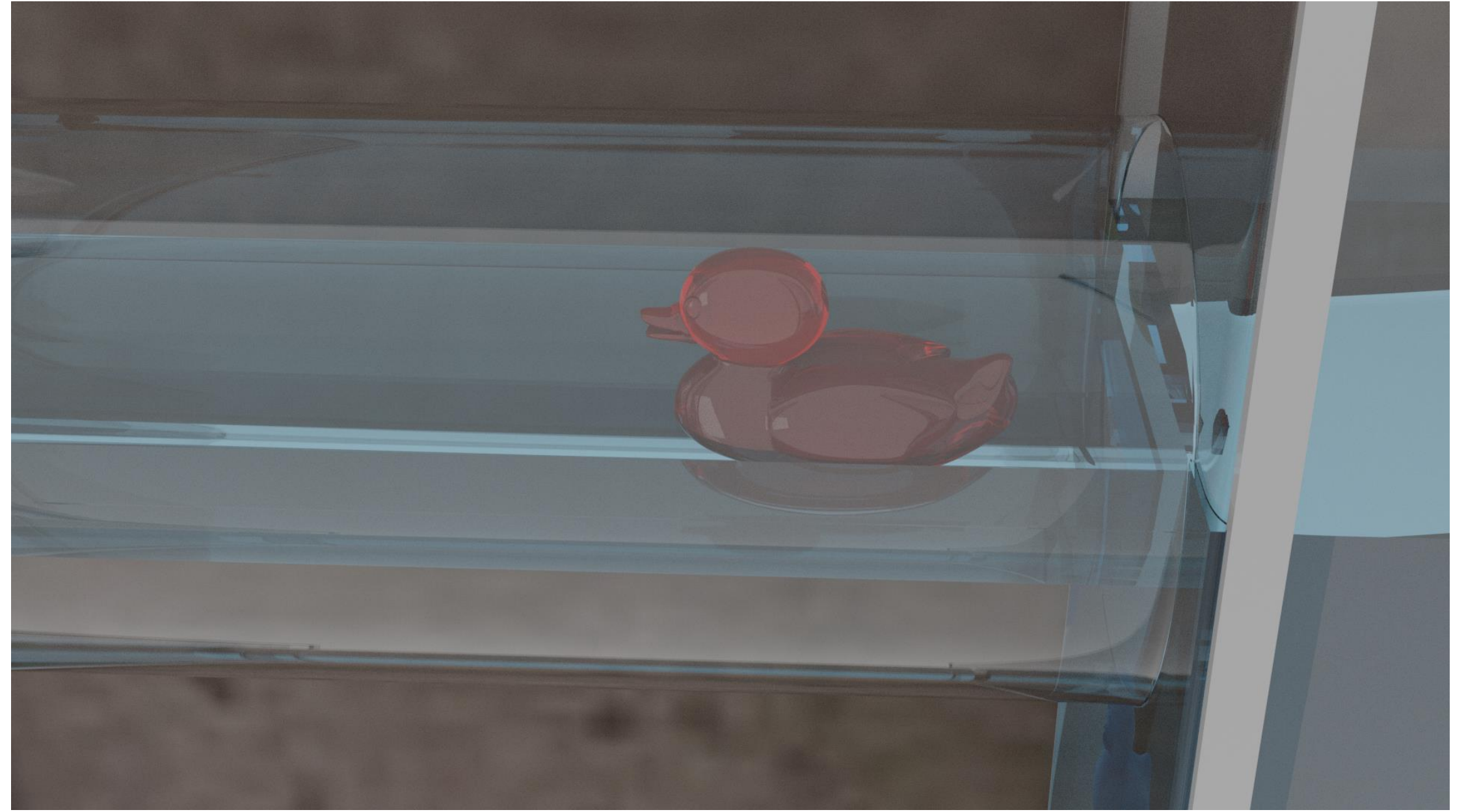
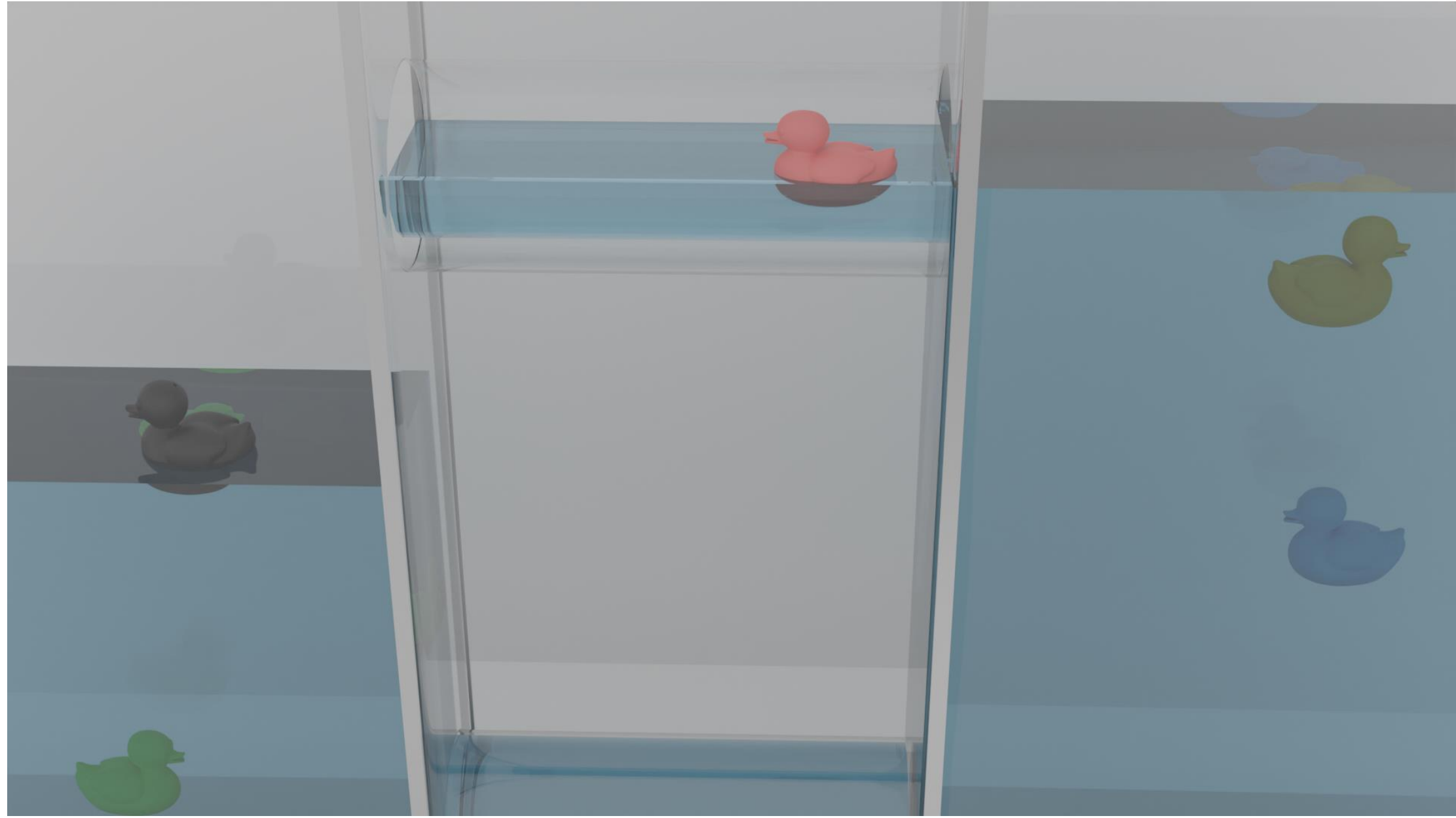
Two water tanks, shaped like arcades, which are connected by two pipes, and five ducklings of different colors float in the water. Each duckling represents one of the five continents of our world, symbolizing the diversity of nations, much like the colors of the Olympic rings.

The water inside the tanks flows up and down through a special hydraulic device or system. When the water levels in the two tanks are equal, the ducklings can freely flow back and forth through the upper pipe, which mirrors how people holding passports of equal value can move freely between countries, symbolizing the idea of open borders.

However, when there is a significant difference in water levels between the tanks, the ducklings can only move back and forth through the lower pipe. In this scenario, a duckling in the tank with the lower water level will never be able to pass through the upper pipe. This contrast to the situation with equal water levels, prompts us to reflect on the relationship between our nationalities and our rights. It reminds us of the importance of considering the impact of unequal opportunities and restrictions placed upon people based on their nationality or background.







SHENGYI CHAO

(China 1993) lives and works in Venice

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EDUCATION

2017 – 2020, Master of Painting, Department of Visual Art, Academy of Fine Arts of Venice (graduate 110/110 lode)

2013 – 2017, Bachelor of Painting, Department of Visual Art, Academy of Fine Arts of Venice

PROJECTS AND RESIDENCE

2022 - Project of the International Centre for Research on the Contemporary Arts of La Biennale di Venezia in partnership with universities "Geopolitical map of the artists who participated in the Biennale exhibitions over the past 20 years, from 1999 to 2020".

2022-2023 - Residence of artist at Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation in Venice, Italy.

GRANTS AND ART PRIZES

2022 - Best Graphics prize of 104th Young Artists Collective of the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation.

2023 - 3rd Photography prize of 4th Edition Artefici del nostro tempo, Musei Civici di Venezia Foundation.

2022 - Winner of Emerging Artists for the Public Art Work Project "La Mia Scuola Va In Classe A" organized by the Municipality of Venice and funded by Italian Ministry of Environment.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 -

- Double & Duality, curated by Numero 51 Gallery, Milan, Italy.
- ReA Fiera 2023, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, Italy.
- Vedersi da fuori, vedersi da dentro, curated by Angel Moya Garcia. Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation, Piazza San Marco Gallery, Venice, Italy.
- Young artists works select show for Avapo Foundation, curated by Christie's Italy, at Academy of Fine Arts of Venice, Venice, Italy.
- XV edition Nocivelli Art Prize finalists Exhibition at Chiesa della Disciplina di Verolanuova, Brescia, Italy.
- Artefici del nostro tempo -4th Edition of young artists contest , curated by Musei Civici di Venezia, Padiglione 29 di Forte Marghera, Venice, Italy.
- Cosmologie, curated by Martina Cavallarin and Antonio Caruso. Palazzo Pisani Revedin, Venice, Italy.
- Poldina Creative Hub show curated by Federico de Majo, Salone del Mobile Milano, Milan, Italy.
- Artists of the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation Atelier, curated by Angel Moya Garcia. ArteFiera Bologna Italy.
- 105th Young Artists Collective, curated by Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation, Piazza San Marco Gallery, Venice, Italy.

2022 -

- Il Volo del Colombo Immaginario, curated by Roberto Zamberlan, Palazzetto Tito, Venice, Italy.
- "3, 2, 1 StArt" 10 emerging artists Collective Exhibition at Cultural Center Altinate San Gaetano of Padua, Italy.
- INTAC Global art school invitational Exhibition. curated by Liu Fan , City Youth Culture Art Center, Wuhan, China.
- Artefici del nostro tempo -3rd Edition of young artists contest , curated by Musei Civici di Venezia, Padiglione 29 di Forte Marghera, Venice, Italy.
- 104th Young Artists Collective Exhibition, curated by Stefano Coletto, Gallery of Piazza San Marco, Venice, Italy.
- Step by Step - il civico 10 Piazza Gasperi Padua. curated by Youth Art Project office of Municipality of Padua, Italy.