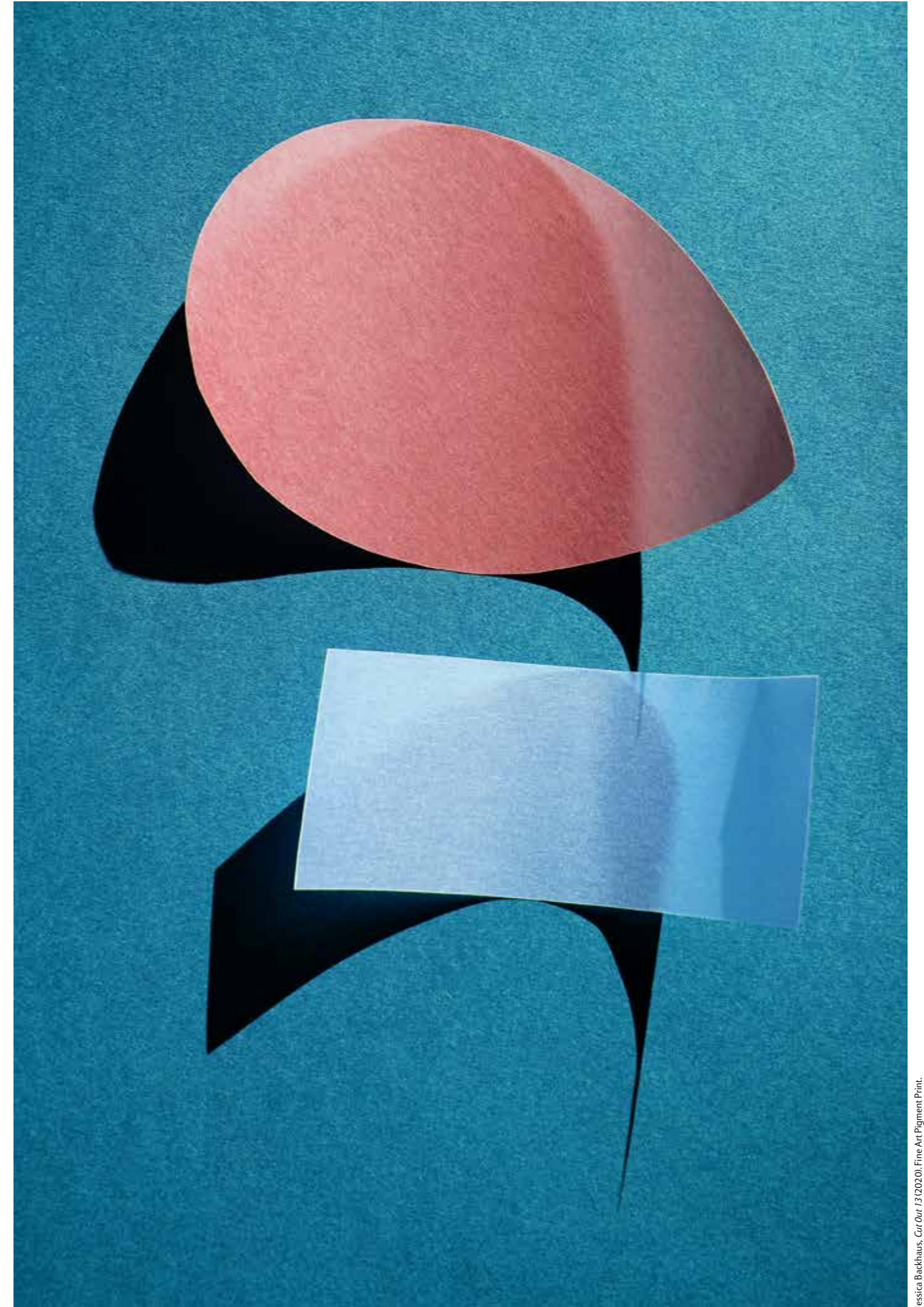


# Into Abstraction

Jessica Backhaus

In the baking Berlin summer, German-American photographer Jessica Backhaus (b. 1970) arranged a number of transparent paper cut outs. In the direct sunlight and concurrent heat, the shapes began to rise from the surface, bending and curling up into one another whilst casting block shadows on the page. She captured their dance-like forms as the pink, blue, green and yellow sections began to intersect as abstracted Venn diagrams. Beyond the visual appeal of tessellating colour samples, Backhaus invented a “photography of chance” as each paper sample began to bend as its own will, wilting as the moisture evaporated and the cuts shrank down in size. After laying the samples down, she became an observer of events – documenting an aesthetic experiment – with little control over the final composition. *Cut Outs* will be on display at Robert Morat Gallery, Berlin, in January 2022. [jessicabackhaus.com](http://jessicabackhaus.com).

Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 17* (2018). Fine Art Pigment Print.  
Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.

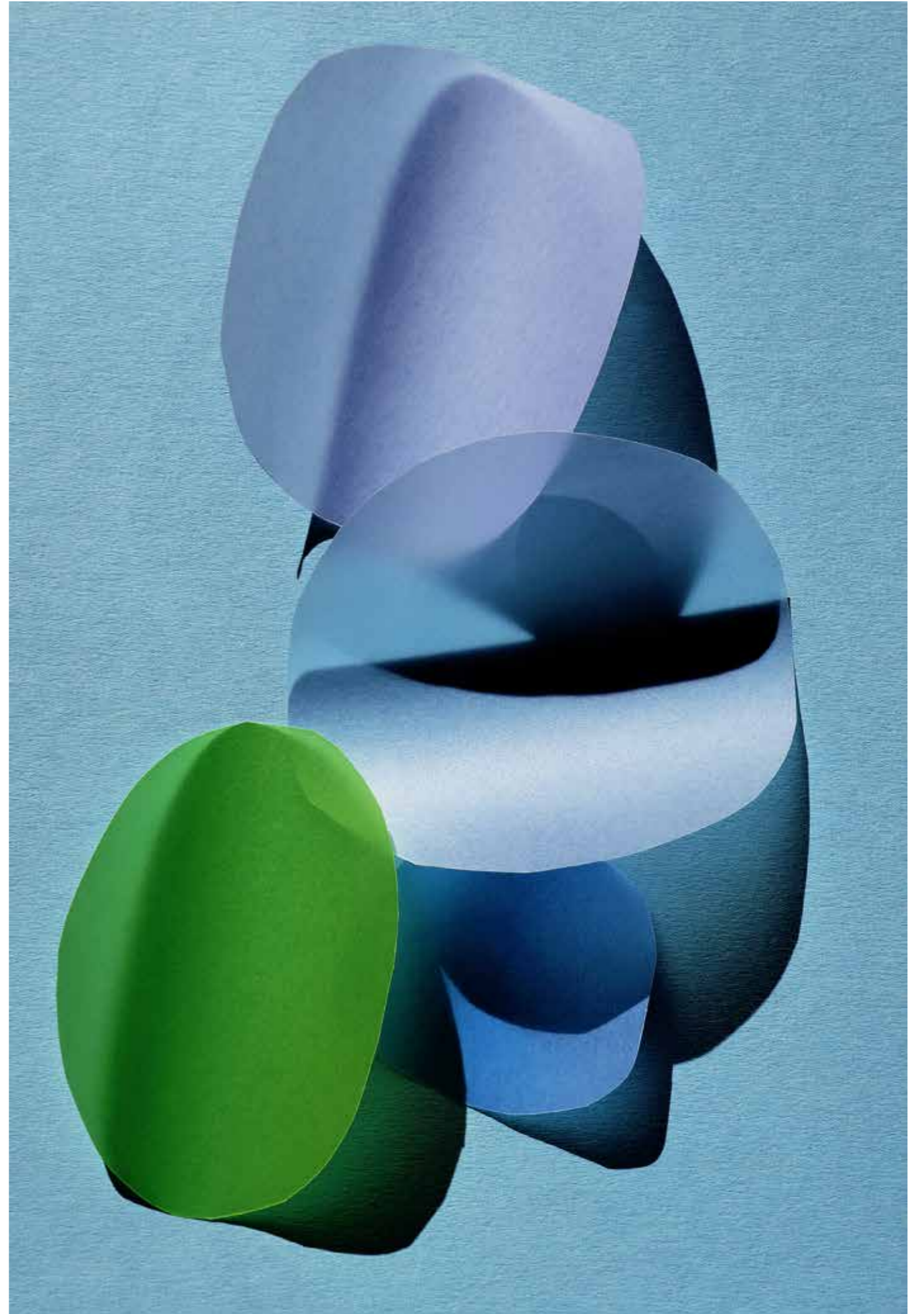


Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 13* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print.



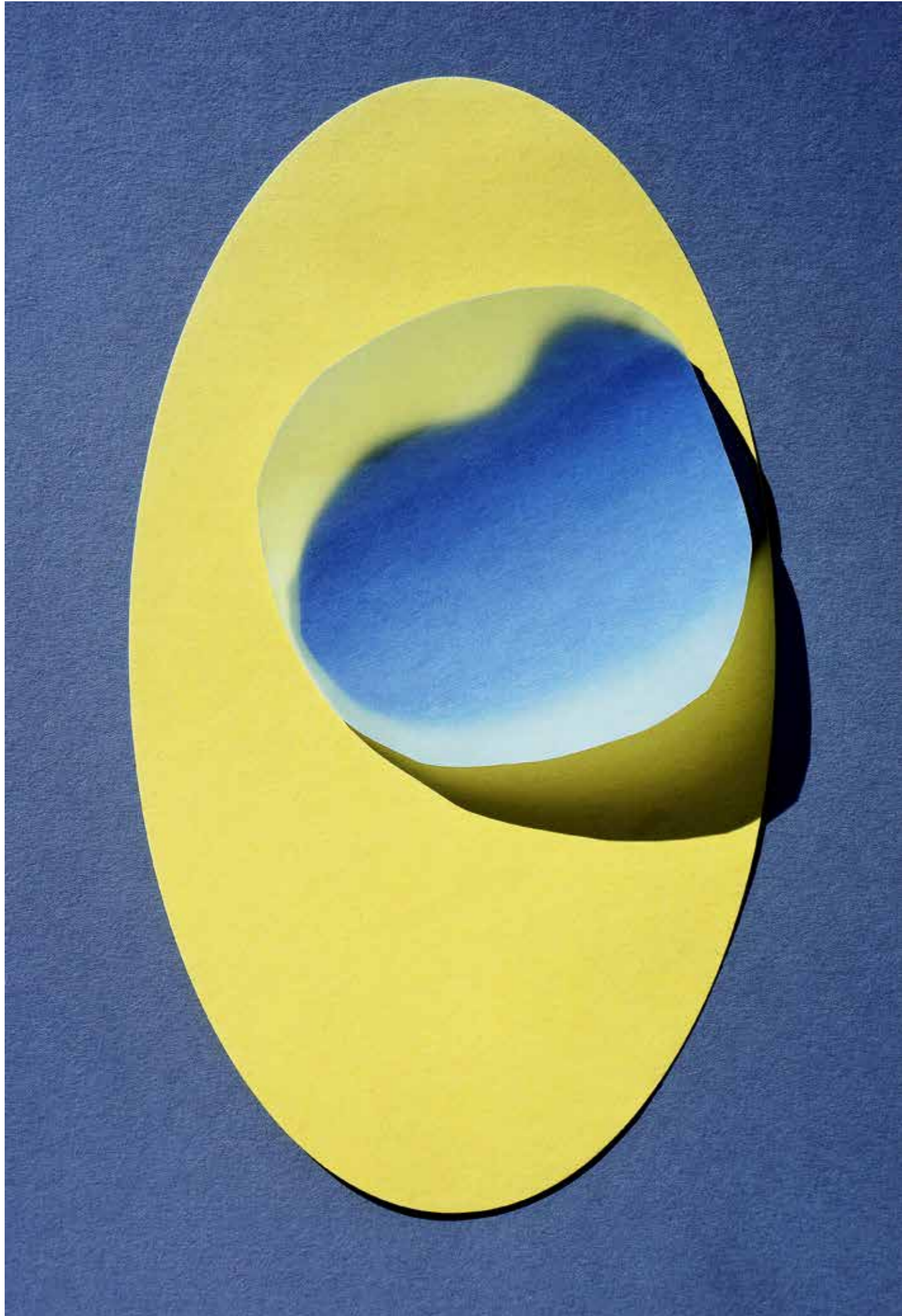


Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 13* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.



Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 6* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.



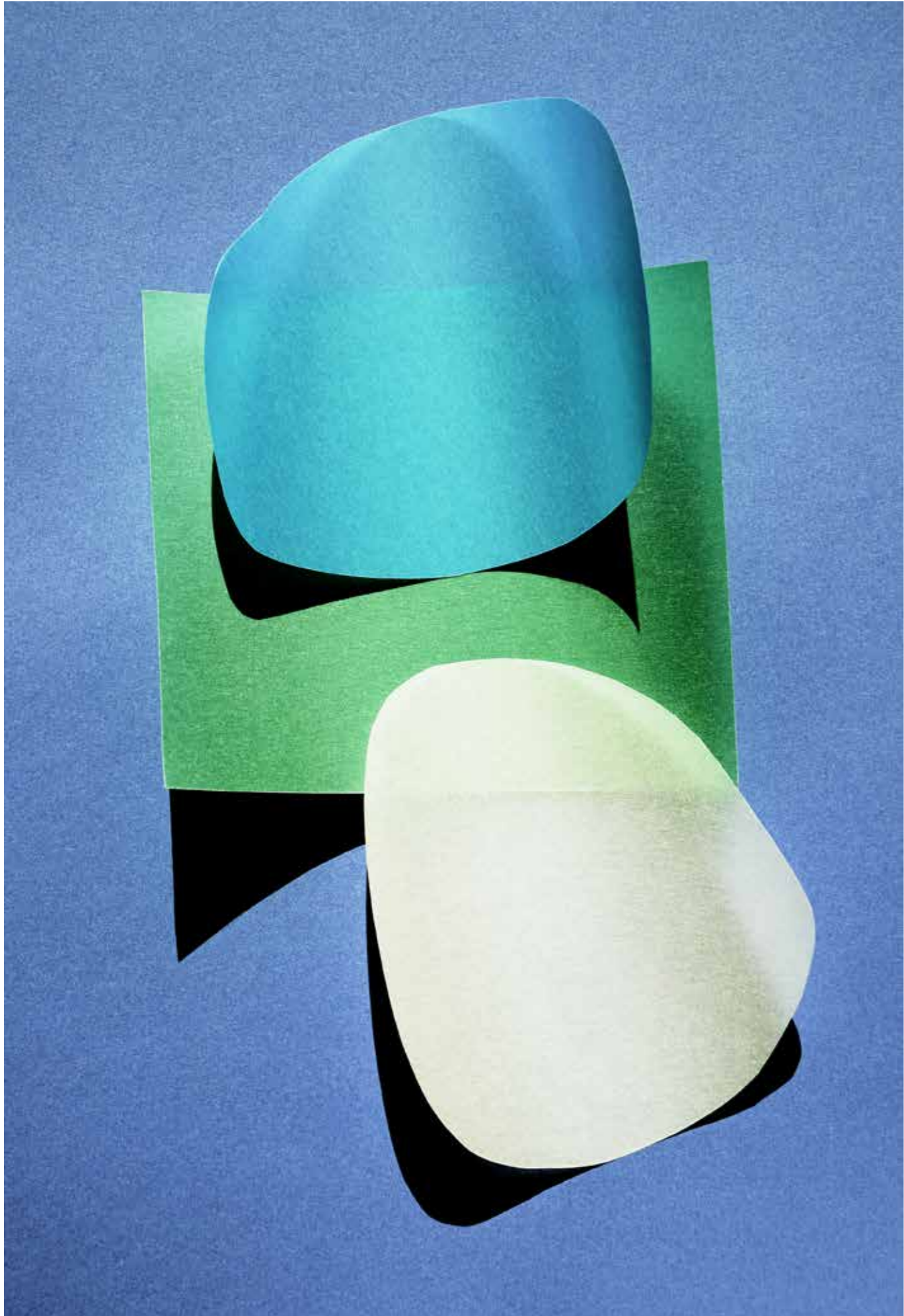


Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 5* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.

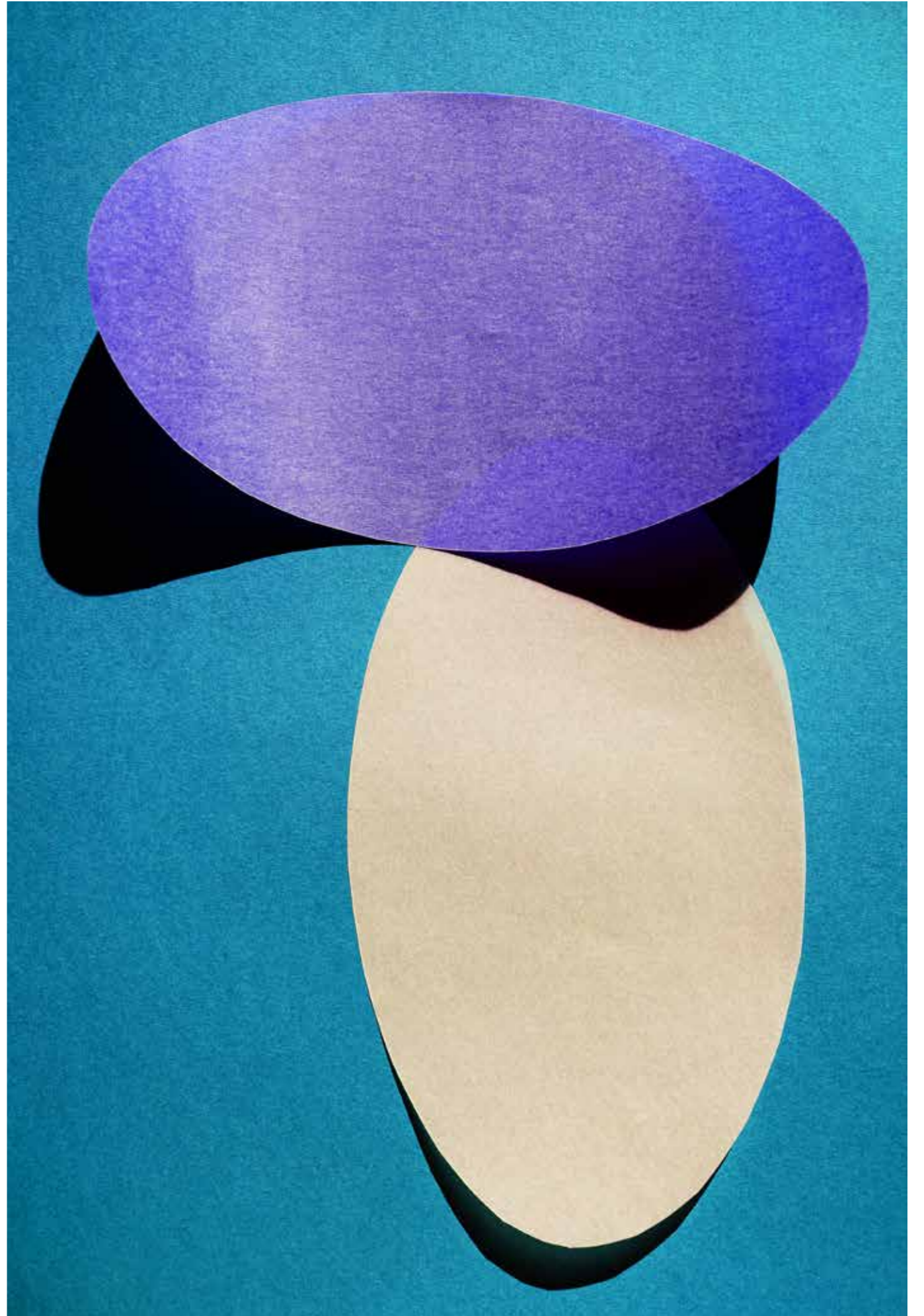


Jessica Backhaus, *Cut Out 31* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.





Jessica Backhaus, *Cur Out 35* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.

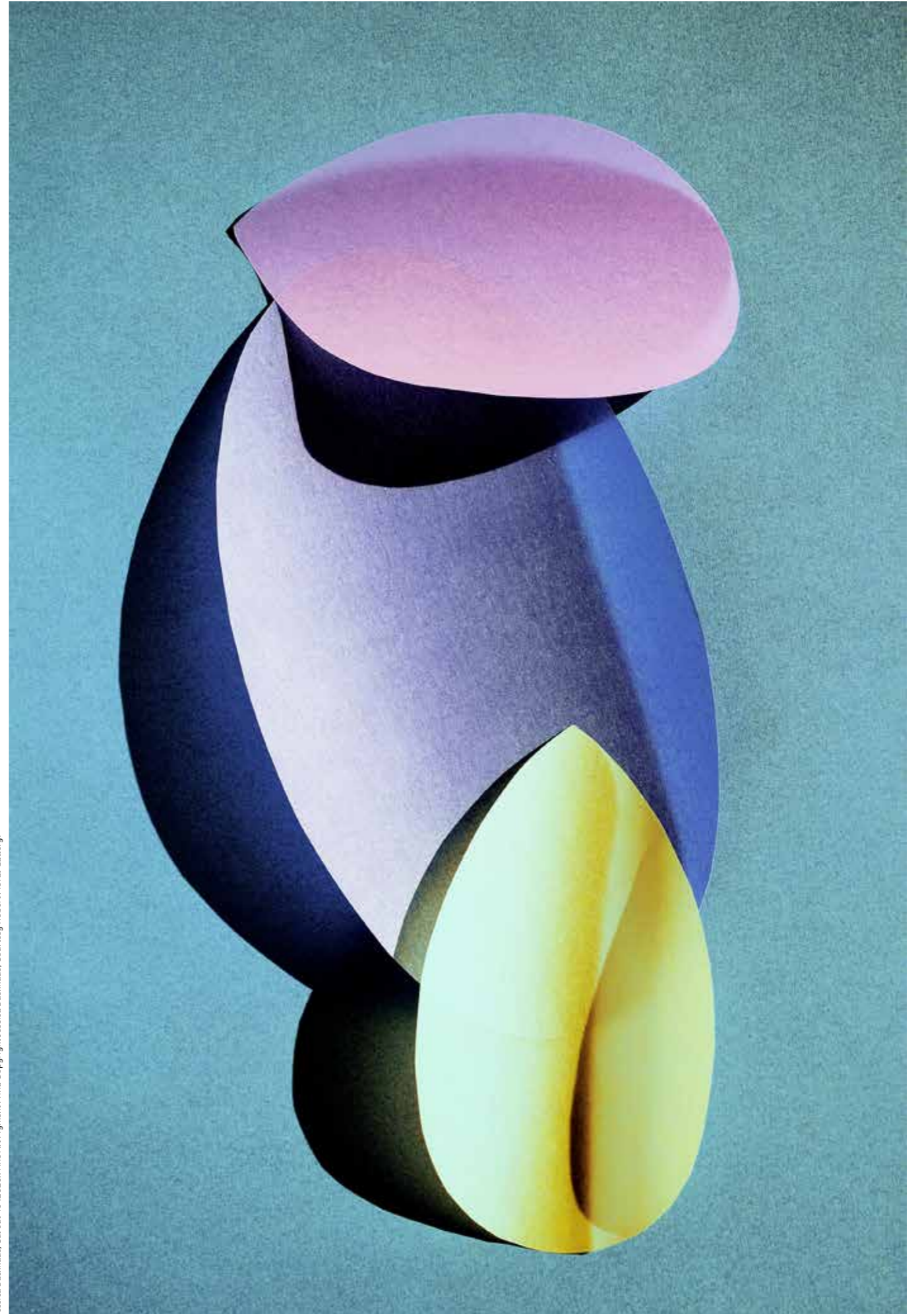


Jessica Backhaus, *Cur Out 30* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.





Jessica Backhaus, *Cur Our 32* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.



Jessica Backhaus, *Cur Our 40* (2020). Fine Art Pigment Print. Copyright Jessica Backhaus, Courtesy Robert Morat Gallery.