Graphically powerful, the works of François Carrier transport us into a mysterious realm. Abstract by definition, his pictorial language allows nevertheless enough place for the imagination, so that the viewer can find points of reference that he feels he recognizes. This is the joy of an adventure; each person can find his own references. Carrier’s canvases, marked by grooves done with a dry point, are rich in texture due to the artist’s use of plaster and mixed media. Carrier likes to play with the contrast between the fluid and the rigid, shadow and light, creating dramatic tension.

Born in Lévis, François Carrier began experimenting with plaster and its derivatives when still in school. His first works were textured, monochromatic pieces. His affection for the material was visible. The moment marking his creative evolution came in 2005, during his second exhibition at Galerie Louise Carrier. The addition of colour was like a breath of fresh air that drew new interest in his work, opening doors to other galleries and bringing the artist greater visibility.

And still, he admits to having trouble with colour, fearing falling into the facile, the cliché. This resistance will lead to more research and experimentation, allowing the artist to concentrate on the true object of his creativity: deconstruction of the form and focusing on the gestural. Intuitively, he juxtaposes the accidental with the voluntary gestures. The resulting image is beyond time, charged with memory and a universal creative power.

*Reliquus 17, mixed media, 12x12”*