

CLIVE HICKS JENKINS

THE ILLAD & THE ODYSSEY

ARTWORKS FOR THE
FOLIO SOCIETY HOMER



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THE ILIAD & THE ODESSEY:
Artworks for the Folio Society Homer

28 FEBRUARY - 22 MARCH 2026

CELF GALLERY

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In 2023 Clive Hicks-Jenkins was invited to produce an illustrative companion for the Folio Society's new double-edition of Homer's *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. From his then Aberystwyth home, and now new home and studio in Monmouthshire, Clive has over the course of these past years completed this undertaking with the Folio Society's release of a breathtakingly beautiful unfolding box containing two quarter-bound books of these classic texts as translated by Emily Wilson. With this work he continues a long-standing partnership with the Folio Society, gaining a certain synonymity and prominence on the bookshelves of many.

With the limited double edition now sold out, and The Folio Society about to launch the standard single editions (*The Iliad* in March, and *The Odyssey* in August), Celf Gallery is delighted to be hosting an exhibition of the original artwork of these foundational epics.

Using his approach of painting in gouache and overlaying with pencil, Clive rested on the use of this limited opaline palette of golds and blues imposed on a jet black surface. The effect is stunning and the result of an arduous creative process that starts with a studied reading of the texts and a long cast-list of potential characters and narrative scenes. Flat maquettes with moving parts were then produced, a tool, not so far removed from Clive's puppetry and choreography background, in order to arrange compositions within the negative space, photographing them and drawing as he goes.

"I like to put myself in the spaces between the sentences, and to inhabit the places the writer has left unexplored. I play every role, in my head. I make vast numbers of sketches, mostly rough and ready, freely improvising on themes. My project books are comprehensive"

The marriage of Clive's illustrative style to the mythic and ancient Greek world of Homer is a curiously fitting match. Indeed there's something of Clive's work which feels antediluvian, as having roots deep down in the mantle of the visual language of drama, myth, and the fantastical, befitting for the gods and monsters of these works whose place is at the very centre of western art and literature.

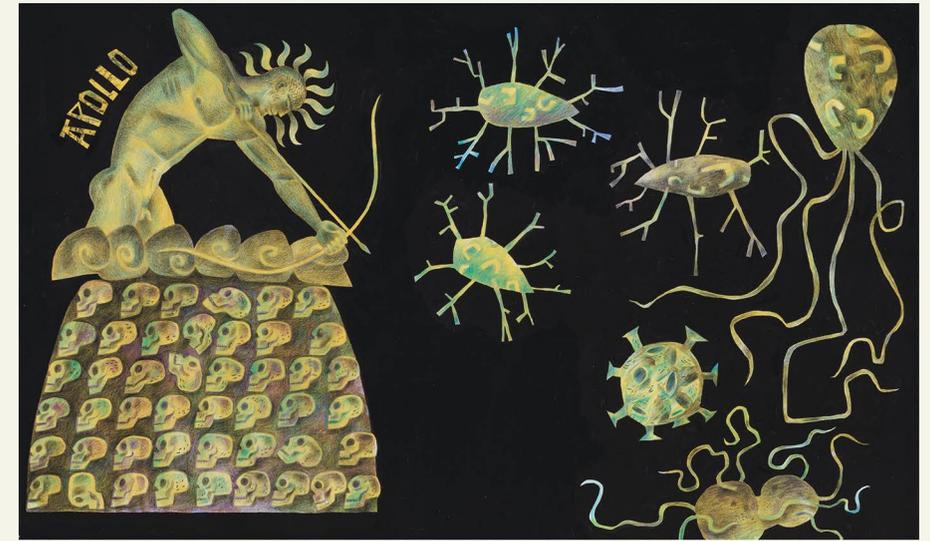
There will be approximately 30 works in the exhibition including original double page illustrations, studies and maquettes.

THE ILLAD

1 *Athena at War* (Cover of the standard edition of *The Iliad*, forthcoming March), 2025
gouache and pencil on board



2 *Apollo and the Arrows of War*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



3 *Thanatos and Hypnos Bearing Sarpedon to the Underworld*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



4 *The Funeral Pyre of Patroclus*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



5 *Achilles* (Cover of *The Iliad* 'special edition'), 2025
gouache and pencil on board



6 *The Judgement of Paris*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board





*Athena at War (Cover of the standard edition
of The Iliad, forthcoming March), 2025
gouache and pencil on board
37 x 60 cm*



*Apollo and the Arrows of War, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
44 x 68 cm*



*Thanatos and Hypnos Bearing Sarpedon
to the Underworld, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
39 x 62 cm*



*The Funeral Pyre of Patroclus, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
46 x 70 cm*



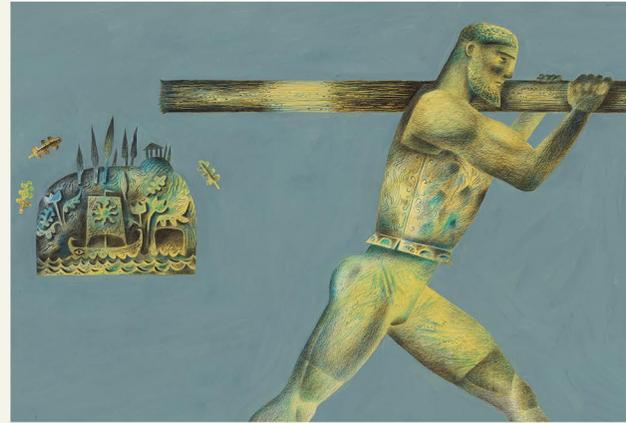
Achilles (Cover of The Iliad 'special edition'), 2025
gouache and pencil on board
42 x 71 cm



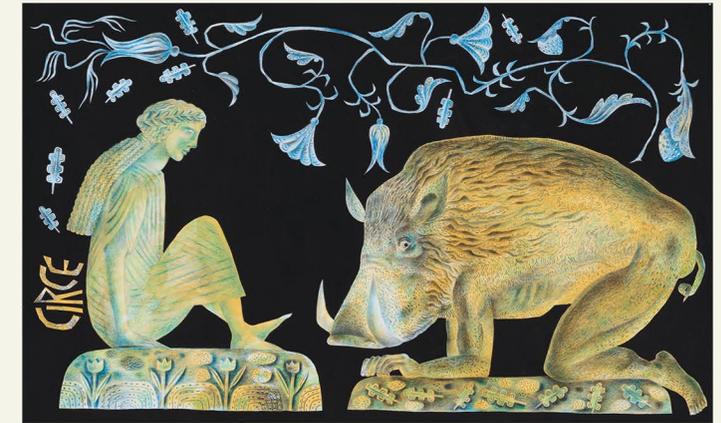
The Judgement of Paris, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
45 x 66 cm

THE ODYSSEY

1 *Odysseus Attacks the Cyclops*
(Cover of the standard edition of *The Odyssey*, forthcoming this summer), 2025
gouache and pencil on board



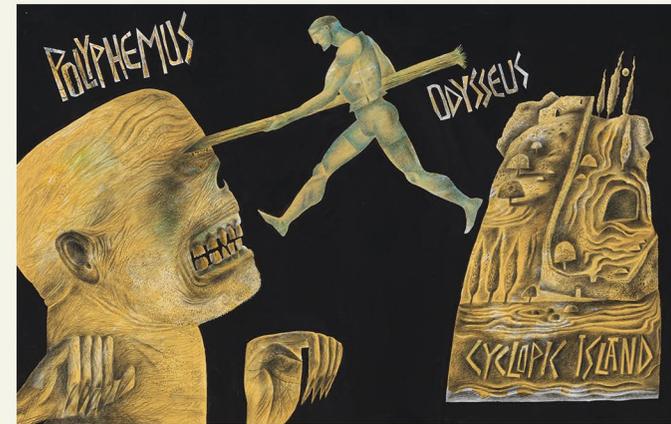
2 *Odysseus and the Night Heron*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



3 *Circe the Enchantress*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



4 *Eumaeus and Odysseus at the Spring*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



5 *Polyphemus Blinded*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



6 *Odysseus Summons the Dead The Heroes*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board



7 *Odysseus and the Sirens*
(Cover of *The Odyssey* 'special edition'), 2025
gouache and pencil on board



8 *Scylla* gouache and pencil on board , 2025



9 *Penelope and the Double-Headed Axes*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board

THE ODYSSEY

10 *The Horse of Troy, 2025*
gouache and pencil on board



11 *Study for Odysseus Summons the Dead the Noblewomen, 2025*
gouache and pencil on board



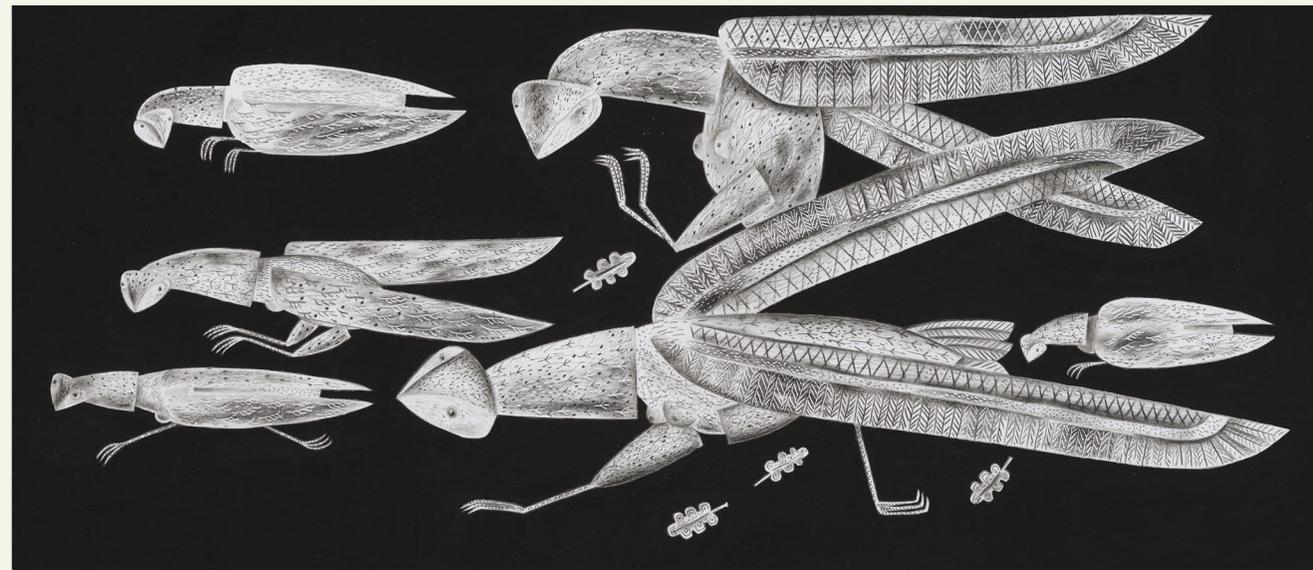
12 *Sacrifice to Athena, 2025*
gouache and pencil on board



13 *The Slaying of Melanthius, 2025*
gouache and pencil on board



14 *Flight of Harpies, 2025*
gouache and pencil on board



15 *Large Articulated Maquette for Athena's Chariot Horse*
gouache and pencil on card 2025 59 x 64





*Odysseus Attacks the Cyclops (Cover of the standard edition of The Odyssey, forthcoming this summer), 2025
gouache and pencil on board
42 x 58 cm*



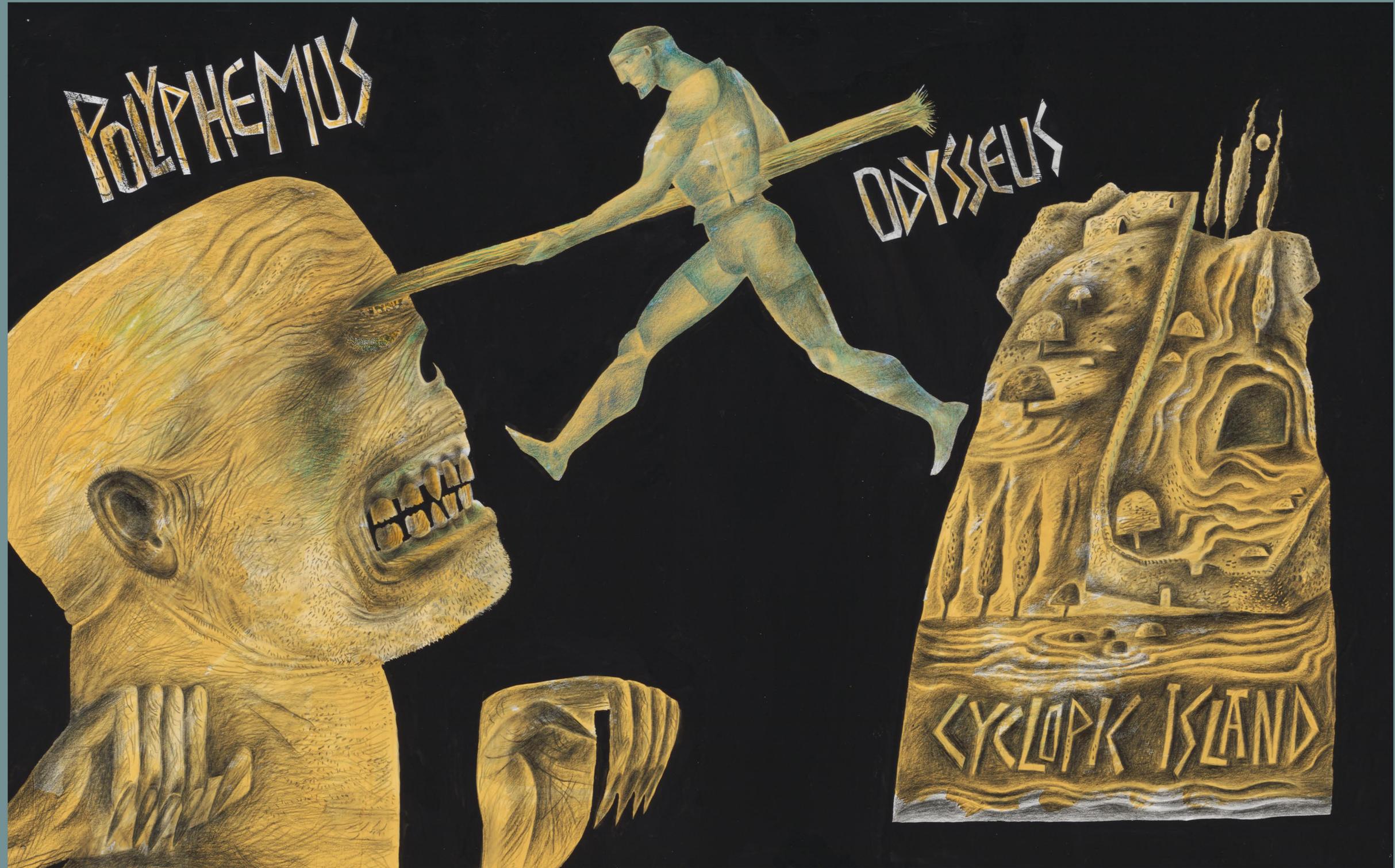
*Odysseus and the Night Heron, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
44 x 66 cm*



Circe the Enchantress, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
40 x 65 cm



*Eumaeus and Odysseus at the Spring, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
42 x 66 cm*



Polyphemus Blinded, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
45 x 68 cm



Odysseus Summons the Dead The Heroes, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
41 x 67 cm



Odysseus and the Sirens (Cover of The Odyssey 'special edition'), 2025
gouache and pencil on board
46 x 69 cm



Scylla, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
41 x 65 cm



*Penelope and the
Double-Headed Axes, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
38 x 66cm*



*Study for the Horse of Troy, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
61 x 84 cm*



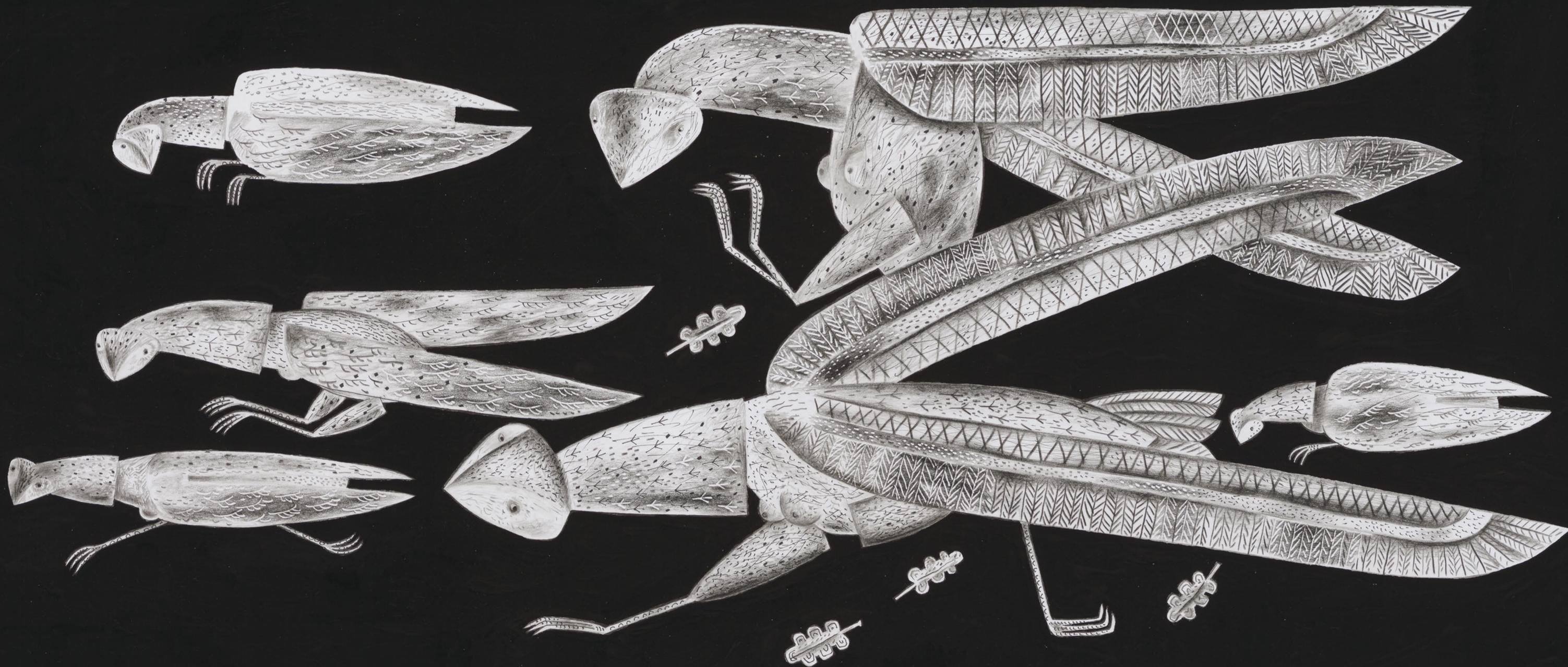
Study for *Odysseus Summons the Dead the Noblewomen*, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
41 x 67 cm



Study for Sacrifice to Athena, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
61 x 84 cm



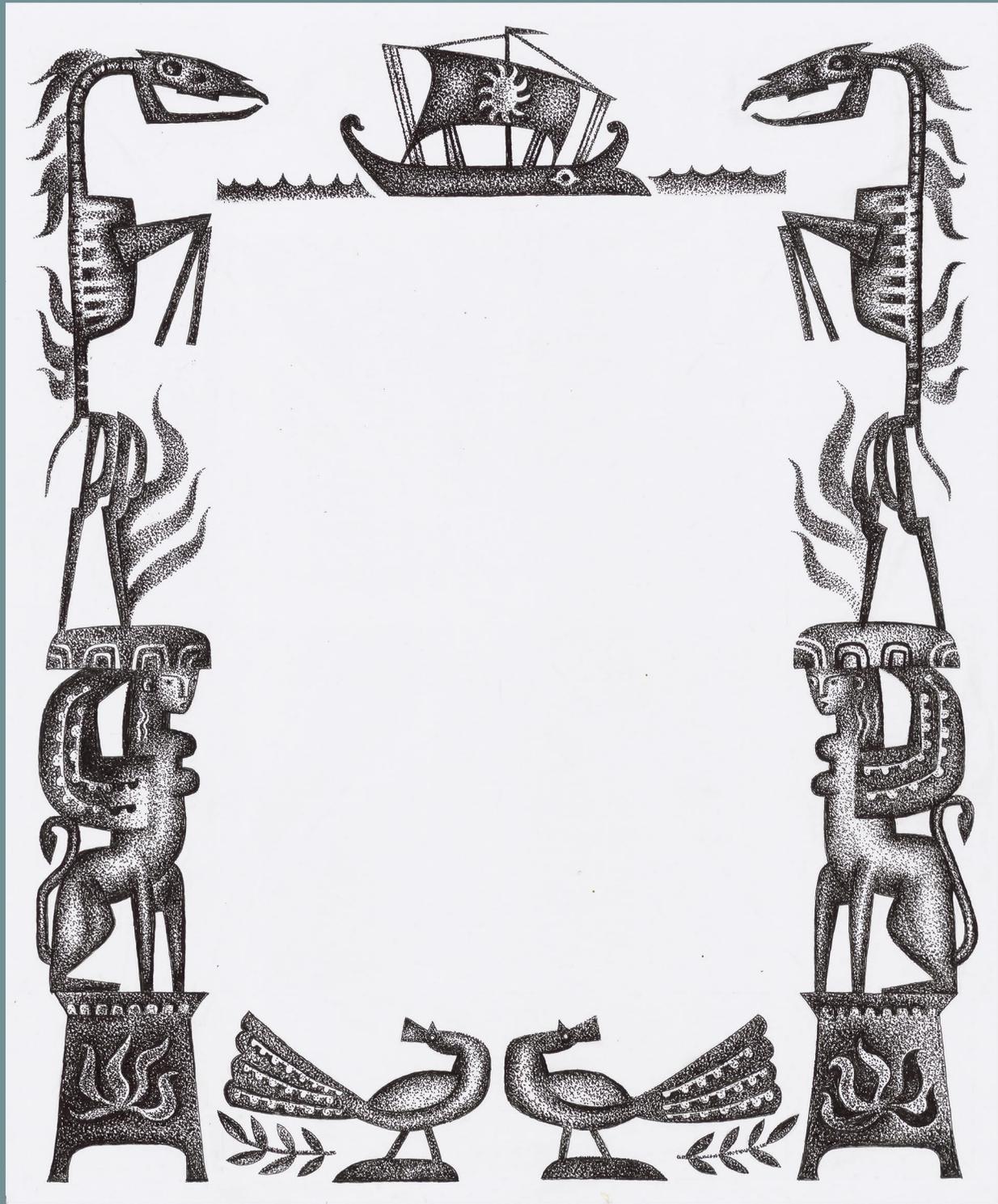
The Slaying of Melanthius, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
42 x 66 cm



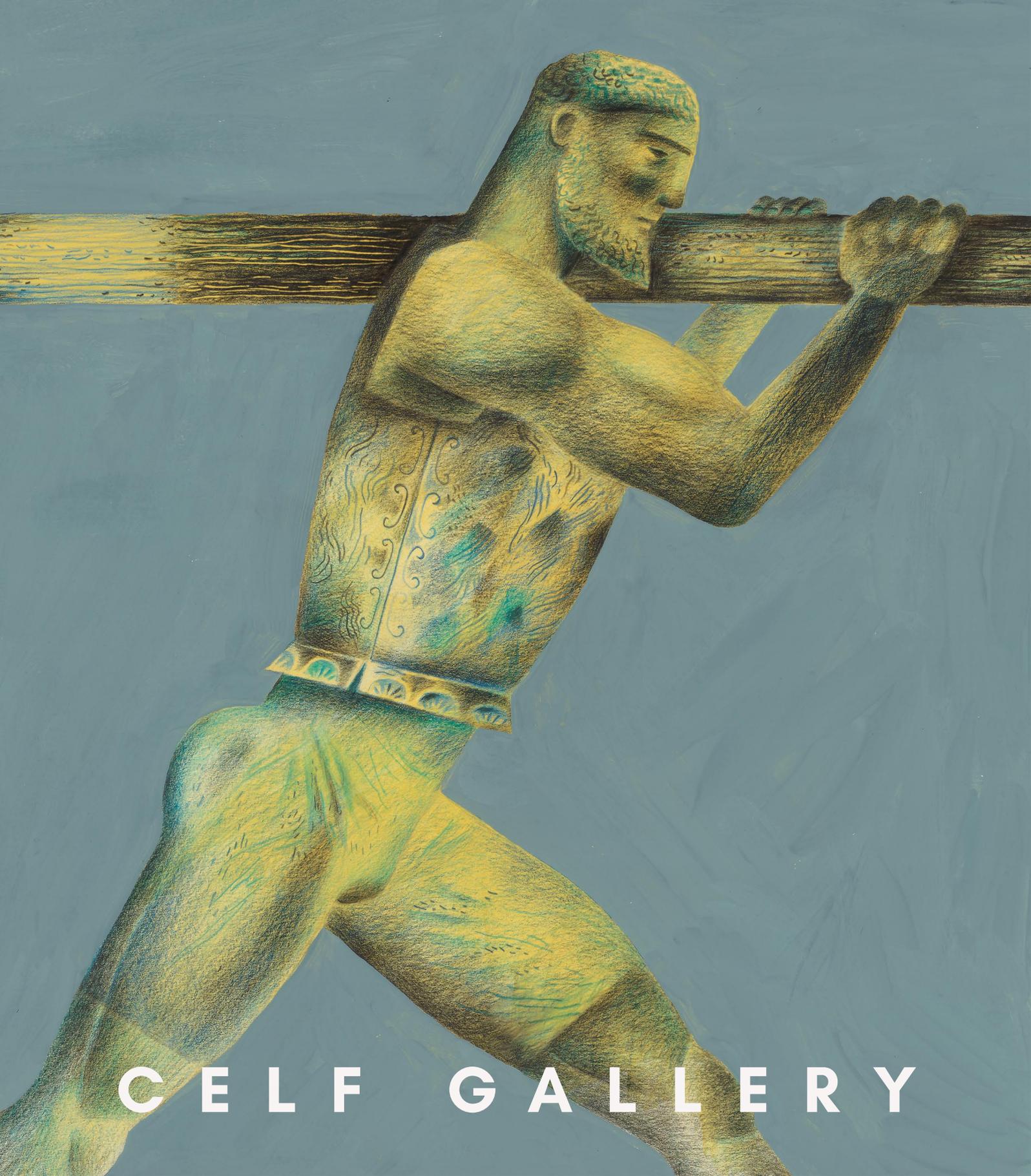
Flight of Harpies, 2025
gouache and pencil on board
37 x 78 cm



*Large Articulated Maquette for Athena's Chariot Horse, 2025
gouache and pencil on card
59 x 64 cm*



*Decorated border for The Iliad and The Odyssey, 2025
ink on board
42 x 32 cm*



C E L F G A L L E R Y