# WARDELL MILAN

# ETCHINGS, 2023-24

Wardell Milan's large-scale prints are complex, multi-layered compositions that combine a myriad of etching techniques with linocuts and woodcuts. They depict human bodies immersed in arcadian landscapes, which were drawn on copper plates with etching needles, brushes and acid, interspersed with silvery blossoms which were printed from woodblocks and linoleum. They offer an almost utopian counterproposal to Wardell Milan's previous etchings, which referred to the political and social reality of the United States with explicit and at times brutal honesty.

For all their serenity, the etchings still present the human body as fundamentally political: his protagonists interact not through words, but through body language and touch; they seem removed from societal power struggles, but they still negotiate social relationships through sexual and spiritual intimacy.



### Wardell Milan

Giovanni and his erotic spirits, 2024

Line etching, spit bite aquatint, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, drypoint, water bite aquatint, soft ground etching, woodcut

Hahnemühle Bütten 350 g

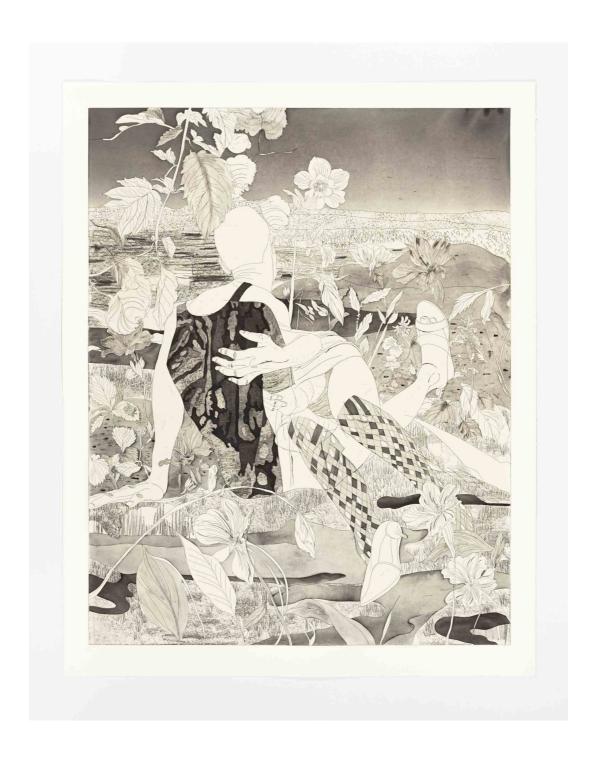
99 x 126,5 cm (image); 118 x 144 cm (paper)

38,98 x 49,8 in (image); 46,46 x 56,69 in (paper);

Edition of 16 + 3 AP

6.800 EUR

WaM 24 001-1.4



## Wardell Milan Lovers, taking in the air, 2023

Drypoint, line etching, burnisher, aquatint, soft ground etching, spit bite aquatint, open bite, water bite aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 350 g

126 x 99 cm (image); 144 x 116,5 cm (paper) 49,61 x 38,98 in (image); 56,69 x 45,87 in (paper); Edition of 16 + 3 AP 6.800 EUR WaM 23 001-1.1



### Wardell Milan

He darts his tongue out of his tingling lips, 2023

Drypoint, line etching, burnisher, aquatint, soft ground etching, spit bite aquatint, water bite aquatint, woodcut, linocut Hahnemühle Bütten 350 g

99 x 126 cm (image); 116,5 x 144 cm (paper) 38,98 x 49,61 in (image); 45,87 x 56,69 in (paper); Edition of 16 + 3 AP 6.800 EUR WaM 23 002-1.1

# THE BALCONY: THE WORLD IS MADE OF EGGS, 2022

Wardell Milan's work explores the absurdity of politics, sociopolitical structures, power dynamics and spectatorship on one's personal existence. *The Balcony* alludes to the relationship between performer and spectator in a theatre setting. Milan imagines the viewers observing the action 'as if they are sitting above in a balcony watching the melodrama unfold before them.' In his work, human bodies become stages on which questions of gender, race, sexuality and power are being negotiated.

Milan first initiated *The Balcony* by creating a suite of eight etchings in 2019. In 2022, he extends the portfolio through a second series of eight etchings entitled *The Balcony: The World is Made of Eggs*. Though made at different times, both suites are strongly affected by the circumstances in which they came into being and the way Milan engages with the visual culture surrounding him, including imagery from news feeds.

Milan has used images from the news or magazines as reference points for the compositions, which are executed on copper plates. The result is a portfolio of prints that have evolved between 2019 and 2022, employing a range of time-honoured printmaking techniques which are executed in a range of grey tones, pattern and line work to create decidedly contemporary, politically charged visual narratives.



### Wardell Milan

Fire, Debris and Charred Mannequins: A Missile Strike Hits a \_\_ Shopping Center, 2022
Line etching, aquatint, open bite, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping

Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $32.5 \times 25.5$  cm (image);  $50 \times 39.5$  cm (paper)  $12.8 \times 10.04$  in (image);  $19.69 \times 15.55$  in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 22 001-1.8



### Wardell Milan

We don't want devils in the house. We only want the Lord, 2022

Line etching, aquatint, water bite aquatint, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping

Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

32,5 x 25,5 cm (image); 50 x 39,5 cm (paper)

12,8 x 10,04 in (image); 19,69 x 15,55 in (paper);

Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8

1.300 EUR

WaM 22 002-1.8



# Wardell Milan

I never spend this much time with myself, 2022

Line etching, aquatint, open bite, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

25,5 x 35,5 cm (image); 39,5 x 50 cm (paper) 10,04 x 13,98 in (image); 15,55 x 19,69 in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 22 003-1.8



### Wardell Milan

Sisyphus Ascending a Staircase, 2022

Line etching, aquatint, open bite, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping

Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

32,5 x 25,5 cm (image); 50 x 39,5 cm (paper)

12,8 x 10,04 in (image); 19,69 x 15,55 in (paper);

Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8

1.300 EUR

WaM 22 004-1.8



### Wardell Milan

\_\_ Migrants arrive to \_\_ in Record Numbers, on Foot Not by Boat, 2022
Line etching, aquatint, water bite aquatint, spit bite aquatint, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping

Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $25,5 \times 35,5$  cm (image);  $39,5 \times 50$  cm (paper)  $10,04 \times 13,98$  in (image);  $15,55 \times 19,69$  in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 22 005-1.8



### Wardell Milan

The most dangerous thing about being a Black woman in America. Is being a Black woman in America, 2022 Line etching, aquatint, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

> 25,5 x 35,5 cm (image); 39,5 x 50 cm (paper) 10,04 x 13,98 in (image); 15,55 x 19,69 in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 22 006-1.8



# Wardell Milan Our Lives to Live, 2022

Line etching, aquatint, spit bite aquatint, soap ground aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

25,5 x 35,5 cm (image); 39,5 x 50 cm (paper) 10,04 x 13,98 in (image); 15,55 x 19,69 in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 22 007-1.8



### Wardell Milan

The World Rarely Goes Under: Civilians during a Iull in fighting, 2022
Line etching, aquatint, spit bite aquatint, soft ground etching, sugar lift aquatint, burnishing, scraping
Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

 $25,5 \times 35,5$  cm (image);  $39,5 \times 50$  cm (paper)  $10,04 \times 13,98$  in (image);  $15,55 \times 19,69$  in (paper); Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR  $WaM 22 \ 008-1.8$ 

THE BALCONY, 2019



Wardell Milan November 25, 2018, 2019

Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $26\times33~\text{cm (image)};~40\times50~\text{cm (paper)}\\10,24\times12,99~\text{in (image)};~15,75\times19,69~\text{in (paper)};\\Edition of 12+3~\text{AP; Series of 8}\\1.300~\text{EUR}$ 

WaM 19 001-1.12



# Wardell Milan The Priest. The Shooter. The Flag, 2019 Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g 33 x 26 cm (image); 50 x 40 cm (paper) 12,99 x 10,24 in (image); 19,69 x 15,75 in (paper);

Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR WaM 19 002-1.12



# Wardell Milan Trump riding his own dick, 2019 Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g $26 \times 33 \text{ cm (image); } 40 \times 50 \text{ cm (paper)}$ $10,24 \times 12,99 \text{ in (image); } 15,75 \times 19,69 \text{ in (paper);}$ Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR

WaM 19 003-1.12



Wardell Milan Cops shot the Kid, 2019

Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $33 \times 26 \text{ cm (image)}; 50 \times 40 \text{ cm (paper)}$   $12,99 \times 10,24 \text{ in (image)}; 19,69 \times 15,75 \text{ in (paper)}$ Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8

Only available as a set WaM 19 004-1.12



### Wardell Milan

We are a War Country. This is War time, 2019

Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $26\times33~\text{cm (image)};~40\times50~\text{cm (paper)}$   $10,24\times12,99~\text{in (image)};~15,75\times19,69~\text{in (paper)};$  Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300~EUR

WaM 19 005-1.12



Wardell Milan Fuck the Klan, 2019
From the portfolio The Balcony
Aquatint, line etching, soft ground, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g  $33 \times 26 \text{ cm (image)}; 50 \times 40 \text{ cm (paper)}$   $12,99 \times 10,24 \text{ in (image)}; 19,69 \times 15,75 \text{ in (paper)};$  Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8

dition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 1.300 EUR *WaM 19 006-1.12* 



Wardell Milan

I am not crazy life is, 2019

From the portfolio The Balcony

Aquatint, line etching, soft ground etching, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint, drypoint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g

26 x 33 cm (image); 40 x 50 cm (paper) 10,24 x 12,99 in (image); 15,75 x 19,69 in (paper) Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8 Only available as a set WaM 19 007-1.12



# Wardell Milan They have twenty billion irresponsible dollars to spend, 2019 From the portfolio The Balcony Aquatint, line etching, burnishing, spit bite aquatint, sugar lift aquatint Hahnemühle Bütten 300 g 26 x 33 cm (image); 40 x 50 cm (paper) 10,24 x 12,99 in (image); 15,75 x 19,69 in (paper) Edition of 12 + 3 AP; Series of 8

Only available as a set WaM 19 008-1.12