

# Etchings of imaginary worlds

By Rebecca Assoun

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Eternels Passagers

**Yael Braverman**  
specialises in etchings, using a careful and refined technique, to create urban landscapes and human forms, from the past or projected into a distant future.

Braverman has lived in Paris for over 30 years, developing a very personal artistic language.

The etchings on show are grouped in three different series, with each one functioning like a personal book without words.

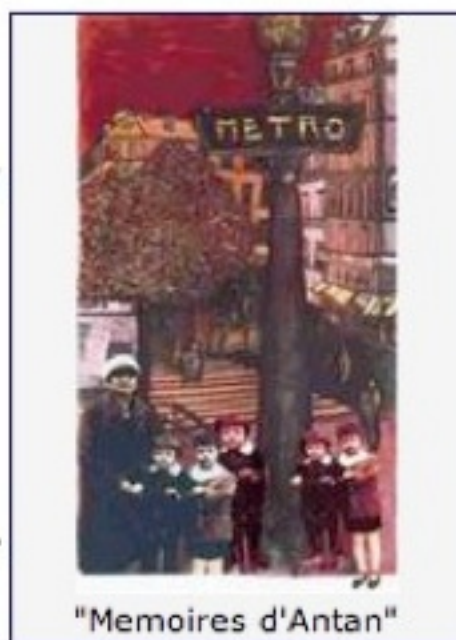
Her artistic influences are the painters Modigliani, Chagall, Matisse because "they had a very personal way of doing things".



## Family portraits

In the series "Memoires d'Antan" (Memories of yesteryear) she uses her family as an inspiration and invites viewers to lose themselves in a space between the imaginary and the real.

In "Chemins d'antan" Braverman uses pictures from the her own family photo album. Here there are faces from bygone days that seem to know nothing about their surroundings. Adults and children, all severely in black and white, are mute in their own dimension without any connection to the space portrayed around them.



"Memoires d'Antan"

Braverman essentially works on the relationship between human beings and the urban fabric. Urban landscapes are the basis of painting; industrial districts with smoking chimneys and railroad tracks. In the foreground, characters move about in search of a chance to live. The artist explores the universe of her dislocated family.

"My works are a symbolic. The characters live in a place but they don't belong to this place. They seem to be placed in the painting by accident. They are nostalgic and oversized compared to the landscapes and always in impossible and strange positions. People are flying or running on roofs," she says.

Their idealised bodies seem to be follow a primordial instinct, a basic need for naturalness.

*The exhibition Memoire d'Antan et Odyssées by Yael Braverman runs at the Peinture Fraiche Gallery until 11 March 2006. Open everyday 13h-19h except Sunday. 29, rue de Bourgogne 75007. Phone : 00 33 1 45 51 00 85*