

MARCO VILLARD

Way Off the Highway

: How far did you go?

: It was way off the highway, behind the hills.

It was way off the highway, behind the hills, behind the train tracks, behind the windmill, through the desert shrubs, behind the blue house with the broken fence, and behind the fallen tree that smelled like a sleepless night, yearning and morning dew. Behind the night, behind all her love and all my flaws, and that small wall that meant so much. Behind her lies, through the river and behind hope. Behind the most wretched day, behind her promises and behind the weeping willow. Behind every time I fell, behind the wildfires and every time you called. Behind the winter and behind the tears, behind that time I didn't say that you were great. Behind my dirty clothes from yesterday. Behind this curve in your lower back and the blood rush to my head. Behind Dawn. Behind the Airstream. Behind the divine and faith and behind that day we lay on the cold tiles or maybe it was wooden floor. Behind them. Behind my morning reflection in your mirror. Through the rain and behind every time I would die for you. Behind every time I wanted to call and I didn't. Behind that day you looked like a whole burning summer and it killed me. Behind the palm of your hand, way off the highway. Under your breath and beyond the hills, I can still feel the taste off the back of my throat.

: Everything here is peaceful beyond words.

Marco Villard

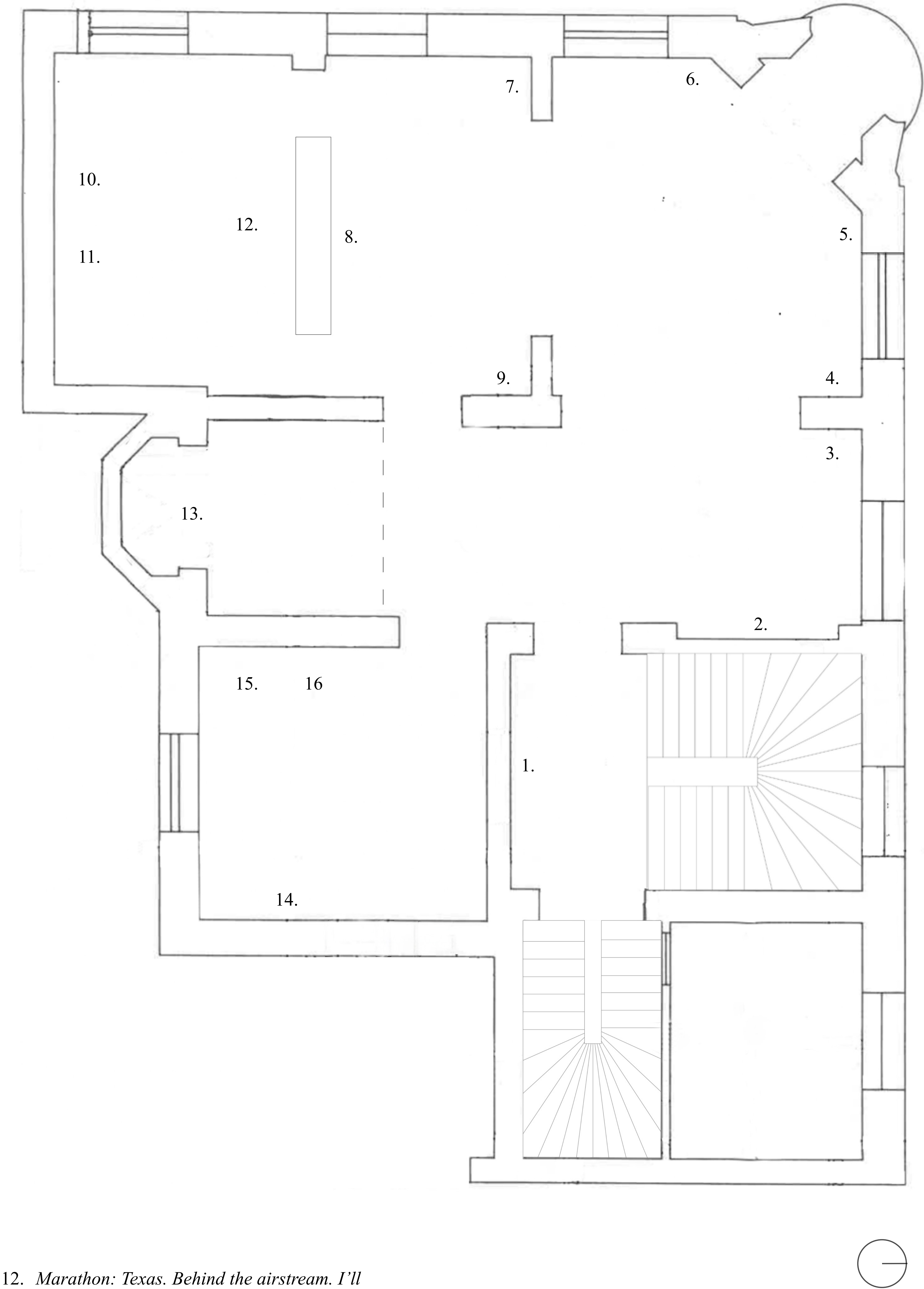
(—b. 1992, New York City, NY, USA)

Marco Villard's practice spans several mediums such as painting, filmmaking, performance and poetry. Villard's work is firmly rooted in symbolism and evokes a meaningful sense of play. Paintings often portray nonsensical figures and animals, accompanied by a rich contrasting color palette, a defining feature of Villard's work and stylistic choice that is uniquely informed by his color blindness.

Villard's oeuvre gives way to a compromise between free-flowing constitutions and art historical structures. Villard's work exists outside the bounds of our contemporary technological society, utilizing mythical forms, overstated compositions, and humanist themes to create new dimensions, allowing viewers to gain from the intimately conveyed motifs of shared human experiences, such as childhood, loneliness, birth, and death.

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1. *Off the highway, life in the country*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
21 x 15 cm
2. *Waking, it was noon*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
175 x 141 cm
3. *Geoffrey and fallen apricot*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
15 x 21 cm
4. *Did you see my wife? piles of letters he's
written and has never sent*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
15 x 21 cm
5. *Did you see my wife? piles of letters he's
written and has never sent III*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
21 x 15 cm
6. *Did you see my wife? piles of letters he's
written and has never sent II*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
20 x 15 cm
7. *Family portrait Long, long ago*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
15 x 21 cm
8. *Little too close to the clouds, sunlight
through the pine trees*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
216 x 152 cm
9. *Marathon: Texas. Behind the airstream .
I'll try to pick up every time you call II*,
2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
26 x 20 cm
10. *Venus, Adonis. A purple flower sprung up
through and above the water lilies II*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
216 x 165 cm
11. *Venus, Adonis. A purple flower sprung up
through and above the water lilies I*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
216 x 165 cm



12. *Marathon: Texas. Behind the airstream. I'll
try to pick up every time you call I*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic on
cotton canvas
20 x 15 cm
13. *The Water Lilies III*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
114 x 90 cm
14. *Pillar I*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
36 x 30 cm
15. *Pillar III*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
36 x 30 cm
16. *Pillar II*, 2026
Oil stick, oil pastel, crayon and acrylic
on cotton canvas
43 x 30 cm