

A celebration of paintings by

Kissel

1st February - 2nd March 2008

*Including the book launch
"Kissel er selbst"*

All paintings can be viewed and purchased on receipt of this catalogue

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G A L L E R Y

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Thoughts about a significant artist

From Prof Dr. Helge Bathelt MA

Excerpts from the book "Kissel er selbst" himself

Kissel is an unconditional painter; - the dominance of colours, of massive outlines and most of all of a high sensual application of colour, he does, by applying the paint with his thumb, in situations where his swift strokes of the brush, or his use of the palette knife seem too distant, such as, when it is vital to transfer a pair of lips, from the model, directly onto the painting.

Another aspect of his interpretation is the intensity of complementary contrasts; adjoining colours and surfaces. Bright red – which Kissel likes to choose as the basic colour- he applies like drapery, expressing the carnal presence of the skin. His use of flesh tones are less conventional, demanding the utmost awareness from the viewer. He often expresses in his paintings the use of facial make up, as a representation of "the feminine" and also an opportunity to convey his own self expression, towards each individual characteristic.

Beside his dramatic use of the colour red, Kissel also offers a more reserved palette- especially where he places his nudes in nature. Almost nude and light skinned bodies, do not seem to stand for any "retournons a la nature". They also do not simply pose, but fulfil their role as a model in a correct and composed way. In combination with delicate green-white blossoms or a Mediterranean-style beach atmosphere, they seemingly express one thought, "fill your own fantasy."

Previously mentioned, his strong sense of contours also needs to be acknowledged. Kissel is able to create shades, by applying unique subtle tints and translucent colours, generating a physical presence of the body, expressing a very natural, almost tactile quality.

Distance and closeness, two contradictions, also show his skill in the art of painting. Kissel's nudes oppose maturity to youth, love to lustful play, adoration and respect to playfulness and finally a desire to possess.

Naturally, Gernot Kissel is also a great painter of floral motives and landscapes, which he interprets with the same methods as described before.

Just as we see it in some of the panoramic landscapes of Derain and in the interiors of Matisse, Kissel also does not show any ambition to present perspective in a "illusionary" way. Instead he combines the painter's view of objects and ambience by the reduced use of expressional style, typical of modern painting, forming a bridge to the late 20th century (for example by using a technical application of paint) and proving that strength and energy can be enhanced through a continuity of art styles, rather than continuous change. Maybe this is actually the reason why even devoted representatives of the hard edged abstract expressionism are touched by Kissel's work and recognise it. What other reaction should we have, when we are confronted with an interpretation of art, which portrays itself in such an accomplished and thoughtful self evident way, as Kissel's latest work? The intensity of his paintings have ever increased; his expressive use of the palette knife reflects that. Therefore a museum showing art of the 19th, 20th and 21st century should, by all means, also include Kissel's work.



Girl in Striped Dress
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Coloured Summer Flowers
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Anna
oil on canvas 80 x 100 cms



Standing Nude
oil on canvas 120 x 70 cms



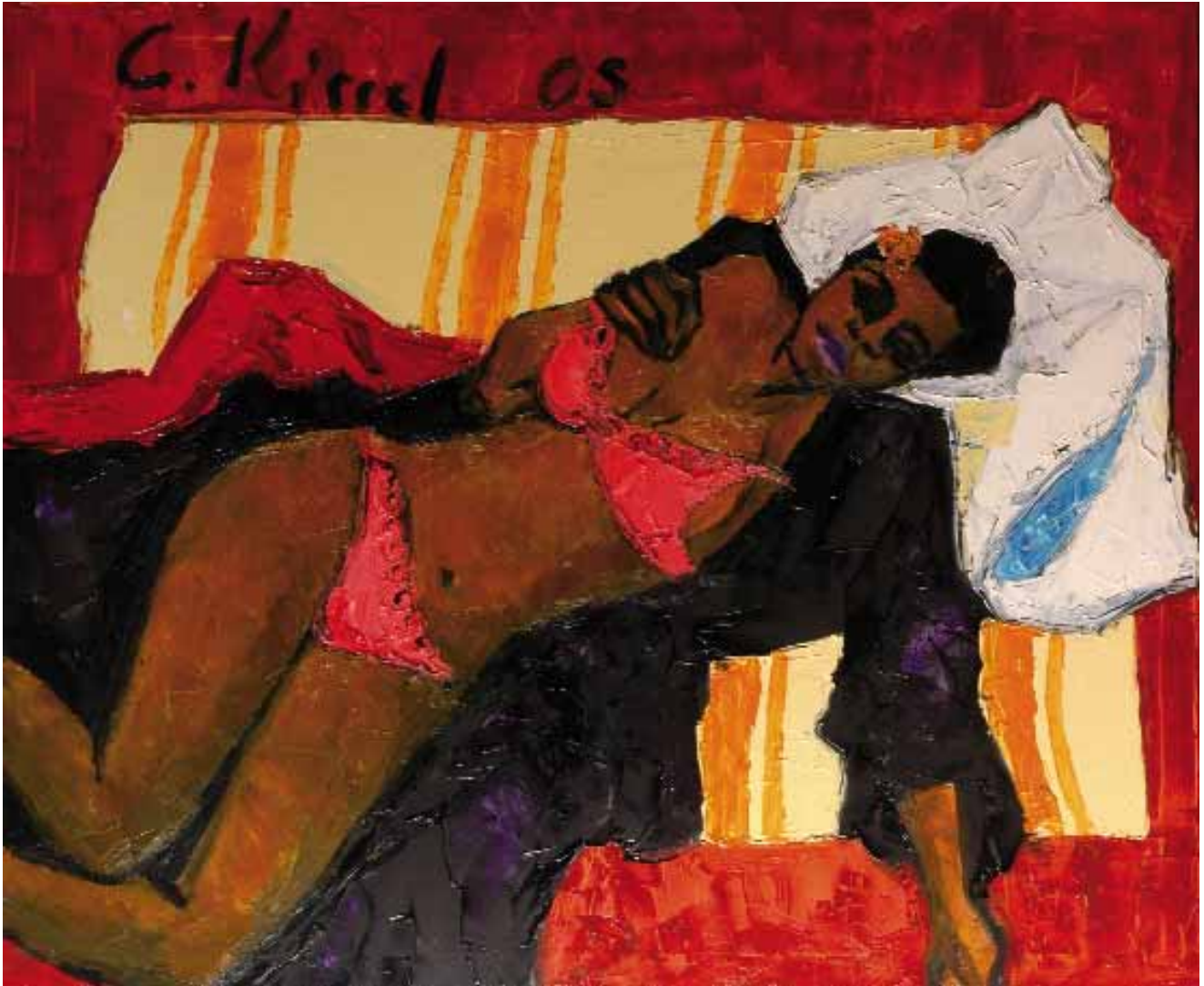
Girl in Floral Dress
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Blonde Girl
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Half Nude on Floral Cloth
oil on canvas 80 x 100 cms



The Red Bikini
oil on canvas 100 x 120 cms



Blonde Lady in Striped Jacket
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



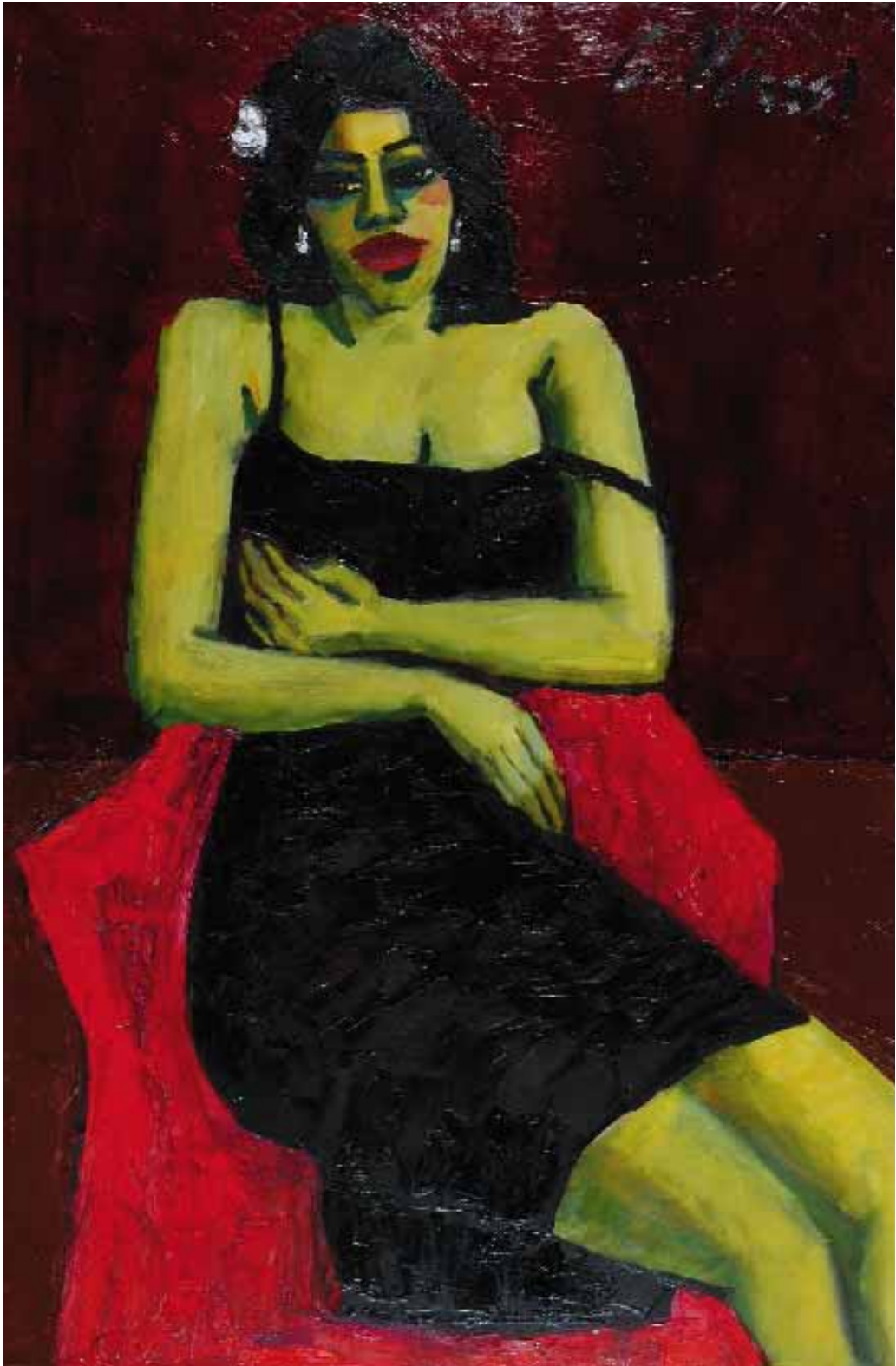
Woman in Pink Shirt
oil on canvas 92 x 66 cms



The Coloured Bouquet
oil on canvas 81 x 65 cms



Woman on Floral Cloth
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Lady in Black
oil on canvas 120 x 80 cms



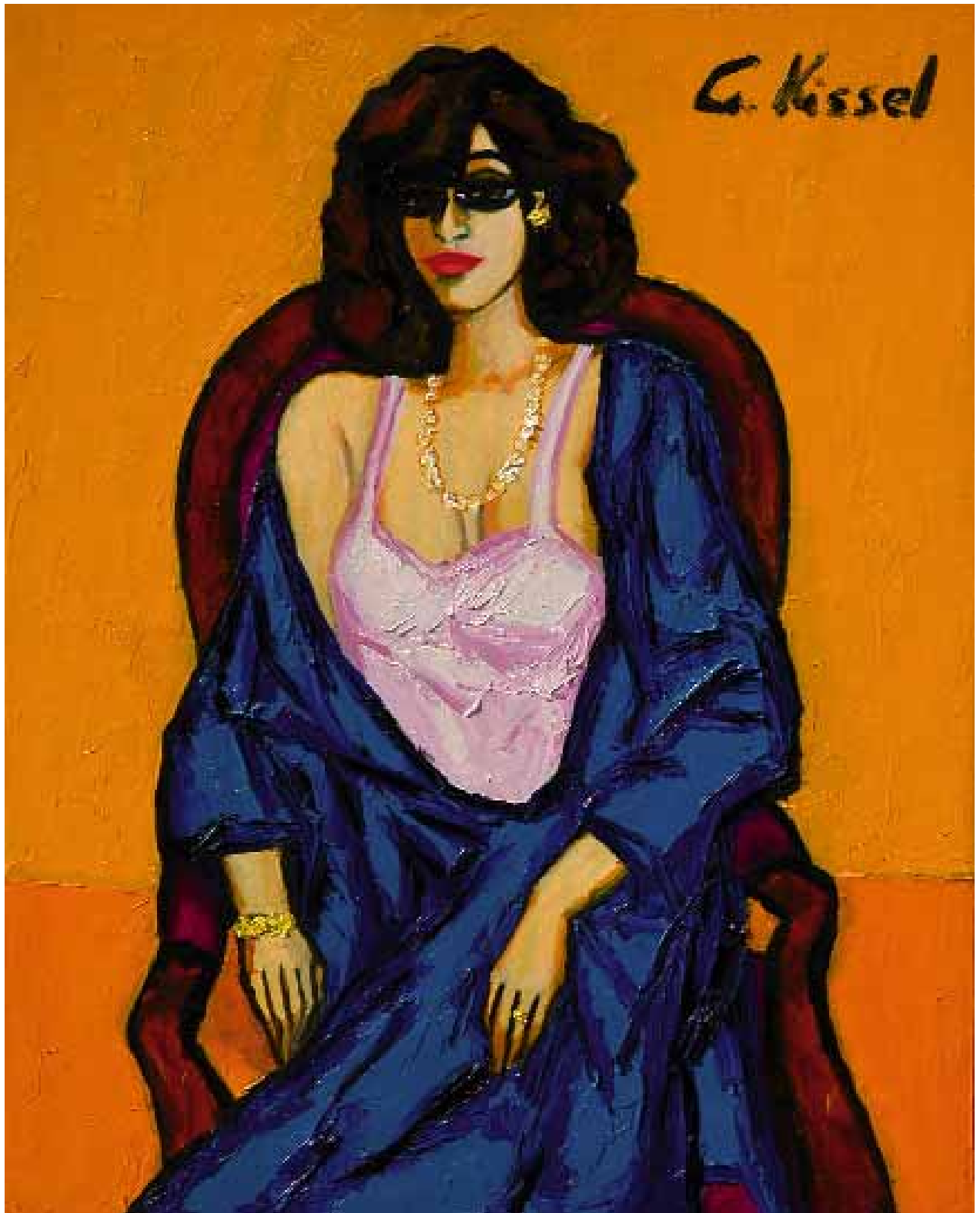
Red Roses
oil on canvas 50 x 50 cms



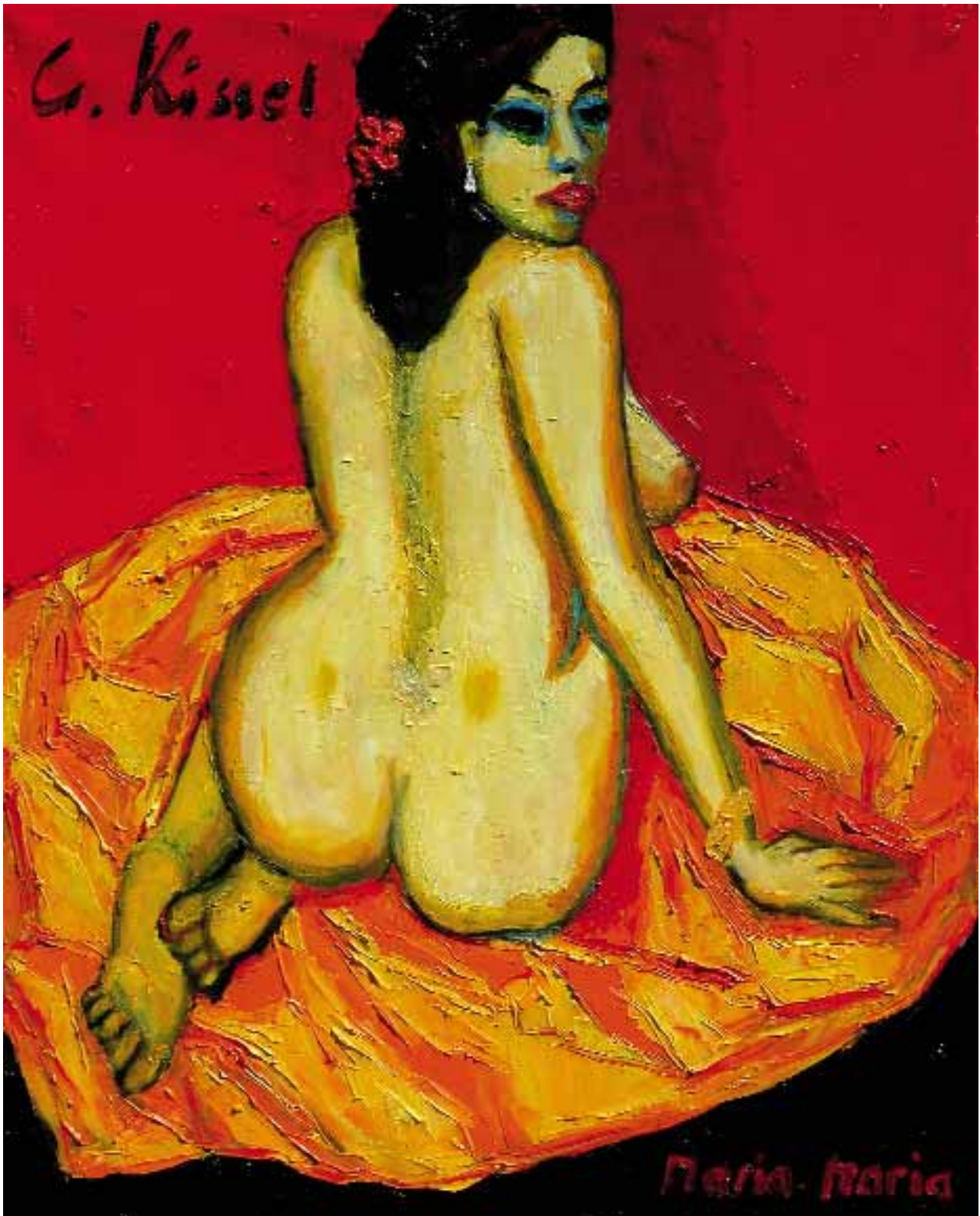
Half Nude with White Cloth
oil on canvas 64 x 49 cms



Seascape
oil on canvas 80 x 100 cms



Elegant Lady
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Maria Maria
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



The Red Corset
oil on canvas 120 x 80 cms



Summer Landscape
oil on canvas 65 x 80 cms



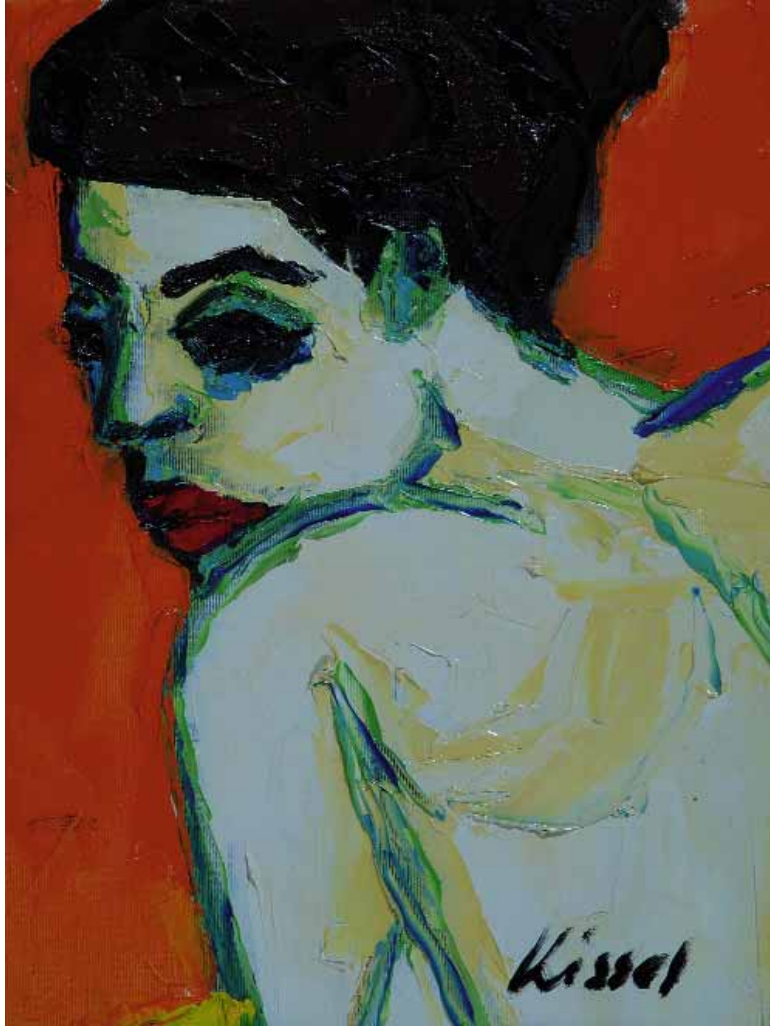
The White Kimono on Blue
oil on canvas 120 x 80 cms



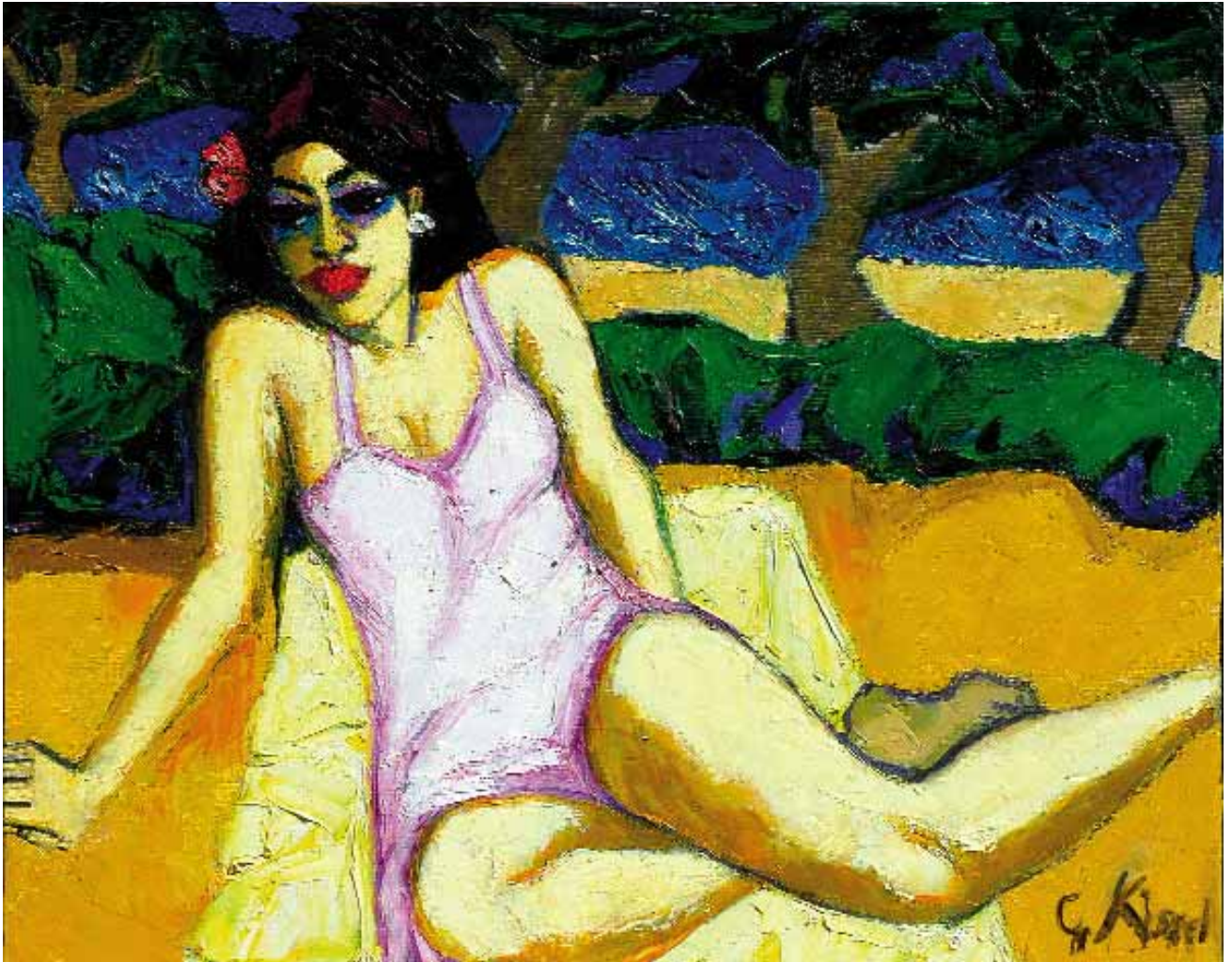
Red Flowers
oil on canvas 40 x 40 cms



Nude with Dog Peper
oil on canvas 80 x 100 cms



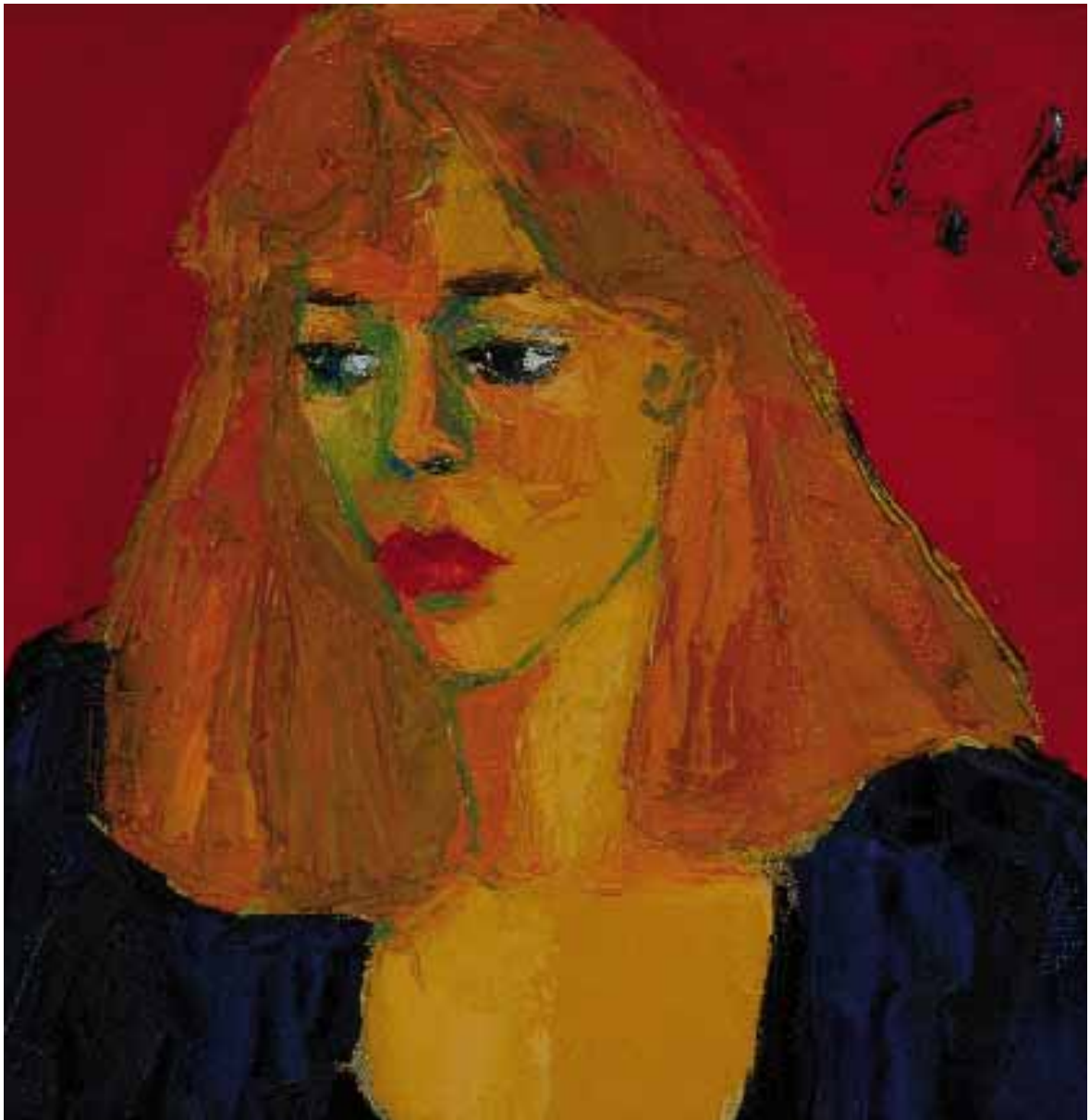
Head III
oil on canvas 43 x 33 cms



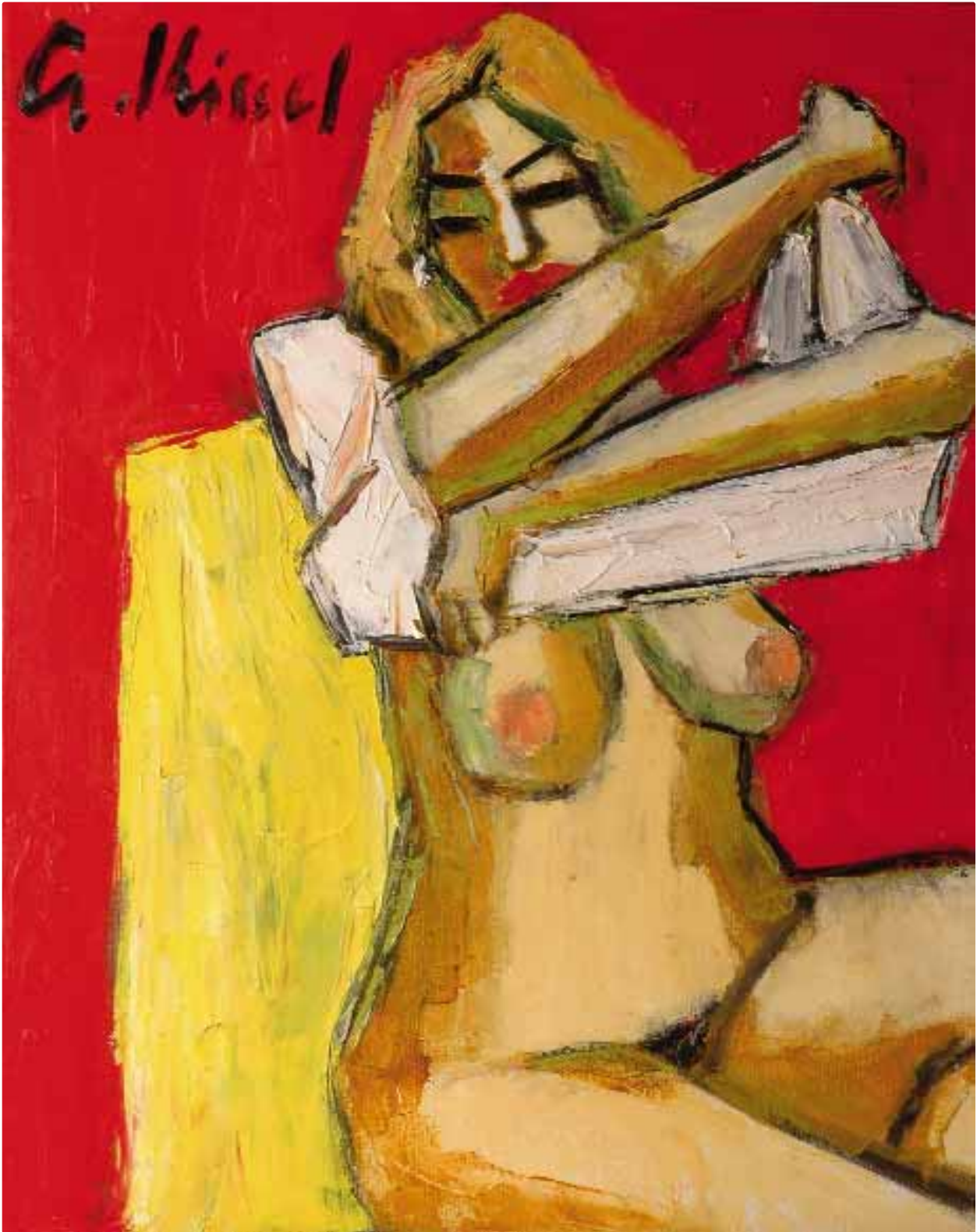
On the Beach
oil on canvas 80 x 100 cms



Bunch of Summer Flowers
oil on canvas 73 x 60 cms



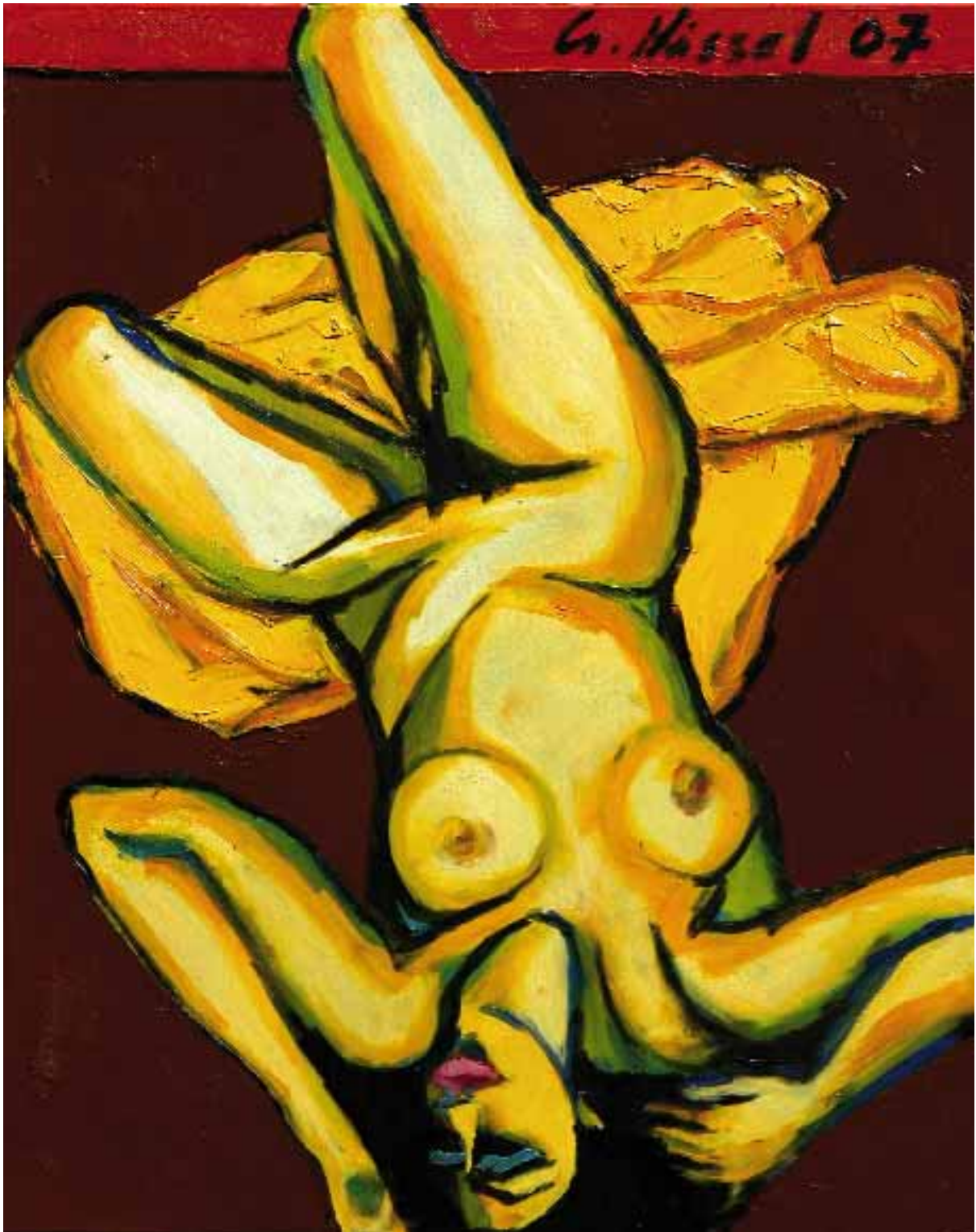
Beautiful Blonde
oil on canvas 50 x 50 cms



Undressing
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



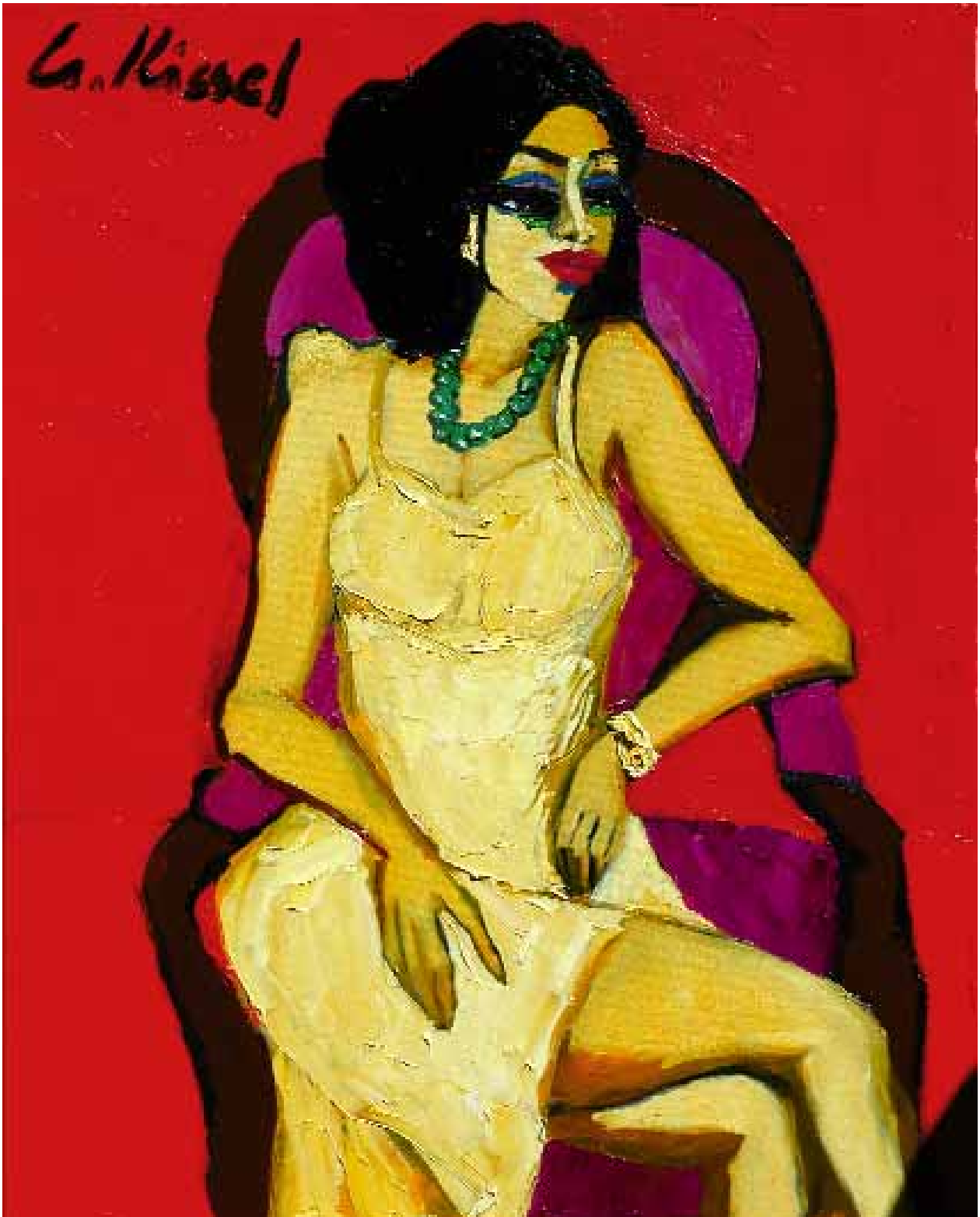
Girl with Red Bag and Shoes
oil on canvas 150 x 72 cms



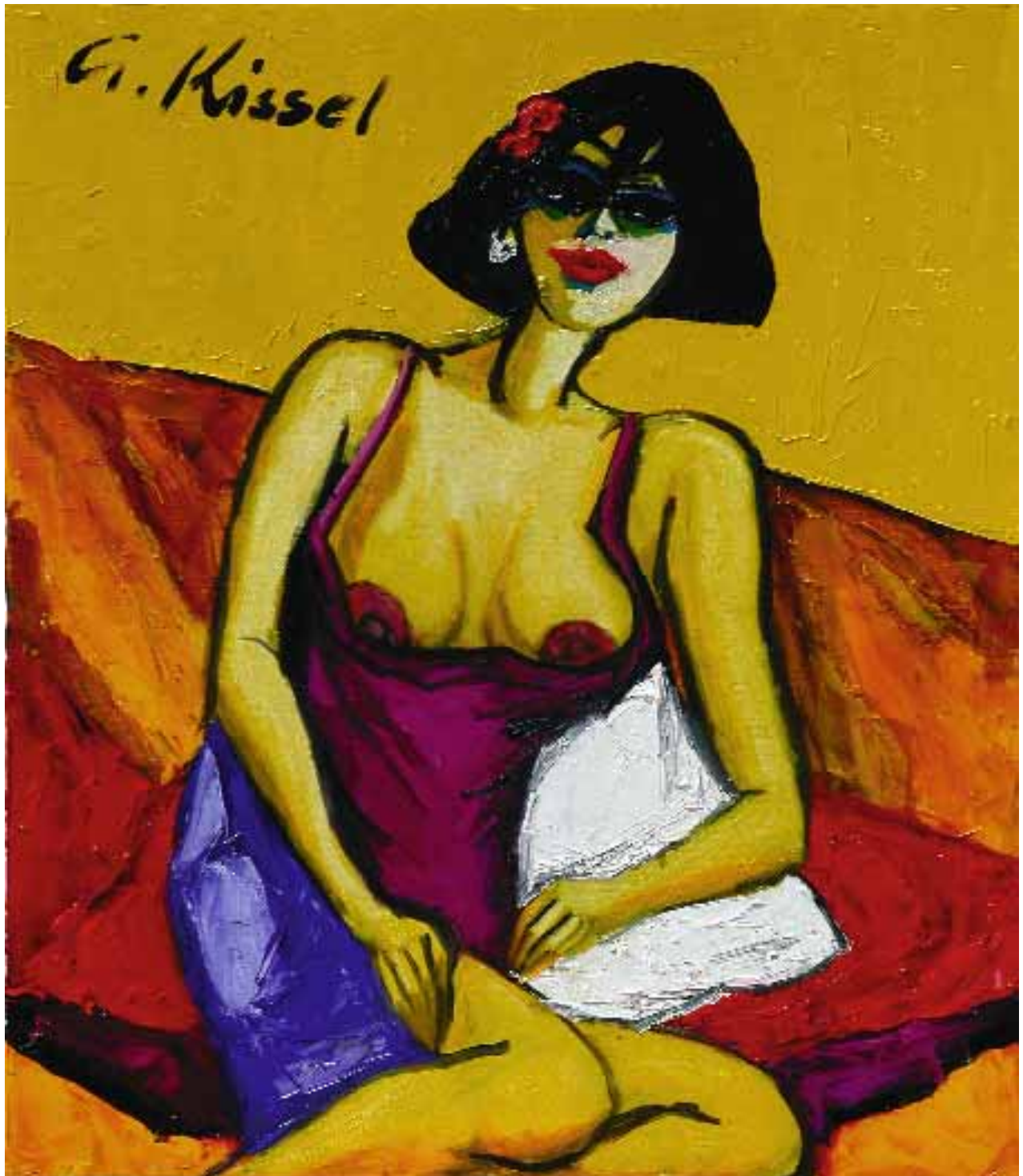
Dreaming
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



Head II
oil on canvas 43 x 33 cms



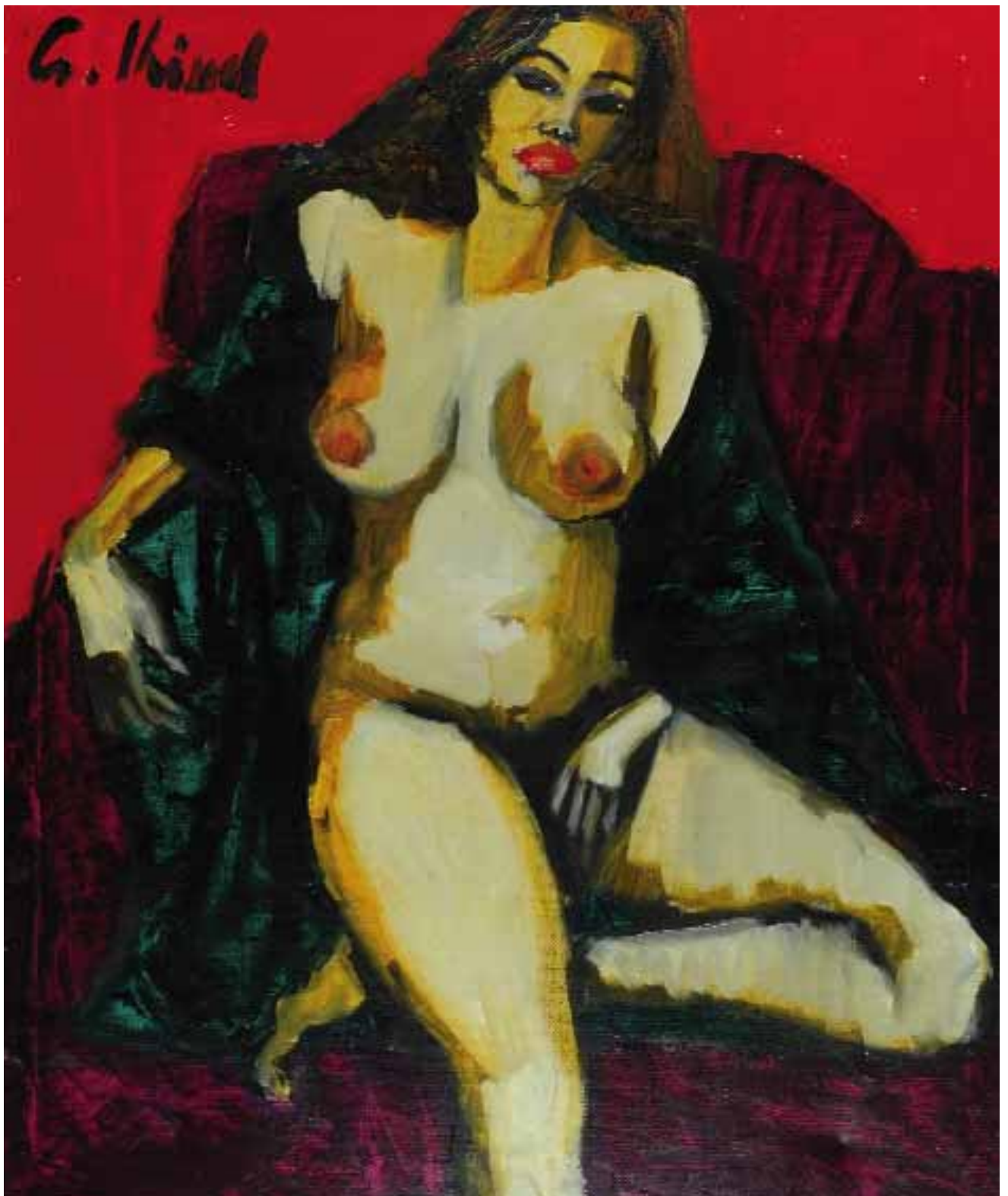
The Lady with Green Necklace
oil on canvas 100 x 80 cms



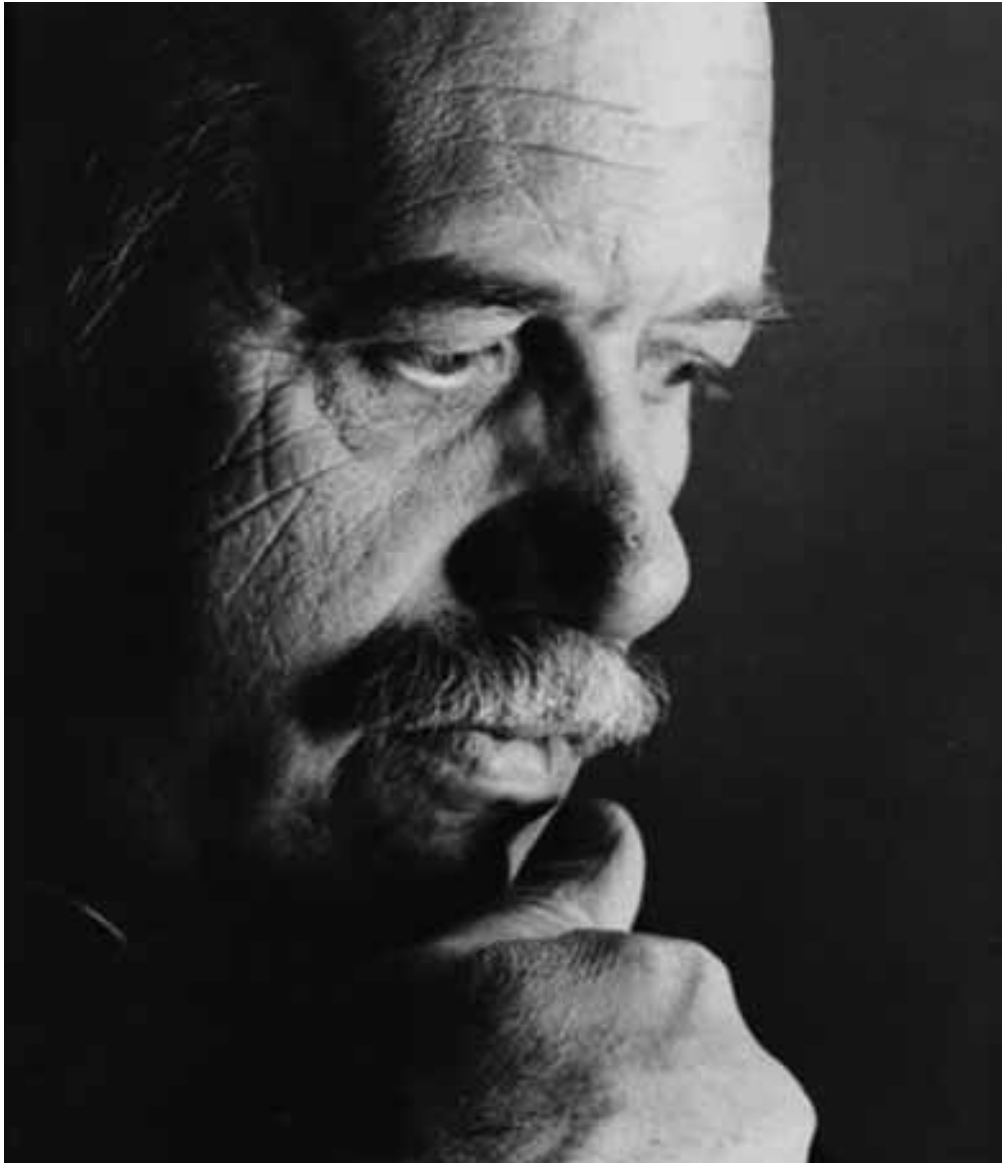
The Purple Top
oil on canvas 88 x 76 cms



Head I
oil on canvas 45 x 37 cms



Nude with Green Robe
oil on canvas 120 x 100 cms



*“To paint a woman one should have a lot of love for them, or let it be.
Otherwise it would be only a kind of polite applause.”*

Gernot Kissel