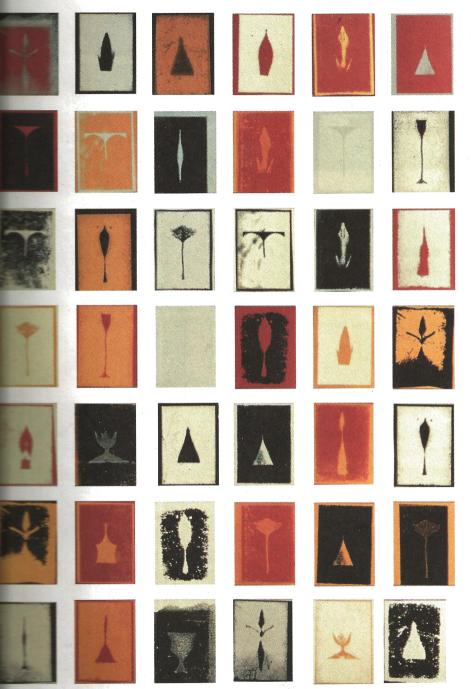
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7. Body Symbols Maria Gracia-Donoso, France

My work is essentially about the human body and this work in San Francisco was made of macro-photos of parts of the body—for example, creases or wrinkles. I made macros embellished with a very powerful lens which gets very close. I put this work on the computer and put on filters. Out came these images which then I made into silkscreens, in metallic colors that represent alchemy, the alchemy of the body.

It is because the body itself is giving off messages through its parts, and forms symbols by this means, that my work is entitled *Body Symbols*. Accordingly, the colors—gold, silver, copper, and black and white—form a part of this symbolic world, a universal language that we all possess, not only in our body, but also in our spirit and mind. It is the language of the subconscious that is dictating to us patterns of movement and what our souls want to express.