

STUDIO
BARTH
HODEL

T A F
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TINIEST ART FAIR BASEL

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The Cube

2018
Prototype

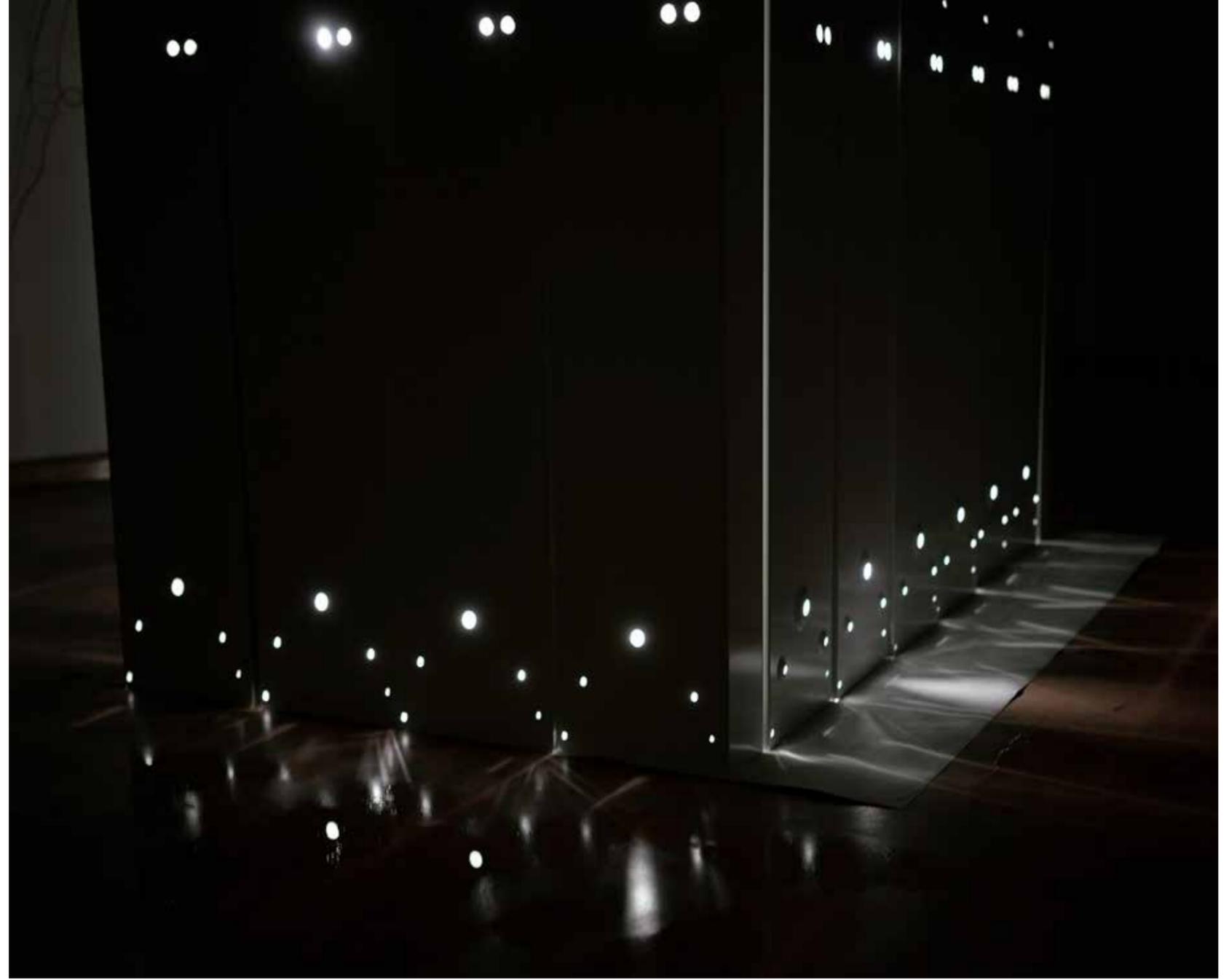
C. Barth
N. Hodel

„The Cube“ as shown during the TAF-B week is a sculpture composed of 26 equal lamps and their metal casing. The individual lamps are turned inwards exposing everything but the neon bulb, therefore the industrial design of the casing is fully exposed, the part of the lamp usually hidden when fixed to the ceiling.

The ready-made aspect is one part of the idea behind the „The Cube“. The individual lamp as such, has something rather dull and nothing to do with “good or bad” taste. This is in full tradition with Duchamp’s idea of ready-made art. From there we could raise the question; If he had used 52 men’s urinals instead of one, would he have created an ornamental fountain instead – most likely a masterpiece very appealing to the modern human mind?

Further we are asking ourselves as artists. “Do we create a certain esthetic value by rearranging a ready-made object, that has a greater meaning than the individual object itself in its functional way?” At last we are on the look out for opportunities to display „The Cube“ to the public and create a “CUBE” for the use in public space, such as a square or a platform near a lake.





Photograms

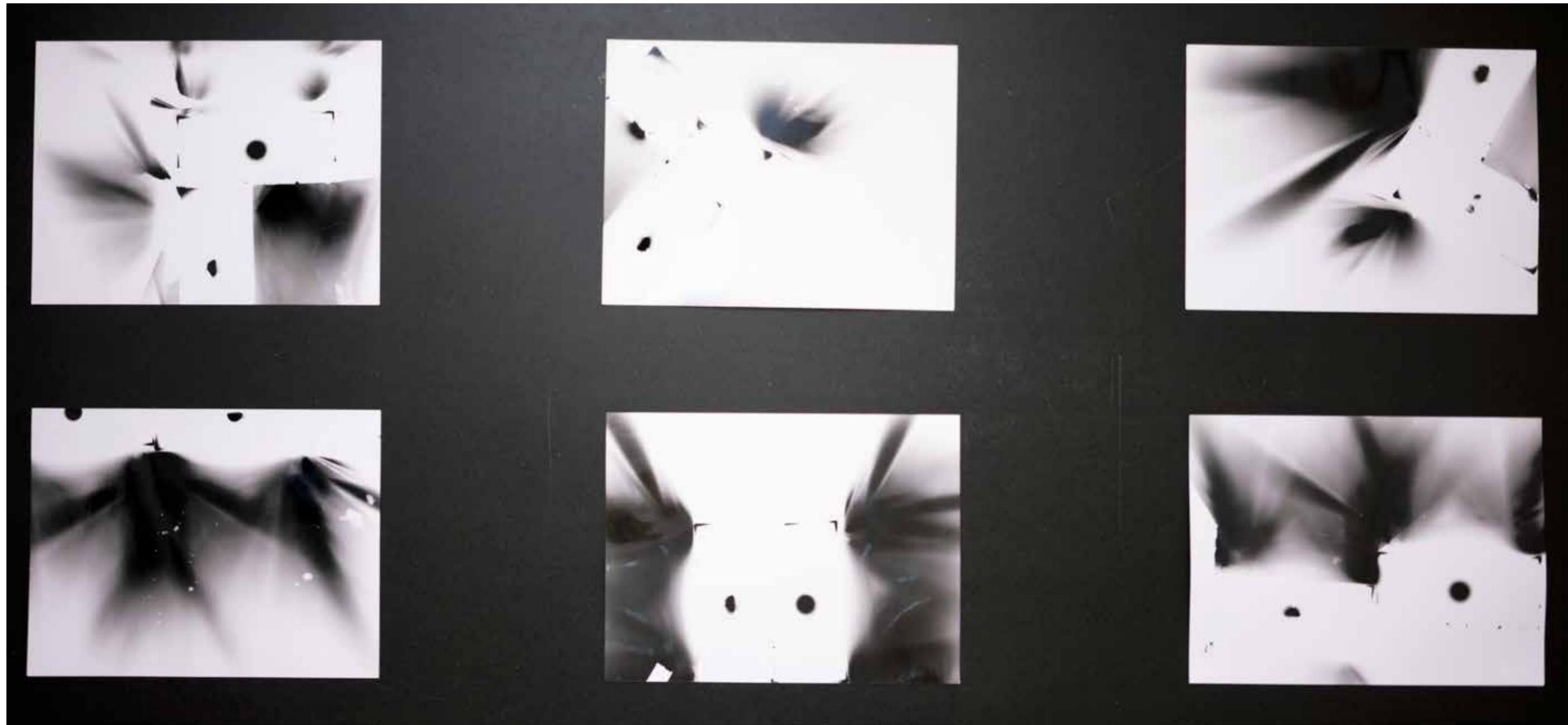
2018
Silverprints

C. Barth
N. Hodel

The photograms are solely an introduction to a possible further use of „The Cube“ in the ongoing artistic process. To us it is imaginable to build “The Cube” inside of a fully equipped dark room and use “The Cube” as the light source from within. This would somehow reverse the traditional role of capturing light, into a box and expose light sensitive material, which is kept in the dark. (Normal camera based photography).

If we build the darkroom (camera obscura) , around the light source and expose light sensitive paper through the many holes “lenses” of “The Cube”, we reversed the roles of spaces and the meaning of light in photography (release vs. capture).

Most likely something that was done before us, with either more or less concequent application. However going through this process, we could generate new images from our light box „The Cube“ and visualize certain esthetics probably unknown in photography.



30 x 40cm

Urban Nostalgia

2015–2018
Silverprints on fiber paper

C. Barth

During the TAF-B two fiber paper based photographs from the ongoing “Urban Nostalgia” series were shown. The series is an exploration of urban environments, with the application of classic b/w film based photography and the artistic approach of blurring the digital world we live in, behind a curtain of nostalgic collective visual memories.



Brooklyn, New York City



Hackney, London

Upon Our Reflection

2015
Oil on Mirror

Nikolai Hodel

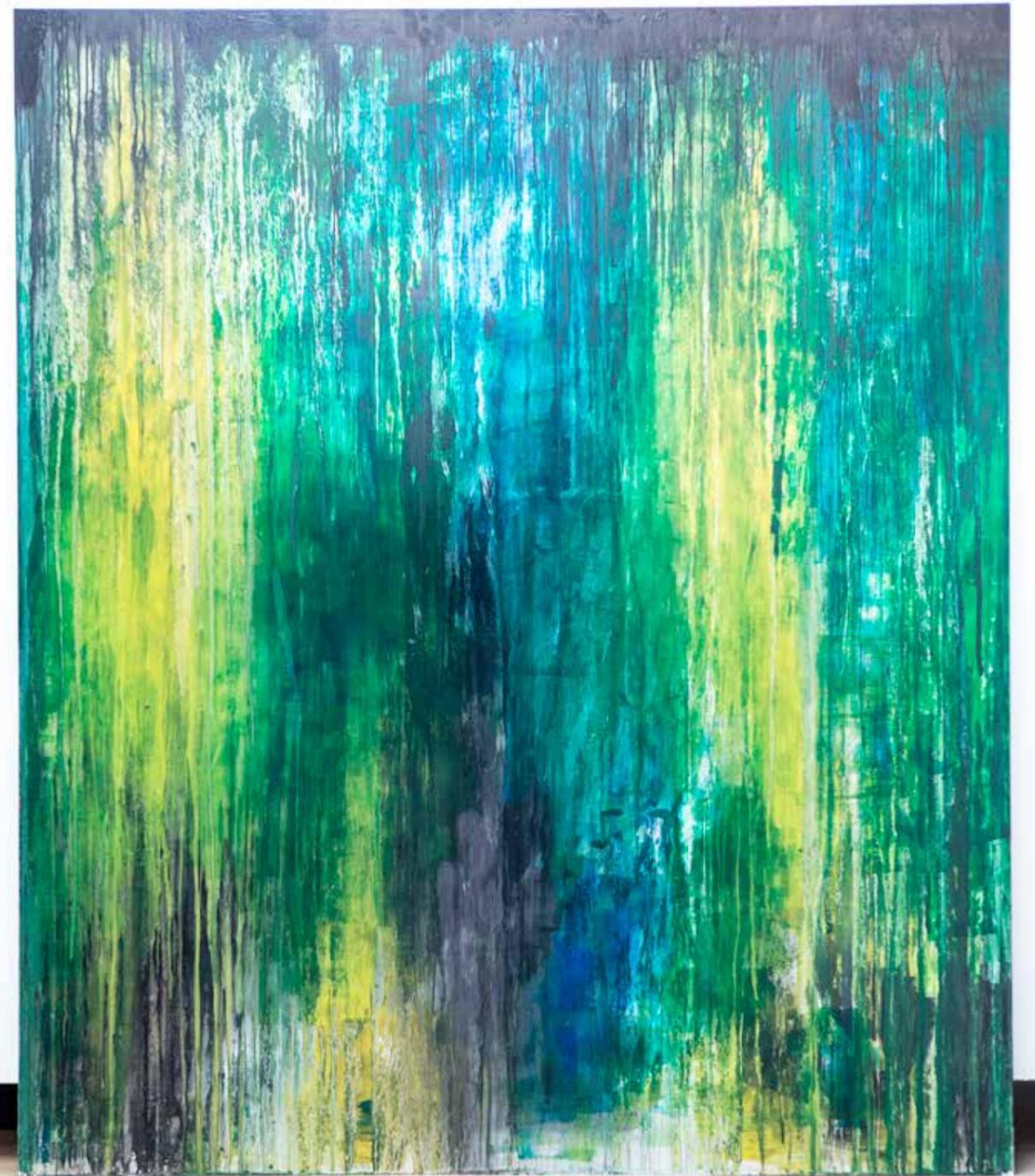
The work behind this first solo show with the society of arts in Olten (Kunstverein Olten), was entirely based on abstract paintings on glass mirrors. The colors were collected from closing down print presses in Basel and are oil based. The main idea behind the series is finding the balance between the transmission level of the colors and the reflection level of the mirrors. With the goal to achieve a painting, that is constantly interacting with the surrounding light sources, but not with the actual properties and concreteness of the room itself.



Birth of Jade
170 x 170cm



Untitled
110 x 150cm



Untitled
110 x 140cm



Kolia by Nikolai
9 x 60cm diameter



Schauraum Olten 2015

Hilton / Edwin Series

Oil on Glass with Neonlight
mixed media

2016–ongoing

During the deconstruction of the Hilton Hotel in Basel, material such as glass windows, neon lamps and diffuser sheets were collected. With the goal to create paintings for the 5th Anniversary show of the Edwin Store. The COLAB Gallery and the Edwin Store are both relatively dark, therefore the glass sheets were painted with thick layers of oil colors, then diluted and washed out with several combinations of solvents with different polarity and lit from behind. In order to achieve a range of lighting situations, lamps were connected individually for different possible combinations.

What is illustrated in these paintings is the design of the Pantone® colors themselves. High pigmented and usually applied in a print press, these colors should never mix and wash out. However if treated with chemical solvents of different polarity both is achieved, leaving a high spectra of mixing color range behind. As in most of my work, although only chemical compounds were mixed of different characters, structures of organic matter become visible to the human eye.

Since the glass, the lamps and the Pantone colors were all collected from closing down printeries or deconstructions, the whole aspect of up-cycling is part of the series and also reflected in the style the paintings are finished.

The series is ongoing and several paintings are not shown here, please ask for more to see, pictures and descriptions can be sent. These pictures can be custom manufactured to a certain degree.



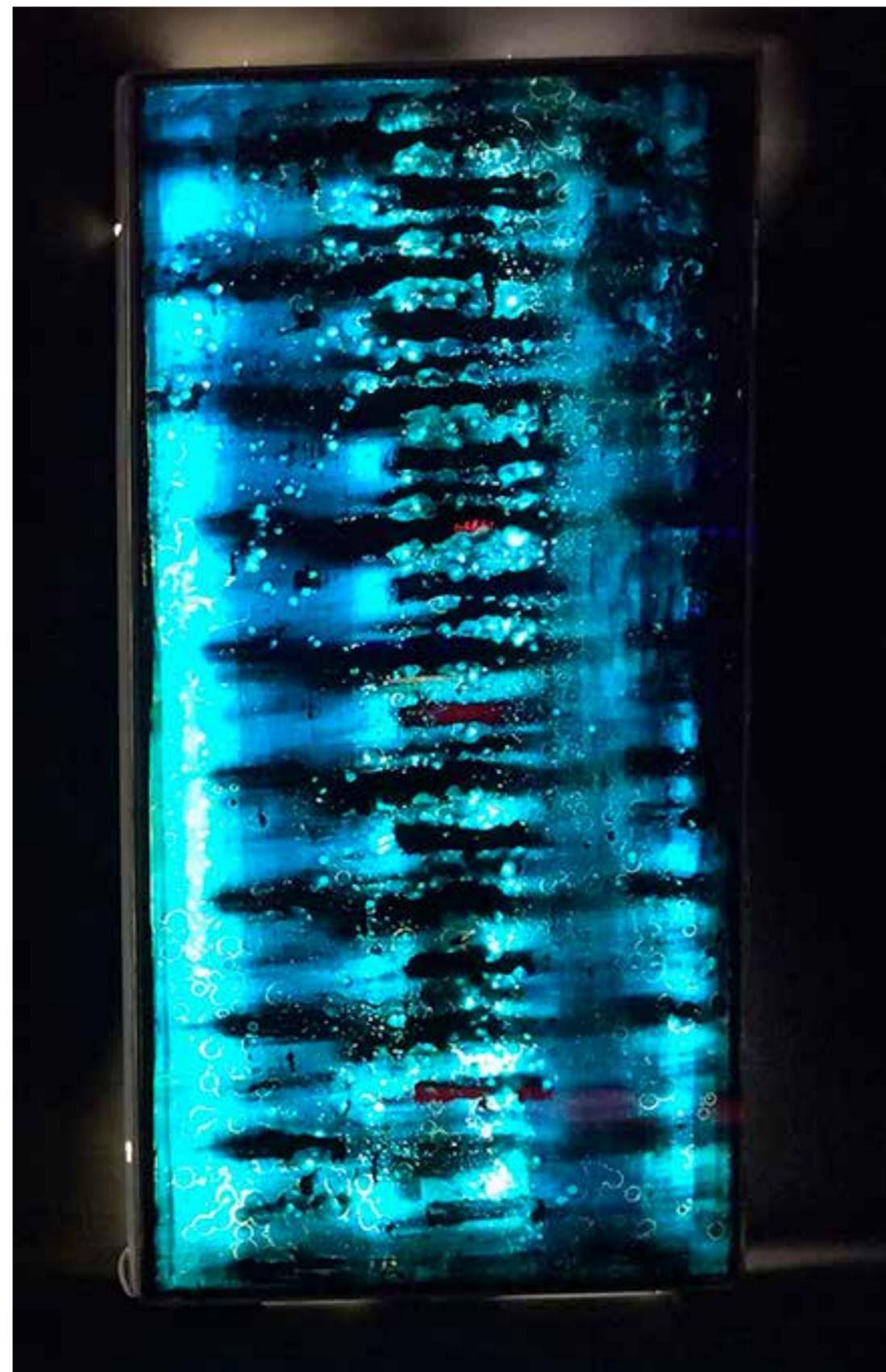
Out of the Black is in into the Blue
210x110cm 6000.-





Hilton IV
100 x 42cm

sold
2500.-



Hilton III
100 x 42cm

sold
2500.-



Hilton II
100 x 42cm

sold
2500.-

PHOTOGRAPHIC-TRANSLATION

Silver and C-prints
analoge

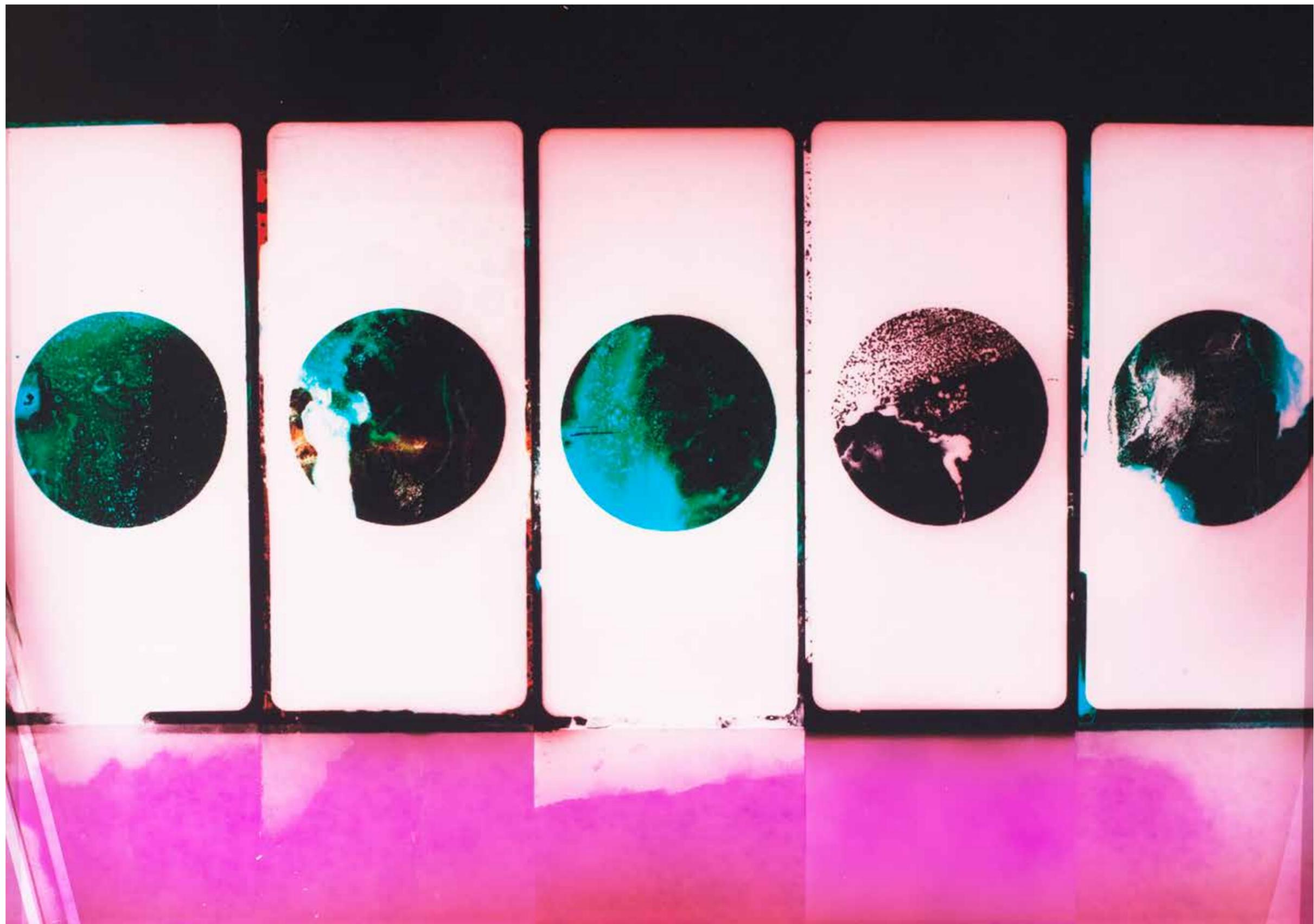
2008-ongoing

The PHOTOGRAPHIC-TRANSLATION project is an ongoing investigation on the visualization of relatively small structures and neglected properties of materials, through the process of analog photography. All images are created in the darkroom and are fully processed chemically.

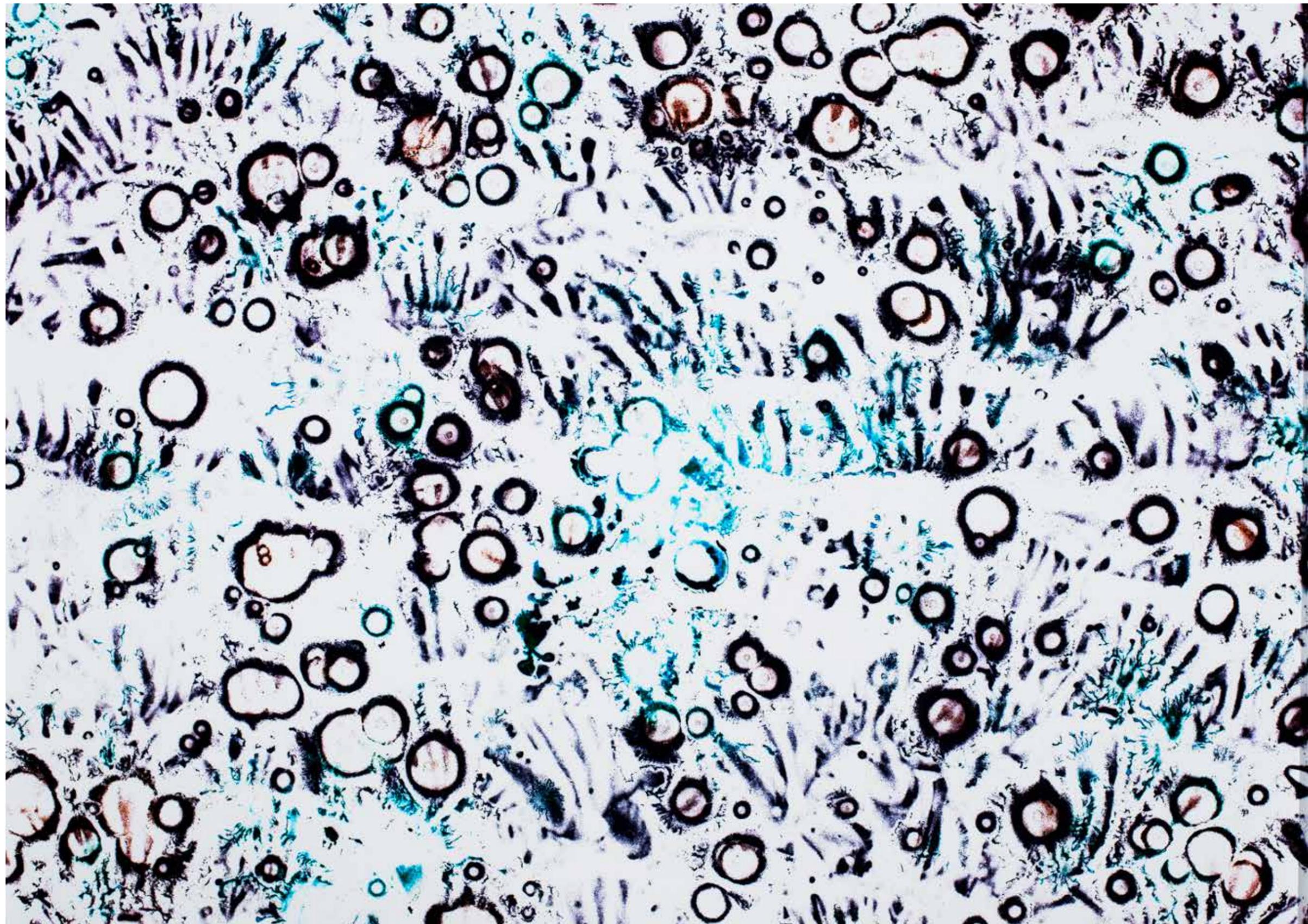
In 2008 I was given the sponsorship art-prize for it and since then the search for undiscovered esthetics in tiny structures has never stopped. In 2013 I discovered the late artist Heinz Hajek-Halke in a retrospective exhibition in Berlin. Immediately I understood the work they displayed, because the P-T project is in his tradition, except that the enlargement process is more dramatic and central, compared to his work.

In June 2018 The Literoom Gallery has sold three reprinted limited editions (each 100 prints) to INTERIO, a Swiss nation-wide quality furniture store.

For more details please visit www.photographic-translation.com.



Slides 2017
74 x 104cm



Untitled 2017
100 x 130cm



P. Somniferum
100 x 112cm

Hypnocrite

2018

Video 26:10min

C. Barth

An installation captured on video, depicting the mesmerizing movement of an ordinary hair dryer blowing-off a pile of sand. The installation is exciting a feeling of a “made alive machine creature” working on a directed intended purpose. Not only does this “creature” move itself, it also shapes its surroundings. Furthermore the installation illustrates in a relatively elementary but dramatic way, the meaning of the tipping point of the critical mass, and how rapidly things change once this point is met.



Video Stills

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HODEL

2018



Thank you.