



Mantis

Geoffrey Pugen

October 15 – November 12, 2022

All documentation by Toni Hafkenscheid

1: *Industrial Fan*, 2022, Archival pigment print, 24 x 24", edition of 3 with IAP

2-12: *Sherway Garden*, 2022, steel, video monitors, electronics, two channel video

13: Exhibition View

14-16: *Hoist Hook with Mantis*, 2022, archival pigment print, 27.5 x 41", edition of 3 with IAP

17: Exhibition View

18: *Over Clouds*, 2022, archival pigment print, 27.5 x 41", edition of 3 with IAP; *Mantis Mantis*, 2022, archival pigment print, 49 x 33", edition of 3 with IAP

19-21: *Over Clouds*, 2022, archival pigment print, 27.5 x 41", edition of 3 with IAP

22-23: *Mantis Mantis*, 2022, archival pigment print, 49 x 33", edition of 3 with IAP

24-26: Exhibition View

27-29: *Sweet Thrills*, 2022, archival pigment print, 49 x 33", edition of 3 with IAP

30: Exhibition View

31-48: *Flower : A Mall with Two Sharks*, steel, video monitors, electronics, six channel video



Mantis is a mixed reality project that includes five new photographs and two video sculptures.

In this speculative future, human presence is felt only in the nostalgic capitalist objects and architecture of the past. Condos, malls, store facades, computers, led screens, and gardens merge to create an interstitial atmosphere of transformation. Some of the objects have mutated and assume the shapes of exceptionally resilient natural and animalistic forms. The AI has focused on a particular insect to achieve a superior sense of sight and mind.

Geoffrey Pugen is an artist experimenting at the intersection of technology and nature through video, photo and installation. Thematically, Pugen contemplates speculative futures, transhumanism, the impact of nature on society and conflicts between the virtual and the real. His most recent sculptural work integrates video screen technology into architectural forms, creating spatially-synced multi-screen installations. His work has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Museum of Moving Image in New York, WRO Biennial in Poland, Bienal De La Imagen En Movimiento, Buenos Aires, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, Germany, Rotterdam Film Festival. He is a recipient of the K.M Hunter Award for Interdisciplinary Art.

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