



nara roesler

josé patrício
geometry of chance

nara roesler new york
opening september 6, 2023
exhibition sep 7 – oct 21

Nara Roesler New York is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of José Patrício in the United States. Bringing together approximately 15 works created by the artist from 2005 to 2023, the exhibition opens to the public on September 6, 2023.

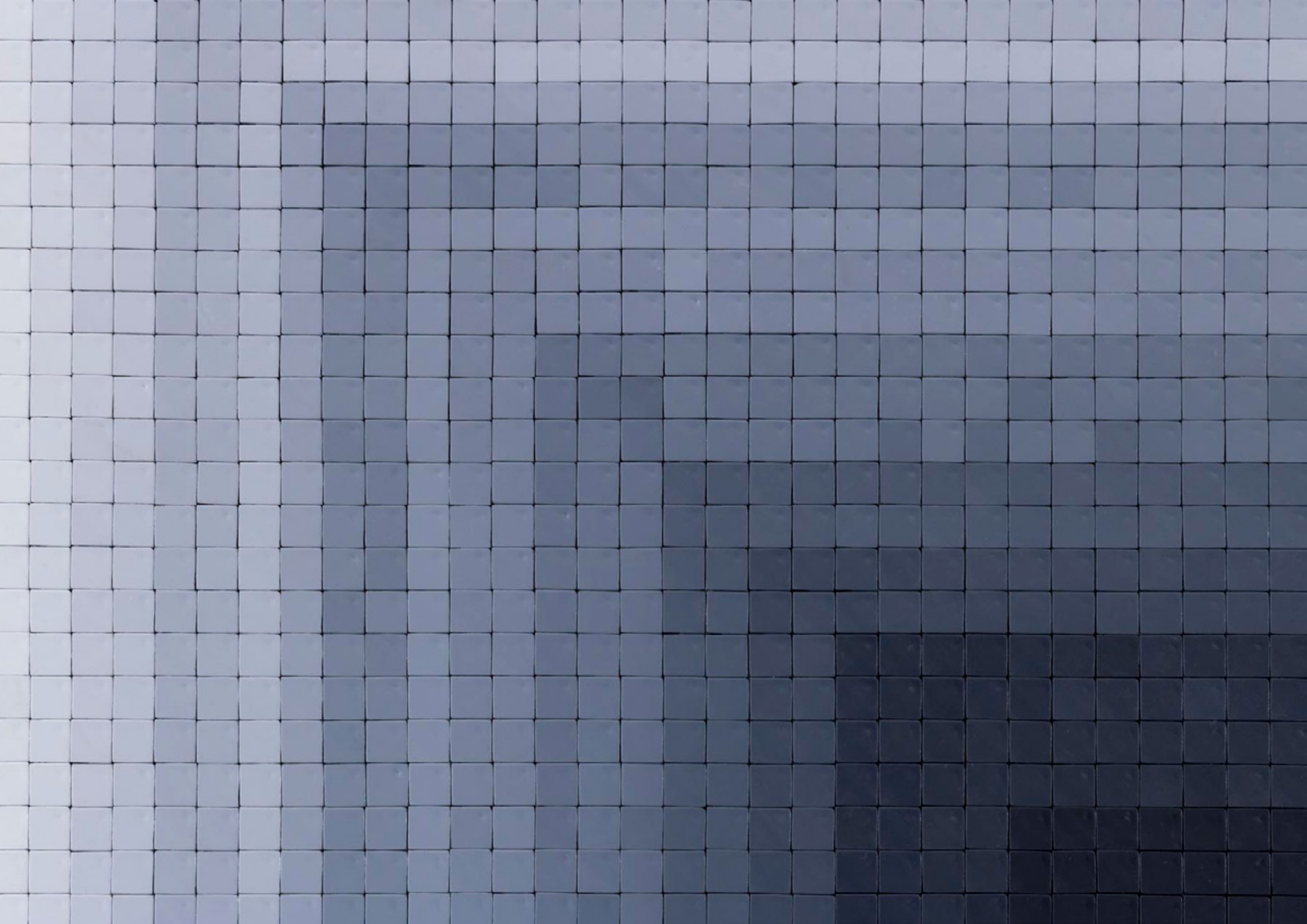
José Patrício's artistic production began in the 1970s, initially focused on printmaking and later exploring the expressive potential of paper itself, through its colors, textures, and formal arrangements in compositional space. However, from the late 1990s, his practice shifted towards popular industrially produced materials commonly found in everyday life, such as buttons, domino pieces, dice, and others. Using these elements, the artist creates extremely sophisticated abstract structures that respond to mathematical permutations and serial unfoldings.

For his first exhibition in New York, José Patrício has gathered a group of works made of small plastic pieces used in puzzle games, which the artist began using in the 2000s as materials for his serialized compositions. In earlier works, these small elements were incorporated with their original prints and designs, as found objects. However, in recent years, the artist has commissioned these pieces directly from the factory that produces them, allowing him to define the shades of puzzle patterns in order to broaden

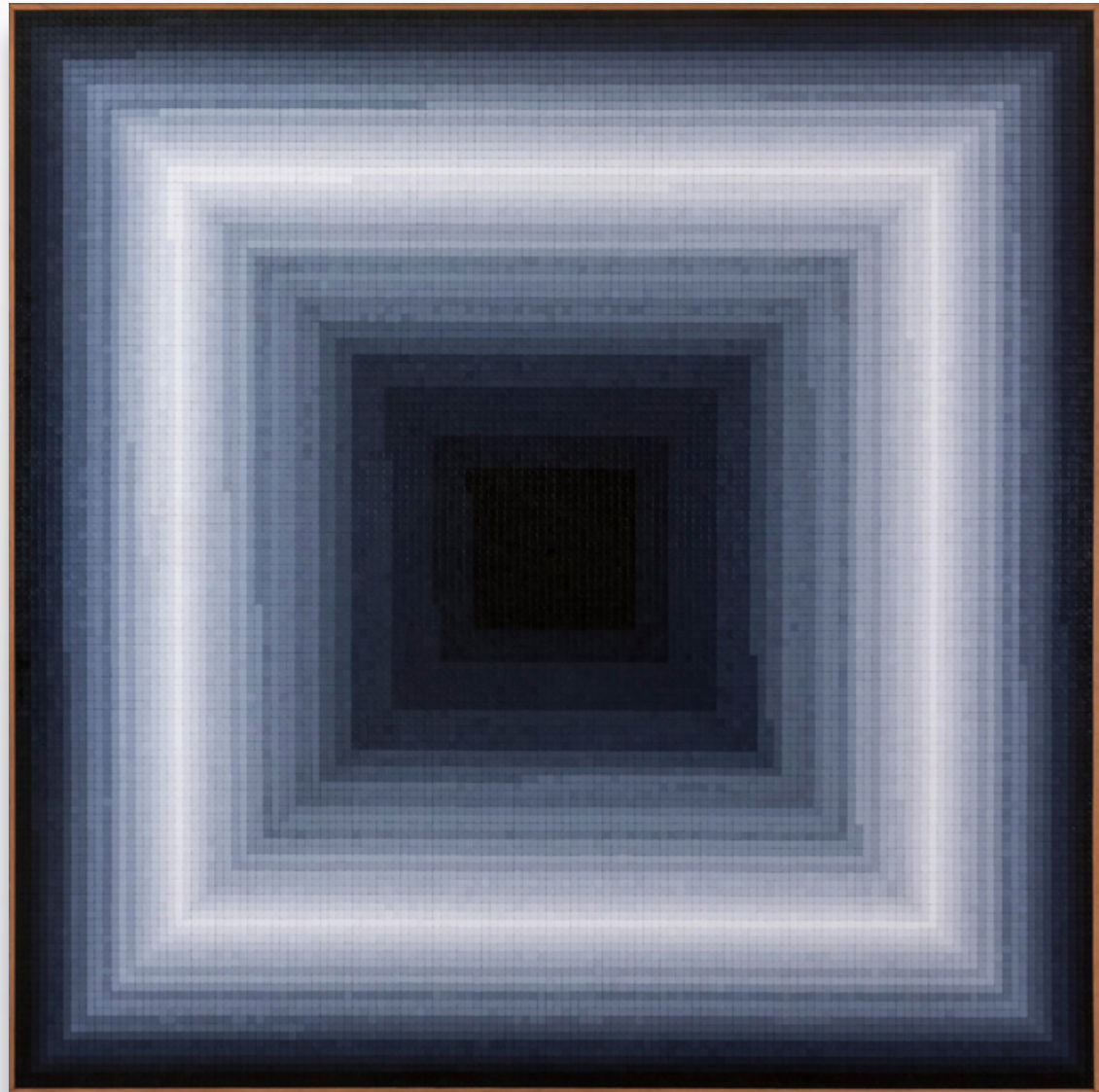
the compositional spectrum of his works. The potential arrangements of tonal combinations are determined through mathematical formulas and explored in as many possibilities as possible. According to the artist, while the results of his works are achieved through prior mathematical operations, the visual experience they provide is unpredictable.

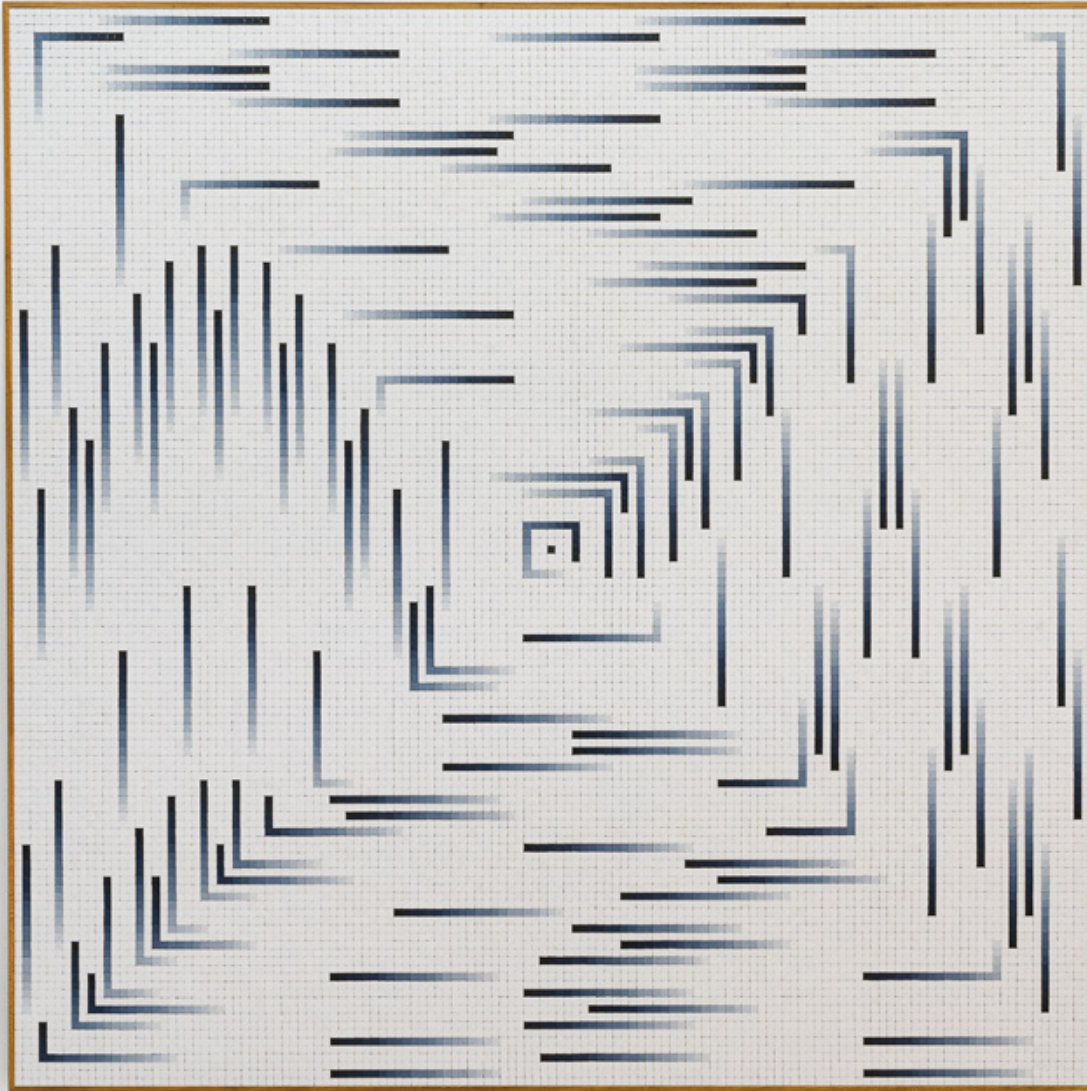
Most of the works presented in the exhibition showcase variations of tones that range from black to white, passing through shades of gray and blue. The arrangements of these colors in different tonal sequences make these compositions deeply dynamic, with interplays of luminosity and movement. In the series *Acumulações Progressivas* (Progressive Accumulations), developed since 2014, José Patrício works with pieces in colors without intermediate tones, resulting in a vibrant effect caused by intense chromatic contrasts.

The exhibition also features the series *Recipientes* (Containers), equally made with puzzle pieces but featuring them in reverse. A small cavity visible on the back of the piece, sort of a container, allows the artist to fill it with enamel paint, traditionally used in this type of piece. According to Patrício, this work constitutes a kind of 'expanded painting', a sort of altered found object base so the backsides of the pieces can function as chromatic containers, enriching the compositions.



Tonal Expansion and Retraction II, 2017
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
edition of 3 + 1 AP
190 x 190 cm
74.8 x 74.8 in

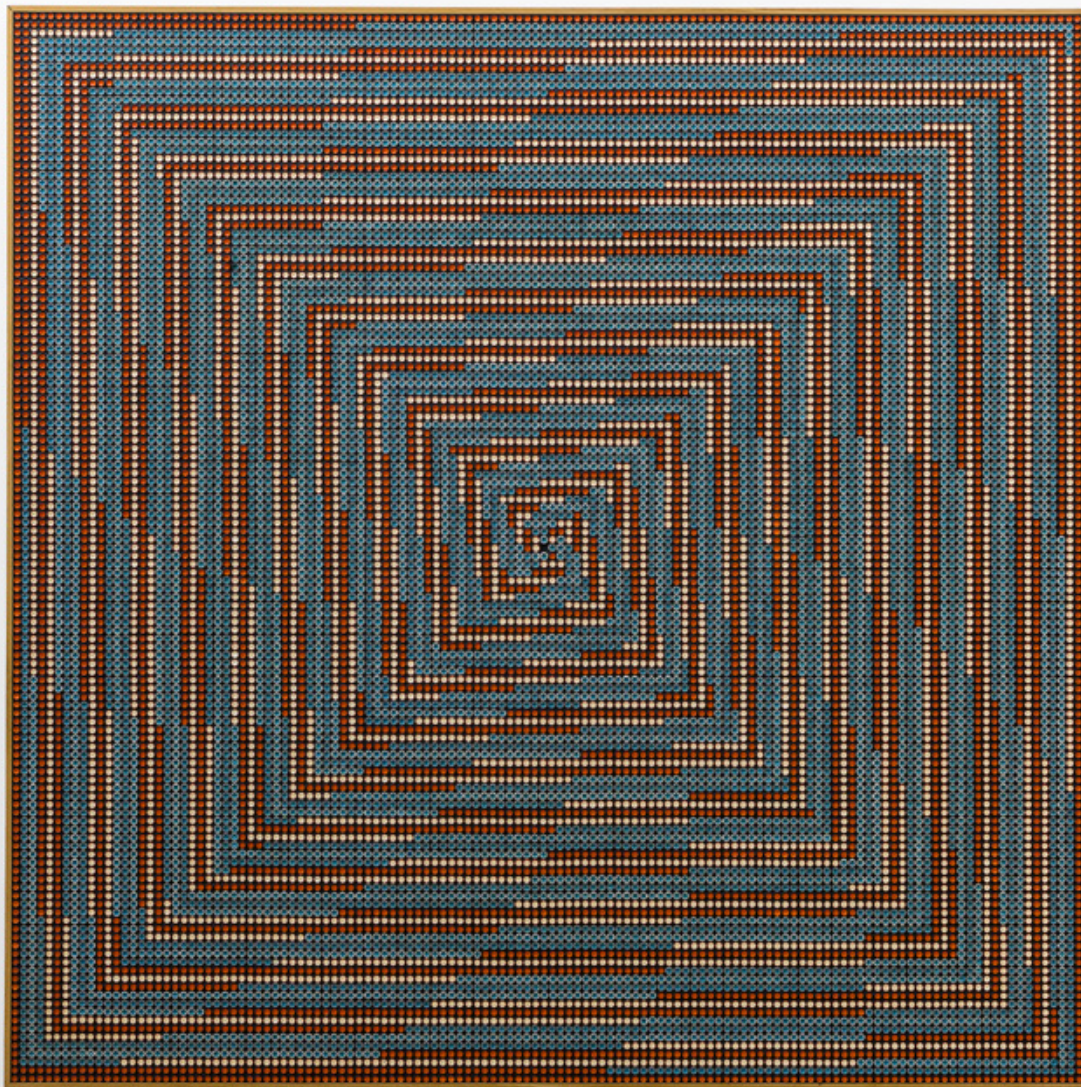




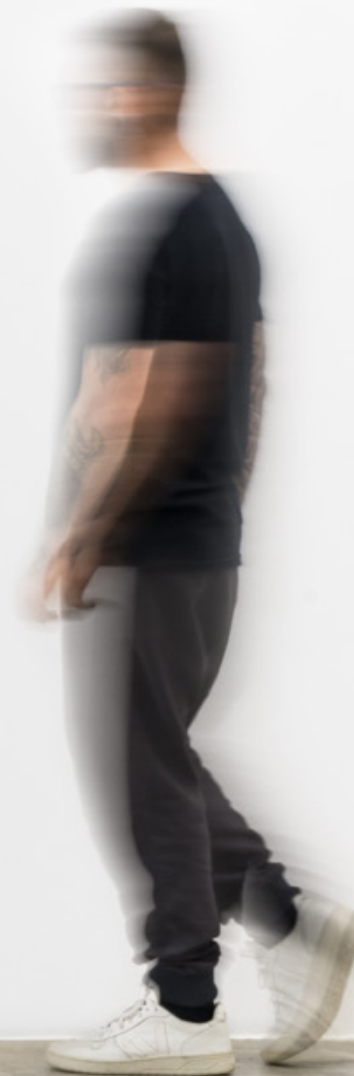
Trajectories Over White – Version 2, 2018
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
edition of 3 + 1 exhibition piece###
190 x 190 cm
74.8 x 74.8 in

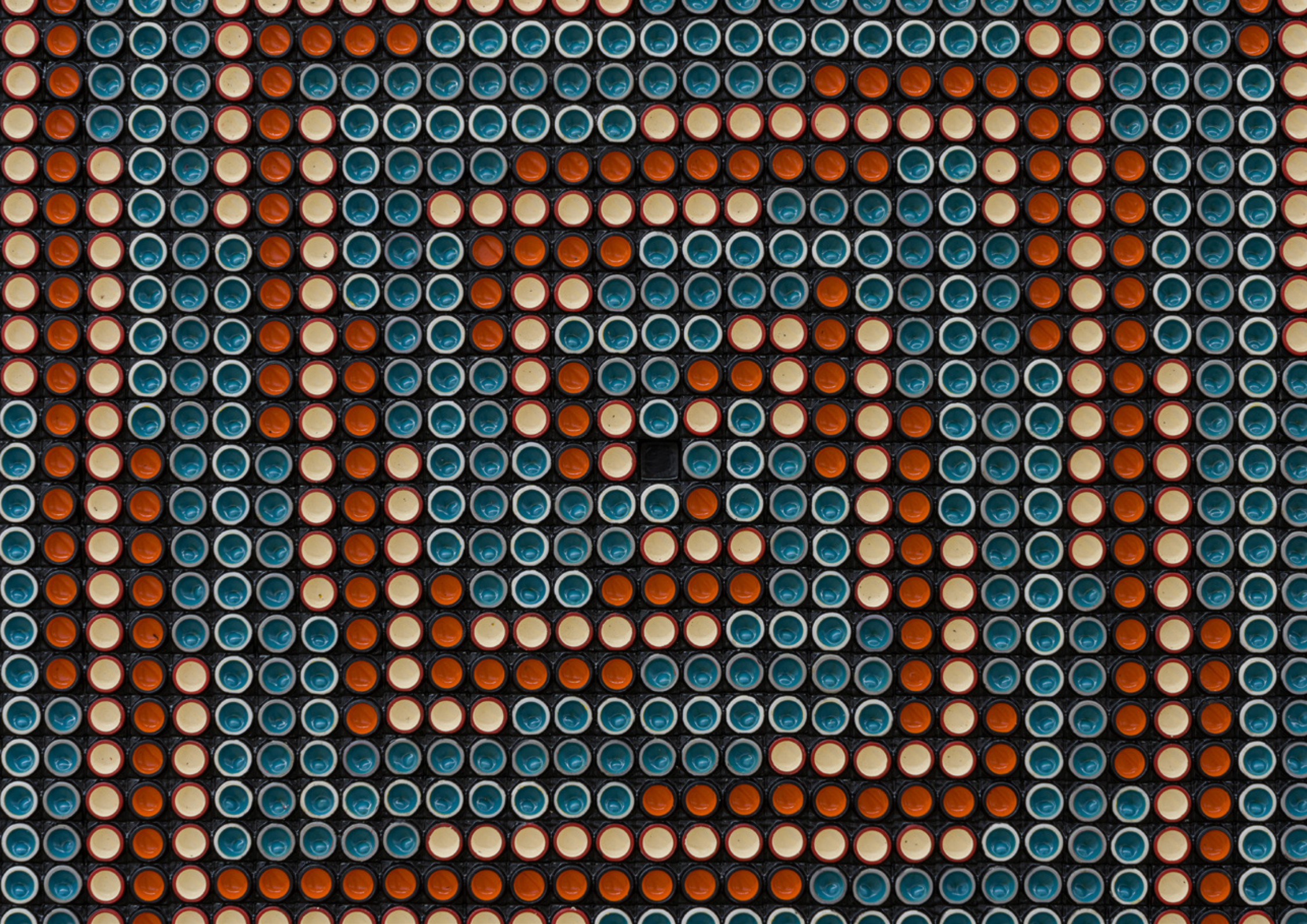




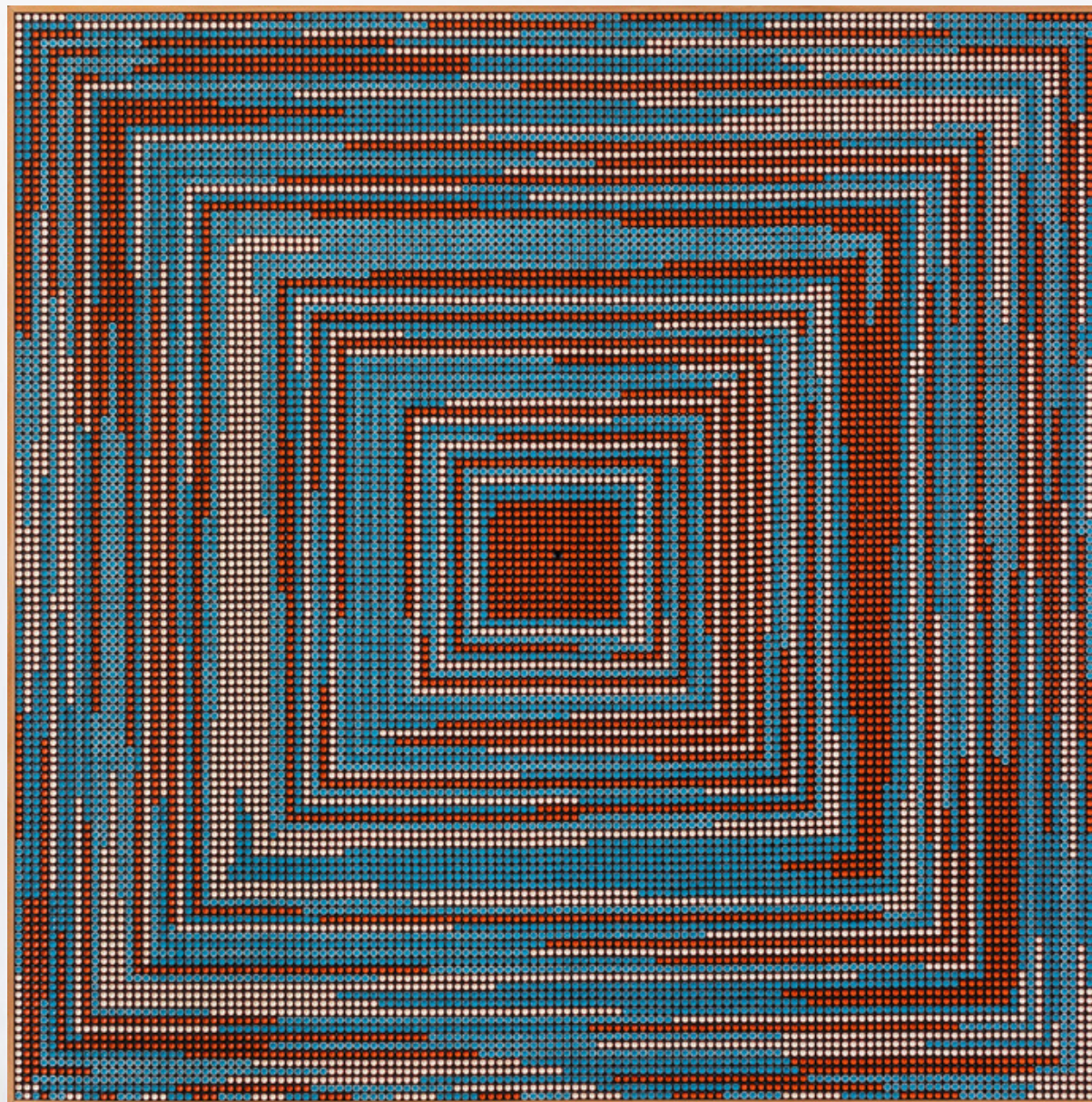


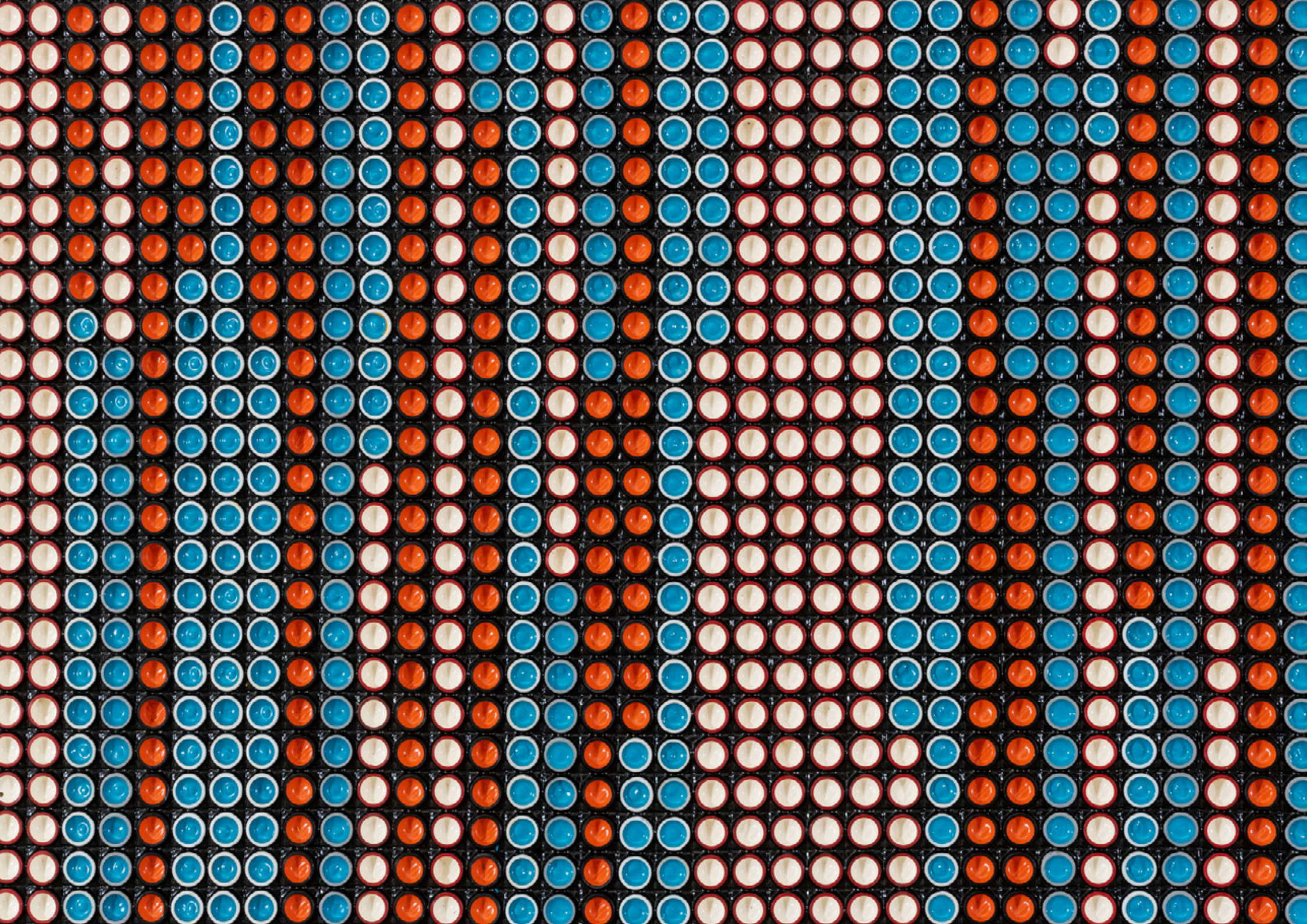
Containers – Progressively
Increasing Accumulation
in Blue, Red and White, 2017
synthetic enamel on plastic
puzzle pieces on wood
unique
183,5 x 183,5 x 4 cm
72.2 x 72.2 x 1.6 in

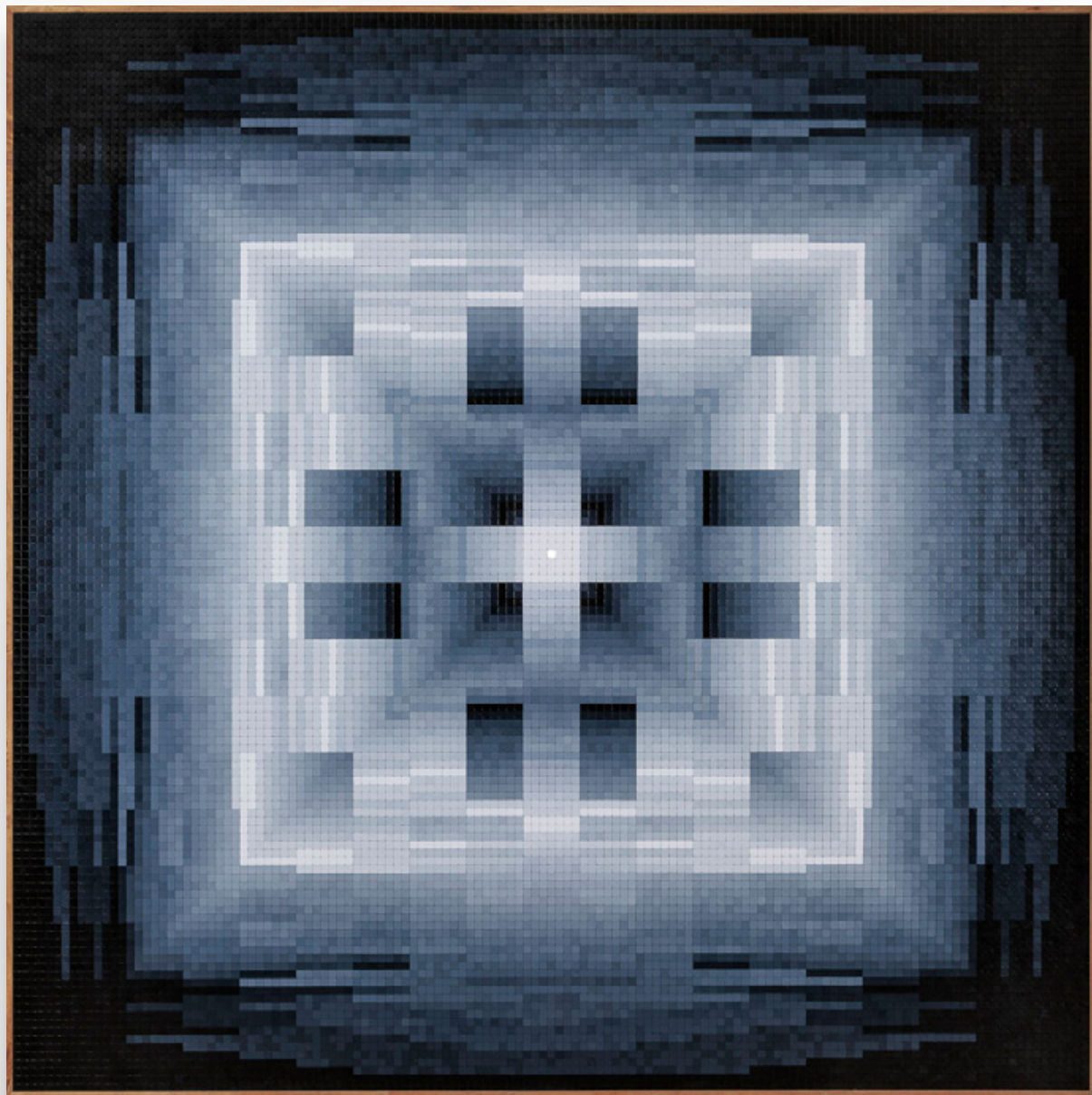




Containers – Progressively
Decreasing Accumulation in Blue,
Orange and White, 2023
synthetic enamel on plastic
puzzle pieces on wood
unique
183,5 x 183,5 x 4 cm
72.2 x 72.2 x 1.6 in

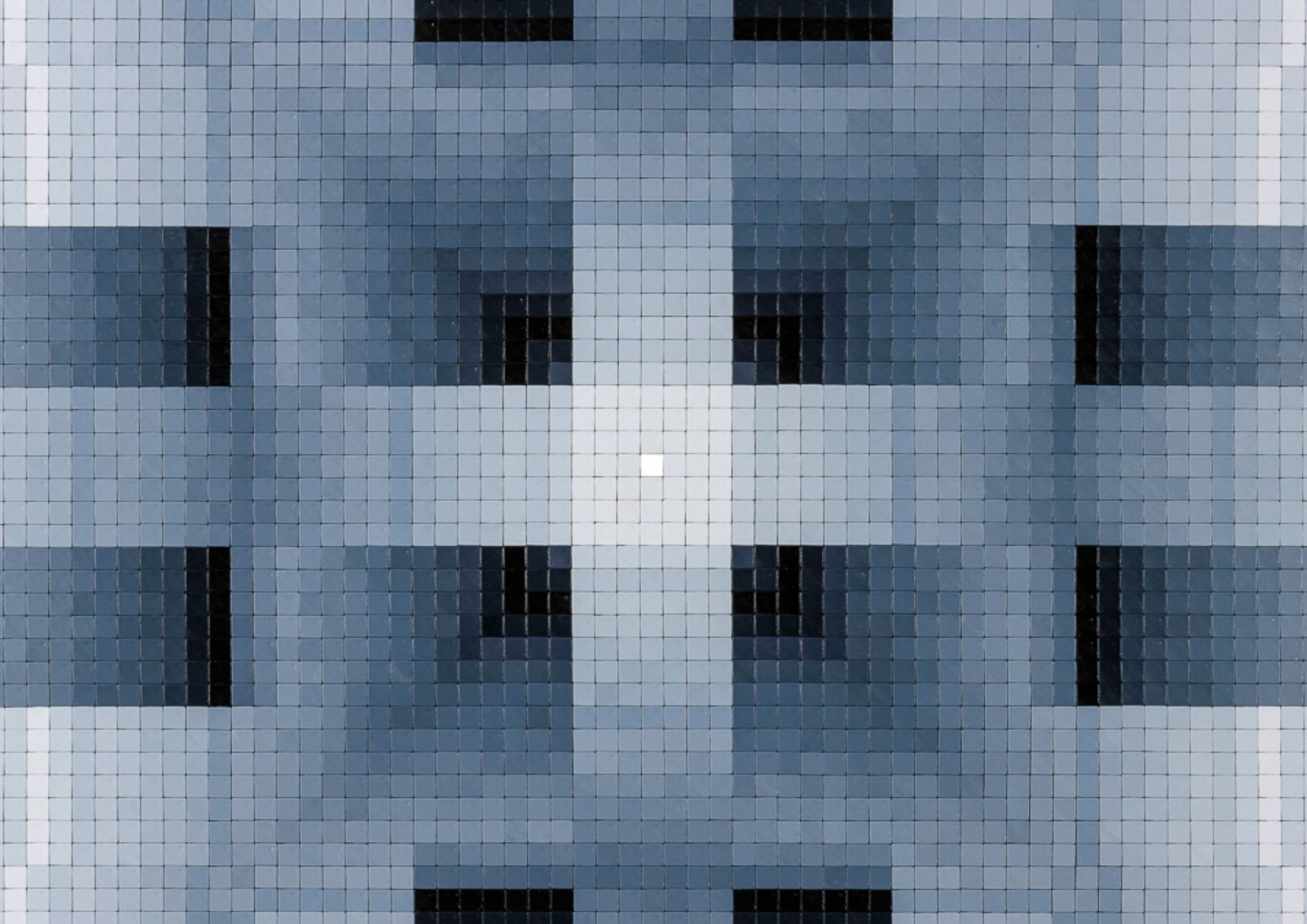




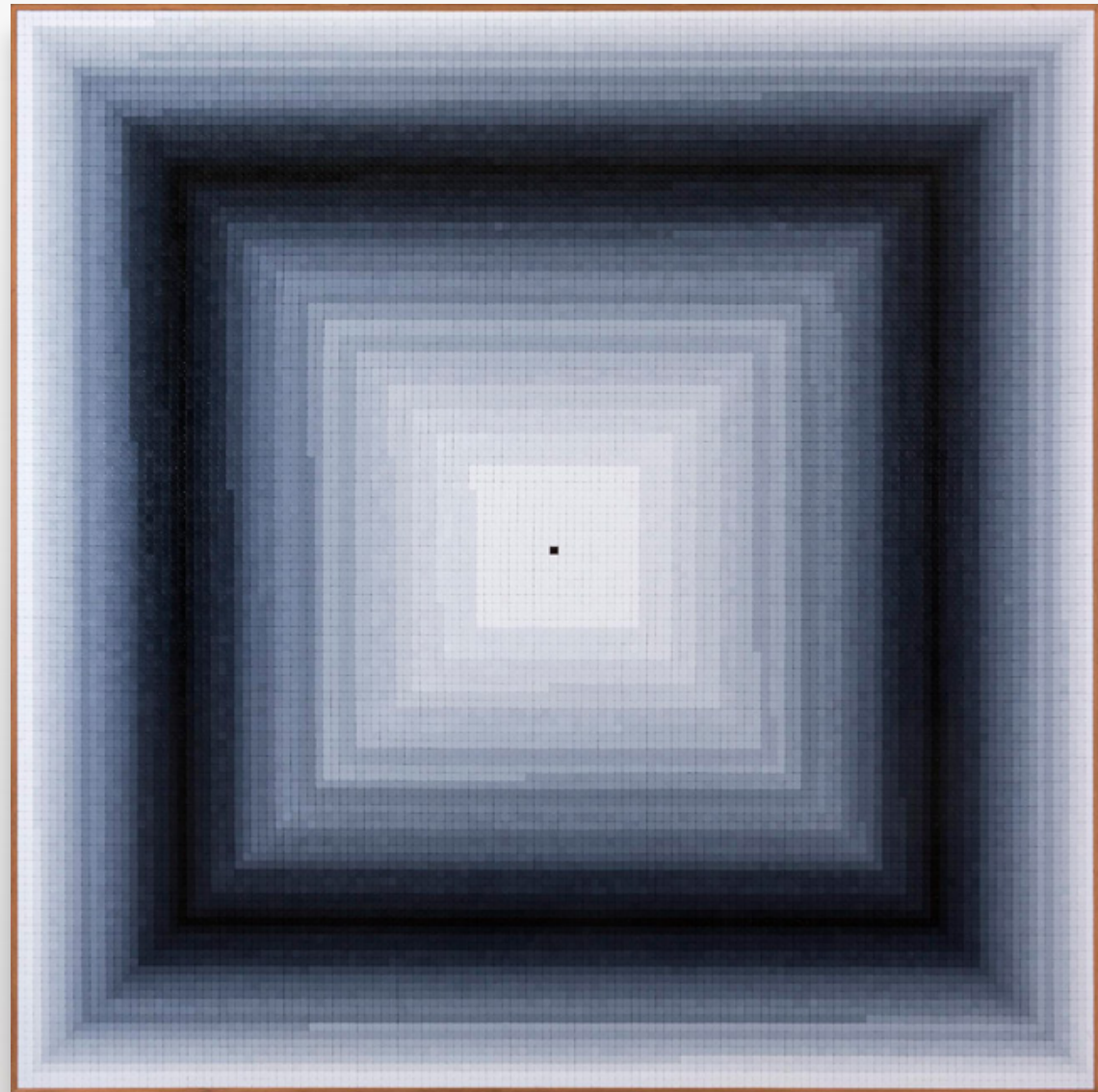


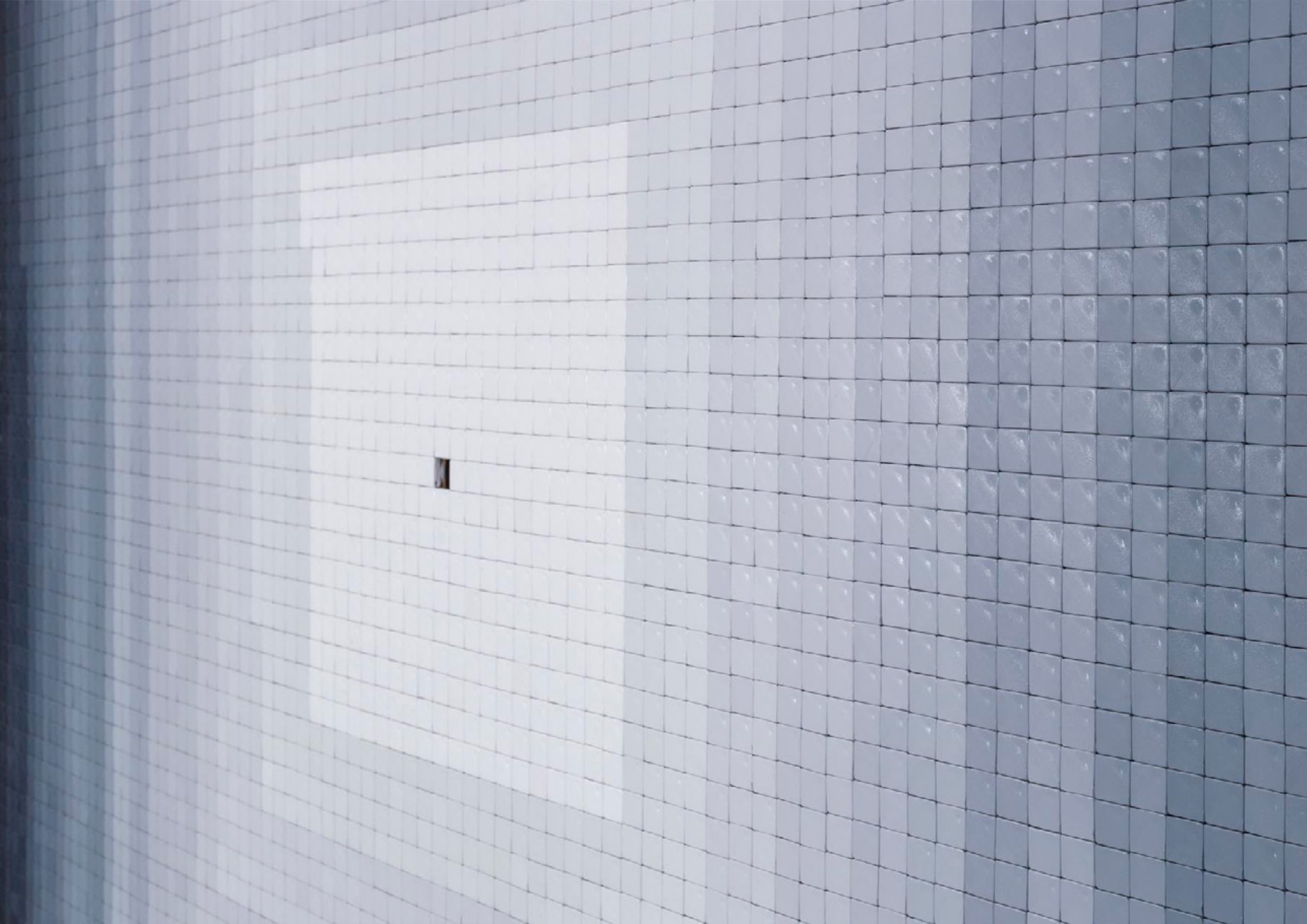
Tonal Mandala II, 2023
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
unique 190 x 190 cm
74.8 x 74.8 in

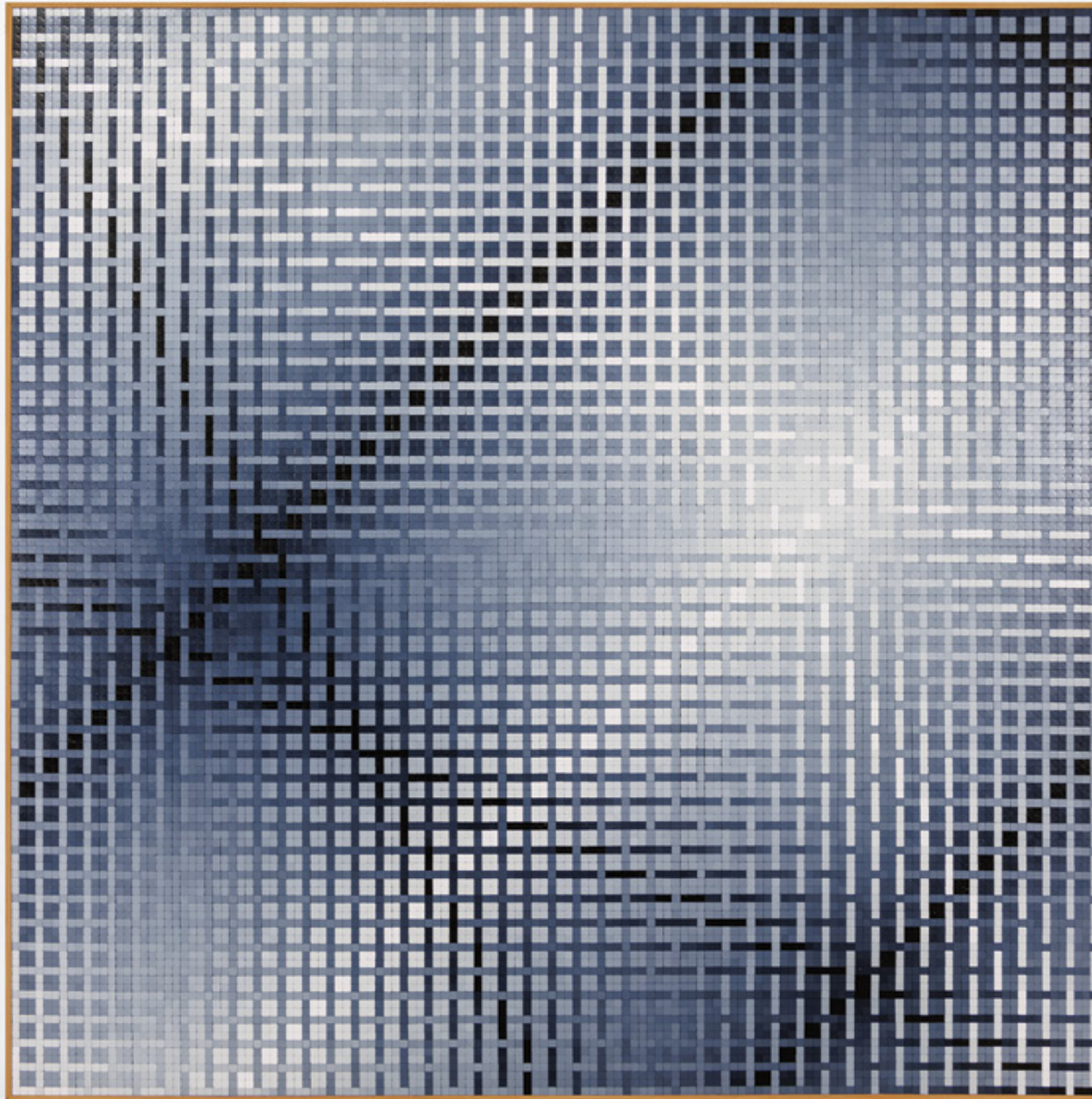




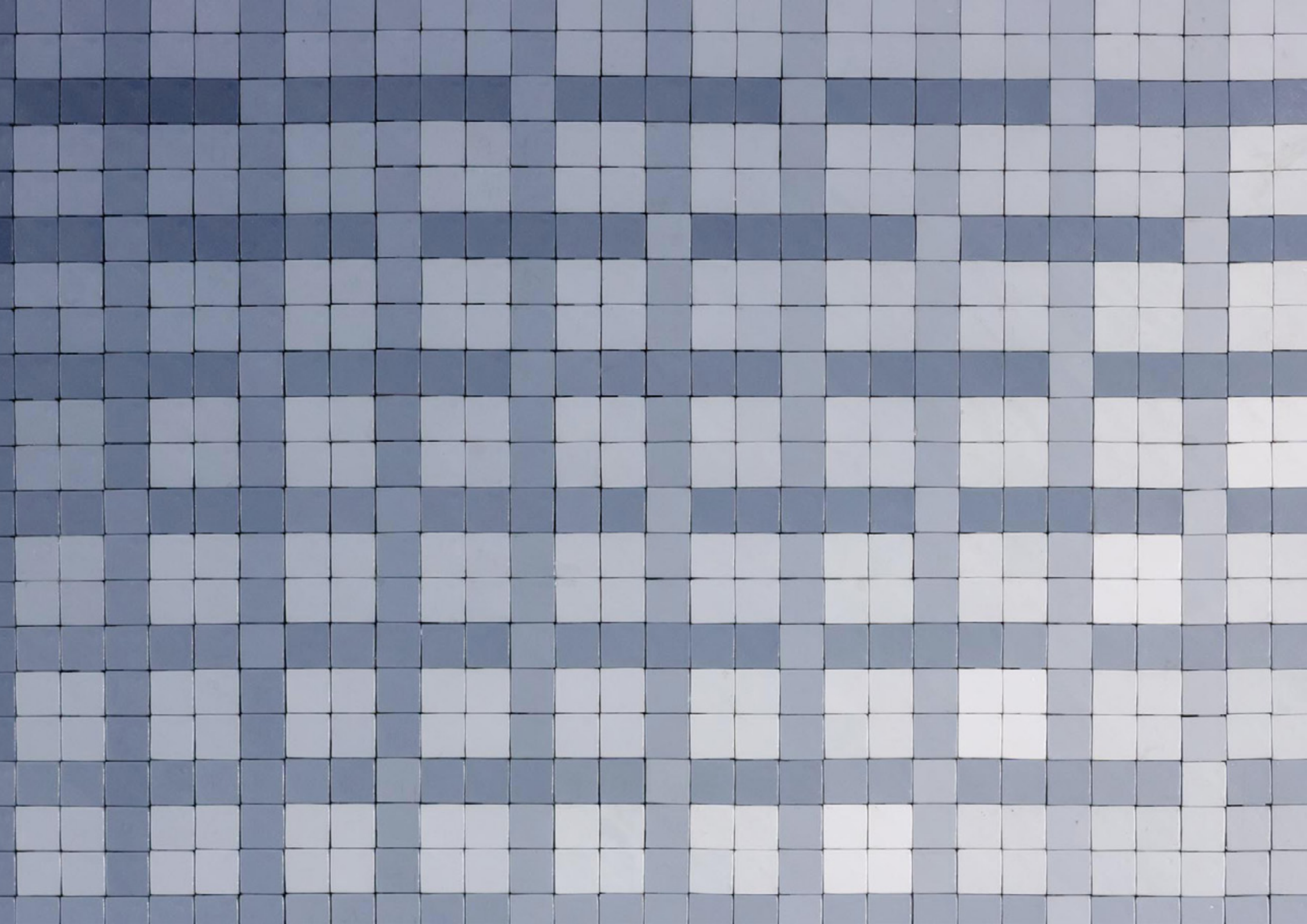
Tonal Expansion and Retraction I, 2017
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
edition of 3 + 1 AP
190 x 190 cm
74.8 x 74.8 in



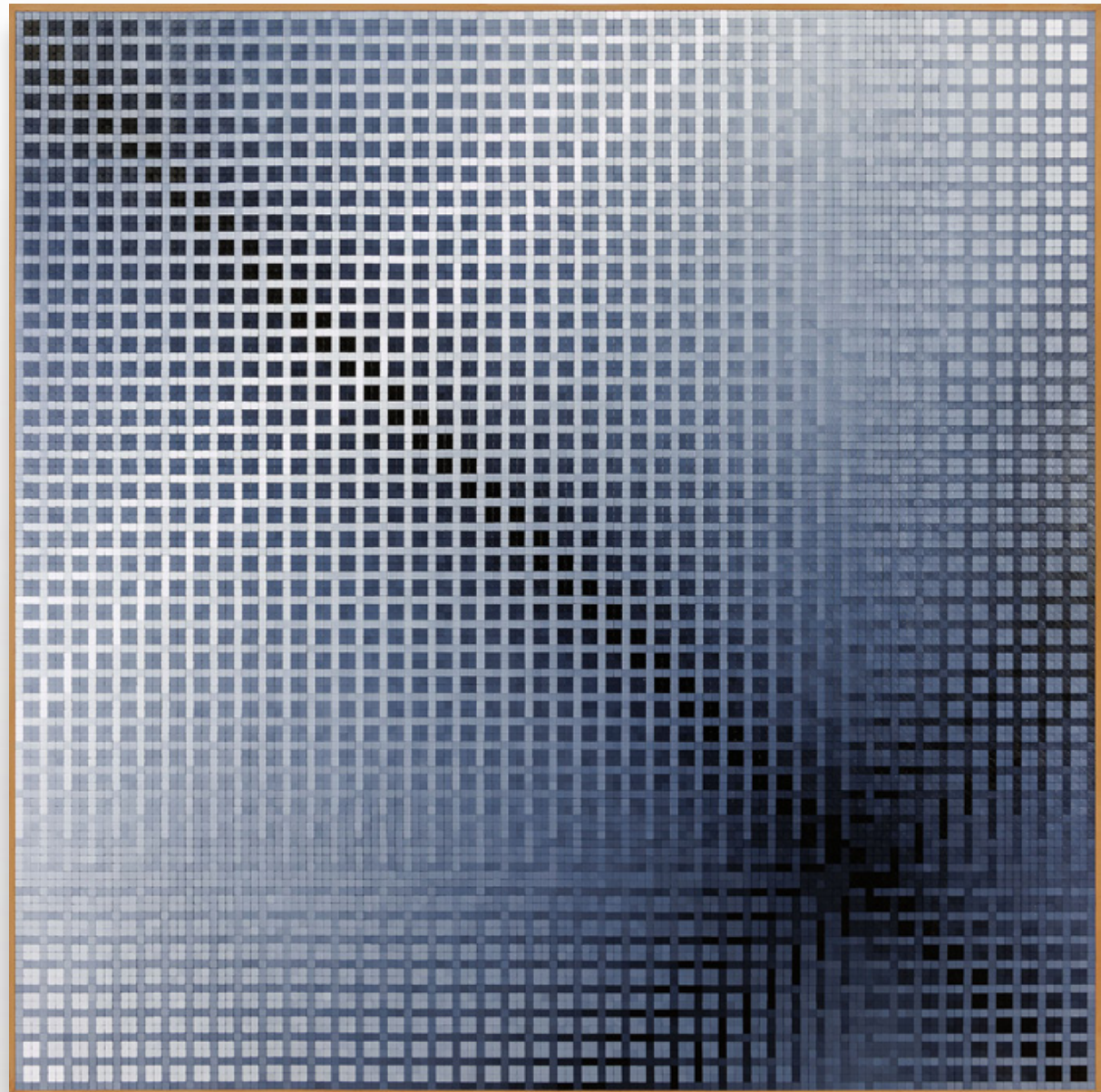


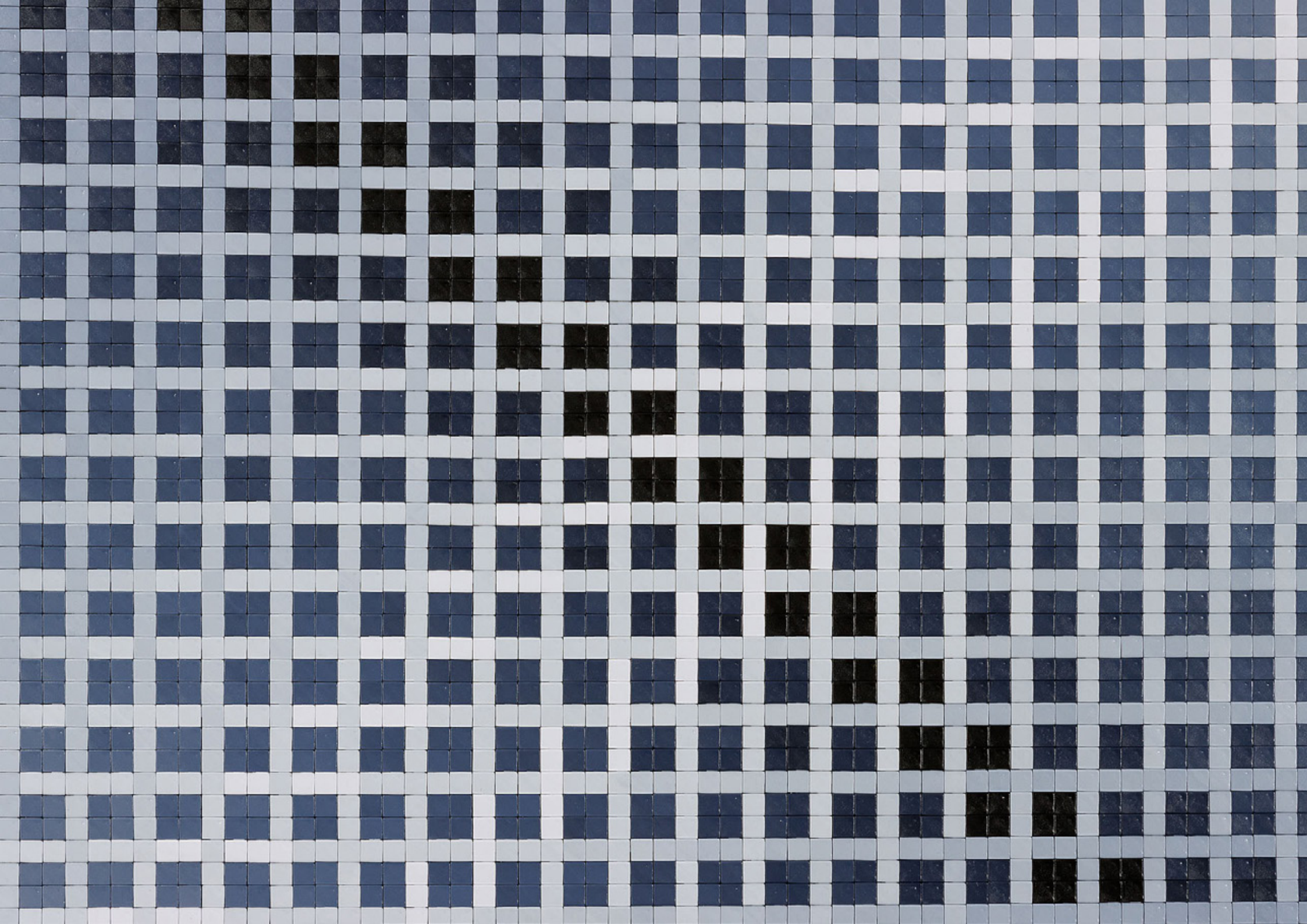


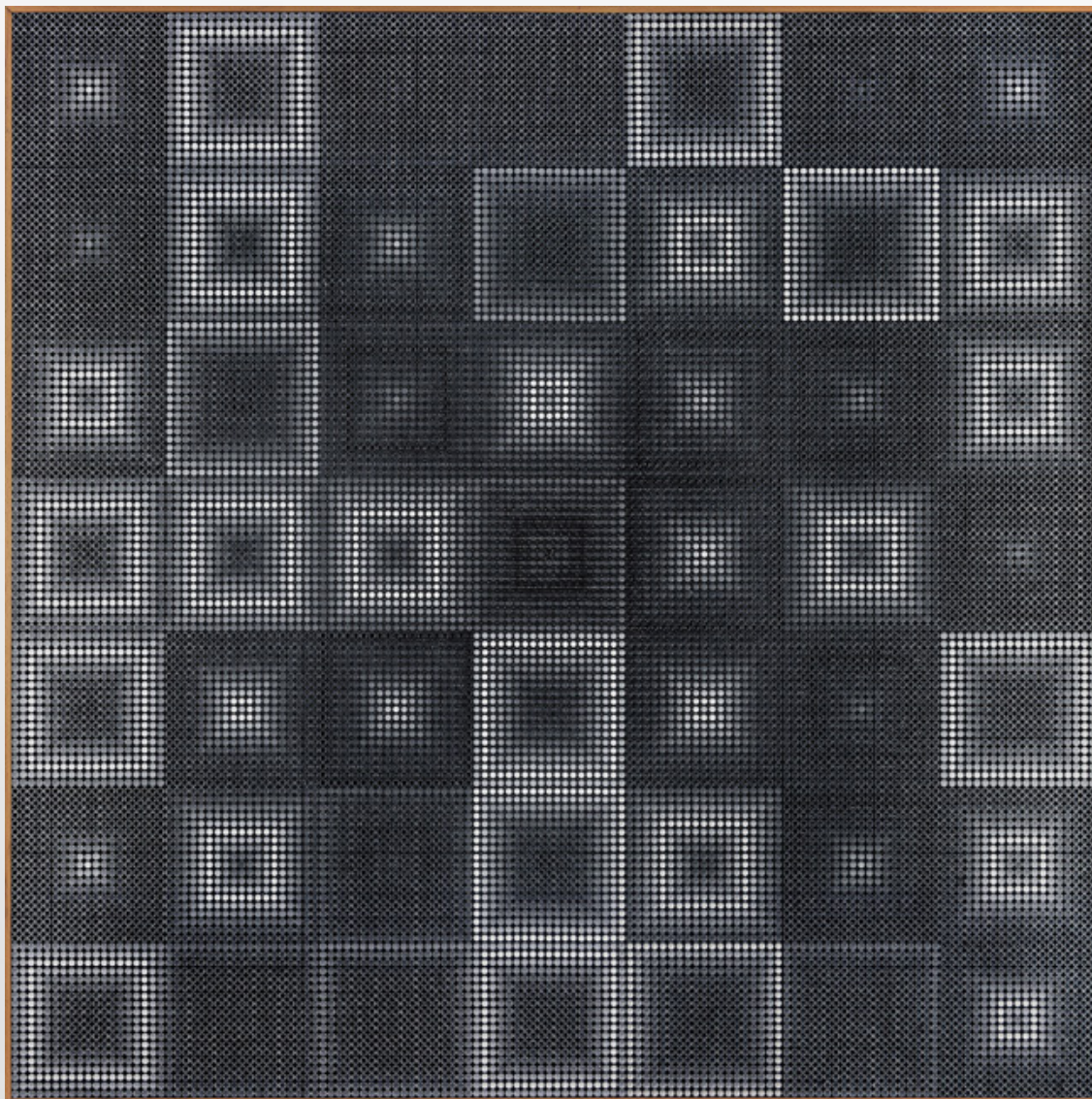
Tonal Plots XIII, 2021
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
unique
190,5 x 190,5 x 3,5 cm
75 x 75 x 1.4 in



Tonal Plots XIV, 2022
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
unique
190,5 x 190,5 x 3,5 cm
75 x 75 x 1.4 in

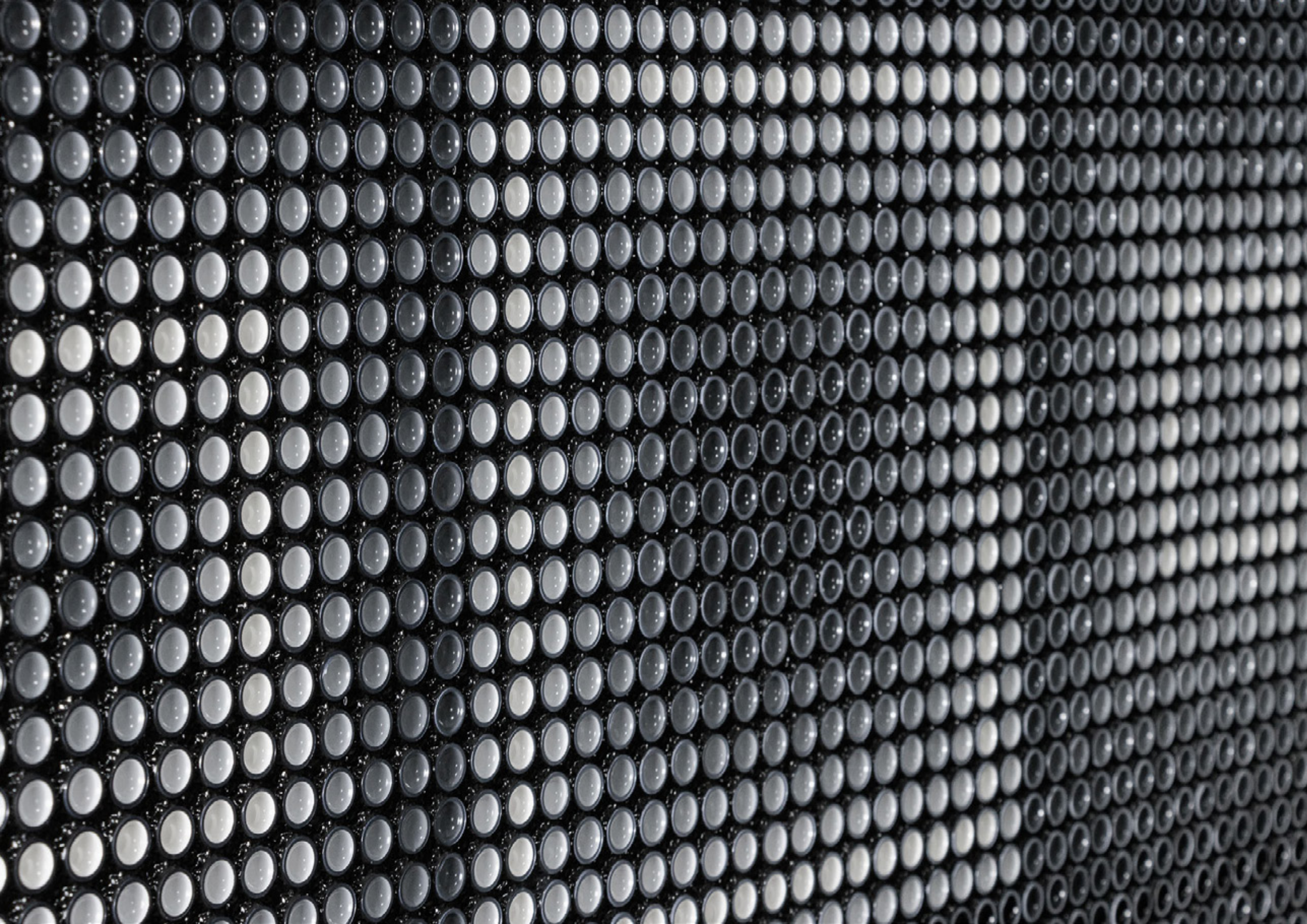




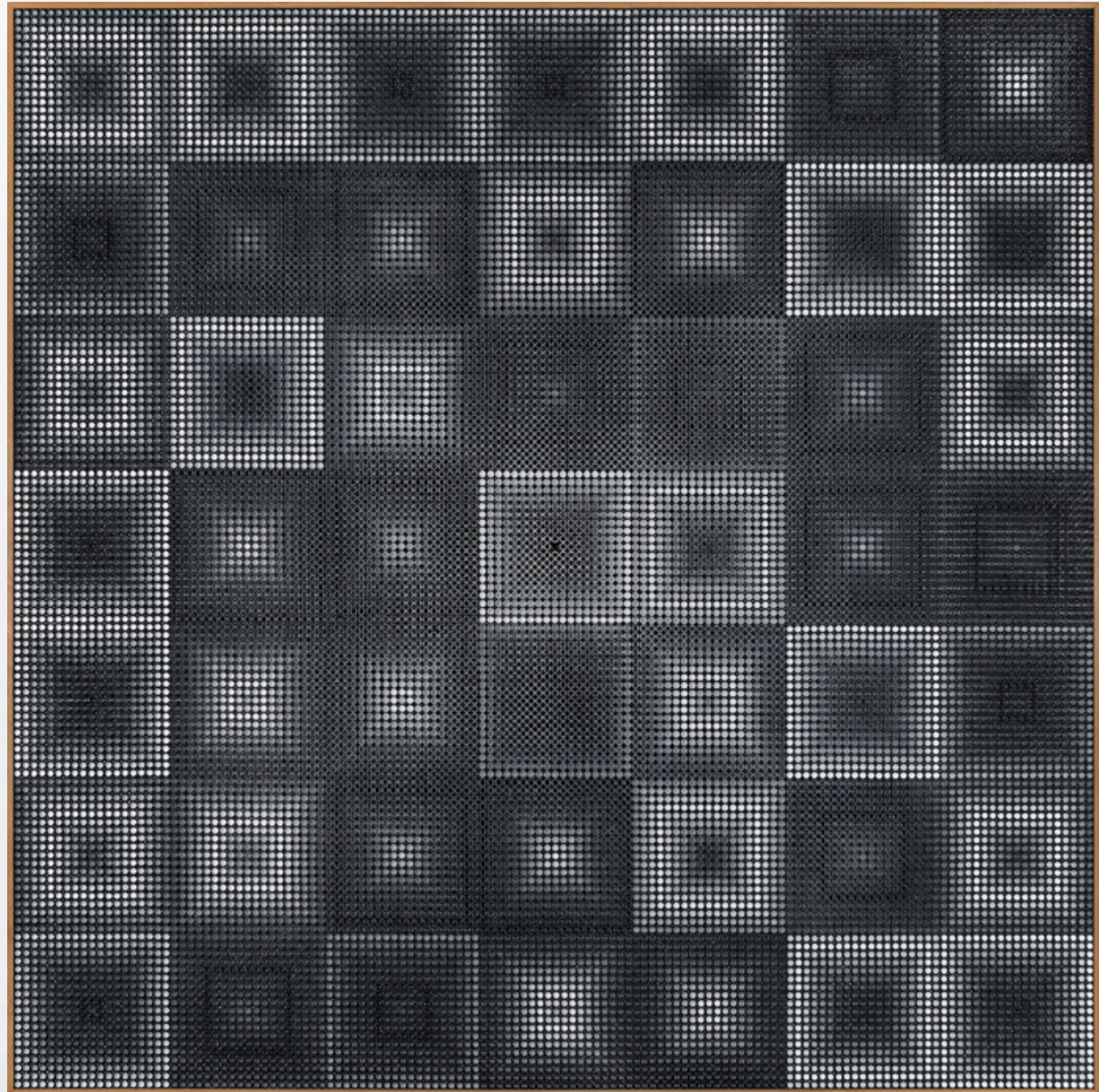


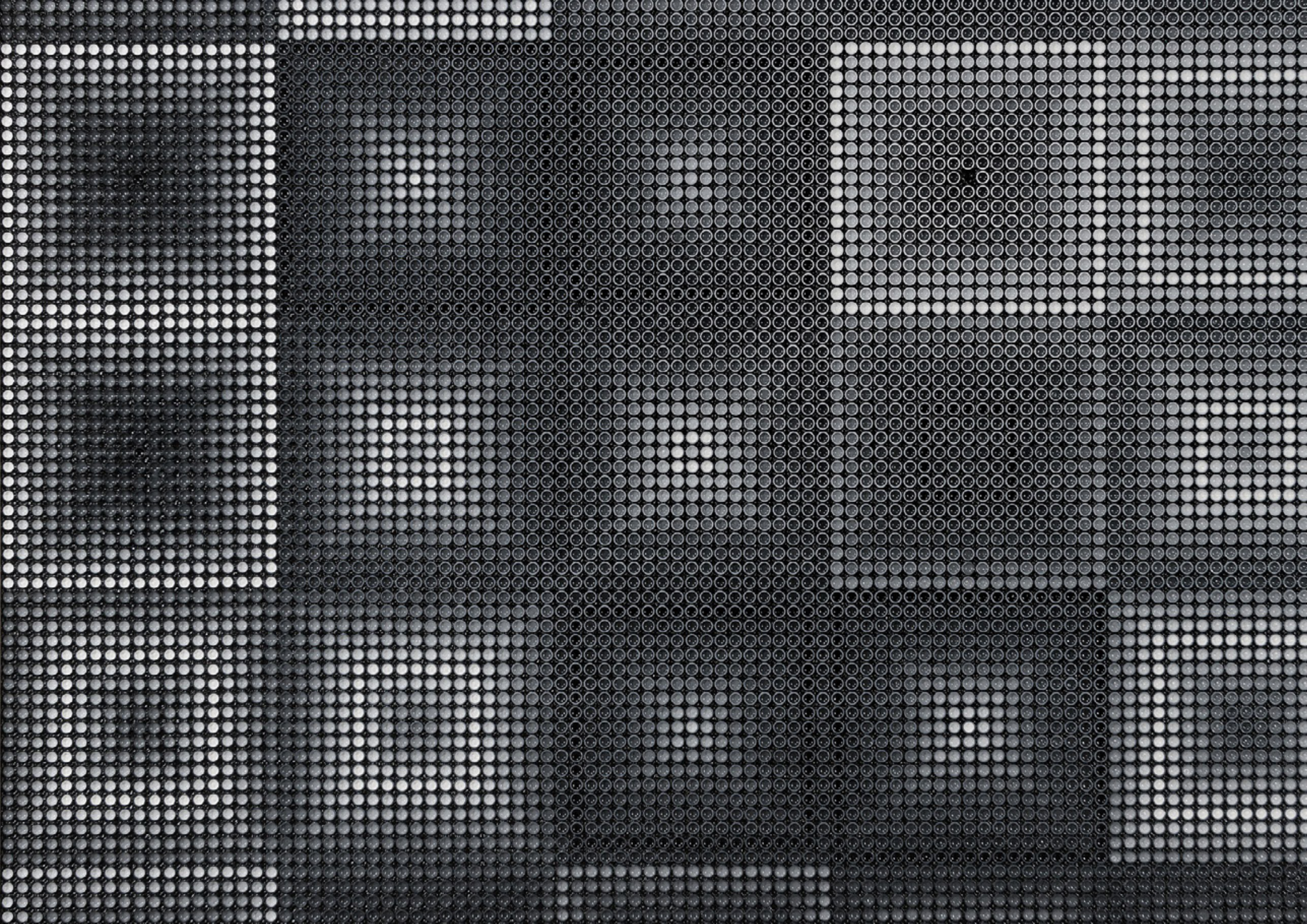
Containers – Tonal Progressions II, 2019
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
unique 190 x 190 x 4 cm
74.8 x 74.8 x 1.6 in





Containers – Tonal Progressions II, 2019
plastic puzzle pieces on wood
unique
190 x 190 x 4 cm
74.8 x 74.8 x 1.6 in





josé patrício

b. 1960, Recife, Brazil, where he lives and works

José Patrício's work blurs the boundaries between installation and painting. His practice stems from the arrangement of everyday-use objects, such as dominoes, dice, buttons, and nails, to create patterns and images, either in a geometric or organic manner, but always enigmatically familiar. Starting out his career in 1999 when he created an installation at the São Francisco Convent in João Pessoa, Patrício uses dominoes as a key element to several of his works. When viewed from afar, the patterns we see in his artworks assume an almost painterly tonality with an overall appearance that contrasts with the graphical nature of each individual domino

Under the influence of important Brazilian artistic trends and movements, such as geometric abstraction and Concretism, Patrício emphasizes the subtle limit between order and chaos, suggesting that even the most rigid of mathematical formulas has an expressive potential dimension. To the critic and curator Paulo Sérgio Duarte, Patrício's accumulation procedure places us 'on a different level than the issues set forth by the progress of science and technique in artwork. As the terrain of combinatorial mathematics is incorporated as a starting point, we are faced with the combination of series, endless in their possibilities. The problem is no longer the reproduction of the same; it is now about producing endless others from the same.'

selected solo exhibitions

- *Potência criadora infinita*, Nara Roesler, São Paulo, Brazil (2021)
- *José Patrício: Algorithm in 'Object Recognition'*, Pearl Lam Galleries Hong Kong H'Queens, Hong Kong (2018)
- *Precisão e acaso*, Museu Mineiro, Belo Horizonte; Museu Nacional de Brasília (MUN), Brasília, Brazil (2018)
- *Ponto zero*, Sesc Santo Amaro, São Paulo, Brazil (2017)
- *Explosão Fixa*, Instituto Ling, Porto Alegre, Brazil (2017)

selected group exhibitions

- *Utopias e distopias*, Museu de Arte Moderna da Bahia (MAM-BA), Salvador, Brazil (2022)
- *Ateliê de Gravura: da tradição à experimentação*, Fundação Iberê Camargo (FIC), Porto Alegre, Brazil (2019)
- *Géométries américaines*, du Mexique à la Terre de Feu, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France (2018)
- *Asas e Raízes*, Caixa Cultural, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2015)
- 8th La Habana Biennial, Cuba (2003)
- 22th São Paulo Biennial, Brazil (1994)

selected collections

- Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
- Museu de Arte Moderna Aloisio Magalhães (MAMAM), Recife, Brazil
- Museu de Arte Moderna da Bahia (MAM-BA), Salvador, Brazil
- Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro (MAM Rio), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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