

Sara Clendening: Chaordic
Green Gallery- Oak Park
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Quoting from *VISA The Power of an Idea* (Copyright 2001 Visa International), Page 181:

In 1978, when Murdoch was still working at Jeffries Bank Note, Dee [Hock] decided to develop a travelers cheque for Visa.... In the course of the meeting, he took a pencil and began sketching a bird in flight. "It was a dove," Murdoch recalled, "and Dee liked the idea of a dove in flight, as the dove was the international bird of peace."

To Turn the concept into a polished image, Dee's design team found a real dove and photographer and they set to work. They wanted to photograph the bird in flight, so they tied its legs together so it couldn't land. "The photographer took over 100 pictures, and if you looked carefully, you could see the legs tied together," Murdoch said.

Dee hock, the quasi- spiritual ex CEO of Visa- coined the term "chaord", a portmanteau combining the words chaos and order. The mix of chaos and order is often described as a harmonious coexistence displaying characteristics of both, with neither chaotic nor ordered behavior dominating.

The eight paintings in the exhibition depict cut up abstracted bits of voided credit cards in varying compositions and levels of magnification. The Visa dove was the first security hologram ever produced. I obtained the contact sheet of the original 1978 Visa dove hologram photo shoot which contained the iconic image used on the actual Visa credit cards, as well as 11 outtakes. These outtakes were printed as new holograms for the fractured cards. In the holograms, one can clearly see that the dove's legs are bound with fishing line to prevent it from landing or flying. The plastic shapes are airbrushed with a variety of patterns and styles, ranging from metallics and carbon fiber to rusticated patinas. The cards serve as a frame or stylized cage for the dove. These suprematist compositions shatter the card in an attempt to liberate the dove, which represents innocence and virtue.