

NICOLETTI PRESENTS

CHRIS DORLAND
ACTIVE USER

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NICOLETTI DIGITAL

CHRIS DORLAND
FLR-13

FIRST ONLINE EXHIBITION
AT NICOLETTIDIGITAL.COM

12A VYNER STREET E2
9DG, LONDON
(5,567 KM)
NICOLETTI
CONTEMPORARY.COM

NICOLETTI contemporary is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of New-York based artist Chris Dorland (1978, Montreal) in London, which converges two inter-related projects: *Active User*, an exhibition of new works taking place in our physical gallery space; and *FLR-13*, a simulated virtual environment inaugurating our online exhibition space: Nicoletti Digital.

Comprising two site-specific video works presented alongside a series of new paintings and AlumaCore panels, *Active User* channels the mind bending spirit of science-fiction writer Philip K. Dick (1928-1982), whose dark and humorous vision challenged established understanding of both the nature of reality and the reality of nature. As the 21st Century unfolds, the progressively all-encompassing digital realm forces a redistribution of the coordinates through which humanity could hitherto differentiate what is real from what is not, generating increasingly complex living environments within which it becomes possible to inhabit the best suiting algorithmic series. Dorland's exhibition analyses these mechanisms by reflecting upon the ramifications of human consciousness stemming from the gradually perplexed differentiation between actual and virtual environments, real and imaginary dimensions. In a world in which the splintering of interests and values give way to the construction of alternating and competing realities, resulting in the progressive vanishing of objective truth, *Active User* is conceived as a glitching gateway through which communication flows between oscillating realities and conditions.

Displayed across the gallery space, Dorland's paintings and AlumaCore panels are created with images that are filtered and glitched through successive operations of iterations and translations of data – moving between scanner, camera, software and printer. The resulting

compositions are superimpositions of distorted images and varying pixelated elements which evoke fluctuating planes of perception upon which alternately dissolve and materialise physical objects and numerical fields. *Active User* attempts to conjure up the interstitial spaces where actual and virtual modes of perception and intellection interweave. Dorland's physical works are set in relation with two video simulations which reference video games and simulated war games; they invite the viewer to shift from passive viewing to active playing.

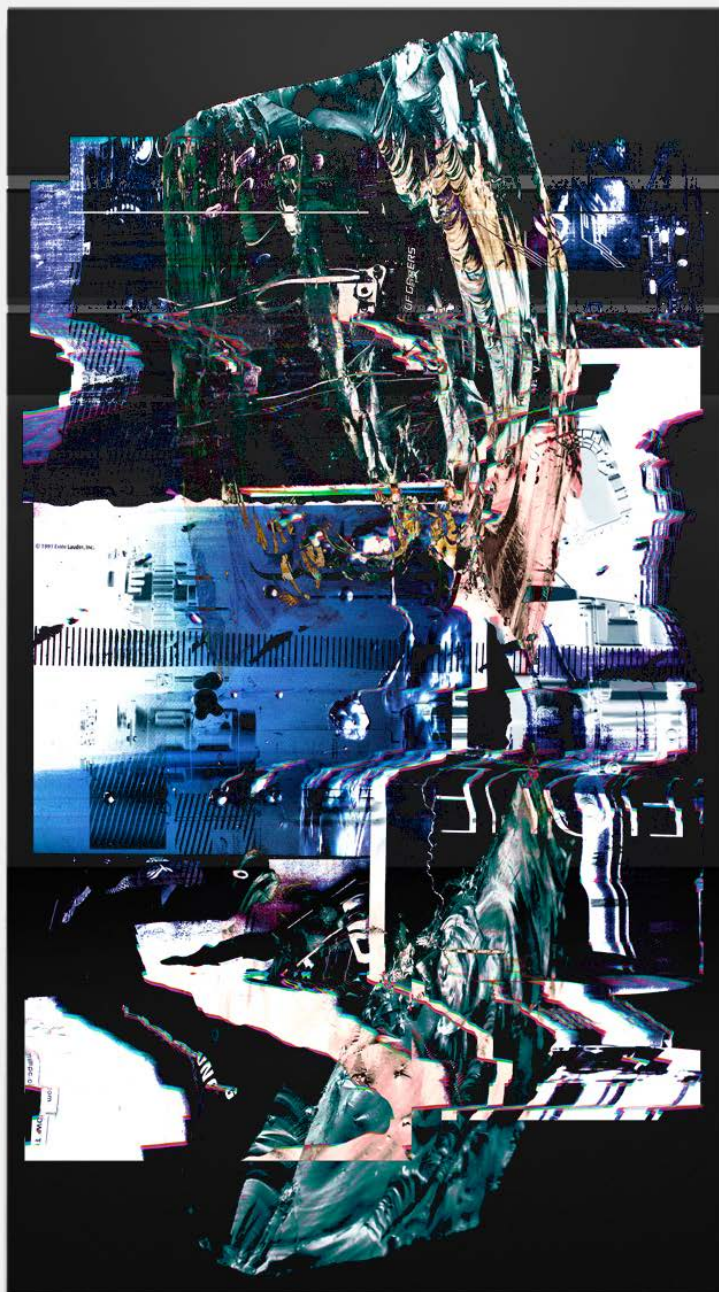
This is where *Active User* connects with *FLR-13*, a simulated online environment that houses two new video works. Constituting the nexus point of *Active User*, *FLR-13* is a part viewing platform, part simulated experience that takes its title from the concept of the Thirteenth Floor, whereby countries viewing 13 as an unlucky number traditionally omit the thirteenth floor from multi-level buildings. Resulting in conspiracy theories that speculate on what is exactly happening on this supposedly missing floor – e.g. that in governments buildings it is used to house top-secret departments – the Thirteenth Floor generally suggests a place in which something sinister or clandestine is taking place. As a space located at the border between physical and virtual realities, objective truth and fantasies, Dorland's *FLR-13* operates as a backdoor to reality and offers a strange glimpse into an alternative version of his exhibition.

FLR-13 inaugurates Nicoletti Digital, an interactive computer generated gallery space based on Nicoletti Contemporary's architectural footprint. Designed by Chris Dorland, Nicoletti Digital will allow viewers from anywhere with an internet connection to experience an innovative series of online exhibitions and projects running in parallel to our gallery's programme.

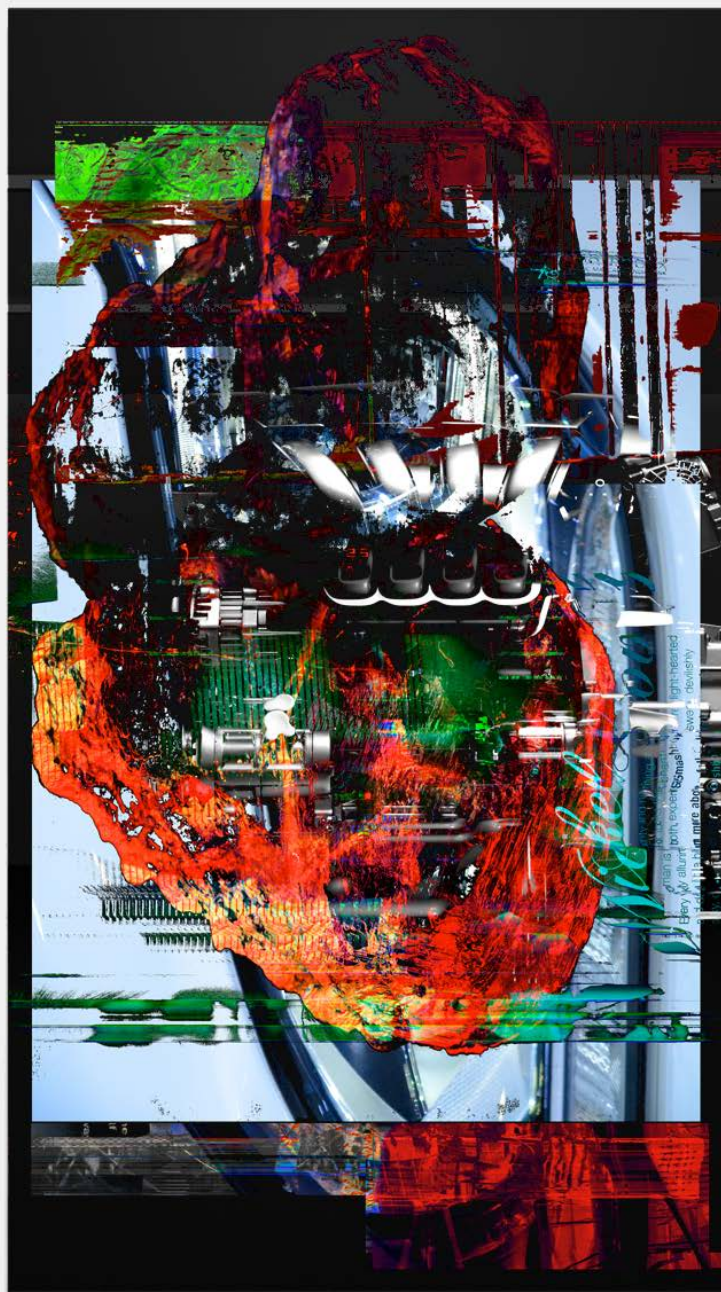
Chris Dorland (b. 1978, Canada) lives and works in New York (USA). Selected solo exhibitions: *Sun Stalker*, Aetopoulos, Athens (GR); *Civilian*, Lyles & King, New York (USA); *Density Build*, Practise, Chicago, (USA); *Happiness Machines*, Super Dakota, Brussels (BE); and *Entertainment Hardware*, Museo Nacional De Bellas Artes, Santiago (CL). Selected group exhibitions: *Front International*, Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, Cleveland (US); *After Hours: Bowery Gates Shutter Project*, New Museum/Art Production Fund, New York (US); *Painted Perfect*, Anonymous Gallery, Mexico DF (MX); *Lucie Fontaine at ESTATE*, Marianne Boesky, New York (US); *Make Skateboards*, White Flag Projects, St. Louis (US); *Scriptures*, Galeria Bonomo, Bari (IT); *Exquisite Corpse Drawing Project*, curated by David Salle, Gasser Grunert Gallery, New York (US); *Gradation*, Portugal Arte 10, curated by Garth Weiser, Lisbon (PT); *VOR GOTT IST ALLE KUNST SCHEISSE*, Curated by David Ostrowski, Dusseldorf (DE); and *Cube-New York is Dead*, Gavin Brown's Passerby, New York (US). Selected public and private collections: Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (USA); Bronx Museum of Art, New York (USA); and Neuberger Museum of Art, New York (USA); Microsoft (USA); Soho House Group (UK)

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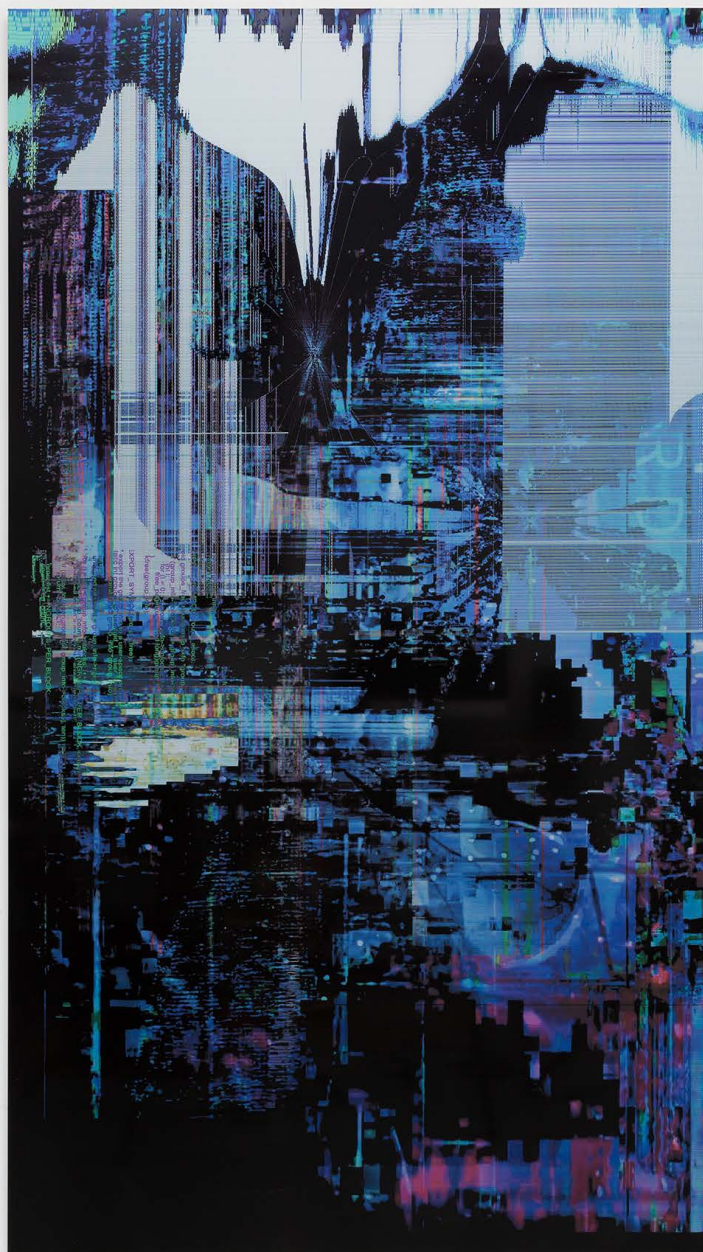
CHRiS DORLAND
ACTIVE USER



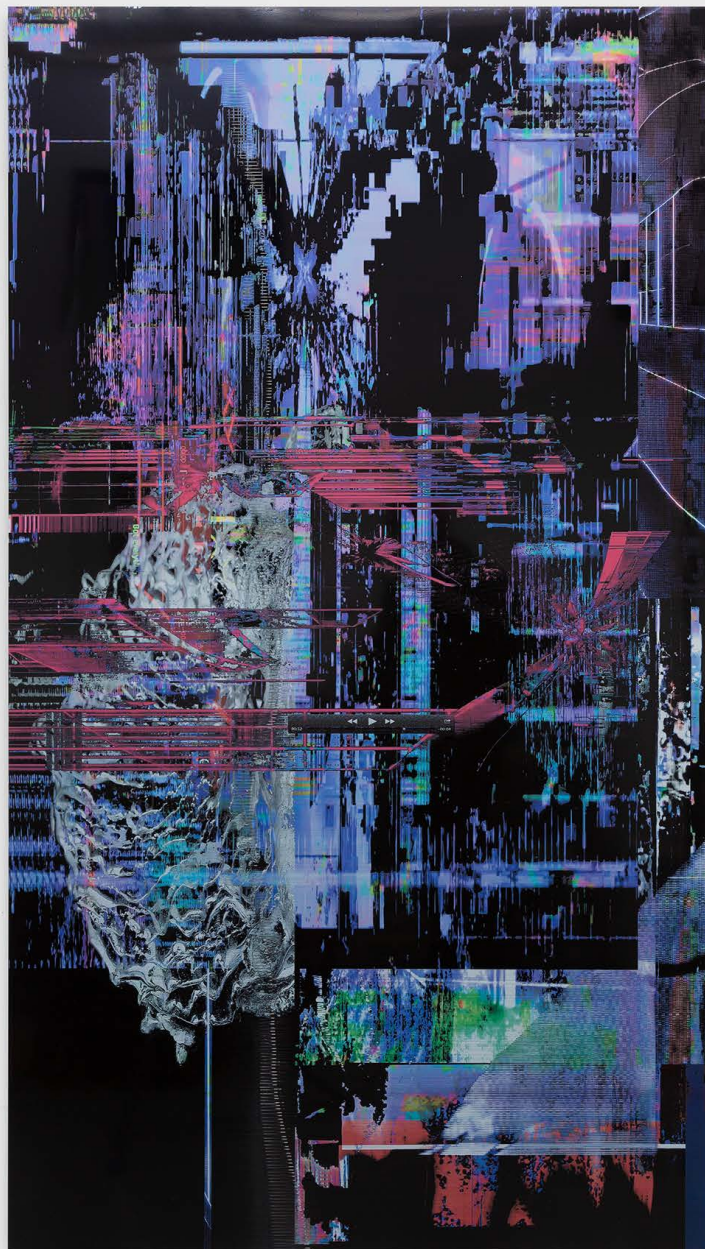
Chris Dorland
Untitled (liquid foundation), 2019
UV ink on Alamacore
78 x 44 inches
198 x 112 cm



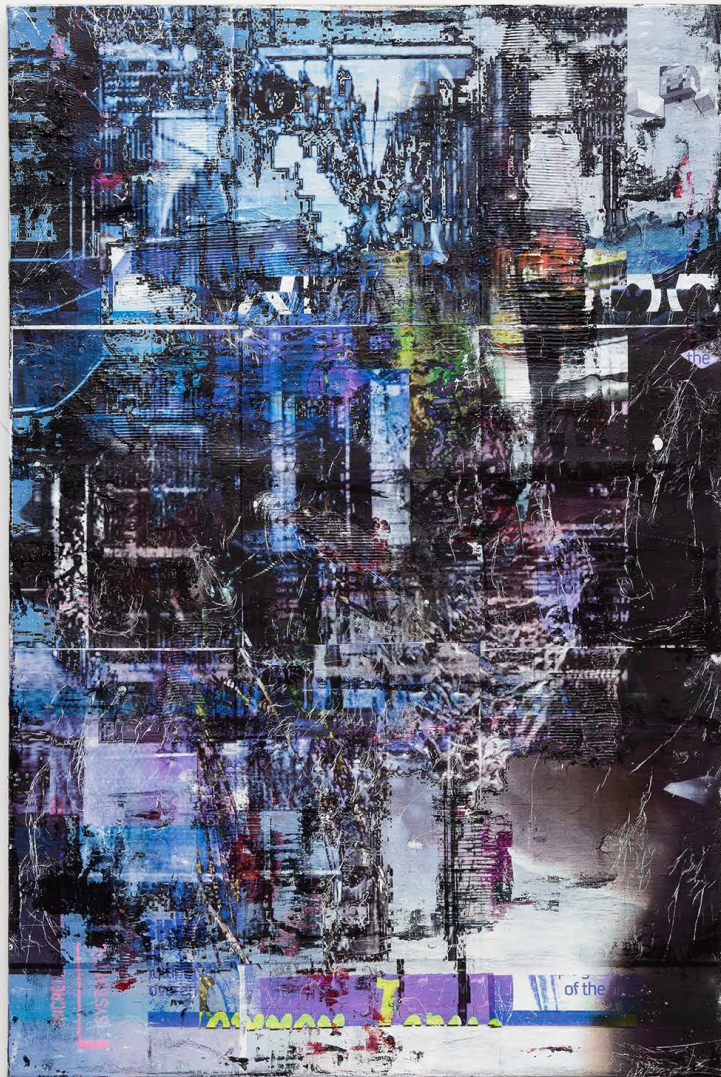
Chris Dorland
Untitled (hippy crippler), 2019
UV ink on Alumacore
78 x 44 inches
198 x 112 cm



Chris Dorland
Untitled (titan fall), 2020
UV ink on Alamacore
68 x 36 inches
172.72 x 91.44 cm



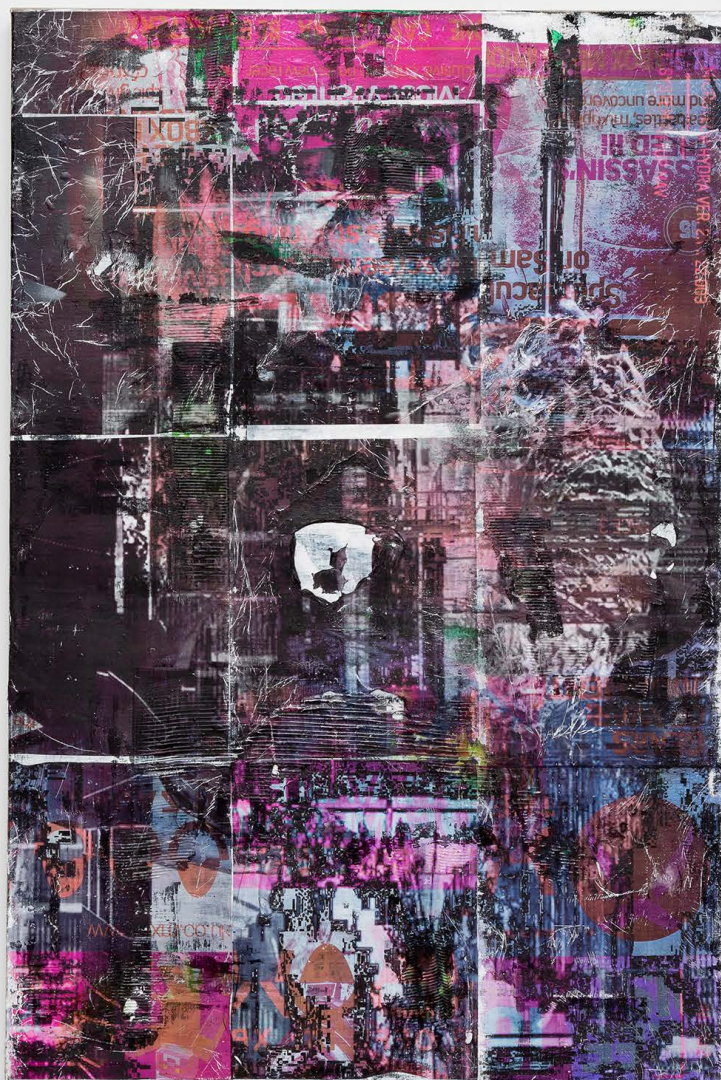
Chris Dorland
Untitled (flatliners), 2020
UV ink on Alamacore
68 x 36 inches
172.72 x 91.44 cm



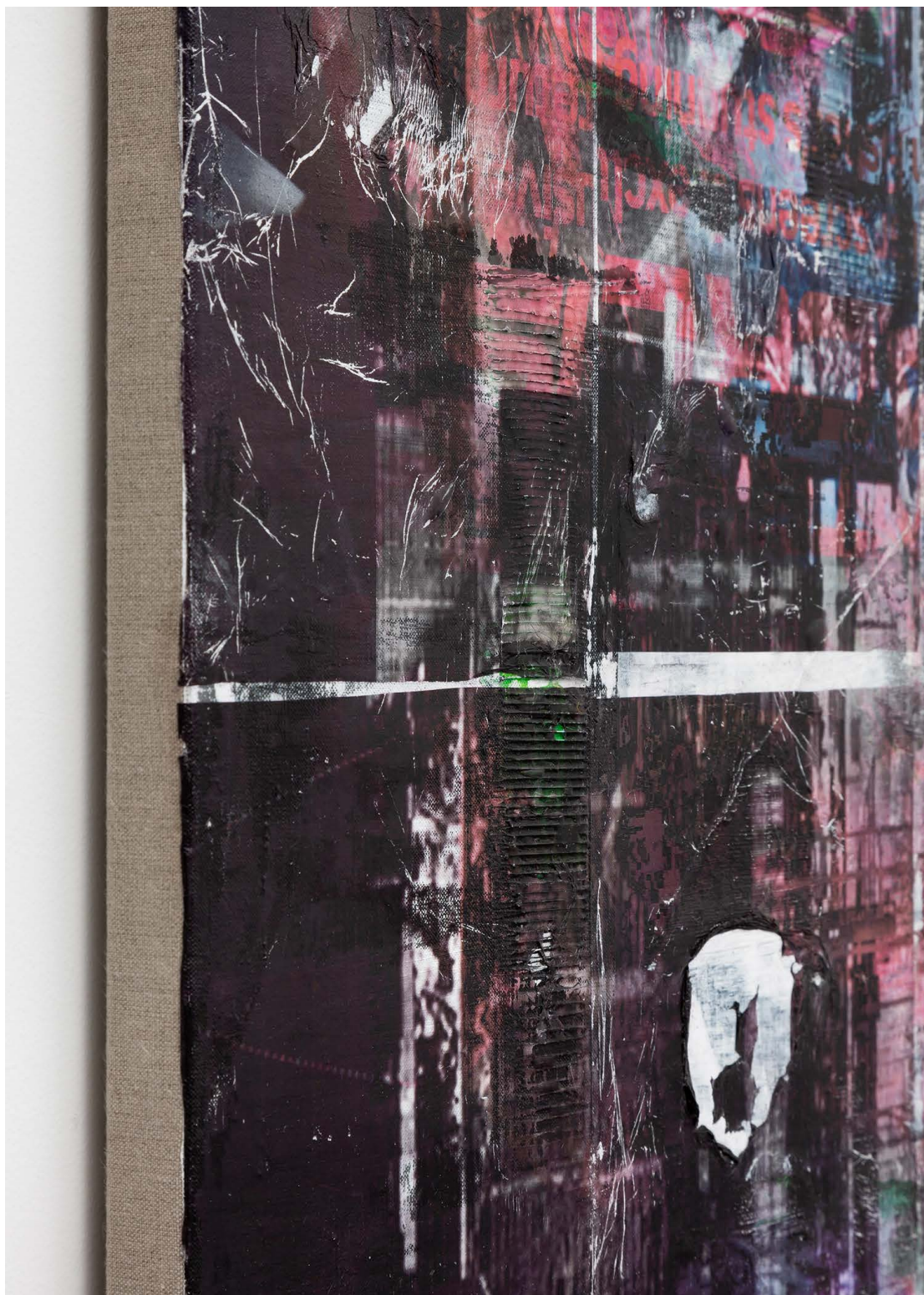
Chris Dorland
Untitled (drain cartridge), 2020
Ink, acrylic, UV gel on Linen
36 x 24 inches
91.44 x 60.96 cm



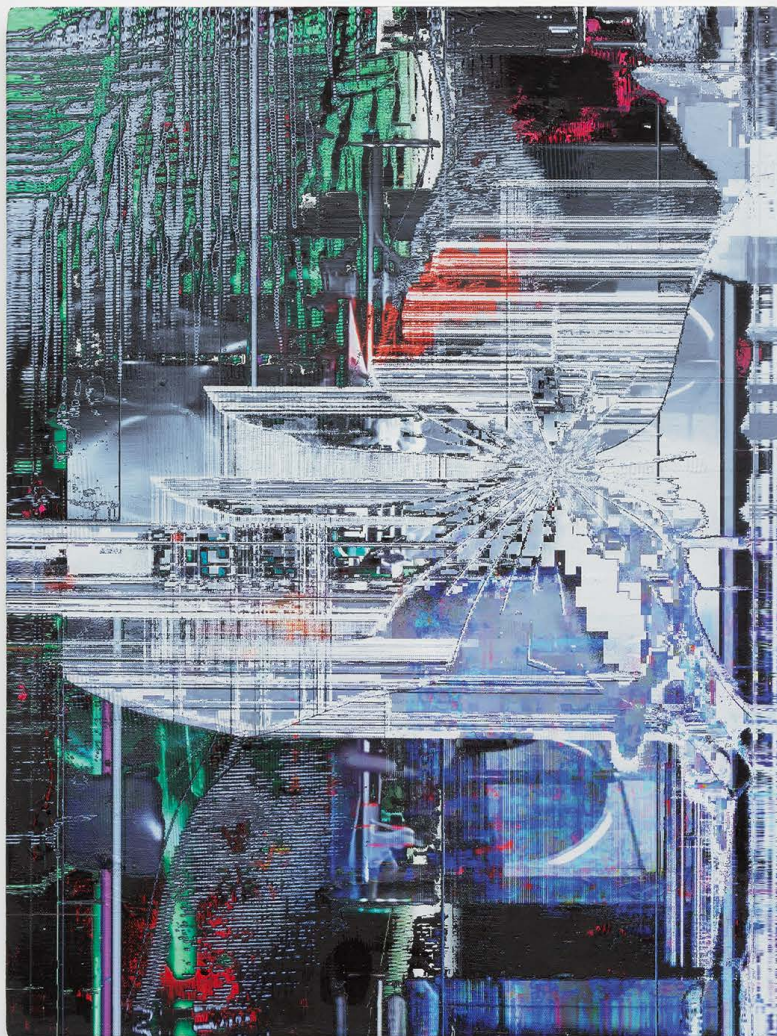
Chris Dorland
Untitled (drain cartridge), 2020
Detail



Chris Dorland
Untitled (phantom limb), 2020
Ink, acrylic, UV gel on Linen
36 x 24 inches
91.44 x 60.96 cm



Chris Dorland
Untitled (phantom limb), 2020
Detail



Chris Dorland
Untitled (cloud flare), 2019
Ink, acrylic, UV gel on Linen
24 x 18 inches
60,96 x 45,72 cm



Chris Dorland
Untitled (cloud flare), 2019
Detail

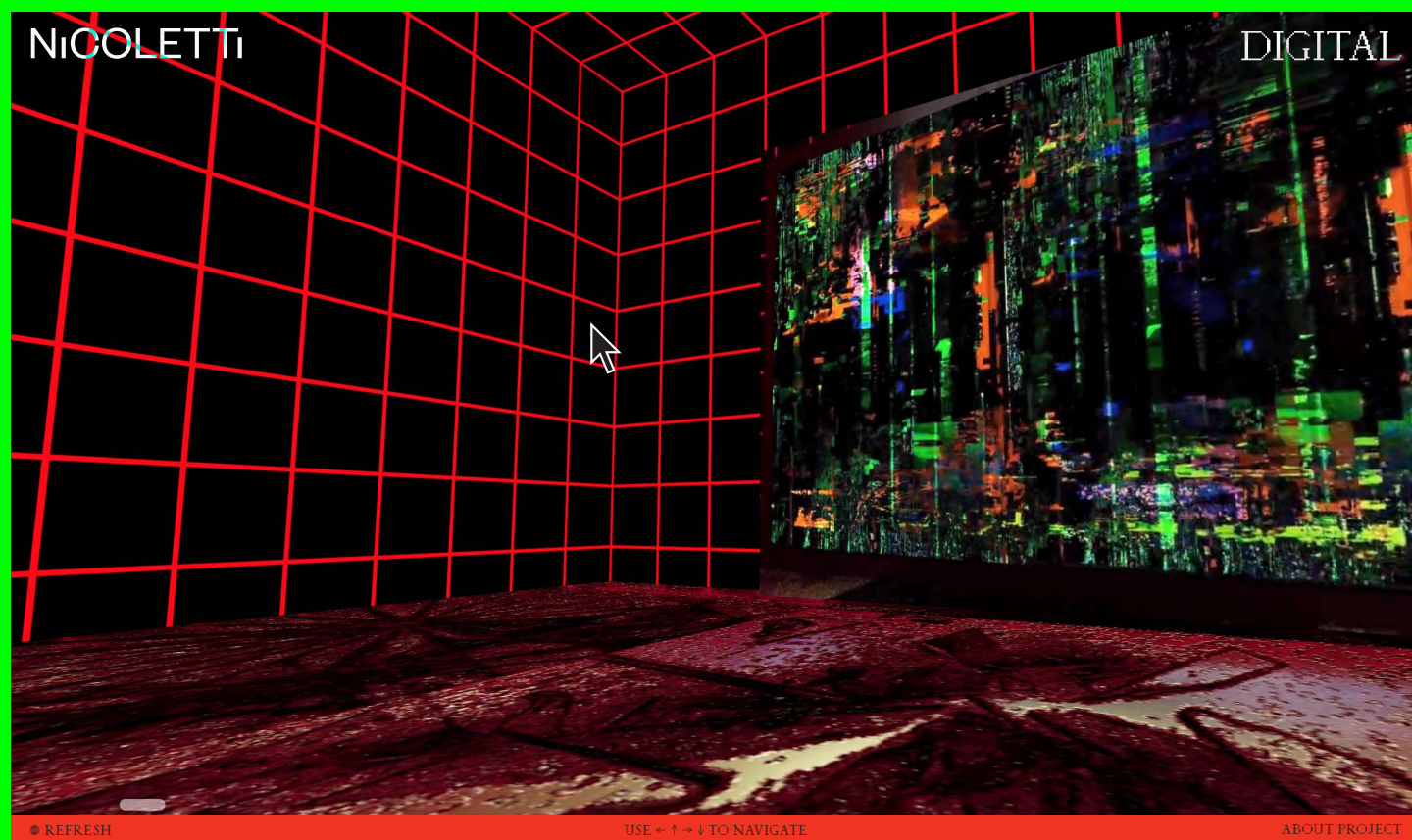


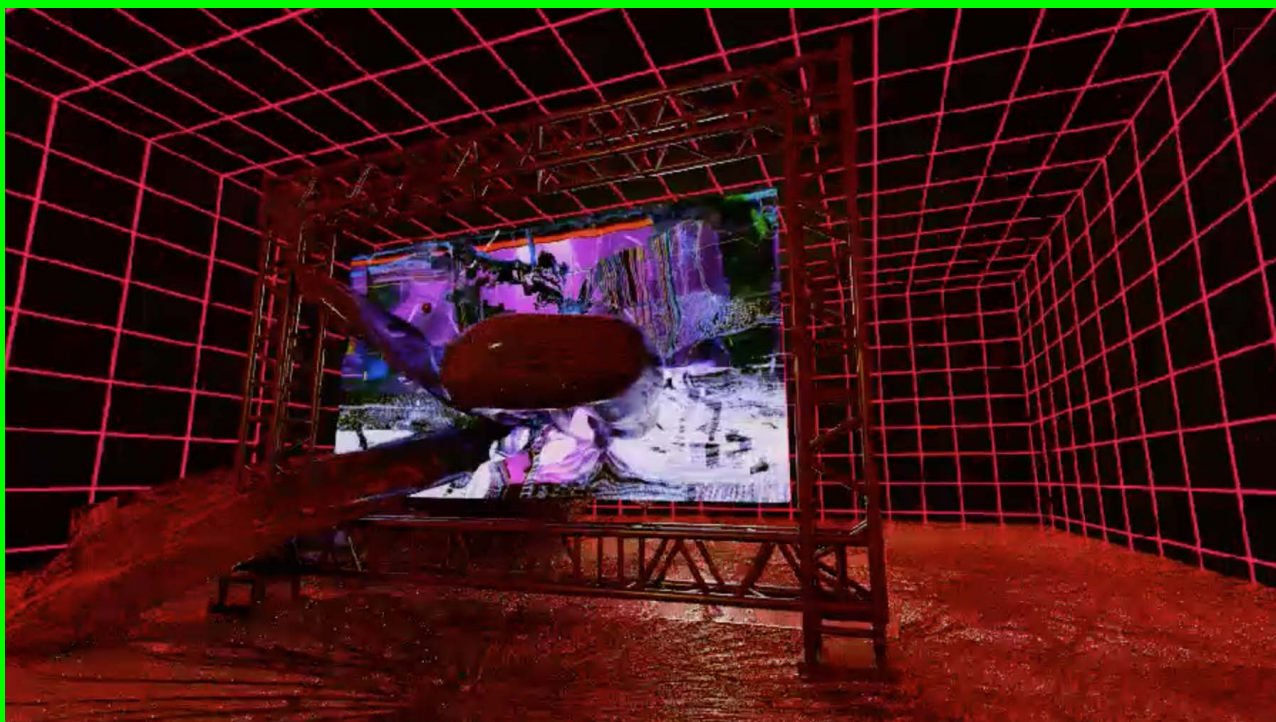
Chris Dorland
Untitled (zero day exploits), 2019
Ink, acrylic, UV gel on Linen
24 x 18 inches
60,96 x 45,72 cm



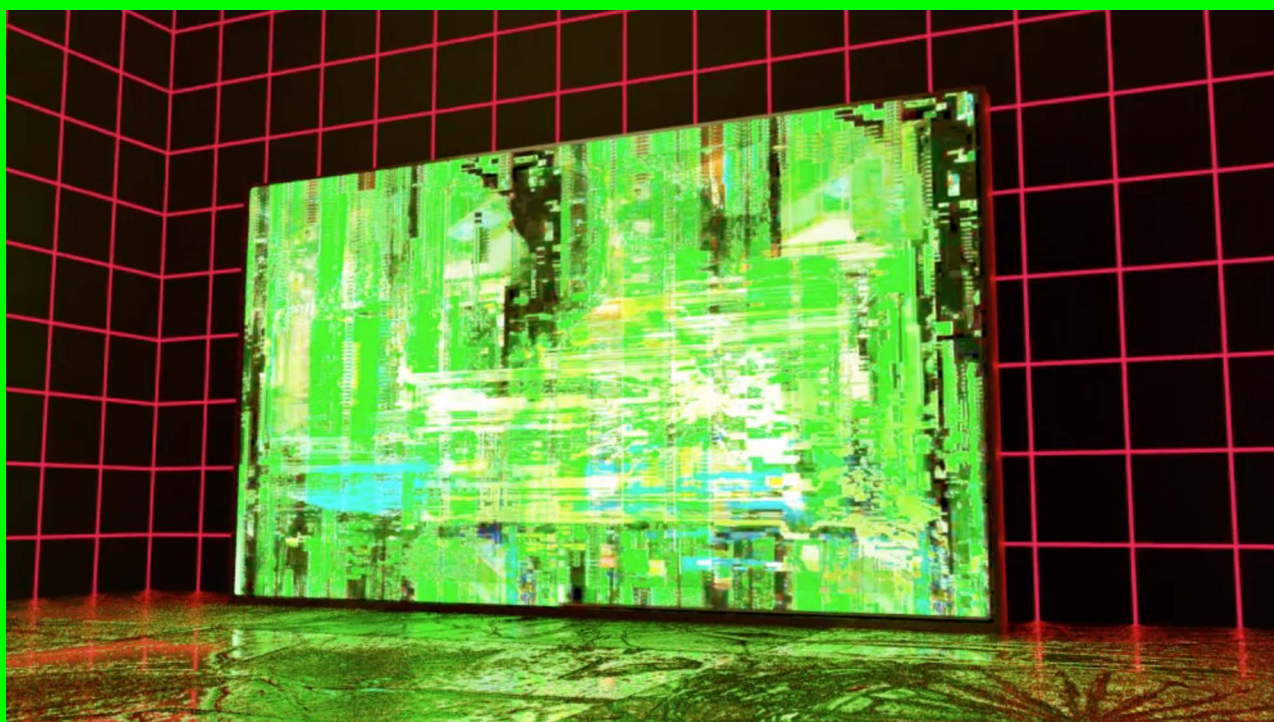
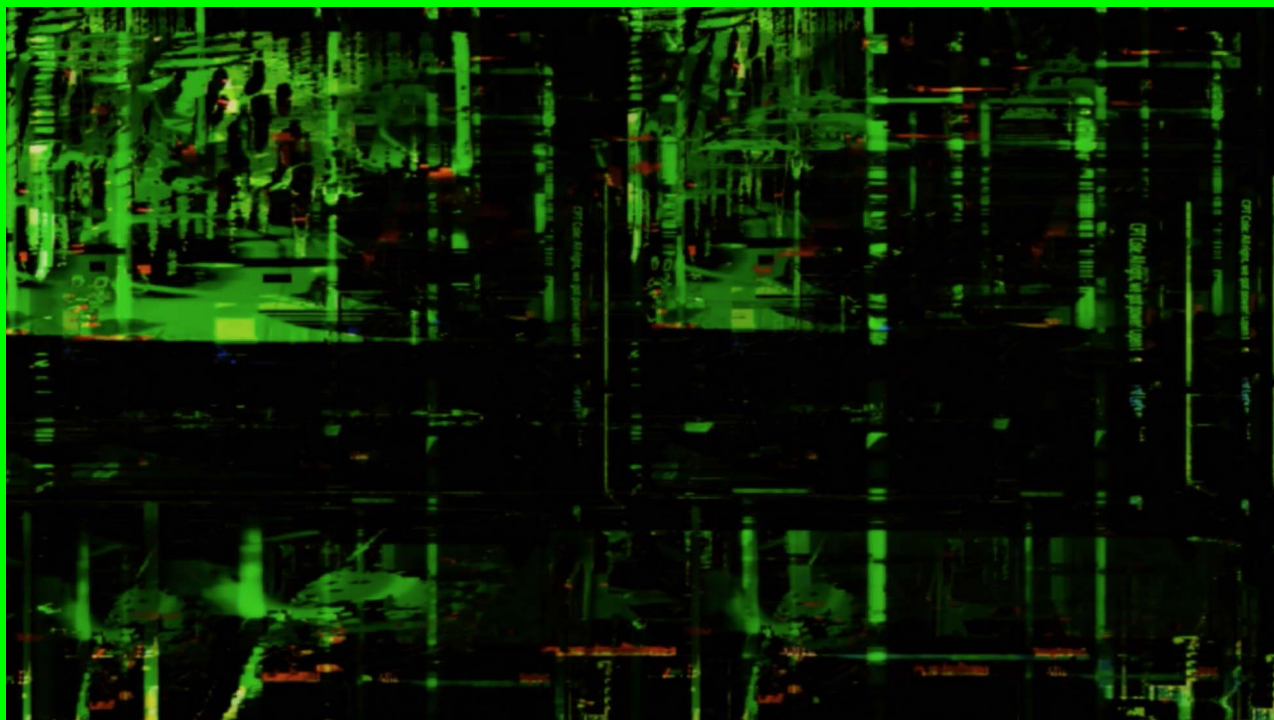
Chris Dorland
Untitled (zero day exploits), 2019
Detail

NICOLETTI DIGITAL is a computer-generated gallery space dedicated to the creation and promotion of digital art through a programme of site-specific commissions and exhibitions. Designed by artist Chris Dorland, Nicoletti Digital is a simulated environment based on our physical gallery's architectural footprints. It allows viewers from anywhere with an internet connection to experience an innovative series of online exhibitions and projects exploring and questioning the increasingly tenuous boundaries between actual and virtual realities set in relation to social, political and philosophical questions. Running in parallel to Nicoletti Contemporary's programme, Nicoletti Digital's mission is to support a generation of artists using the internet and digital technologies as mediums in their practices to produce new works and share their visions to a wider audience.





Chris Dorland
Untitled (FLR-13), 2020
Single channel Loop
1 min 29 seconds
Edition 3 + 2 AP



Chris Dorland
Untitled (simulacron-3), 2020
Single channel Loop
1 min 01 second
Edition 3 + 2 AP

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FLR-13