

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CHRIS DORLAND

Chrome Shelter

June 28 – October 4, 2026

Opening: Saturday, June 27, 2026, 3 p.m.

The **Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst** in Otterndorf is pleased to present *Chrome Shelter*, the first museum solo exhibition in Europe by the American-Canadian artist **Chris Dorland**. On view from June 28 through October 4, 2026, the exhibition brings together significant bodies of work from the past decade alongside a newly developed video installation, offering a comprehensive insight into one of the most distinctive artistic positions at the intersection of painting and digital culture.

Founded in 1974, the Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst is one of Germany's few institutions dedicated exclusively to non-representational art. Over the past five decades, the museum has established itself as an important platform for contemporary abstract practices and international artistic exchange. With *Chrome Shelter*, the museum continues its commitment to presenting pioneering artistic positions that expand and redefine the possibilities of abstraction in the twenty-first century.

Born in Montreal in 1978 and based in New York, Chris Dorland has gained international recognition for a body of work that merges abstract painting with digital image production, technological processes, and contemporary media culture. His works are represented in prominent public collections,

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Bronx Museum, and the Neuberger Museum of Art. Dorland's work has been featured in major exhibitions and institutions such as the New Museum, New York, and FRONT International.

Drawing on scans, image compression, surveillance technologies, algorithmic errors, and digital debris, Dorland creates complex visual environments in which painterly gestures intersect with technological systems. His works reflect on how contemporary perception is increasingly mediated by screens, networks, and data infrastructures. Rather than depicting the digital world, Dorland translates its underlying conditions into material form, producing images that oscillate between abstraction, fragmentation, and technological decay.

Chrome Shelter explores these concerns through a site-responsive presentation conceived specifically for the Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst. Reflective surfaces, architectural interventions, and light-based elements transform the galleries into an immersive environment in which painting, moving image, and spatial experience become inseparable. The exhibition itself functions as a perceptual apparatus, inviting visitors to navigate shifting relationships between physical and virtual space, material presence and digital mediation.

The title *Chrome Shelter* suggests a structure that simultaneously protects and exposes. It evokes surfaces that appear stable yet remain permeable, fractured, and unstable. In Dorland's work, technological systems emerge as both shelters and vulnerabilities—spaces where information accumulates, deteriorates, and continuously transforms.

Curatorial Statement

"Chris Dorland's visual language is strikingly contemporary. Across painting and moving image, he addresses aesthetic phenomena that shape our present, translating digital image logics into compelling works of art. Particularly remarkable is the way he transforms technological processes into

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

richly textured painterly surfaces of exceptional visual quality. Through the exhibition's immersive installation, visitors are invited to experience and reflect upon the aesthetic conditions of our increasingly digital world."

— **Wilko Austermann**

Curator of the exhibition and Director of the Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst

Chrome Shelter is curated by **Wilko Austermann**, Director of the Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst, and marks a significant milestone in the museum's ongoing engagement with contemporary international abstraction and media-based artistic practices.

A fully illustrated scholarly catalogue will accompany the exhibition, featuring newly commissioned essays and extensive documentation of Dorland's site-specific installation developed for Otterndorf.

Chris Dorland – Chrome Shelter

June 28 – October 4, 2026

Opening

Saturday, June 27, 2026, 3 p.m.

Venue

Museum gegenstandsfreier Kunst

Marktstraße 10

21762 Otterndorf, Germany

Opening Hours

Wednesday–Sunday

11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Press Contact

For press images, interview requests, or further information, please contact:

E-mail: museum@mgk-otterndorf.de

English-Language Media Inquiries

E-mail: haniya@haniyabhatty.com