



R.J.KIRSCH  
NIGHTSHADES

*exp.edition*



## EXPOSE AND SHADE

Some remarks on the installation NIGHTSHADES by the german painter R.J.Kirsch

In a darkened room of approx. 30 m<sup>2</sup> there is an object in the middle, which is irradiated by three torches resting on a base and casts a wall-filling shadow. This shadow image consists of many strong coloured segments that flow into each other corresponding to the gentle rotation of the object.

Rolf Kirsch is a painter and, according to his own statement, according to the ideas of the of Fluxus. As a result, his interest was in always excursions beyond the horizon of pure painting. Last but not least, the confrontation with the rapid development of the electronic image processing led to a complete series of works that explore the relationship between traditional and new visual media.

**PAINTER IN THE DARK** was then also the title of a series of exhibitions in which the painter and concept painter artist has been his artistic exploration of the last years ago. The darkness that is mentioned in this title also describes the general working environment and the for the painter, who has to fear more and more, that the his craft as a result of the dominance of electronic, digital and Image processing appears obsolete. That this title then does not is to be understood only metaphorically, but also concretely, shows the Kirsch currently in his installation „Nachtschatten“.

### All technical pictures are shadow images

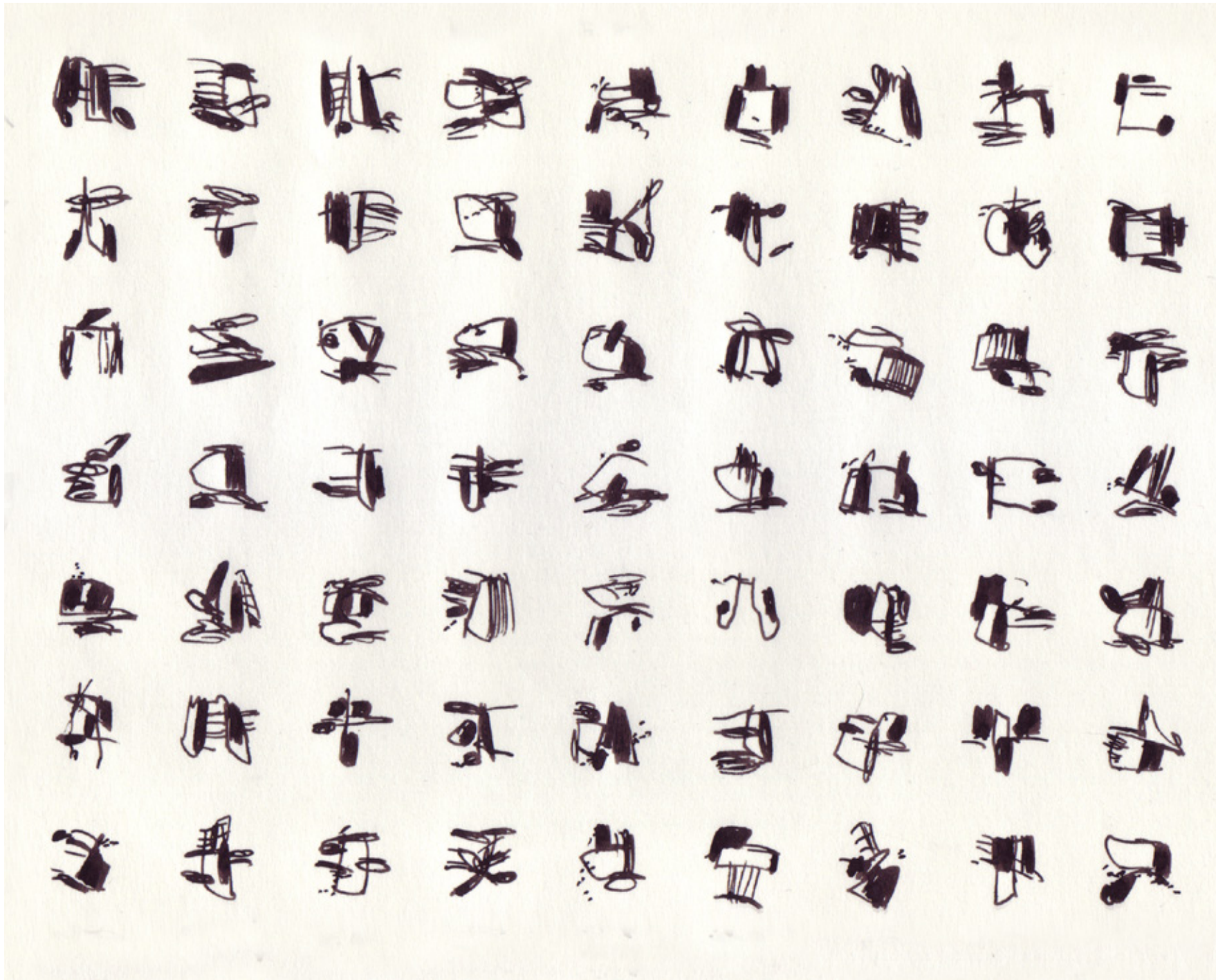
In this context Kirsch develops his confrontation with the shadow image. In principle, this follows the tradition of the photogram, a working method that has been established since the 1920s

by artists such as Christian Schad, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy or Man Ray. Based on the famous „Light-Space-Modulator“ by Bauhaus artist Moholy-Nagy, Kirsch stages his photograms from a cinematic understanding. Thus, his shadow images are subject to a constant Change due to the continuous movement of shading objects. These objects do not lie flat on photographic paper, but are located in space.

The physics of coloured shadows allows Kirsch to transform the objects of his shadows, his „props“, into full-colour photograms. The working method is as simple as it is amazing: the objects positioned in front of the light-sensitive material are illuminated by point-shaped light sources in the three basic colours. The shadow images resulting at the same time overlap, light, half-shade and core shadow create a coloured shadow image. The audience's air movements cause the sculpture, hanging on a thread, to rotate constantly, thus creating a permanent „film“ on the wall.

Light, half-shade and core shade result in an colorful picture. Minimal air movements, triggered by the passing audience, move that past an hanging object in constant rotation and create a thus a permanent „film“. Parallel to this, Kirsch presents photograms of his Shadows as an edition, gives them material presence and thus makes the handling of light an actuala painterly act.

Shadow on the studio wall, LED flashlights, object, approx. 300 x 200 cm, 2018

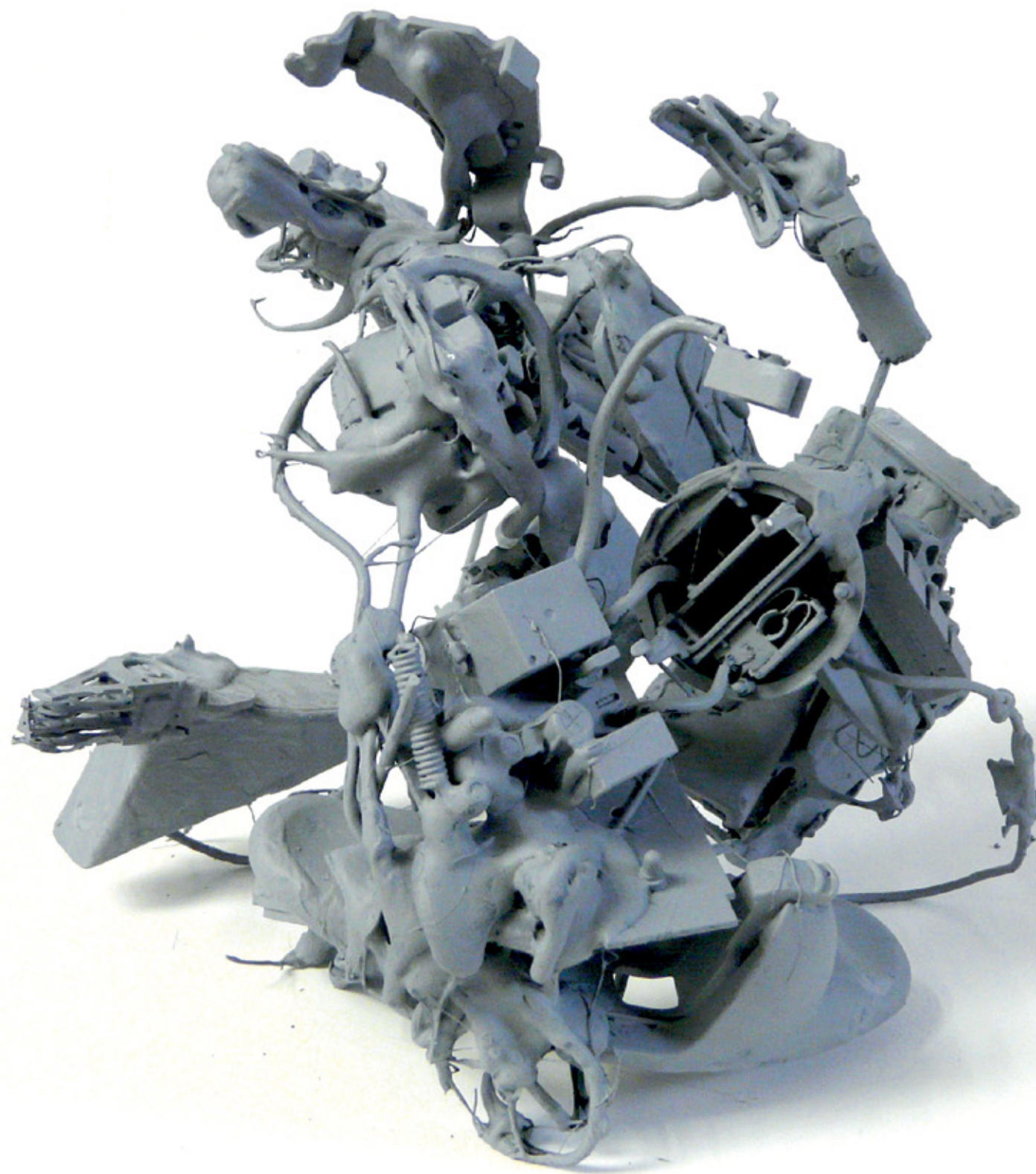
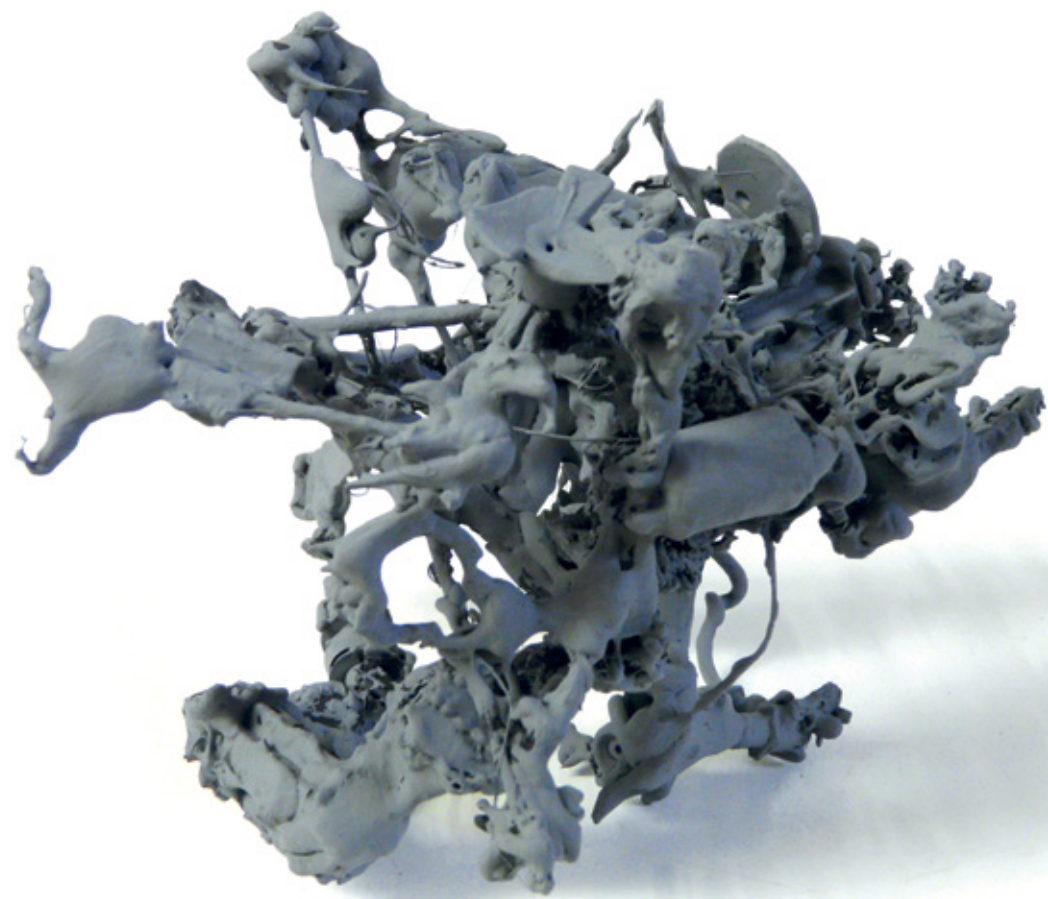


Chiffren 2010 #1  
Tusche auf Papier,  
20 x 30 cm Blattgröße,



Chiffren 2010 #2  
Tusche auf Papier,  
20 x 30 cm Blattgröße,





Requisites #8, #6 und #7  
various materials, hot glue, acrylicjewels  
ca. 30 x 30 x 30 cm  
2014-2018

NIGHTSHADES  
various materials, hot glue, acrylic  
three LED torches on base  
2018



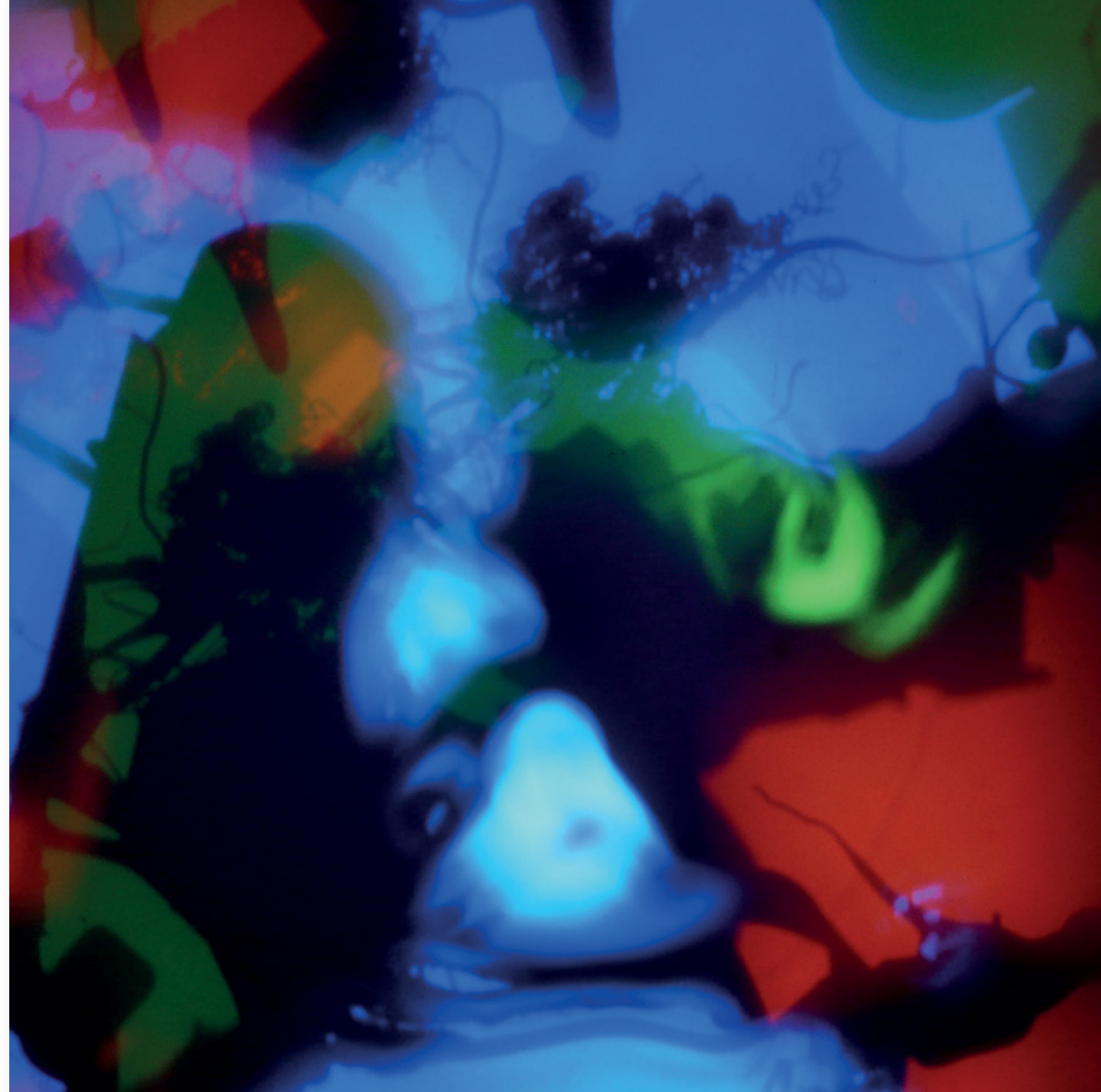
NIGHTSHADES  
various materials, hot glue, acrylic  
three LED torches on base  
2018



**NIGHTSHADES**  
various materials, hot glue, acrylic  
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2018

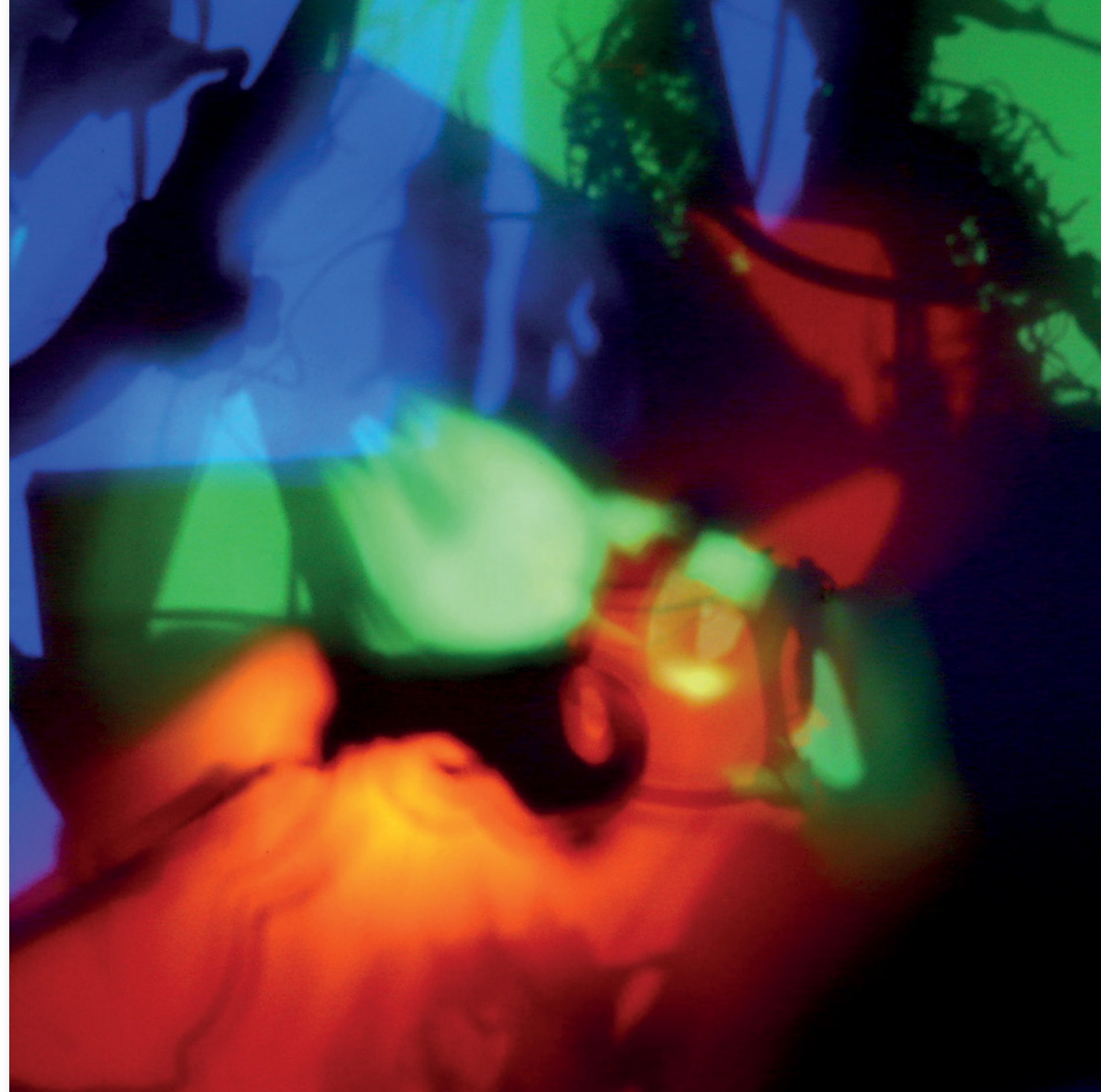


NIGHTSHADES #29/2017  
Shadow image/photography  
Edition, edition 5, dat.sign. numbered, 80 x 80 cm  
Photo print on Aludibond  
2017



NIGHTSHADES #49/2017

Shadow image/photography  
Edition, edition 5, dat.sign. numbered, 80 x 80 cm  
Photo print on Aludibond  
2017



**R.J. Kirsch**  
**Studies with Wewerka, Spoerrie and thanks to the Cologne Werkschulen, 1991 graduation in painting with Prof. Franz Dank.**

Exhibitions  
2018 EVERYTHING, Groupshow , Studio in a skyscraper, Berlin  
2017 Glanz und Gloria, Groupshow, Art Galerie 7, Cologne  
2016 PERIPHERY, RAUMSECHS Dusseldorf  
2015 MOTO PARK, Kunstverein Eisenturm Mainz  
2014 PAYING PUMPS, Kunstverein Siegburg  
2014 PHANTOMS, Meta Weber Gallery, Krefeld, Germany  
2014 PHANTOMS, Bayreuth Art Society  
2013 PHANTOMS, RAUMSECHS Düsseldorf, Germany  
2013 OSTRALE, intern. Art exhibition Dresden, catalogue  
2013 The painter in the dark, Kunstverein Viernheim, catalogue  
2012 ABSTRACTS, Artgalerie 7, Cologne  
2011 HOT SPOT BERLIN, Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin, catalogue  
2010 serialworks studio, National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2010 EMPTY, Bellevuesaal Wiesbaden  
2009 REANIMATION, Gallery Jürgen Kalthoff, Essen  
2008 STILL LIFE PIECES, Art Gallery 7, Cologne, Germany  
2008 PASSAGEN, Gallery Abel New Art, Berlin  
2007 GROPIUS STORIES, Gallery in the Körnerpark, Berlin  
2006 Rhythm of Statistics, Abel Neue Kunst, Berlin  
2006 Rhythm of Statistics, Gallery Rachel Haferkamp, Cologne  
2005 cars and races, Gallery Foert/Garanin, Berlin  
2004 With the feet first, Gallery v.d. Milwe, Aachen  
2004 Bell Tone Laboratory, Gropiusstadt pilot project, Berlin  
2004 STATUS QUO, Gallery Murata&friends, Berlin  
2003 Staying at home, Installation, Moltkerei-Werkstatt, Cologne  
2003 THE MERRY WAITINGROOM, Capital of Culture Graz  
2001 Collection SK Cologne  
1999 Goethe Institute, Brussels/Evere, Belgium  
1999 PHANTOM, Albstadt Museum, catalogue



Fairs  
2015/2016 Art Karlsruhe, Artgalerie 7  
2013/2011/2010/2009 Art Fair Cologne, Artgalerie 7, Cologne  
2007 F.I.T. Berlin, Fuel for Art, Miami  
2007 MACO, Abel Berlin, Mexico City  
2008 bridge Art Fair, Miami  
2006 preview Berlin  
2005 2nd Berlin Art Salon  
2005 Art Cologne, Artgalerie 7, Cologne, Germany  
2004 Art Fair Cologne, Artgalerie 7, Cologne

collections  
Graphic Collection Museum Albstadt  
DG Bank Collection  
Collection Stadtparkasse Cologne  
Collection Dr.Drobny, Nuremberg  
Autermann Collection, Cologne

Scholarships and Awards  
2004 Working scholarship Haus Schwarzenberg, Berlin  
2003 Working scholarship pilot project Gropiusstadt, Berlin  
2002 nominated for the Villa Aurora Scholarship  
2001 Otzenrath Scholarship, Hausmuseum Otzenrath  
2000 Marli Hoppe-Ritter Foundation scholarship  
2000 Scholarship Board of Trustees ZNS  
1991 nominated for the Peter-Mertes-Stipendium

Special thanks to

Artgalerie 7, Meike Knüppe, Köln  
Wolfgang Autermann, Köln  
CIRCUS EINS / Susanne Burmester Galerie  
Prof. Dr. Horst Hielscher, Xanten

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NIGHTSHADES #36/2017

Shadow image/photography  
Edition, edition 5, dat.sign. numbered, 80 x 80 cm  
Photo print on Aludibond  
2017





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