

*Lea Kika Sblandano*

Portfolio



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# 01. *Neijuan*

*Neijuan* was born from a **personal experience** of navigating a **hyper-connected world**, where identity is shaped by virtual spaces. It explores how **technology**, empowering yet isolating, fractures the self, blurring the line between who we are and who we project to be.

Taking its name from the Chinese term 'Involution' Neijuan reflects on **generational fatigue** due to an **ever-faster and competitive society**. While large metropolises are often seen as **symbols of success** and innovation, the project explores a different narrative : one that addresses a broader **post-pandemic phenomenon**, where individuals, particularly the young, experience a **sense of stagnation**, a refusal or **inability to fully re-enter society**. At its heart, the project seeks to **celebrate difference** by shedding light on individuals who live on the **margins of society**, often misunderstood or stigmatized. The project bridges the gap between these invisible lives and the underground cultures flourishing in virtual communities, which have formed not through geographical or historical connections but through globalized ones. It aims to reveal a different side of **technology, not cold and distant, but sensitive and vulnerable**. The photographer adopted a **documentary and collaborative** approach for the project, having spent years following a small group of people both online and offline met through **forums** and **video games**. Her on-line presence, rooted in her rural upbringing, stemmed from a desire to explore the world. The vastness of big cities once seemed to promise limitless possibilities, but she realized over time that these urban envi-

ronments were, in fact, **deepening the emotional distance** between individuals. Virtual worlds and video games offered a kind of **freedom**—an escape from **physical appearance**, a chance to experiment with **identity**, to project a new version of oneself. Taking place in the **architectural landscapes of hyper-connected Chinese megacities**, Neijuan highlights the **disorientation** and **sensory overload** of these cybernetic, neon-lit environments. The boundaries between the tangible and the virtual merge in the series. These spaces feel **fluid, suspended in time**. The virtual bodies are often in **motion**, but never arriving; constantly shifting, in a state that feels on the verge of transformation but never fully realized.

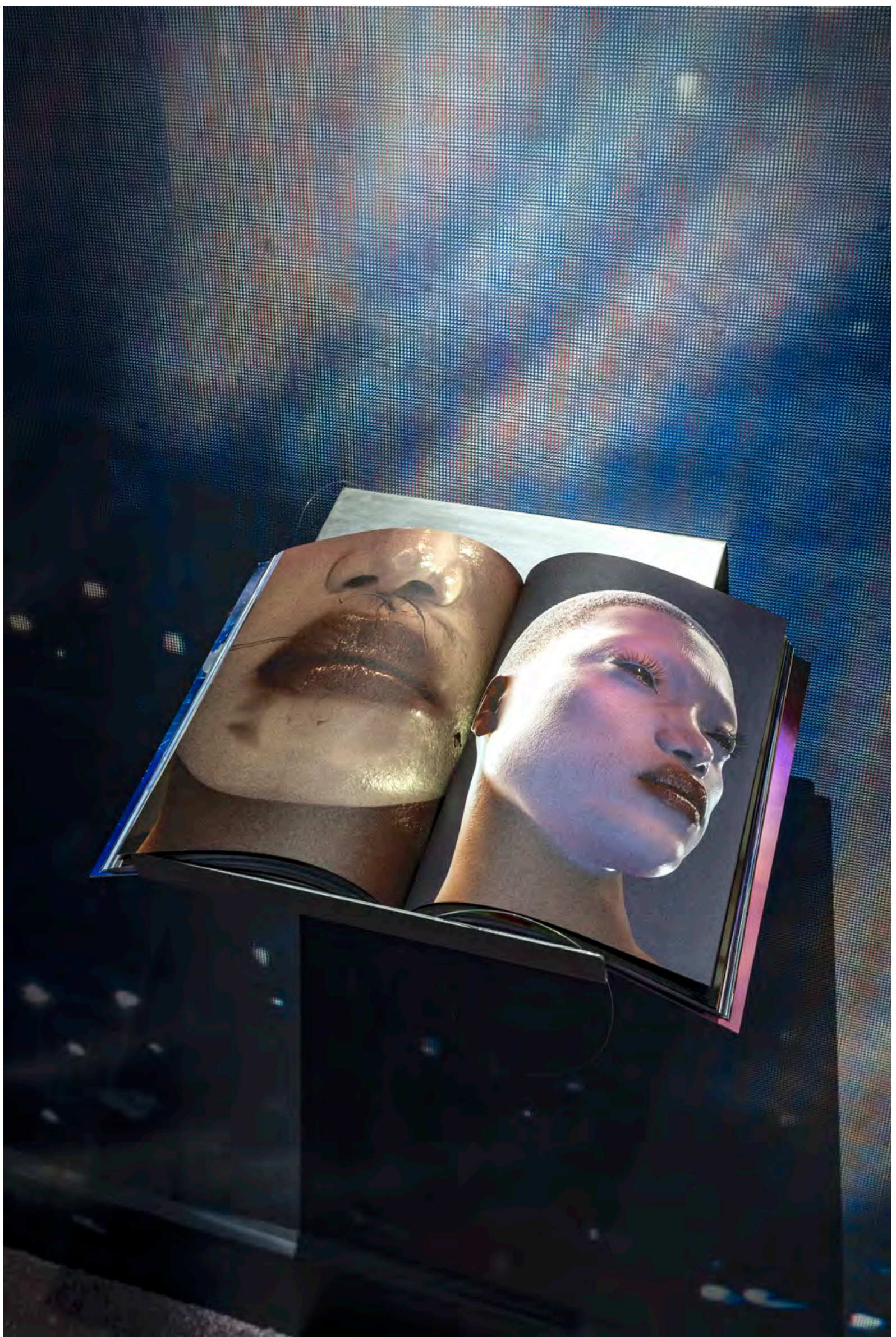
Dimensions and Materials : 210x150cm. Book of 164 pages.  
Date : 2024 - on going

*This Book project was presented as the artist's 2024 Bachelor Diploma. It got awarded the Prix ECAL x Images Vevey 2024, which allowed it to be further expanded and exhibited at L'Appartement Espace Images Vevey from Sept. 24th 2025 to Feb. 15th 2026.*











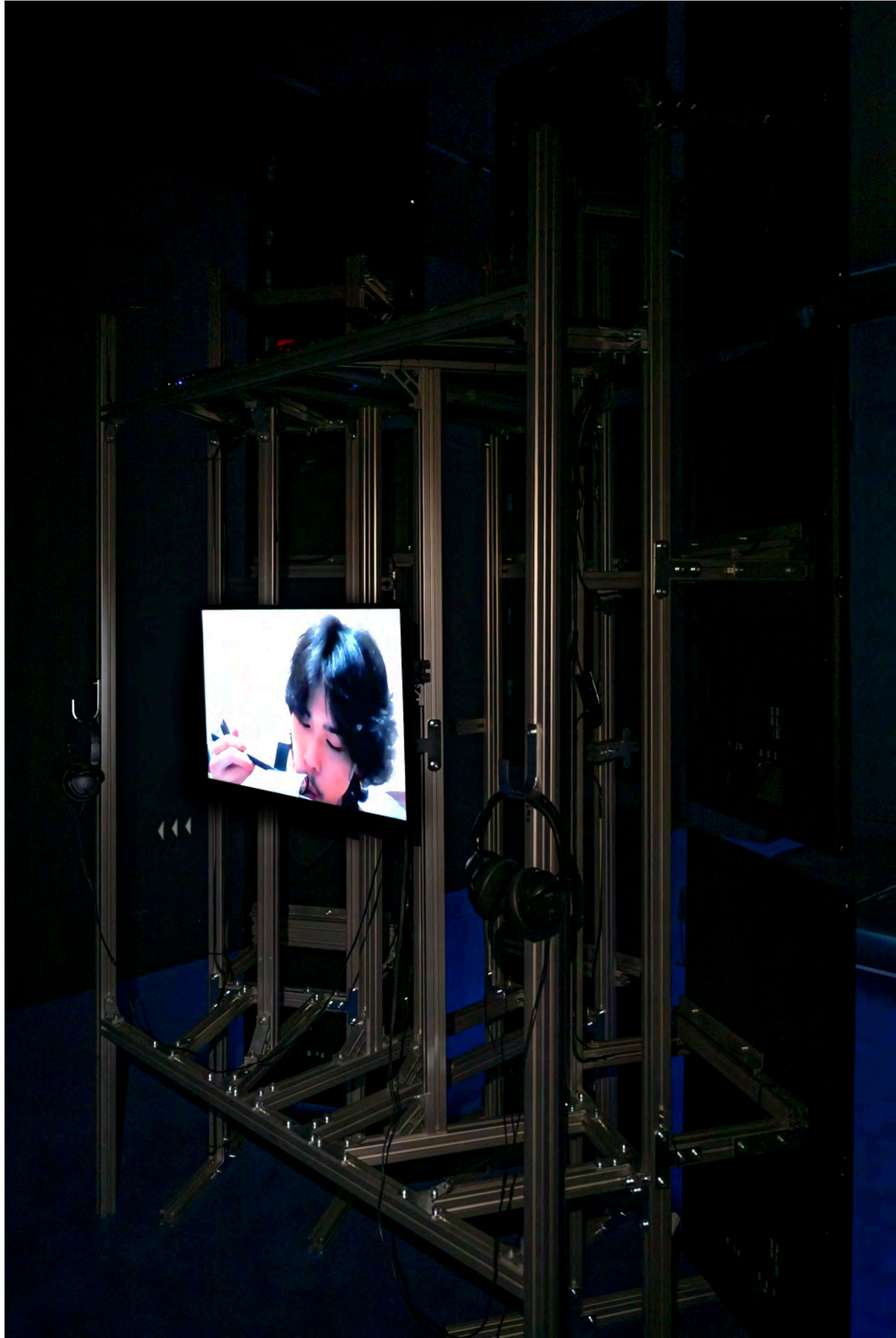


Exhibition view, L'Appartement - Espace Images Vevey, Vevey, Switzerland, 2025 ©Emilien Itim

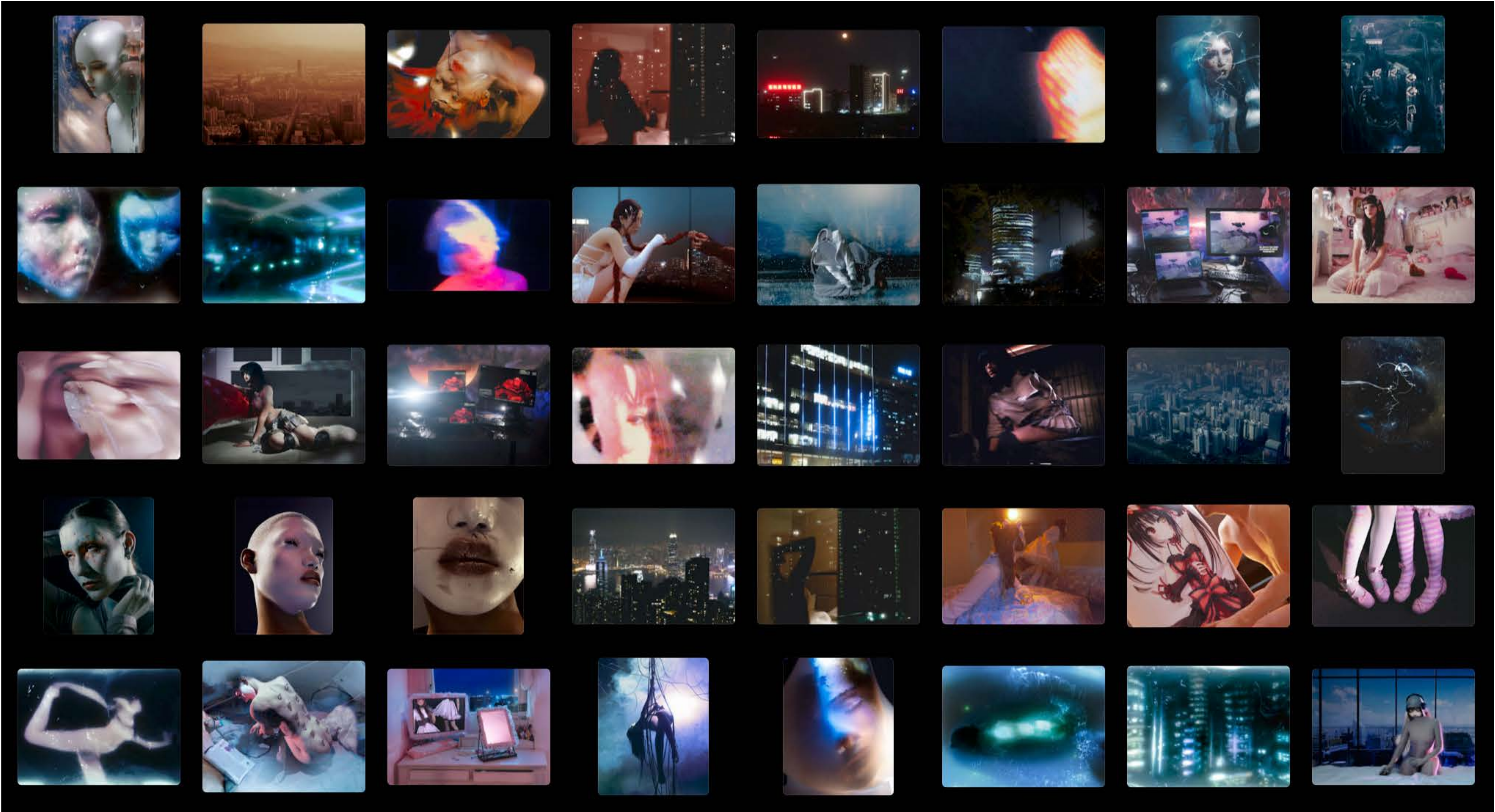


















# 01. Bodies of Water

Exploring the **eternal cycle of water**, *Bodies of Water* is an installation consisting of three fountain pieces, where the interior of a hollow digital **avatar’s body** has been printed on the surface. By speculatively infusing these avatars with the life-giving flow of water, the work confronts the **transcendental experience** of **artificial bodies** exposed to **natural elements**, perpetually transforming in a **symbolic hydroelectric** performance.

This project is part of SPINNING IN FLUID DREAMS : Hydroelectric transmutations in the Swiss landscape. It is a Installative/VR project created through a virtual network across Switzerland, merging **sculpture, site-based interventions, and hydroelectric landscapes** into a layered **digital world**. Viewers navigate artistic compositions inspired by **turbines**, exploring the flow of energy, perception, and **environmental transformation**.

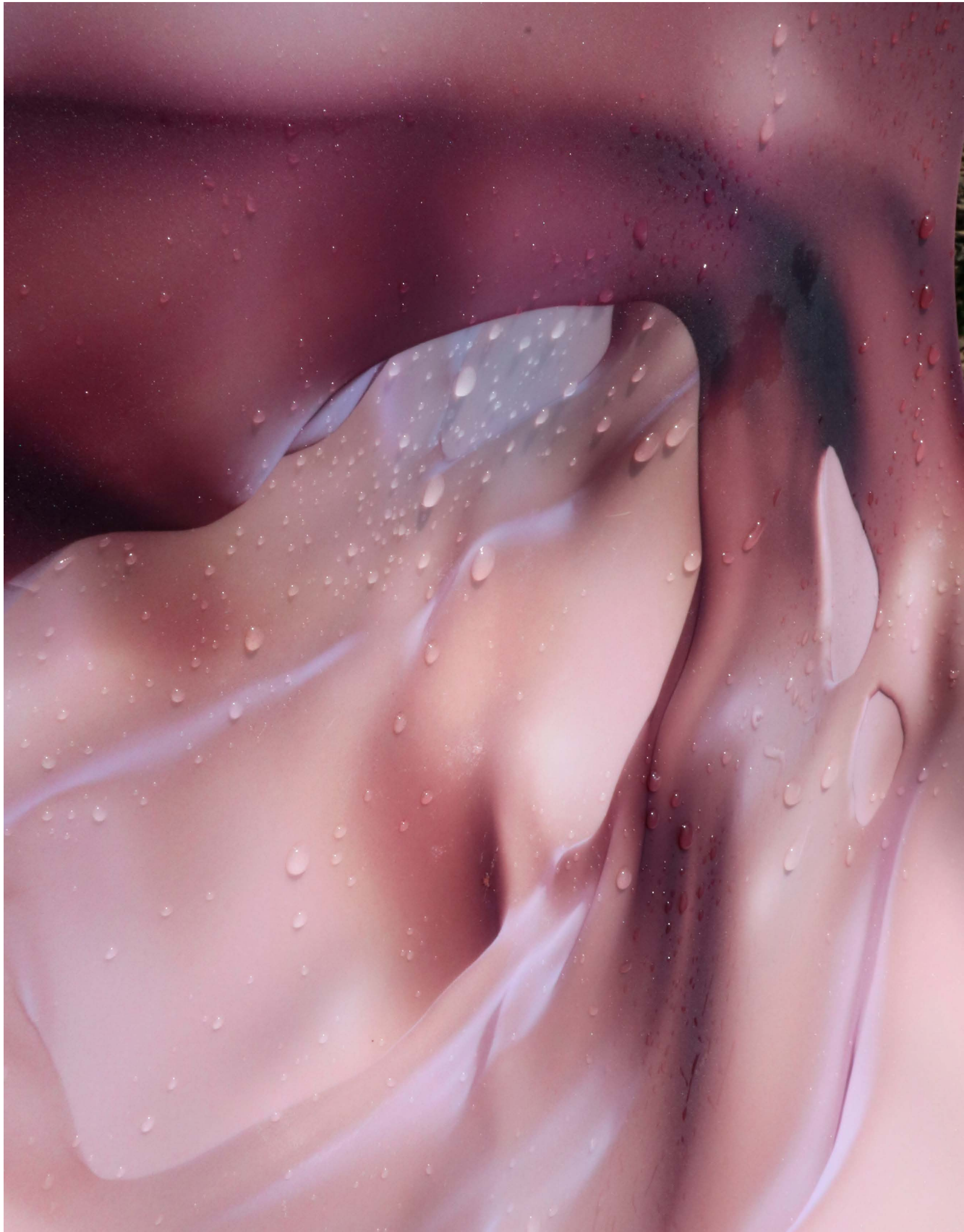
Location : Switzerland      Date : 2024

*This project has been presented at **Art Genève** in 2025, screened at the **GIFF** (Geneva International Film Festival) in 2025, and won a **Digital Art Zürich Festival Award** in 2024.*



The Emission Hydroelectric Dam, Switzerland, 2023





The Emission Hydroelectric Dam, Switzerland, 2023



# 02. *Albedo Gaze*

*Albedo Gaze* is a research project on the scientific reproduction of endangered organisms. The project is grounded in the principles of biology, which suggests that synthetic materials can form a biosphere if they are based on systems of natural coexistence and self-regulation.

Starting with photograms, I digitally manipulate them according to their scientific alterations and then reassemble these new organisms. The resulting pieces are a hypothetical visual proposal exploring the possibility of a synthetic ecosystem. In this new biosphere, different species work in symbiosis to support the survival of their ecosystem, represented as visual sculptures. Stripped of their original appearance, these forms appear fragile, statuesque, and suspended in a state of stillness.

Dimensions and Materials : 150x200x50(cm). Thermoformed plexiglass sculptures, LED lights.

Location : Switzerland

Date : 2022 - ongoing

*This project has been exhibited at ECAL, at La Fonderie Kugler in Geneva (2023), and during the collective show "Bruissements Végétaux" at Le Centre de La Photographie in Geneva (2025).*



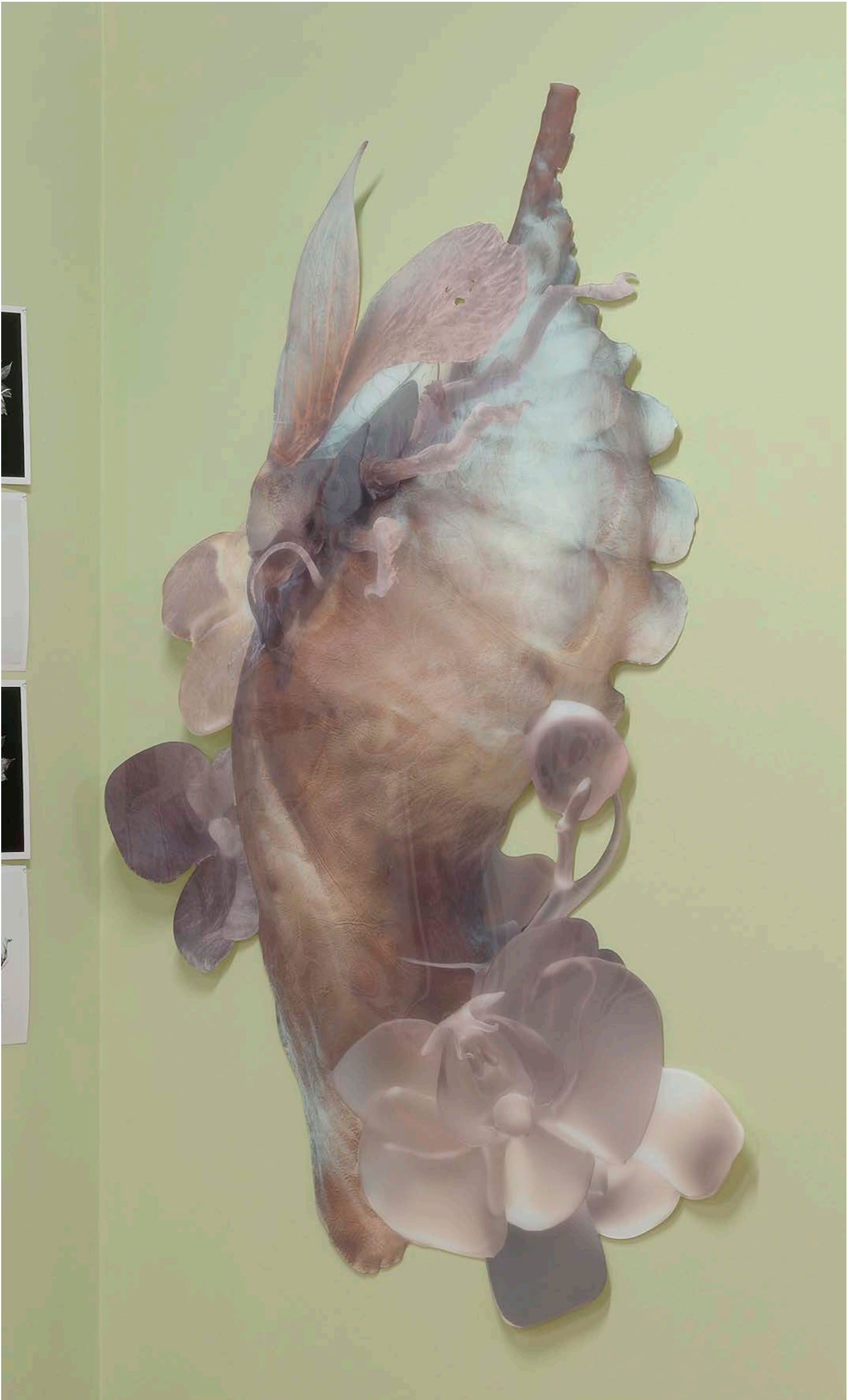


Exhibition View, ECAL, Switzerland, 2023













Exhibition View, *The Earth is Dying*, Usine Kugler, Geneva, Switzerland, 2023





Exhibition view, ECAL, Switzerland, 2022













Photo Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2022



# 07. Under your Smell

*Under Your Smell* is an immersive exhibition exploring **beauty, identity, and gender**. As a collective ECAL exhibition in collaboration with the house of **Jean-Paul-Gaultier**, the project presents contrasting textures such as **liquid, dry, organic, and inert** through still lifes and staged photography. The images create a **narrative space** where **transgression and whimsical projections** redefine beauty and body expression.

The immersive installation, with monumental fabric prints and giant cushions, invites viewers to celebrate gender diversity and rethink traditional **notions of beauty**.

Supervised and curated by Florence Tétier, Nicolas Coulomb, Milo Keller, ECAL, Natalie Herschdorfer.

Dimensions and Materials : Various    Date : 2022-2024

*The project has been presented in various forms across exhibitions in Switzerland, France, the UK, Japan, and the USA.*













Photo Elysée, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2023























04. *Abloom*

Created in collaboration with designer Luis Rodrigues, *Abloom* is a **multimedia** exhibition project developed for the Prix de Renens 2022. The project explores the **reproduction** of digitally created organisms through sculptural creations. As nature continually evolves and mutates, **speculating on new species** through 3D software allows us to envision a future where **endangered plants thrive in virtual spaces** as they gradually disappear from their natural habitats. By exploring natural principles such as **cloning and crossbreeding**, the project raises questions about the **limits of our influence on the environments we inhabit**.

Digital creations, 3D-printed and hand-painted resin sculptures, blue-back prints, video.

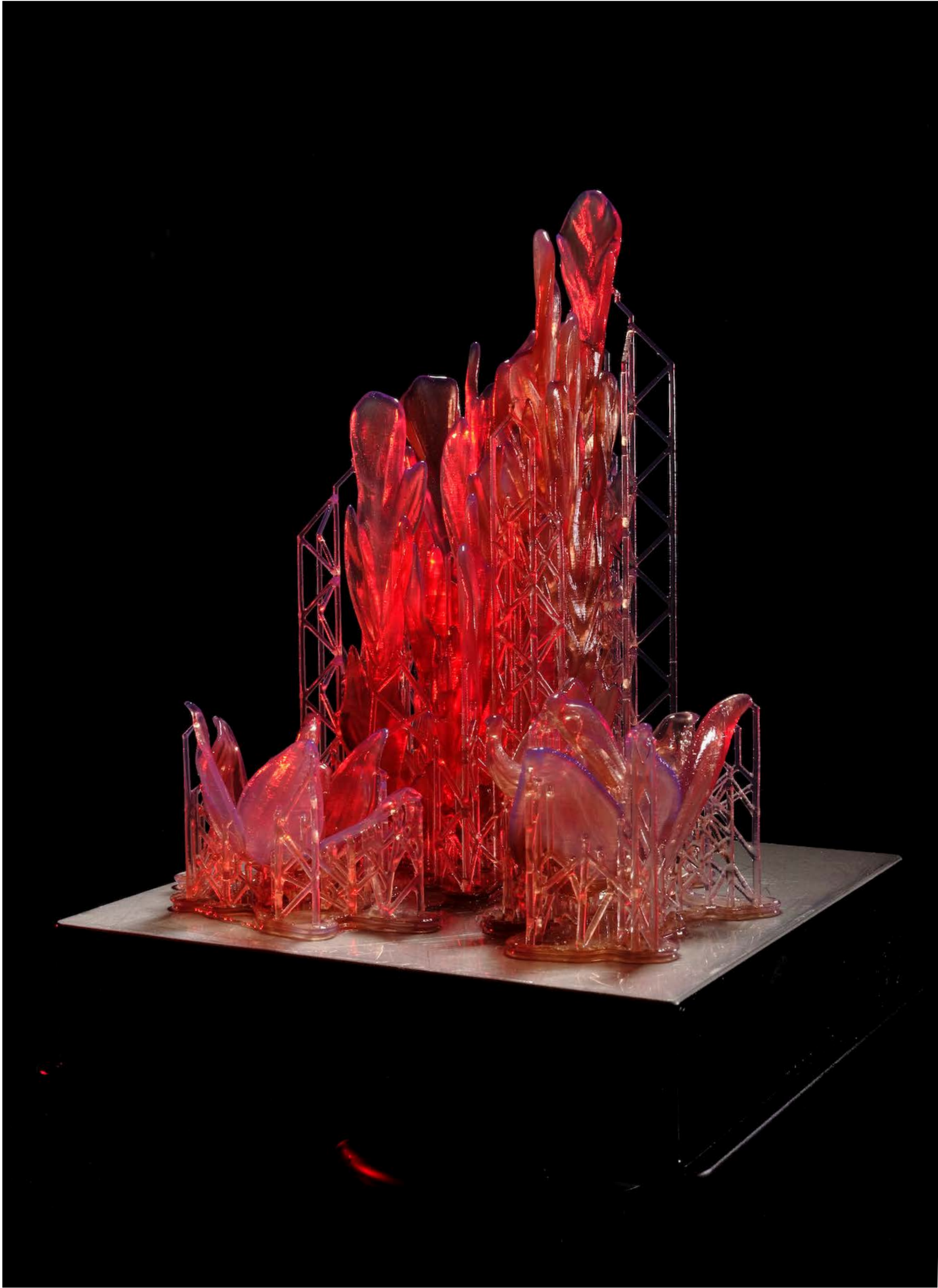
Dimensions and Materials : 25x10x10(cm), hand-painted resin 3d sculptures, 210x150(cm) paper prints, video projection.

Location : La Ferme des Tilleuls, Renens, Switzerland

Date : 2022







3D prints photographs, La Ferme des Tilleuls, Renens, Switzerland, 2022





Exhibitions views, La Ferme des Tilleuls, Renens, Switzerland, 2022









Process and exhibition view, La Ferme des Tilleuls, Renens, Switzerland, 2022





Exhibition view, La Ferme des Tilleuls, Renens, Switzerland, 2022



*Thank you*