



Tristan Rain

Photography

Tristan Rain (*Liestal/Basel, Switzerland) is a painter, photographic artist, and lecturer who has been developing his artistic practice in Paris, as well as in Berlin and Stockholm, since 1995.

After training as an architectural draftsman and working on several construction projects, he developed a strong interest in archaeology and cinema. Alongside his artistic practice, he lectured and taught courses at the Cinémathèque française from 2006 to 2021. Since 2007, he has also held teaching positions in the history of art, architecture, and film at art- and film- schools in Paris. His interests in cinema, projection, photography, as well as architecture, archaeology and cartography have profoundly shaped his artistic practice.

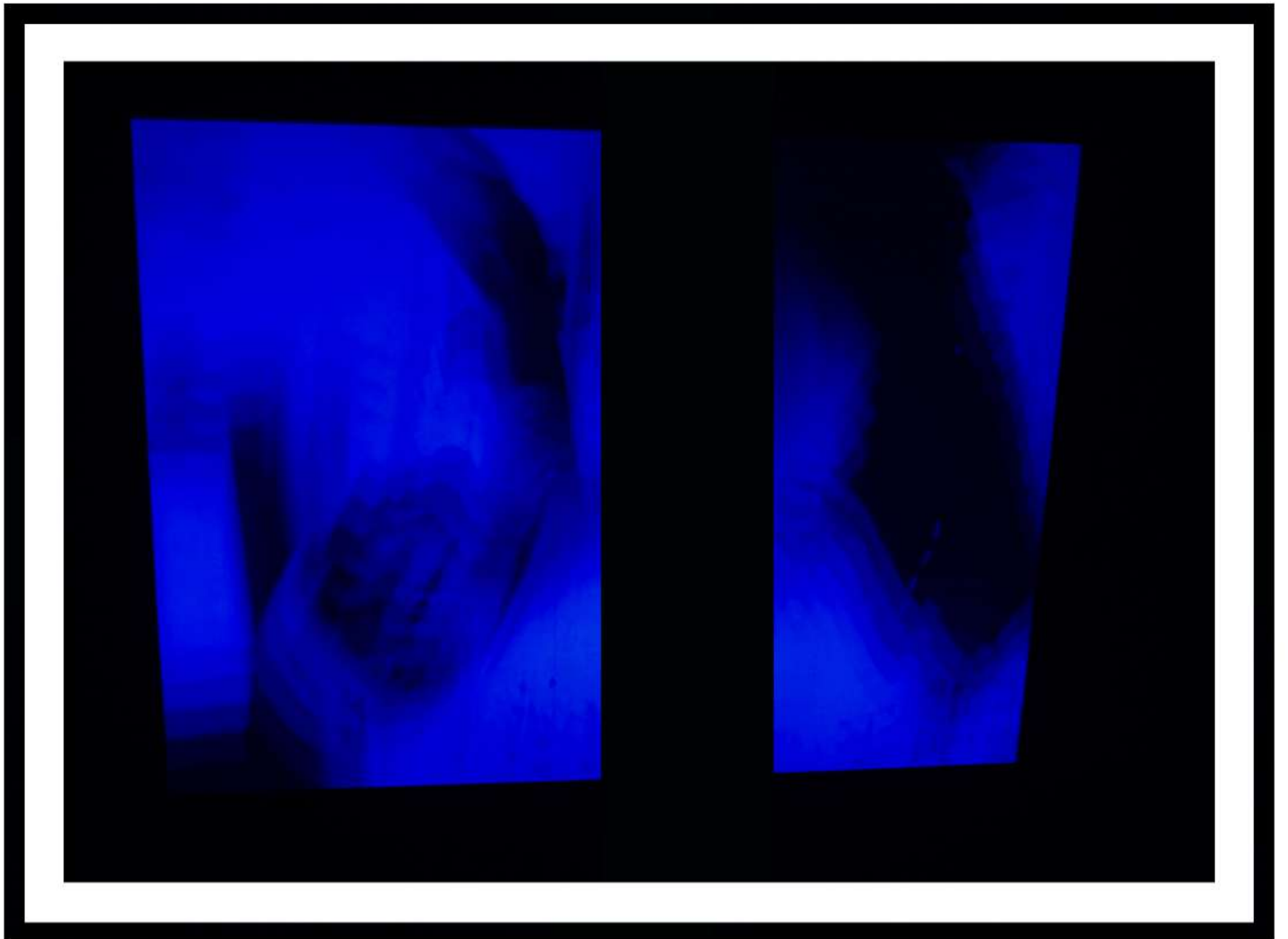
Since 1993, Tristan Rain's work has revolved around perception, fragmentation, and the ways in which we perceive and mentally construct images and spaces.

The central themes of his work include:

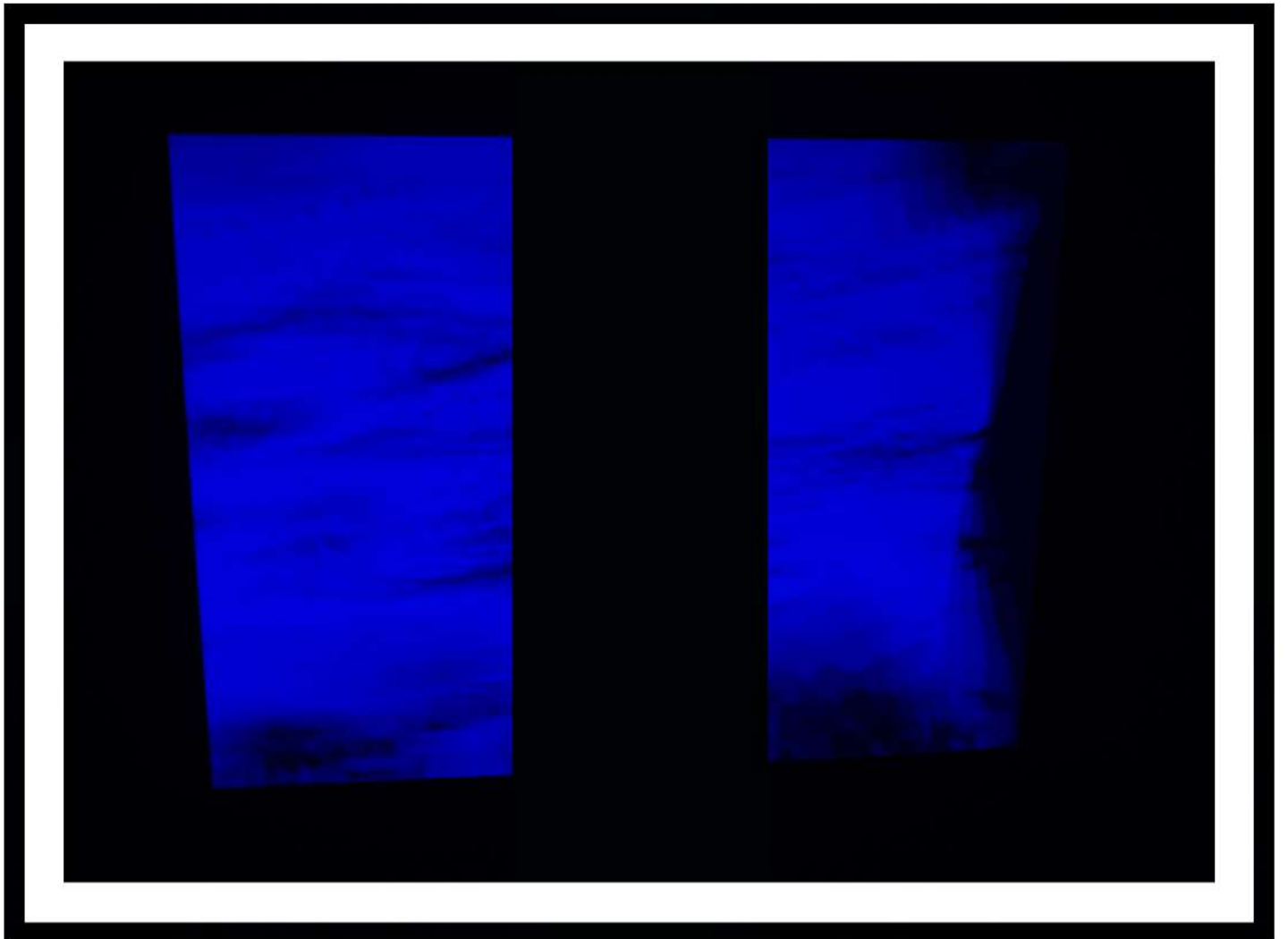
- **Human perception:** He explores an intentionally incomplete, discontinuous, and fragmented vision of reality. Viewers are invited to complete and reconstruct what they see through their own perception.
- **The visible and the invisible:** His works exist at the threshold between appearance and disappearance. Superimposition, reflection, liminal spaces, and absence play a fundamental role in his visual language.
- **Archaeology and cartography:** Fascinated by these disciplines since childhood, he frequently draws on archaeological and cartographic concepts. His *Mercator* series, for example, is inspired by the routes of major historical voyages of exploration, particularly those in the Arctic. Another example is his photographic series *Norrsken*.
- **The digital image and contemporary visual culture:** In his photographic work, he investigates the effects of pixels, blur, digital image compression, projection, and a visual language closely related to cinema.

Tristan Rain's work explores contemporary issues and challenges, such as the reinterpretation of mediated images—including film stills and news photographs—as well as their transformation and codification through the visual language of moving images, including zoom, tracking shots, editing, and off-screen space. His photographic works engage with perception and invite multiple ways of seeing, presenting a complex reality through their interplay of light, transparency, reflections, and layered superimpositions.

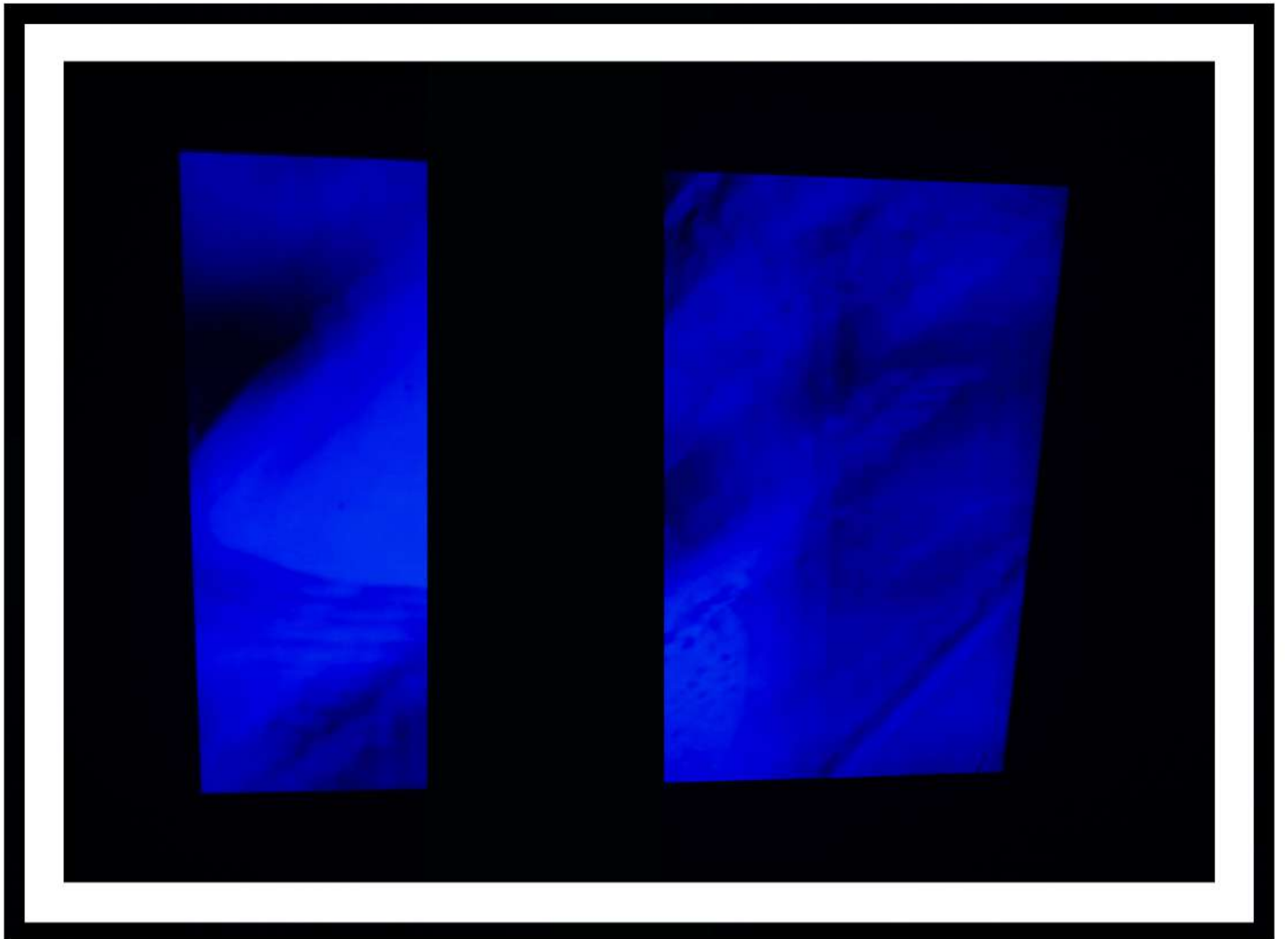
Tristan Rain seeks to create images that resist immediate readability. Rather than capturing the viewer's attention instantaneously—as advertising images do—his works invite sustained contemplation, allowing their multiple layers of perception to gradually unfold over time.



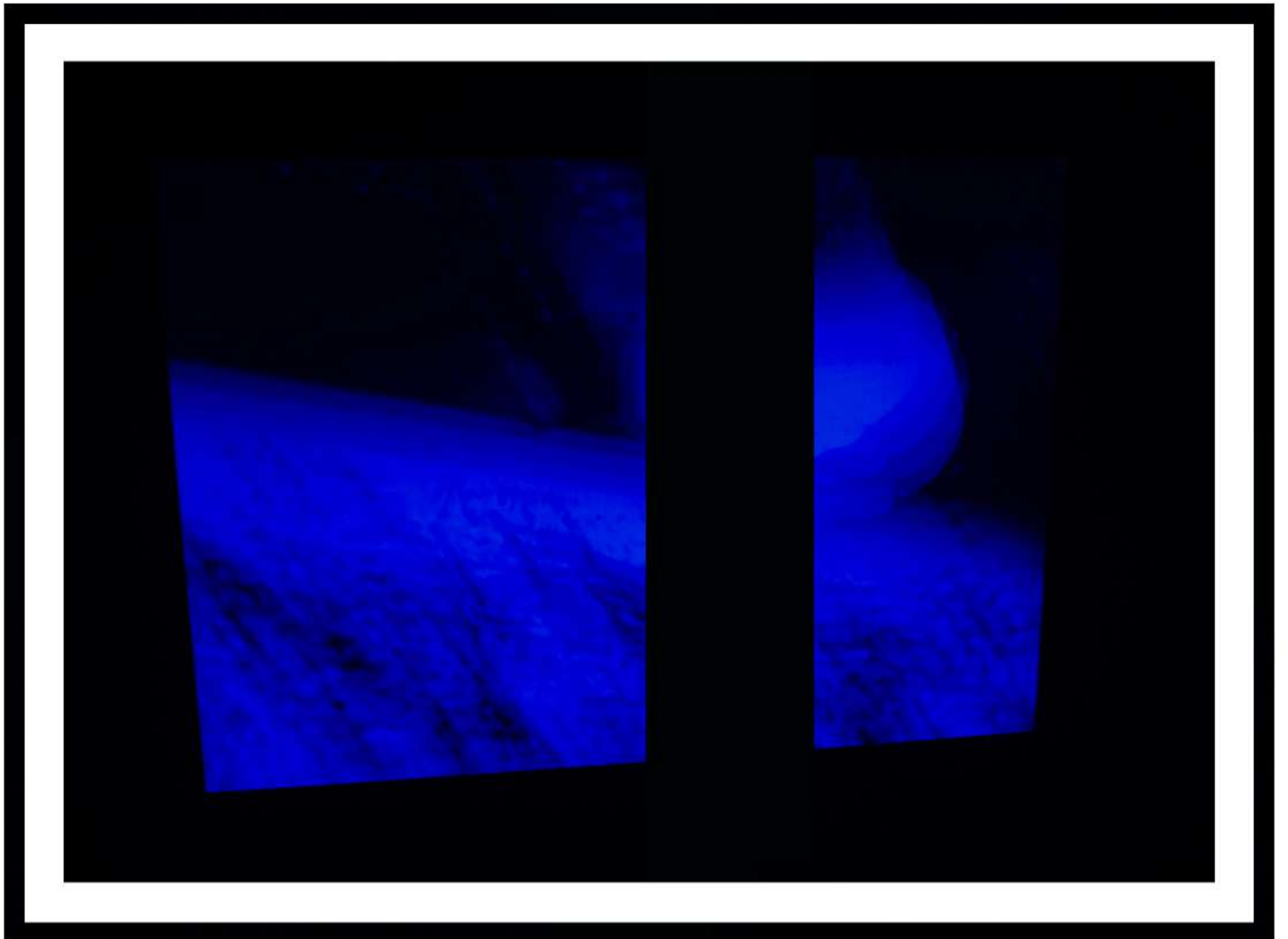
Tristan Rain - Screening #01 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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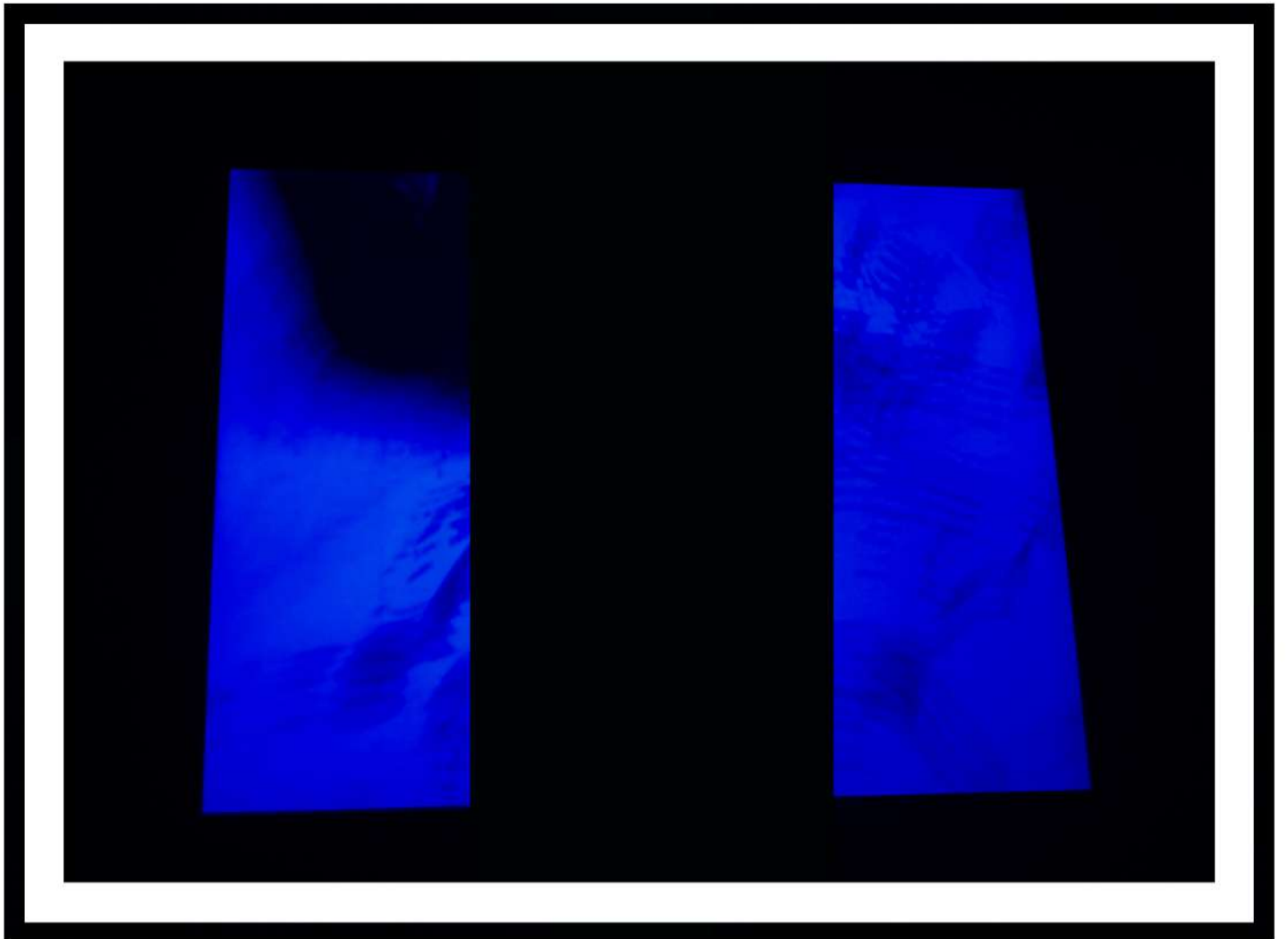
Tristan Rain - Screening # - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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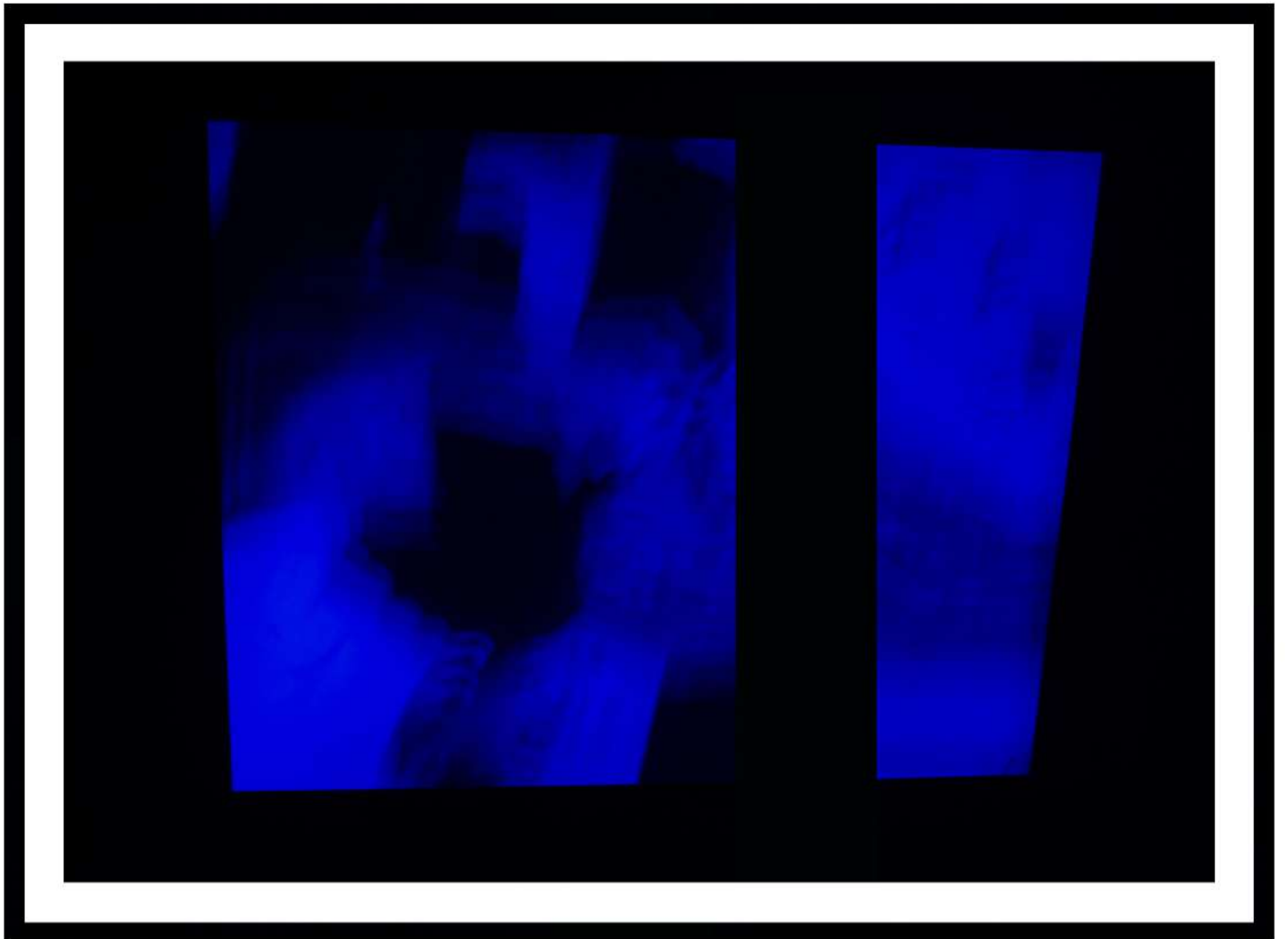
Tristan Rain - Screening #03 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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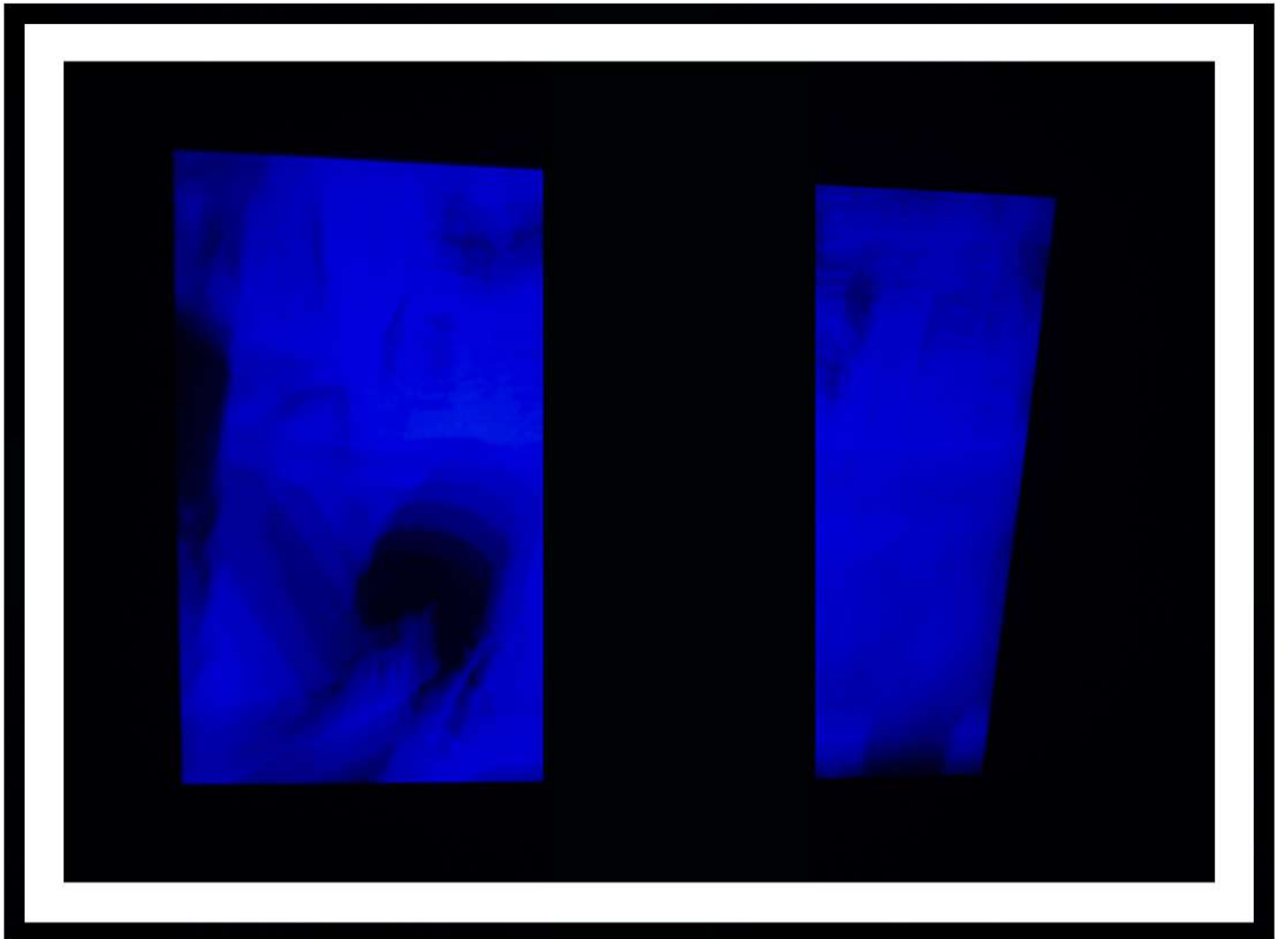
Tristan Rain - Screening #05 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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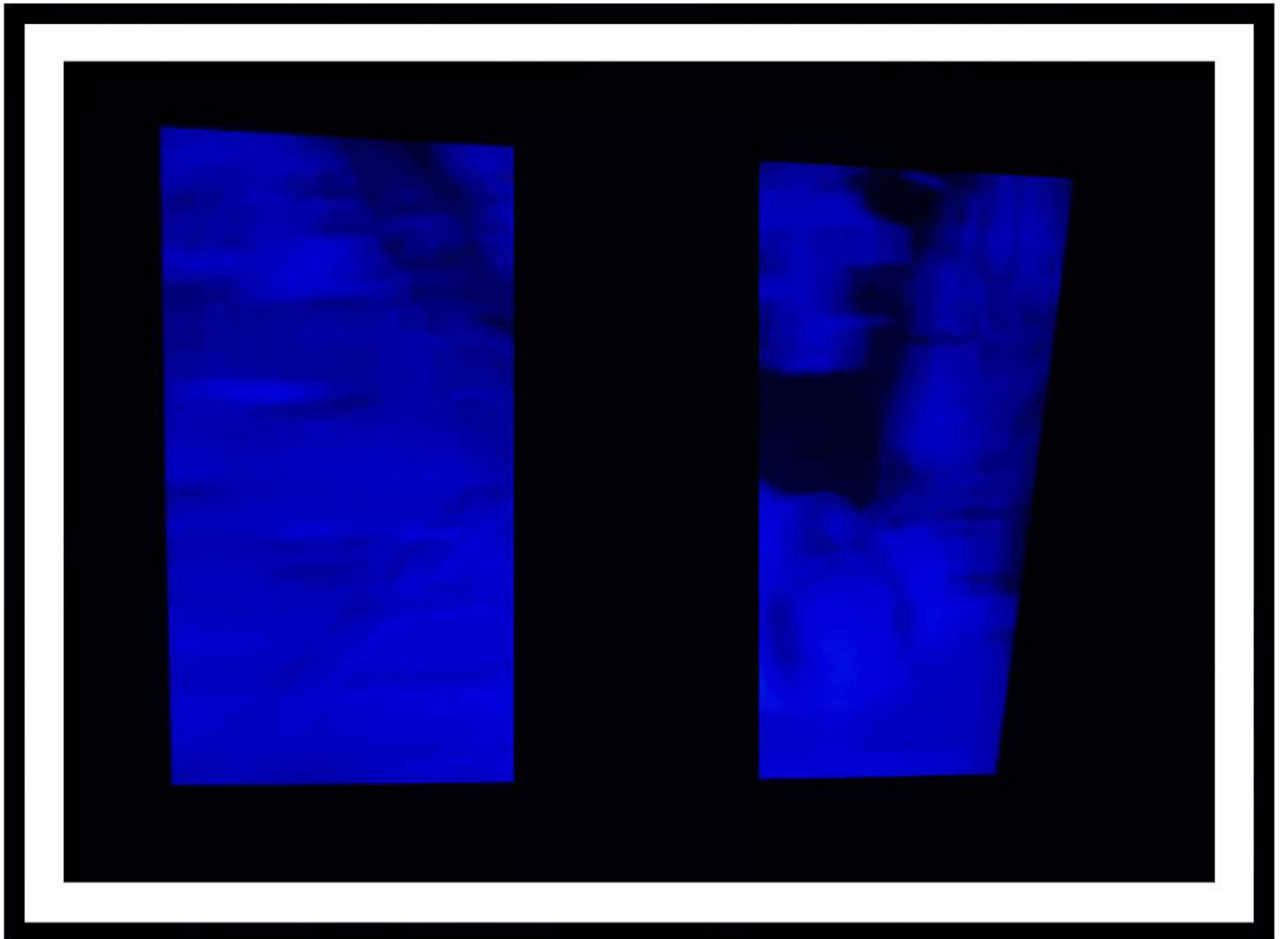
Tristan Rain - Screening #07 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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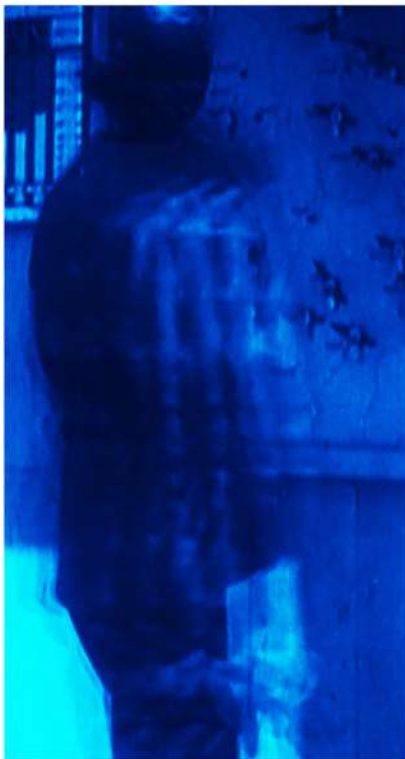
Tristan Rain - Screening #08 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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Tristan Rain - Screening #11 - C-Print - 40 x 55 cm - 2018-19
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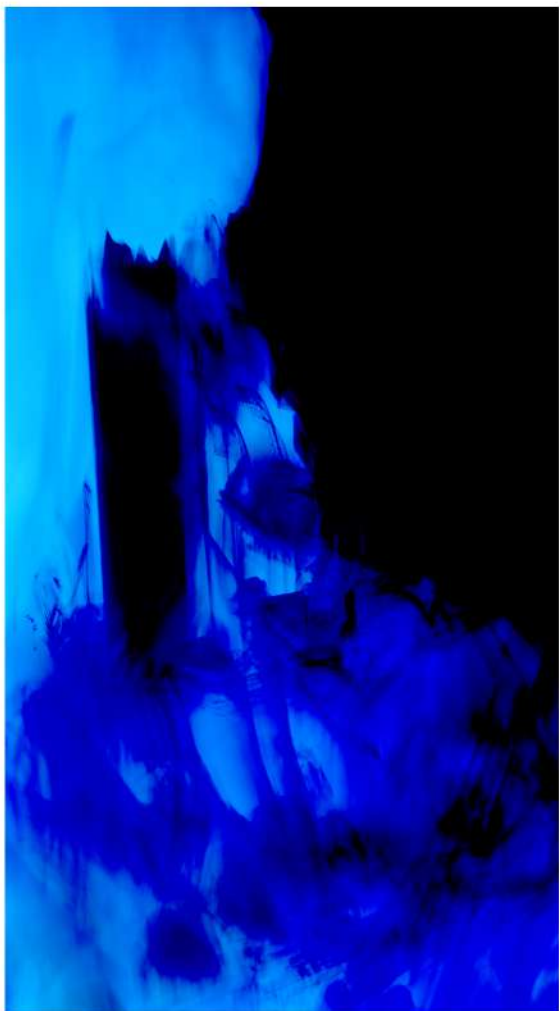




Tristan Rain - Anaphore #02+04 - C-Print - 2 x 60 x 33 cm - 2013
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Tristan Rain - Anaphore #03+01 - C-Print - 2 x 60 x 33 cm - 2013
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Tristan Rain - Anaphore #05+08 - C-Print - 2 x 60 x 33 cm - 2013
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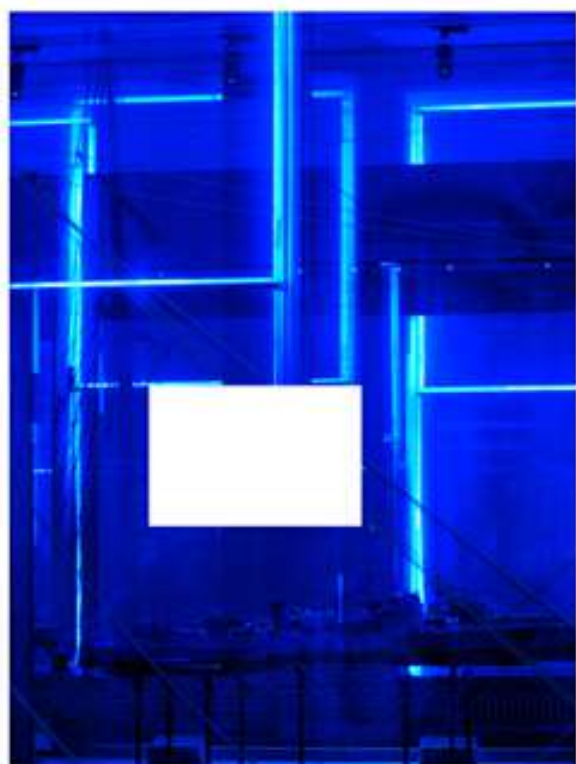


Tristan Rain - Anaphore #06+09 - C-Print - 2 x 60 x 33 cm - 2013
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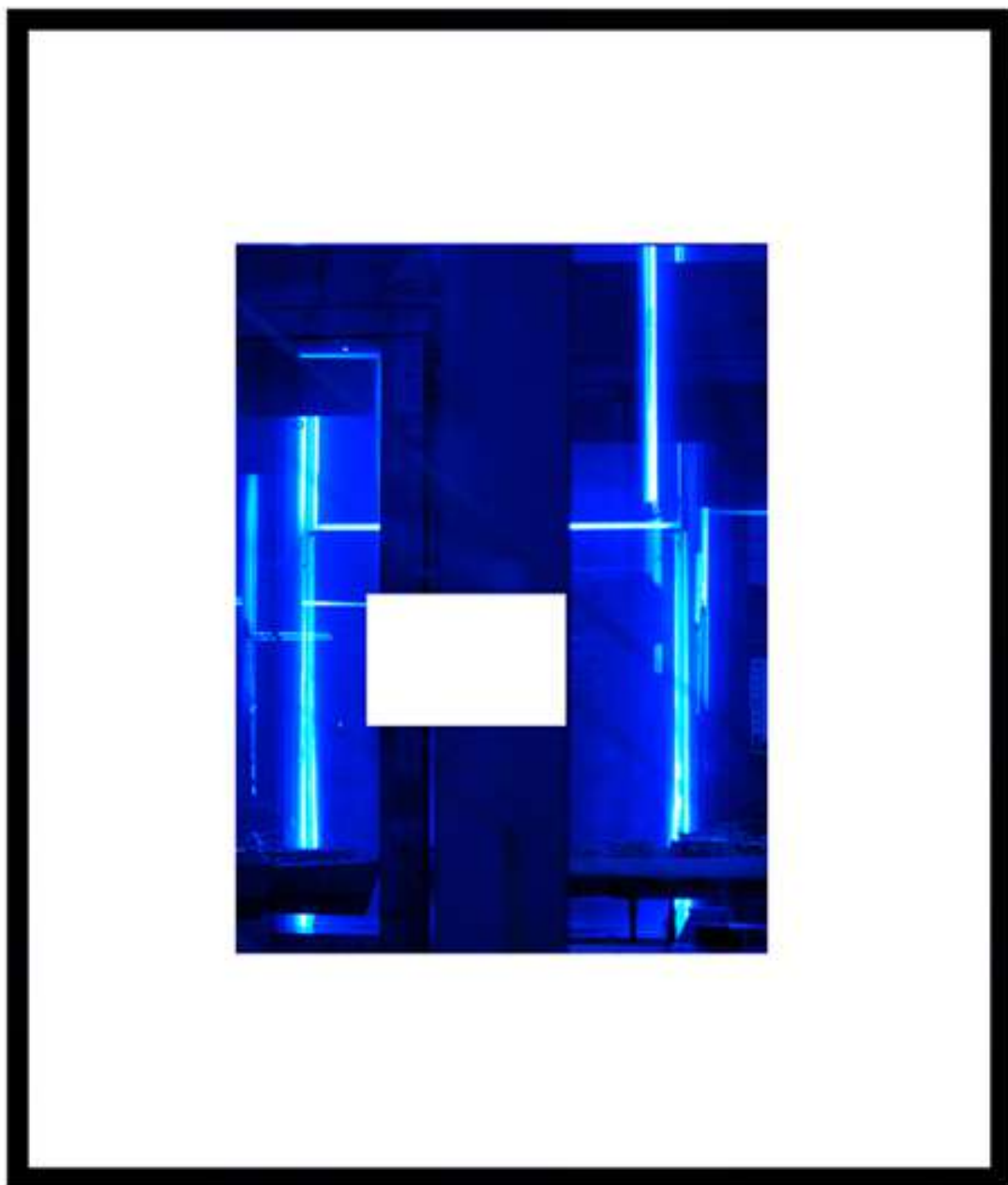


Tristan Rain - Les Bandes du Port #1300 - C-Print - 2015
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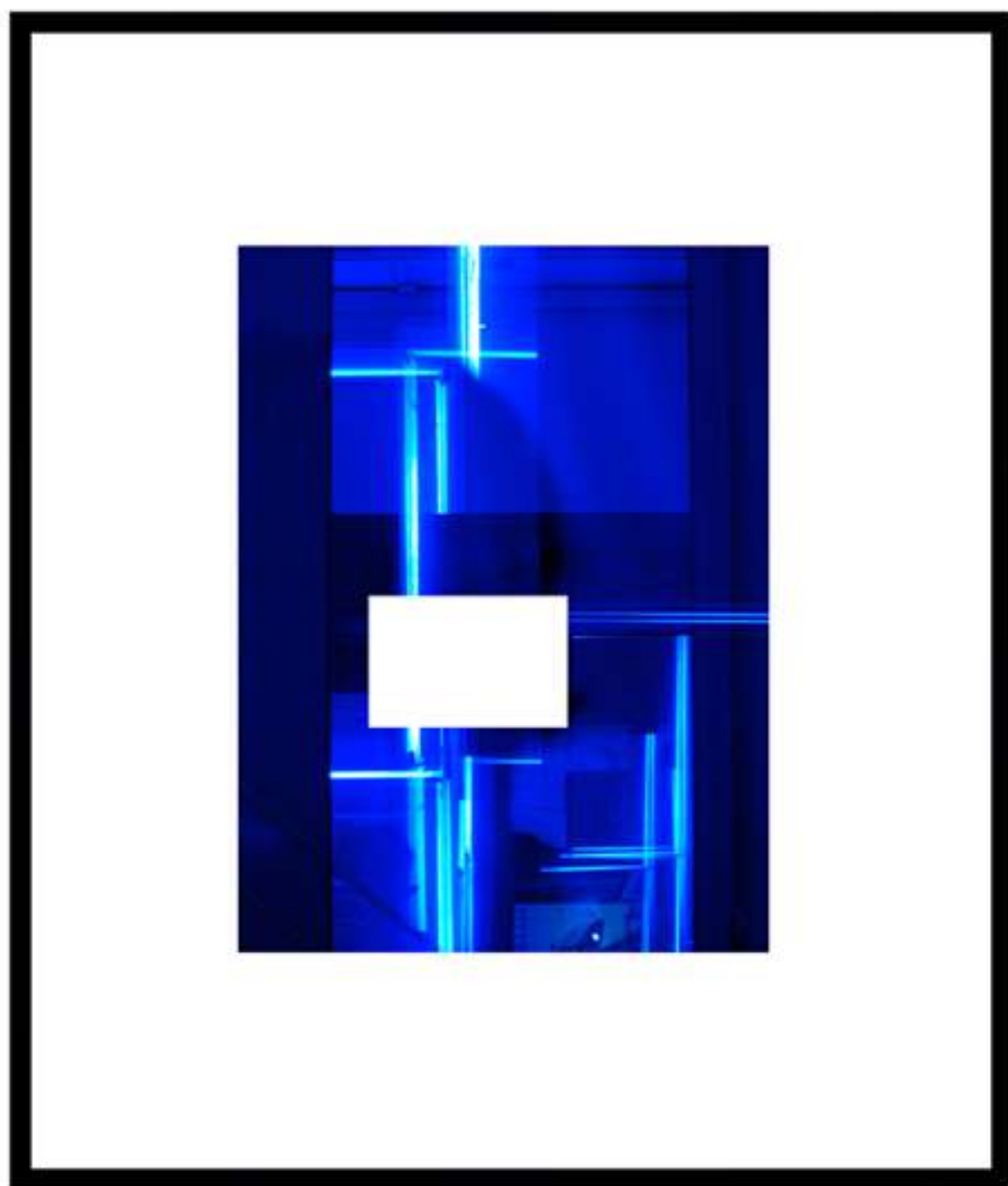




Tristan Rain - Norrsken #33 - Photography, C-Print - 40 x 30cm - 2022
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Tristan Rain - Norrsken #45 - Photography, C-Print - 40 x 30cm - 2022
©Tristan Rain/Prolitteris



Tristan Rain - Norrsken #53 - Photography, C-Print - 40 x 30cm - 2022
©Tristan Rain/Prolitteris



Tristan Rain - Norrsken #50 - Photography, C-Print - 40 x 30cm - 2022
©Tristan Rain/Prolitteris

Tristan Rain

Born 1972 in Liestal/Basel (Switzerland), lives and works in Paris (France), Berlin (Germany)

Studies

1989–1993 Studies of Architecture (dipl. 1993)
1990–1993 School for Advanced Arts, Basel. Painting,
Photography, Art-History (dipl. 1993)
1995– Studio in Paris

Collections

France, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Austria,
Netherlands, UK, Canada, USA, Australia, Russia, Argentina,
Brazil, China, Japan

Awards

2015 Ministère de la Culture, Délégation de la Création
2012 Selected at Novembre à Vitry, annual painting awards
2012 Laureat of Mois de la Photo, Gal. B. Siméon Paris
2009 Laureat of the competition at Russia Art Week, Saint-Petersburg
2007 Grand Prix du Concours international de Valenciennes, Thème "Fragments"

Auctions

2005 Drouot Paris, 2012 Pékin

Exhibitions

2025
Ost/West-Salon, Ulla Walter&Tristan Rain, Schöneiche/Berlin
2024
Bienal, Lima, Peru
2021
Swiss Art Expo, Zürich
2020
Biennale de Gentilly
Swiss Art Expo, Zürich
2019
"Screens" ArtBoxProject Galerie, Zürich
-ArtBoxProject-Gallery, Zürich
2018
-Limner Gallery, NY
-Stefan Stumpf Galerie, München
2017
-Los Angeles Center for Digital Art
2015
-Réalités Nouvelles, Paris
-Galerie Ursula Pfeiffer, Wien
2014
-Réalités Nouvelles, Paris
2013
-Artspace Le Cube blanc, Paris
-The Which Gate Project, Factory Gallery, Berlin
-Galerie Ursula Pfeiffer, Wien
2012
-Goethe-Institut, Goethe-Loft, Lyon
-Réalités nouvelles, Paris
-Galerie Jean Collet, Vitry-sur-Seine
2010
-Galerie Ursula Pfeiffer, Wien
2009
-Museum of the Americas, Miami, USA
2007
-"Tristan Rain – Malerei & Fotografie" Galerie Monika Beck
Homburg, Saarbrücken
-"Parcours d'Artistes", Pontault-Combault
-Salon d'art contemporain, Ozoir-la-Ferrière

Art contemporain suisse, Pal. Rolland-LeVicompte, Paris
2005

-"Jetzt" Kunstraum M54, Basel

-Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie, Arles

Art-Magazines

-"Tristan Rain", in Muscadine Magazine, june-edition 2021

-"Tristan Rain", in Sober-Magazine Interdisciplinary Art, Nov-Edition 2020

-"Interview with Tristan Rain", article in „Not Random. Contemporary Art Review“ 9/2019 (english)

- "Tristan Rain" in: ART Habens Contemporary Art Review, interview by the curators Katherine Wilson and Dario Rutigliano, publication: august 2015

-"Tristan Rain", in Artension Hors-Série «L'abstraction aujourd'hui», oct 2014

-"I house you – Zur Sprache der eigenen vier Wände", Peintures et Domizil de Tristan Rain avec un article de Emma Braslavsky, curator, Berlin, publ. in: Papirossa – Netzmuseum für Sprache und Galerie der Künste Berlin, Ed. #2. Feb. 2005

Press

-"Tristan Rain, a swiss artist in Paris", article by Zoë Jenny, in La Bella Vita Magazin, Ed. Automn 2015

- Presserelease Novembre à Vitry 2012

- Galeria do Instituto cultural Brasil Estados unidos, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil 2009

-"Art contemporain à Ozoir/Paris" Ed. Ozoir-Magazine Culture No. 61, Avril 2007

-"Art contemporain", exposition d'Ozoir 2007, by Monique Bellas, April 2007

-"Vollkommen unvollkommen", exhibition at Galerie Monika Beck 2007, publié in Saarländer Zeitung, Ausgabe von Mai 2007

TV, Radio

-1 hora con Tristan Rain, Interview, Radio Argentina LIF (spanish), aug 1st 2021

-Tristan Rain, Rouillac-Auktion Corona-crisis, french television TVFrance3, 1-5-2020

-"Werkbetrachtung" by Zoë Jenny (in german)

-Tristan Rain, interviewed by Christina Lang (Live), swiss radio, SRF1, may 14th 2017 (in swiss-german)

-Tristan Rain, interviewed by Lydia Stoeckner, austrian television, Servus TV, november 2013, aired on december 4th 2013 (in german)

-Tristan Rain, interviewed by Christian Platz, Agents for Art, aired on january 4th 2012 (in french)

Internet / Instagram

www.tristan-rain.com

www.instagram.com/tristanrainartist

www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk

<http://slash-paris.com/artistes/tristan-rain/a-propos>

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