

#### **KENNY SCHACHTER**

Phone Face

August 31 – October 25, 2024 Galerie Nagel Draxler, Cologne



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#### KENNY SCHACHTER Phone Face

Opening: Friday, August 30, 2024

Exhibition: August 31 - October 25, 2024

Galerie Nagel Draxler, Cologne

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

The term »photo face« describes the posed expressions people adopt for pictures. But as fingertips dance across the glass of smartphones, extending this concept to the digital age, a new kind of »phone face« emerges, reflecting the mask of detachment shaped by prolonged screen exposure. It reveals the somatic poetry of contemporary existence, where the soul's preoccupation with screens shapes the contours of our physical presence. It is the visage of those lost in the digital ether, dissolving into the glowing screen. Not merely a look but a silent symphony of absorption, where every furrowed brow and vacant stare becomes a verse in the poem of digital devotion. The face, rendered blank and distant, becomes a canvas upon which the pixels of virtual realms cast their spell.

Kenny Schachter's art is a playful yet critical engagement with contemporary culture. He explores how Instagram and other platforms have transformed the way art is experienced, communicated, and consumed. This exhibition serves as a provocative commentary on the evolving relationship between traditional media, the digital world, the art market and the **CODE** that pulses beneath these surfaces.

At the center of the installation are 22 cube-shaped sculptures made of painted aluminum, which are randomly arranged as if in a linguistic (dice) game with shaped words from the vocabulary of today's tech and social media world. They embody a kind of index of the present, which will probably soon be historical again.

For a series of paintings, he is using other's talented hands or robotic arms to colorize

canvases, translating-pixel per pixel-his digital creations. Each **MEME** a fleeting whisper of collective consciousness, ephemer, yet now becoming material. The gallery wall opens each **FILE** in a new widget, a display with many open tabs.

One could POST »Kenny Can't Paint«. He'd see the ANGR in their statement and would find the right answer in his conceptual approach. Schachter has recently become known for his lifesize sculptures of art world protagonists such as Yayoi Kusama, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Beeple and Jerry Saltz. Adapting, quoting, deconstructing, and reassembling, he is a self-styled provocateur and as such, referencing Kippenberger, he is putting his own sculpture in the corner, shamefully, with red paint dripping down the wall: Kenny Can't Paint. The fiberglas cast is dressed for comfort, flirting with a mischievous smile, red suspenders holding black vintage adidas. Once a response to criticism of Kippenberger<sup>1</sup> not doing justice to his role as part of the serious art world, it now is a meta-commentary on the flux of contemporary culture in the realm of the ism ism ism.

The observer might freeze again, shocked to remember their **BYTE**-sized dreams and **CHIP**-controlled realities and slip into their own glassy veneer of the Phone Face. »Forgetting algorithms and censorship—but that too—rather, focusing on the paradigm shift social media has had/is having on our lives in every conceivable way, especially in relationship to art.

Social, political, economic and geographic boundaries have been blurred while shifting hegemonies and prophylactic limitations have been imposed by the new order of things. Yes, certain historical hierarchies and barriers to entry were smashed, only to be replaced by others.« In this FLEX of modernity, we are caught between the raw COOL of new tools and the perpetual FOMO of the ever-reeling social reel.

<sup>1</sup> Martin Kippenberger: *Martin, ab in die Ecke und schäm dich* (Martin, Into the Corner, You Should Be Ashamed of Yourself), 1989

The JPEGs reflect our quest for validation, each LIKE a testament to our online existence. This world, a rich tapestry of DATA and discourse, is where the Phone Face finds its most profound meaning—a symbol of our times, an emblem of our digital dance.

Schachter's works are formed by a cyclical translation between media. With Phone Face, his second solo show with the gallery, he presents new sculptures, installation, painting, alongside digital extensions of these works. The exhibition premieres the collaboration with MakersPlace. Simultaneously with the exhibition opening, all works will be presented on the digital art marketplace.

#### **KENNY SCHACHTER**

Kenny Schachter is an artist, writer and lecturer. Schachter has a regular column on Artnet, co-authored The NFT Book, published by Rowman & Littlefield in 2023 and contributes to various international publications, including The Art Newspaper, New York Magazine and The Times Magazine (UK). In 2023/24, Schachter had a mid-career survey at the Francisco Carolinum Museum in Linz, Austria, accompanied by a publication. Schachter had a retrospective at Joel Mesler's Rental Gallery, NYC in 2018.

In spring 2021, the gallery invited artist, curator and author Kenny Schachter to curate the group exhibition »Breadcrumbs: Art in the Age of NFTs« in their Cologne space. This collaboration led to the integration of the »Crypto Kiosk« to the presentations at Art Basel and Art Basel Miami Beach in 2021. Since 2022, one of the Berlin spaces has been dedicated to avant-garde artists exploring blockchain, the metaverse, and Web3, with Schachter among the key represented artists. »Phone Face« is Schachter's second solo exhibition with Galerie Nagel Draxler.

#### **MAKERSPLACE**

MakersPlace is the premier fine-art marketplace to discover and buy authentic digital art from the world's leading artists. Our mission is simple: to enable a vibrant future for digital creativity. Launched in 2018, MakersPlace helped catapult digital art onto the global stage with the historic sale of Beeple's Everydays. MakersPlace stands at the forefront of an exciting new era in art, where digital and physical worlds converge. Its future initiatives focus on deepening collaborations with top-tier web3 artists and expanding partnerships with world-class galleries and curators.

MakersPlace is committed to catalyzing this transformative movement, continually pushing the boundaries of art and technology.



Explore the works on makersplace.com



How to connect a Web3 wallet



Kenny Can't Paint, Into the Corner, You Should be Ashamed of Yourself, 2024

#### Sculpture

Fiberglass, polyester, cotton, rubber, nylon, paintbrush, trainers ca.  $40 \times 40 \times 180$  cm

Digital Animation mp4, audio 00:21 min 1920 x 1920 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2, 3 (sculpture only) View on MakersPlace USD 27.500,- (VAT excl.) USD 25.000,- (VAT excl.)









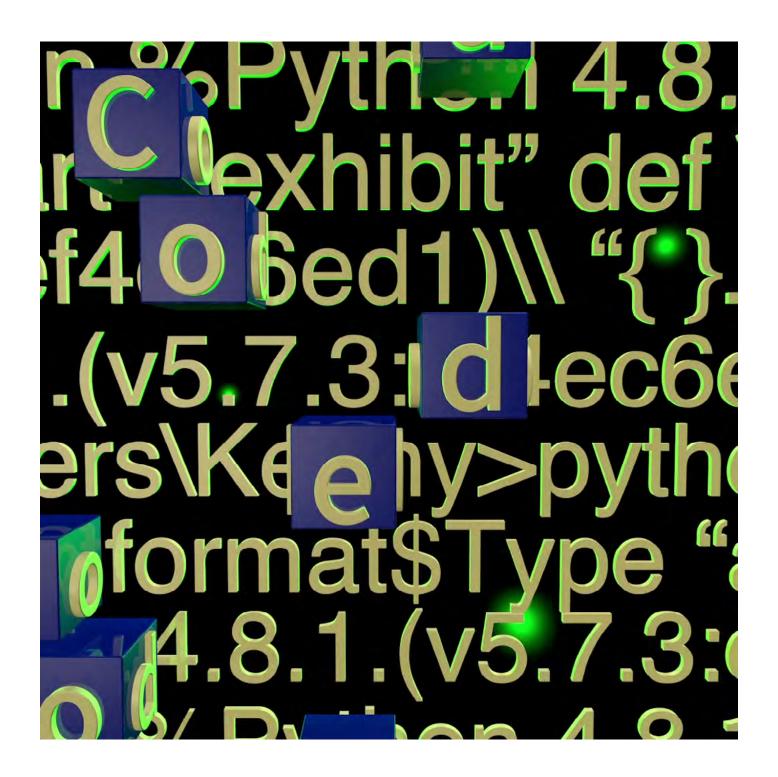


Code, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:13 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)





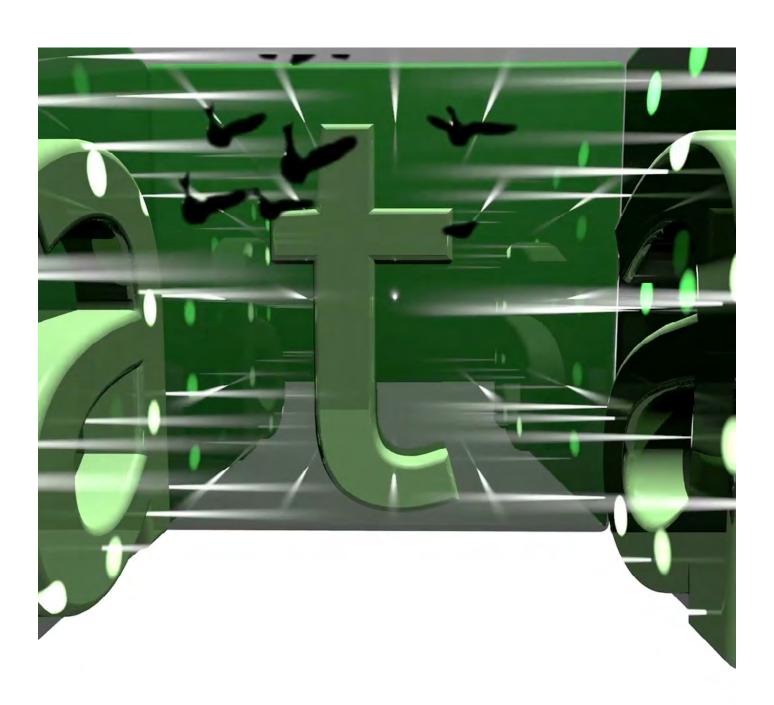


Data, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:07 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







Byte, 2024 from the series Phone Face, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

**Digital Animation** mp4 00:17 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT)

Ed. 2 (sculpture only)





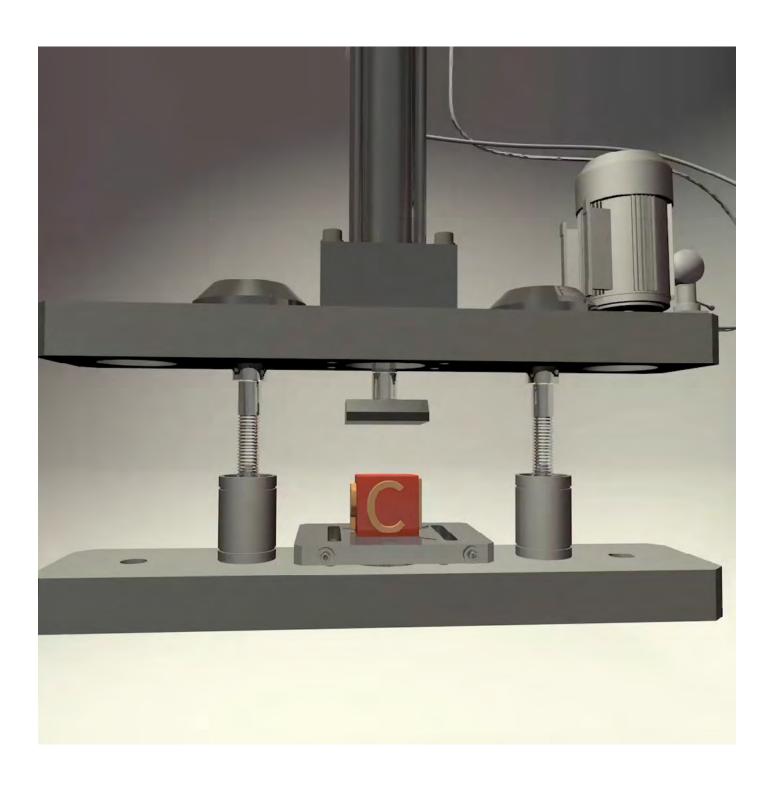


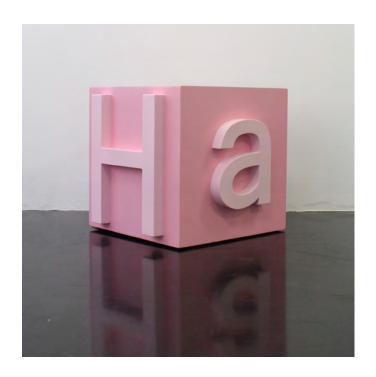
Chip, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:21 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)





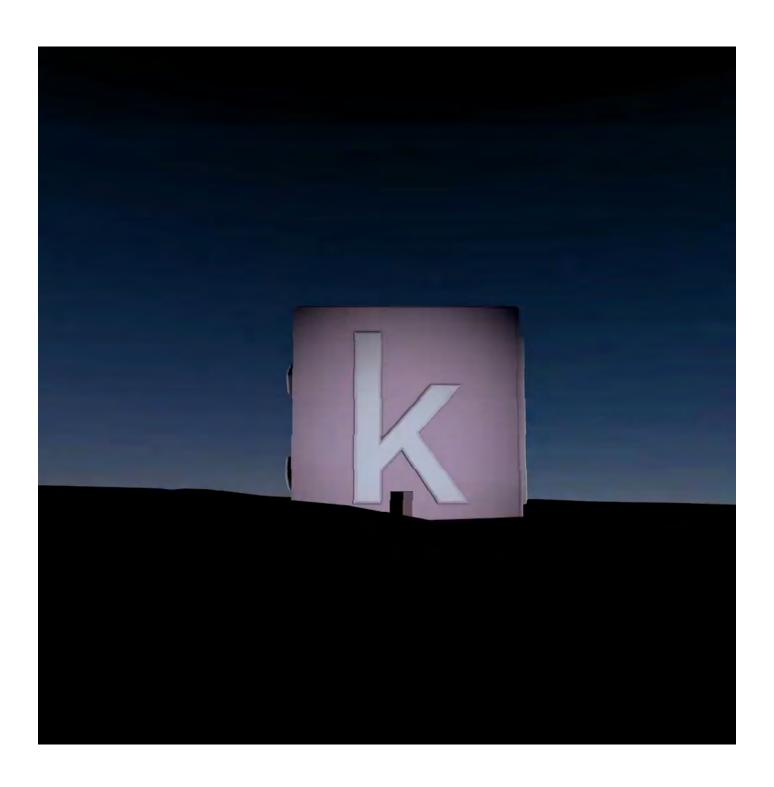


Hack, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:08 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







HTML, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:21 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)

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File, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:20 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







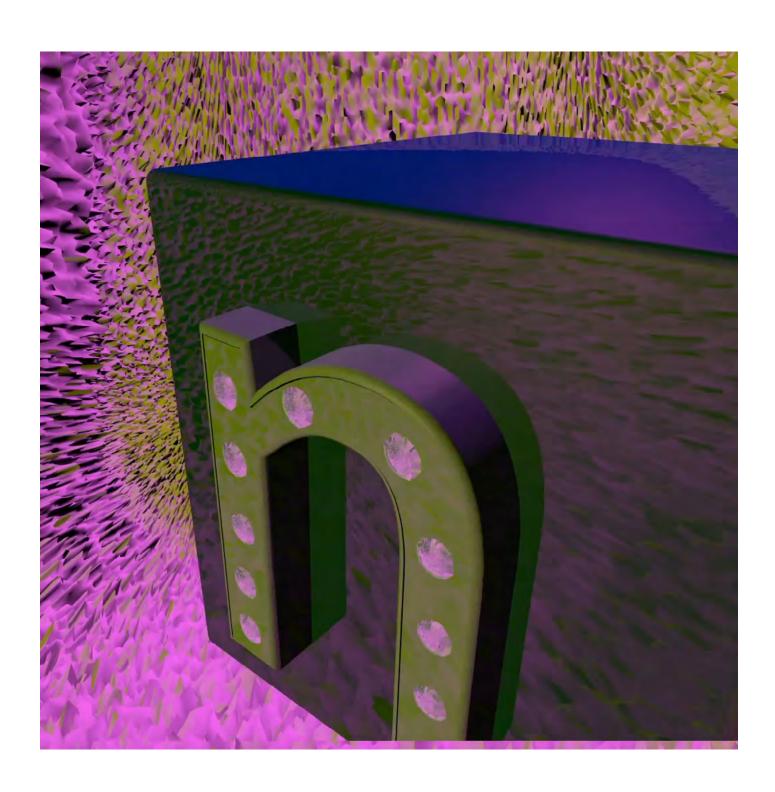
cunt, 2024 from the series Phone Face, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

**Digital Animation** mp4 00:10 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT)

Ed. 2 (sculpture only)





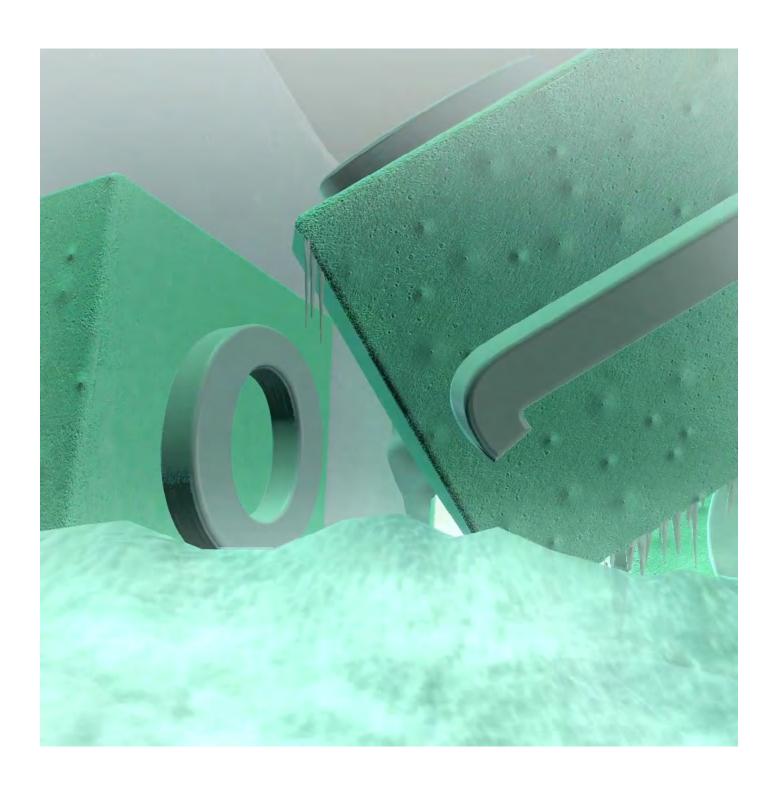


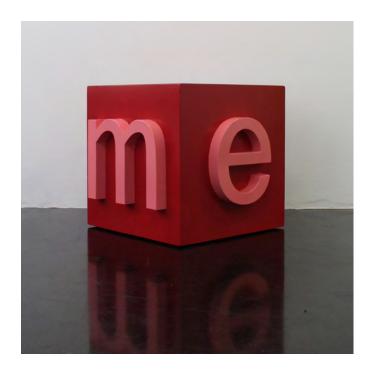
Cool, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:21 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







meme, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:11 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







Line, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:15 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)





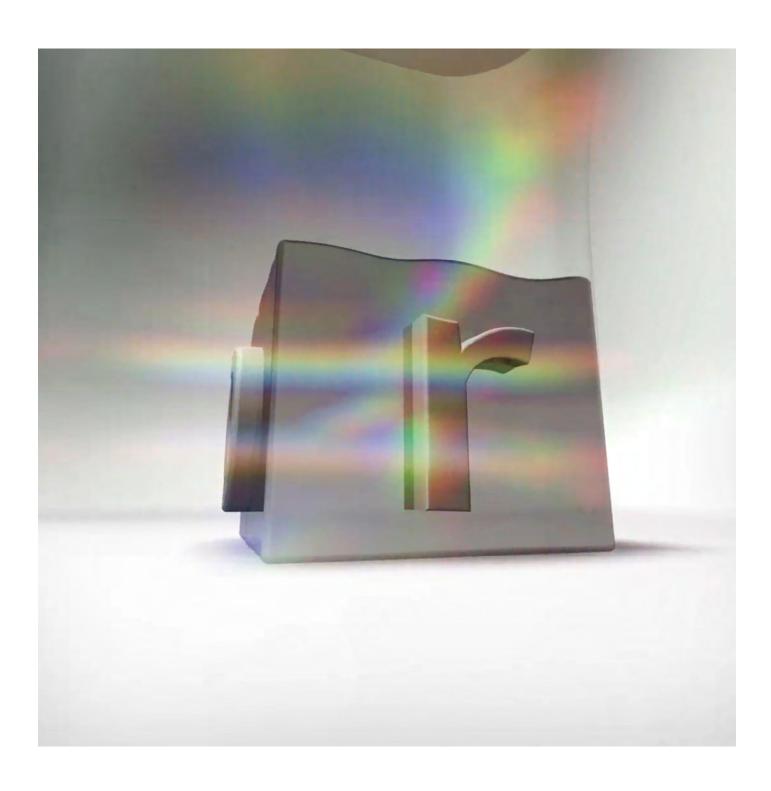


Form, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:23 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







Flex, 2024 from the series Phone Face, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

**Digital Animation** mp4 00:12 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT)

Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







Slay, 2024 from the series Phone Face, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:36 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only)







Post, 2024 from the series Phone Face, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:15 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) View on MakersPlace 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







ANGR, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:24 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)





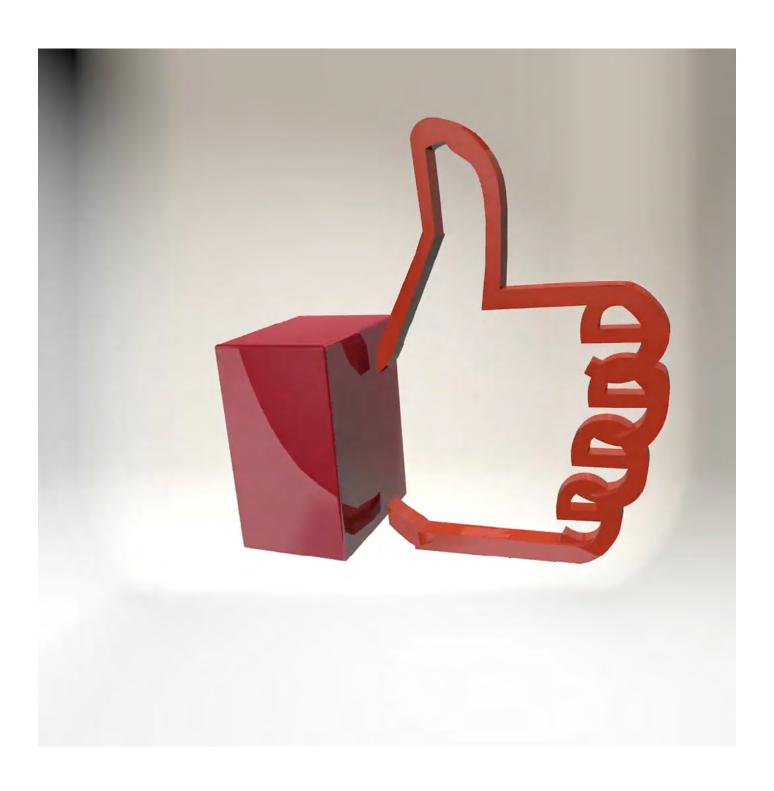


*Like*, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:27 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







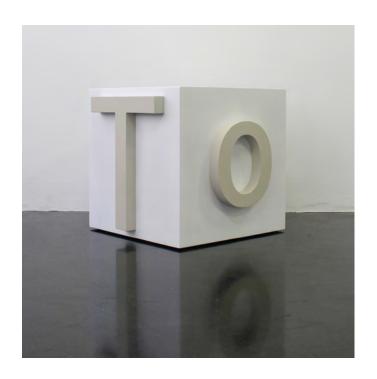
JPEG, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:30 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







Tool, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:20 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)





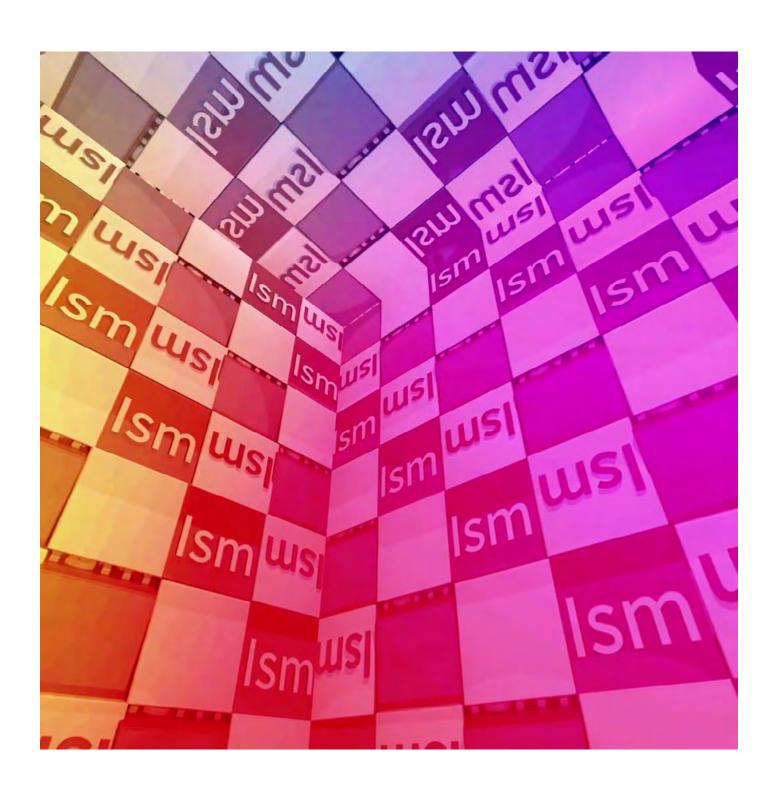


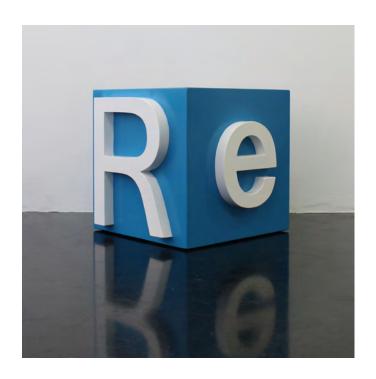
ism ism ism, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:23 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







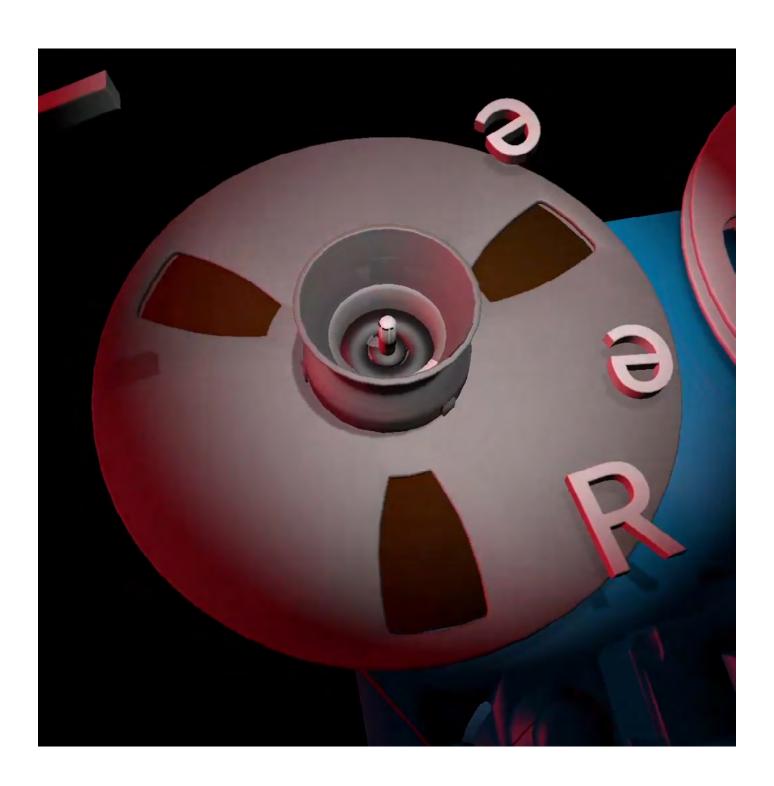
Reel, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

Digital Animation mp4 00:16 min 1080 x 1080 px

Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2 (sculpture only) <u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.)

USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







FOMO, 2024 from the series *Phone Face*, 2024.

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 60 x 60 x 51 cm

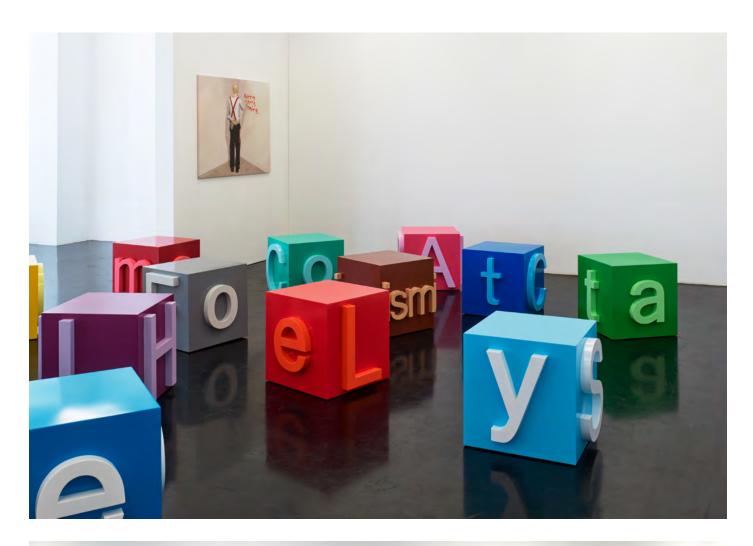
Digital Animation mp4 00:19 min 1080 x 1080 px

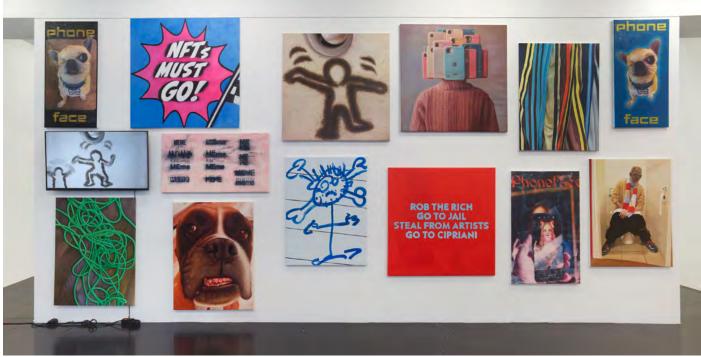
Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT)

Ed. 2 (sculpture only)

<u>View on MakersPlace</u> USD 11.000,- (VAT excl.) USD 8.800,- (VAT excl.)







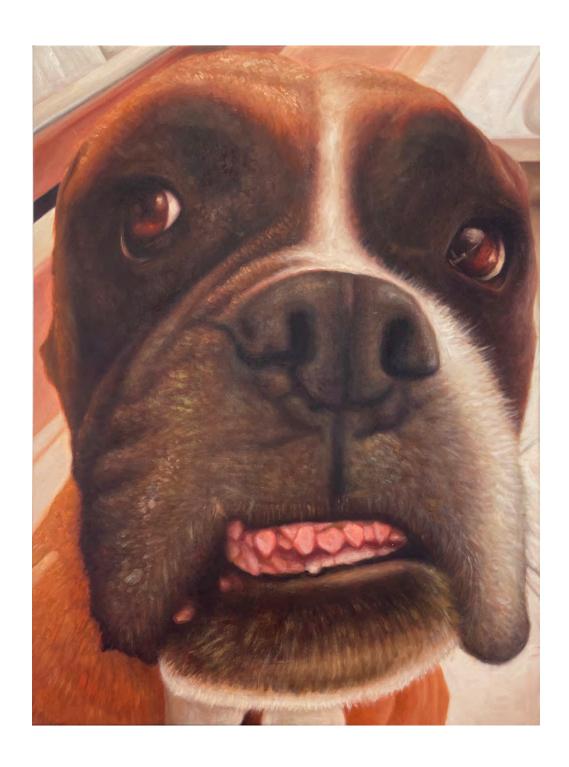


Eye, eye, AI, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 40 x 36 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:11 min 1920 x 1080 px





Dog day, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:11 min 1920 x 1080 px





Alas, it's all vanity, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:11 min 1920 x 1080 px

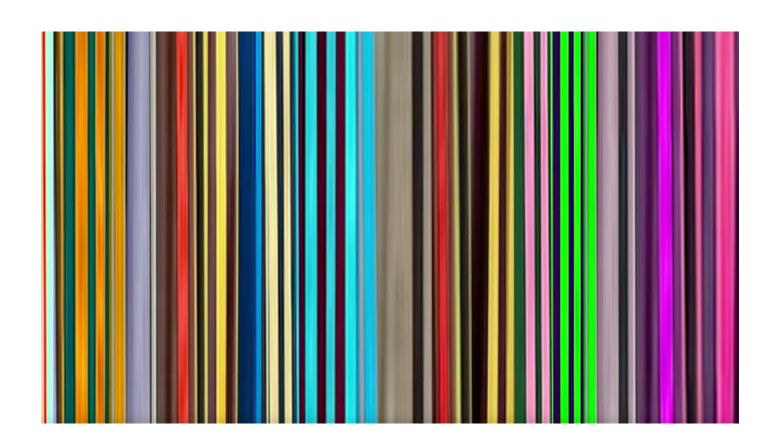


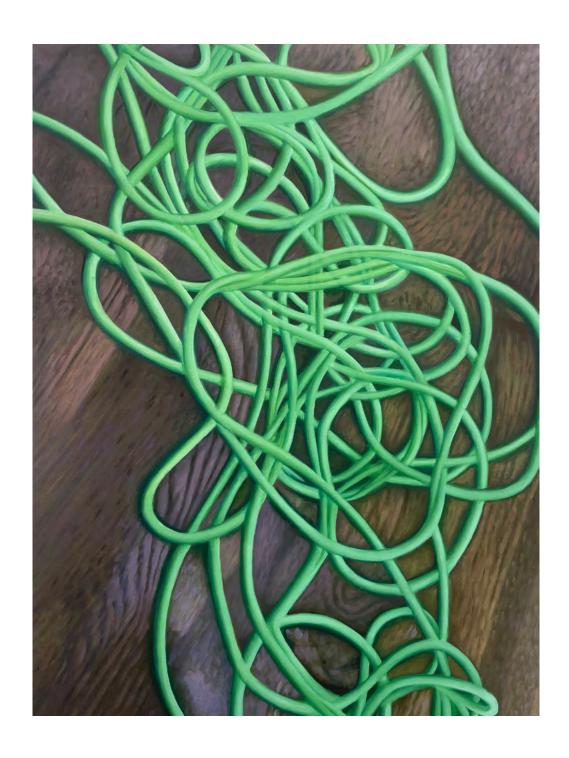


Pants-portrait, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:17 min 1920 x 1080 px





Day in the life, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:16 min 1920 x 1080 px





Headache, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 40 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:26 min 1920 x 1080 px



#### **NAGEL BORAXLER**



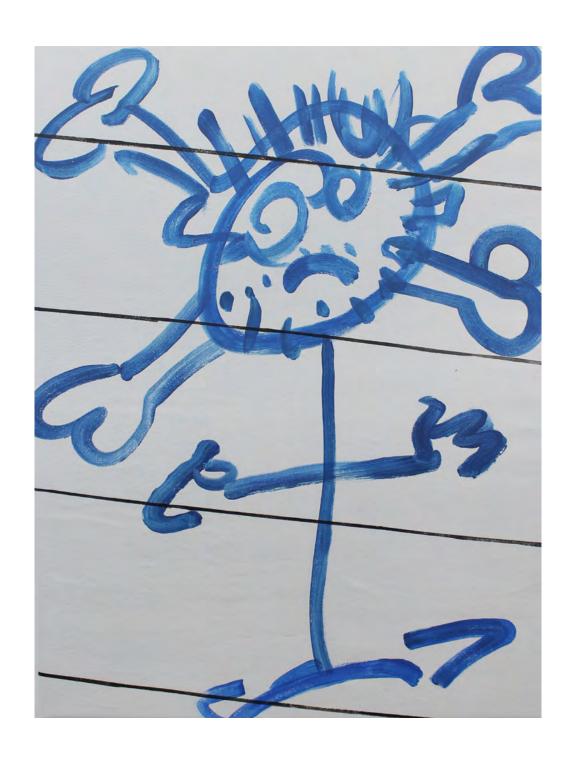
Realpolitik, 2024

Fabricated Painting
Oil on canvas
40 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:25 min 1920 x 1080 px







Kenny can't draw (either), 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:46 min 1920 x 1080 px





Hairy Haring, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 40 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:17 min 1920 x 1080 px





NFT's Out, 2024

Fabricated Painting
Oil on canvas
40 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:08 min 1920 x 1080 px





Dog's life 1, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 20 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:19 min 1080 x 1920 px





Dog's life 2, 2024

Fabricated Painting
Oil on canvas
20 x 40 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:17 min 1080 x 1920 px





me, me, me, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 40 x 22 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:16 min 1920 x 1080 px

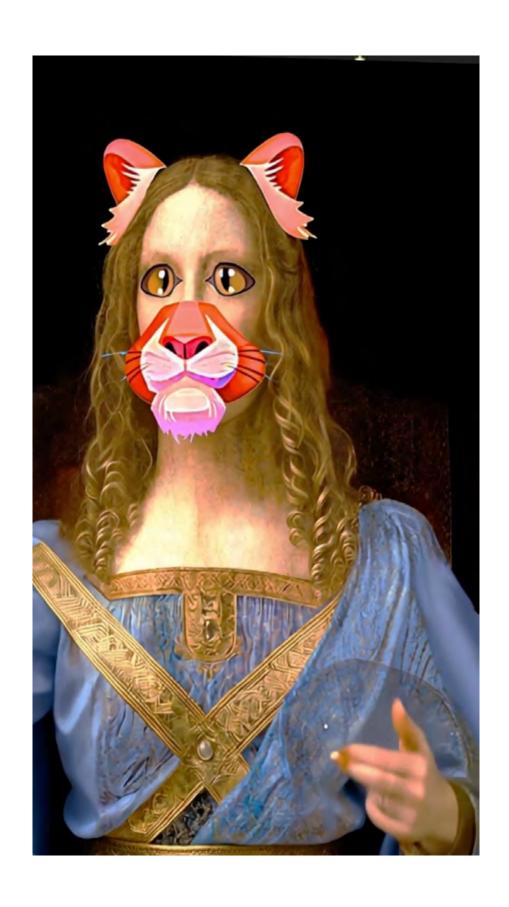


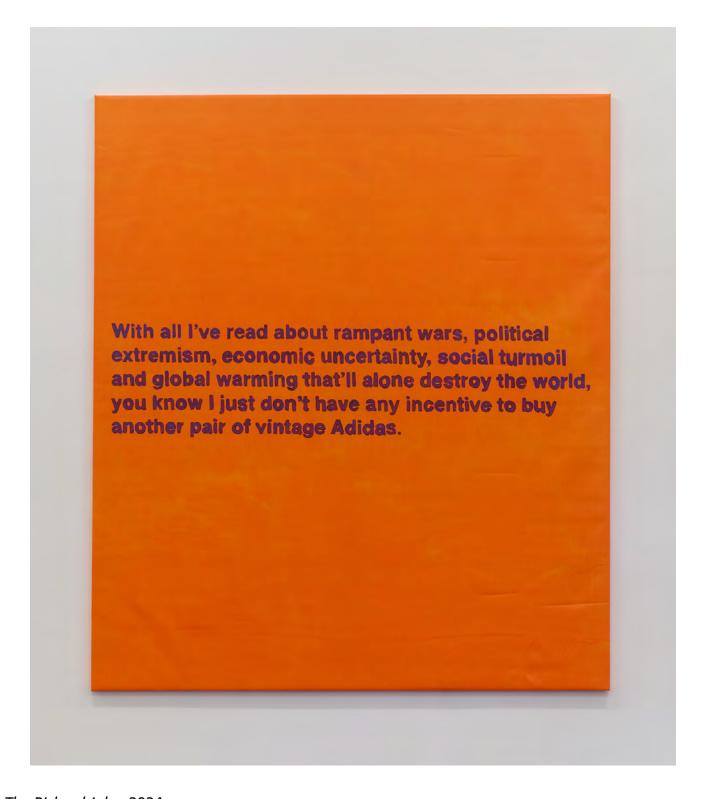


Jesus!, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 24 x 39 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:13 min 1080 x 1920 px





The Richard Joke, 2024

Fabricated Painting
Oil on canvas
24 x 39 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:46 min 1080 x 1080 px





Kenny Can't Paint, 2024

Fabricated Painting Oil on canvas 24 x 39 inch

Digital Animation mp4 00:21 min 1920 x 1080 px





Selfie-Man (Mini), 2024

Sculpture Cast aluminium, painted 12.5 x 6 x 7.5 in

Animation Video mp4 00:21 min 1920 x 1080 px Ed. 1 (sculpture, animation, NFT) Ed. 2-10 (sculpture only)

View on MakersPlace sold USD 1.500,- (VAT excl.)

