

Un/familiar Terrain{s} is a new exhibition by British-American visual artist Michael Takeo Magruder that has been created through a sophisticated partnership between artist and Artificial Intelligence (AI). This creative 'collaboration' transforms personal footage captured on first generation Alenabled smartphones into three otherworldly installations, each rooted in specific places of renowned natural beauty.

In the works, every single frame of the source material is revised, reworked, and rebuilt into digital prints and algorithmic videos which recast these captured moments as uncanny encounters. In this way, like painters, photographers, and cinematographers who have harnessed technology to transform terrains into expressive landscapes, the invisible work of the Al allows people to experience more than there ever was, expanding both time and space. Un/familiar Terrain{s} infuses these leading-edge Al systems with traditional artistic practices to reimagine the world anew and, in doing so, pushes visitors to question the organic nature of their own memories and the unsettling notions of automatic processing, misattribution, and reconstruction.

Michael Takeo Magruder (b.1974, US/UK) is a visual artist and researcher whose practice utilises Information Age technologies and systems to examine our networked, media-rich world. In the last 25 years, his art has been shown in over 300 exhibitions in 35 countries, and has received extensive support within the UK, US, and EU. He is represented by Gazelli Art House in Mayfair, London.

Takeo's recent projects include *Imaginary Cities*, a solo exhibition creatively exploring digital maps drawn from the British Library's *One Million Images from Scanned Books* collection. In 2020, he was the first ever artist-in-residence at the UK National Archives where he reflected upon the institution's ongoing digital transformation and what constitutes an archive in the 21st century. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Takeo was virtual artist-in-residence at The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts & Religion in Washington DC where he investigated social and ethical issues surrounding the international health crisis. He is presently MDI Biological Laboratory's inaugural artist-in-residence and is developing a new body of artwork in dialogue with the institute's world-class research community for its *Arts Meets Science* programme.







Michael Takeo Magruder Reconstructed Landscape{s} - Fisherman's Trail 2023

dual-channel 4K video with stereo soundscape 00:04 + 03:12 (synchronous loops)

source material: 1-second HD video recording [30 frames]

capture device: Google Pixel 6 location: Fisherman's Trail

North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

49.344660, -123.0032310

date/time: 2023/01/13, 22:13:19 UTC







Michael Takeo Magruder Reconstructed Landscape{s} - Hidcote Bartrim 2023

single-channel 4K video with stereo soundscape 13:12 (loop)

source material: 1-second HD video recording [30 frames]

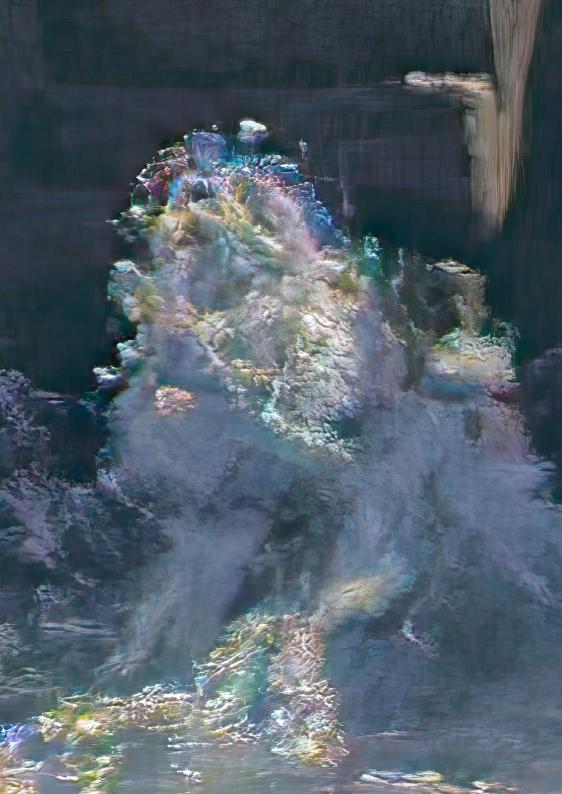
capture device: Google Pixel 6 location: Hidcote Bartrim

Cotswold District, Gloucestershire, England

52.081890, -1.745673

date/time: 2023/06/17, 14:31:03 UTC







Michael Takeo Magruder Reconstructed Landscape{s} - Great Falls 2024

series of 10 digital monoprints on archive fine art paper 60 x 60 cm (each, framed)

source material: panoramic image generated from 7 RAW photographs

capture device: Google Pixel 8 Pro

location: Great Falls

Potomac River, Fairfax County, Virginia, USA

38.996319, -77.253304

date/time: 2024/03/22, 14:26:05 UTC



Un/familiar Terrain{s}

an exhibition by: Michael Takeo Magruder

presented by: The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts & Religion

at: The Dadian Gallery

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC

31 May - 18 September, 2024

in dialogue with: Dr Devon Abts (curator)

and: Dr Michelle Fletcher (consulting academic)

Madeline Drewes (production manager)





