

MARTÍN LEVÊQUE



Martin Levêque (France, 1987) lives and works in Mexico City. After studying communication and seven years of experience in entrepreneurship as an art director, he began to create visual works in an autodidact way.

His work explores our relationship with objects and space. Through his installations, sculptures, photographs and silkscreen printing, Levêque tries to spread confusion among the visitors by offering a moment that breaks the barriers imposed by our daily life. His work is an utopian quest that transforms the impossible into reality. His colorblindness is at the origin of his fascination for illusion.

Levêque defies the traditional tools of the analog art and carefully chooses his materials and intends to give them a second life. The matter properties are an universal and inexhaustible source of inspiration. In a dizzying era of constant and rapid changes, the tangible holds a strong and positive message, that of an immutable truth. Levêque is undeniably moved by the evolution of knowledge, and especially by its obsolescence that our generation is testifying.

In 2017 he presented his first monumental installation, Sanctuaire, in the main venue of Mutek Mx, a digital art festival in Mexico City. This artwork is a tribute to the energy that the swarming Mexico City brought to him. In February 2018, Sanctuaire took a central place in Salon ACME, one of the main contemporary art fairs in the country. The piece won 2018 the grand prize of the Korean competition K Design Award.

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PRIZES & AWARDS

2018 - aug *GRAND PRIZE K DESING AWARD*
Prize-giving Ceremony Ritz Carlton, Shanghai
([Link](#))

2019 - apr *1% ARTISTIQUE - ONDES*
Public Art, Bezons, France (*Finalist - under negotiation*)

2019 - mar *1% ARTISTIQUE - STELES*
Public Art, Vincennes, France (*Finalist - under negotiation*)

2018 - oct *EX MATERIA*
installation for Abierto Mexicano de Diseño
Museo Nacional de Arte, Mexico City

2018 - oct *ODA AL SOL*
sculpture for DesignWeek
Archivo Arquitectura y Diseño, Mexico City

2018 - jul *AWE*
installation for Hidden
Edificio Humboldt, Mexico City

ART FAIR

2018 - feb *SALÓN ACME*
Art Fair, Mexico City

2018 - jul *JAUNE*
sculpture for M74
Moctezuma 74, Mexico City

EXHIBITIONS

2019 - nov *ECHO*
audio visual performance for Mutek Mx
Museo Anahuacalli, Mexico City

2018 - apr *ROUGE*
sculpture for Fenomena
Puebla 109, Mexico City

2019 - jun *ECLIPSIS*
photographs for Edition Du Coté
Biarritz, France

2018 - apr *ROUGE*
Silk screen printing for Obra en Obra
Edificio Condesa, Mexico City

2019 - apr *IIIÏIII*
sculptures for Noche de Autor
Dante Alighieri, Mexico City

2017 - feb *SANCTUAIRE*
installation for Mutek Mx
La Fabrica, Mexico City

2019 - feb *GENESIS*
installation for Bahidora
Las Estacas, Mexico

EDUCATION

2011 - 2017 *CO FOUNDER AND ART DIRECTOR*
JAZZ GROUP (Communication Agency)
Mexico City

2018 - nov *AWE*
installation for Mutek Mx
La Fabrica, Mexico City

2007 - 2010 *MASTER IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION*
RMS
Reims, France

SANCTUAIRE

: A place that became sacred by association with the transcendent or divine.

: A territory which loss would correspond to the loss of the national identity.

Sanctuaire it's all about my relationship with Mexico City. A space filled with its own pure and special energy. To me is a never ending source of inspiration. This city is benefited of the powerful vibe, result of many factors provoked by its habitants.

From far away, this city is characterized by a chaotic and indescribable movement. To be able to understand this, one must come close to realize that this apparent chaos is the manifestation of millions of individual actions from its habitants.

Sanctuaire it's going to be the visual manifestation of a mystical energy that transcends to the viewer. This piece gathers people in a cozy environment from which a light will be generated while levitating above the audience.

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SANCTUAIRE, Installation (5x5x7m), 2017, Mutek Mx,
Calle Henry Ford 81-25, Industrial San Nicolas, Tlalnepantla, CDMX

[LINK VIDEO](#)

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SANCTUAIRE, Installation (5x5x7m), 2017, Salón ACME,
Calle General Prim 32, Colonia Juarez, CDMX

[LINK VIDEO](#)

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SANCTUAIRE, Installation (5x5x7m), 2017, Salón ACME,
Calle General Prim 32, Colonia Juarez, CDMX

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AWE

Parenthesis of a night walk in the CDMX

With more than 2 million people contributing daily to formalize the improvised, the city of Mexico has become a stainless steel jungle. At night, the food stalls look fascinating and terrifying at the same time, the lights of the patrols are trapped in their bosom and interpret an ephemeral ballet that will never be reproduced with the same choreography.

In the middle of a dark environment with dim lights that remind us that violence is never far away, we are hypnotized by a surreal moment that moves us as a spectator of a dream show.

This phenomenon is the blatant manifestation that the city contains a creature underneath. An emotional and sensitive creature who lives at the relentless rhythm of the people that populates it. Charismatic and inclusive but permeable to morality, Awe does not seem to meddle in the events that accelerate his pulse. This urban soul is appreciable only through this resplendent interface that is harmoniously disseminated in the four corners of the cities.

[LINK VIDEO](#)

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AWE, Installation (1.2x6m), 2018, Mutek Mx,
Calle Henry Ford 81-25, Industrial San Nicolas, Tlalnepantla, CDMX

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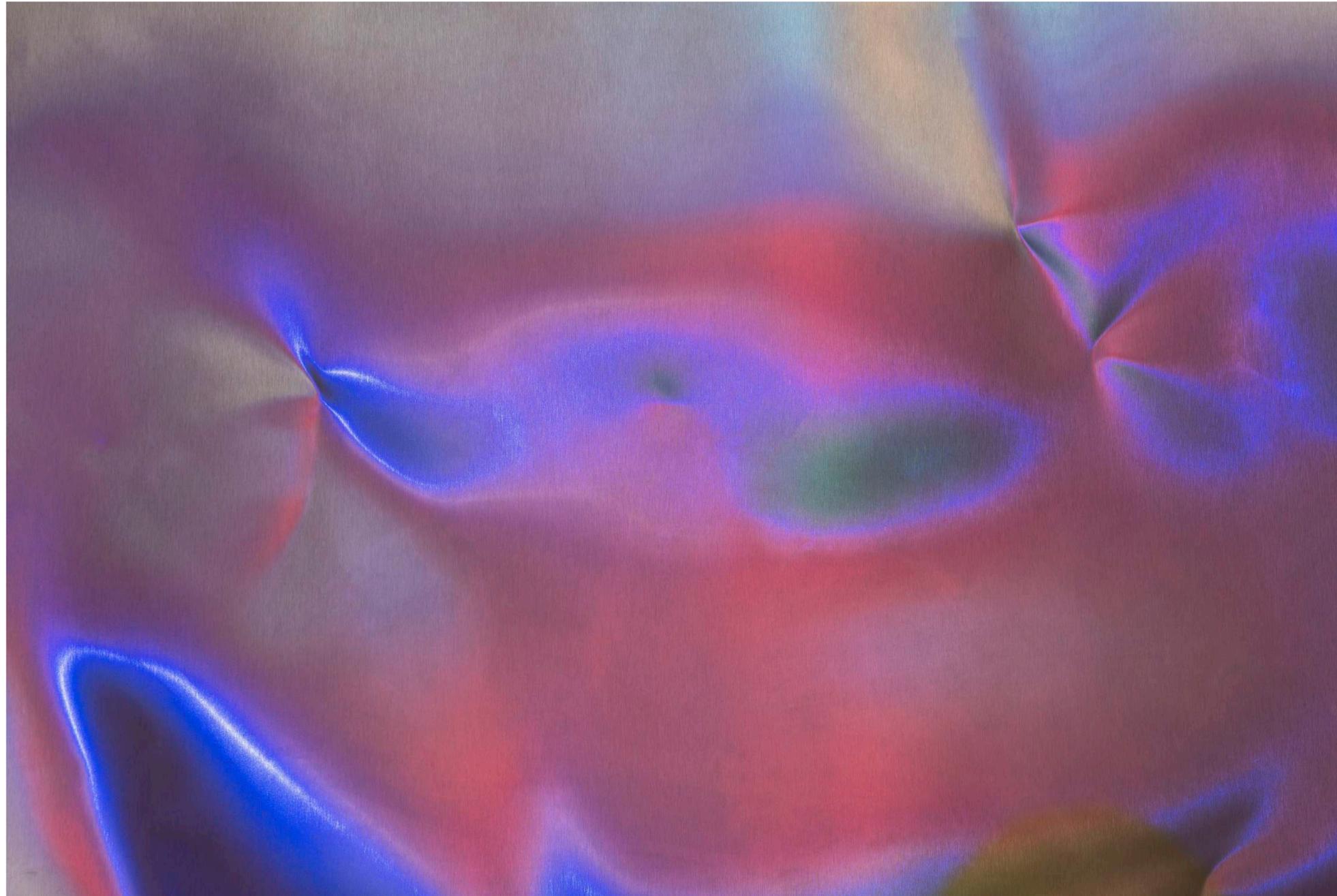
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AWE, Installation (1.2x6m), 2018, Mutek Mx,
Calle Henry Ford 81-25, Industrial San Nicolas, Tlalnepantla, CDMX

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AWE, Installation (1.2x6m), 2018, Mutek Mx,
Calle Henry Ford 81-25, Industrial San Nicolas, Tlalnepantla, CDMX

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AWE, Installation (1.2x3m), 2018, Pop In Hidden,
Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

EX MATERIA

: (Latin) creation that emerges from matter

Mirror Experiment 1 : anamorphic mirror with circular movement

Through this experiment, my intention is to create a space for a performance in which the only protagonist is the concept of material. Turning on an axis calculated according to a precise point of observation, the anamorphic mirror reveals a unique vision of the architecture. The angle, the movement and the shape of the object have been designed so that the surrounding materials express themselves in absolute clarity.

In a dizzying era of constant and rapid change, analog art intrinsically contains a strong positive message, that of an immutable truth. The elements and creativity will never suffer from obsolescence, the alliance of the two transcends the ages with the greatest respect of our environment.

[LINK VIDEO](#)

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EX MATERIA, Installation (5x4x6m), 2018, Abierto Mexicano de Diseño,
Museo Nacional de Arte (MUNAL), CDMX

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EX MATERIA, Installation (5x4x6m), 2018, Abierto Mexicano de Diseño, Museo Nacional de Arte (MUNAL), CDMX

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EX MATERIA, Installation (5x4x6m), 2018, Abierto Mexicano de Diseño,
Museo Nacional de Arte (MUNAL), CDMX

GENESIS

With its paranormal appearance, Genesis is a source of energy that strongly contrasts with its natural and wild environment. The unusual living presence, coming from elsewhere, is an invitation to free us from our prejudices. The term “Genese” refers to the creation of a new world that one will be able to achieve by shifting his mindset.

The work aims to provoke a reflection and introspection, its surreal aspect will jostle our daily life and fill us with a positive message. From now on, what we previously thought insurmountable is within reach, the barriers that curb our actions are mental and are waiting for a click to cross them and discover a new beginning.

[LINK VIDEO](#)

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GENESIS, Installation (5x4x6m), 2019, Circuito de arte Bahidora,
Las Estacas, Mexico

ECLIPSIS

Immersion :

- *The disappearance of the star eclipsed, or occulted*
- *Deep mental involvement*
- *A method of teaching a foreign language by the exclusive use of that language, usually at a special school*
- *The action of immersing someone or something in a liquid*

Martin Levêque was 9 years old when he realized he was color-blind. It happened while drawing a poetry illustration during class: he had colored the sky in a deep purple and the roofs of houses in a strange shade of brown. Levêque's choice of color palette took his teacher by surprise. It was then he when he realized there was something abnormal in his sight: the colors, which he thought he had always dominated, took on a new enigmatic meaning.

Although Levêque is capable of identifying bold colors, the anomaly is found with the changes of shades and tones. When a colored object is affected by environment, movement or brightness, its appearance develops into something else and thus, loses its original identity.

This body of work takes after this realization.

In Eclipsis, Levêque proposes to experiment with sky-blue - the color that he thought he had used for his childhood drawing.

Eclipsis is the name he gives to his experimentation with immersion. During this process, he aims to bring color to life by breaking it down and altering it into a new texture. For a short moment the artist's anomaly seems to disappear, allowing him to master the feeling of his optic perception.

The name is also a nod to the celestial elements that participate in making sky-blue of a deep and complex tone. When an eclipse happens, the tone darkens and clears in 4 steps. - primer contacto - segundo contactos - tercer contacto - cuarto contacto of the cities.

[LINKS VIDEO](#)

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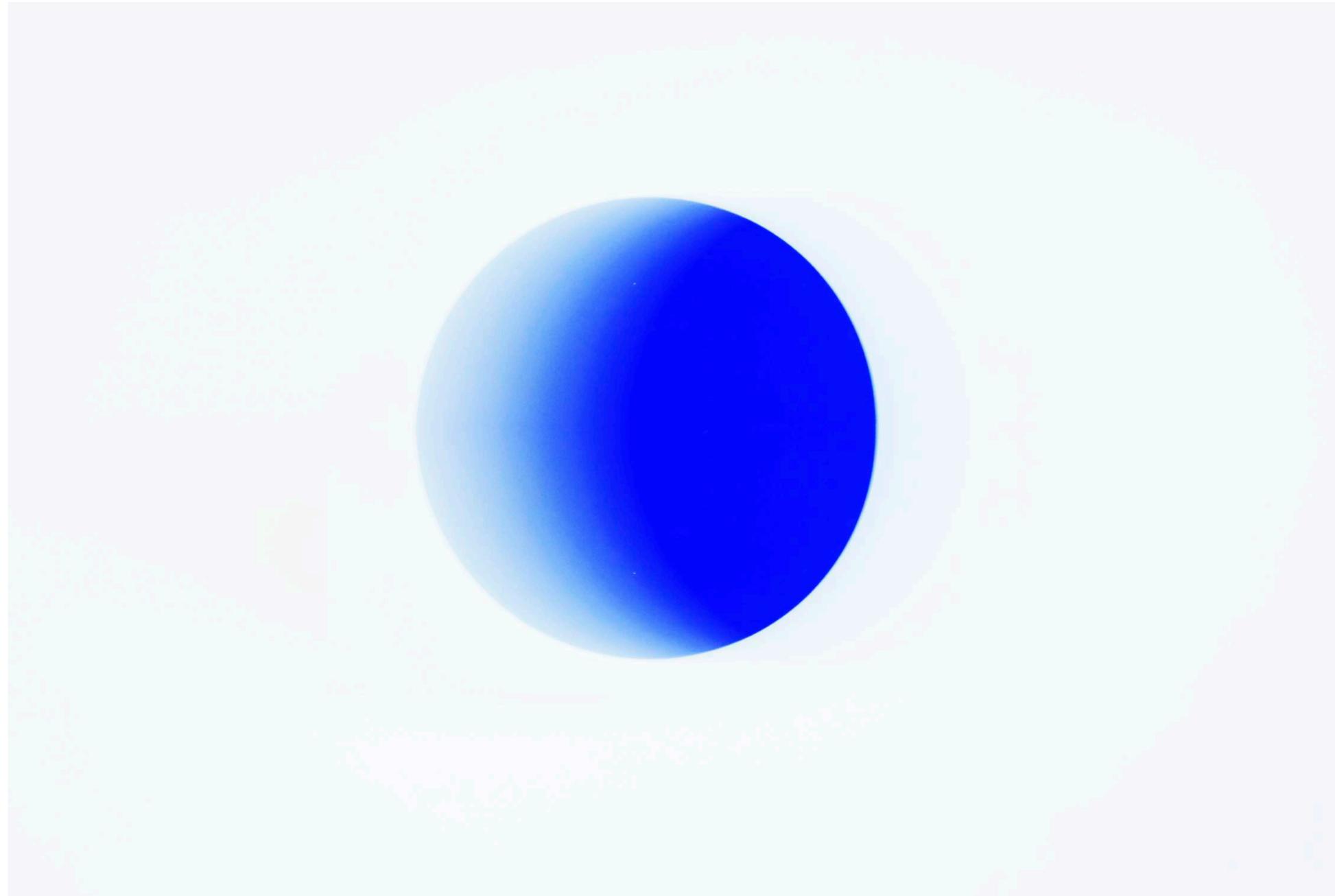
[LINKS VIDEO](#)



ECLIPSIS, Installation anamorphic mirror, water and blue ink (1 x 1,5 m),
2018, Studio, Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

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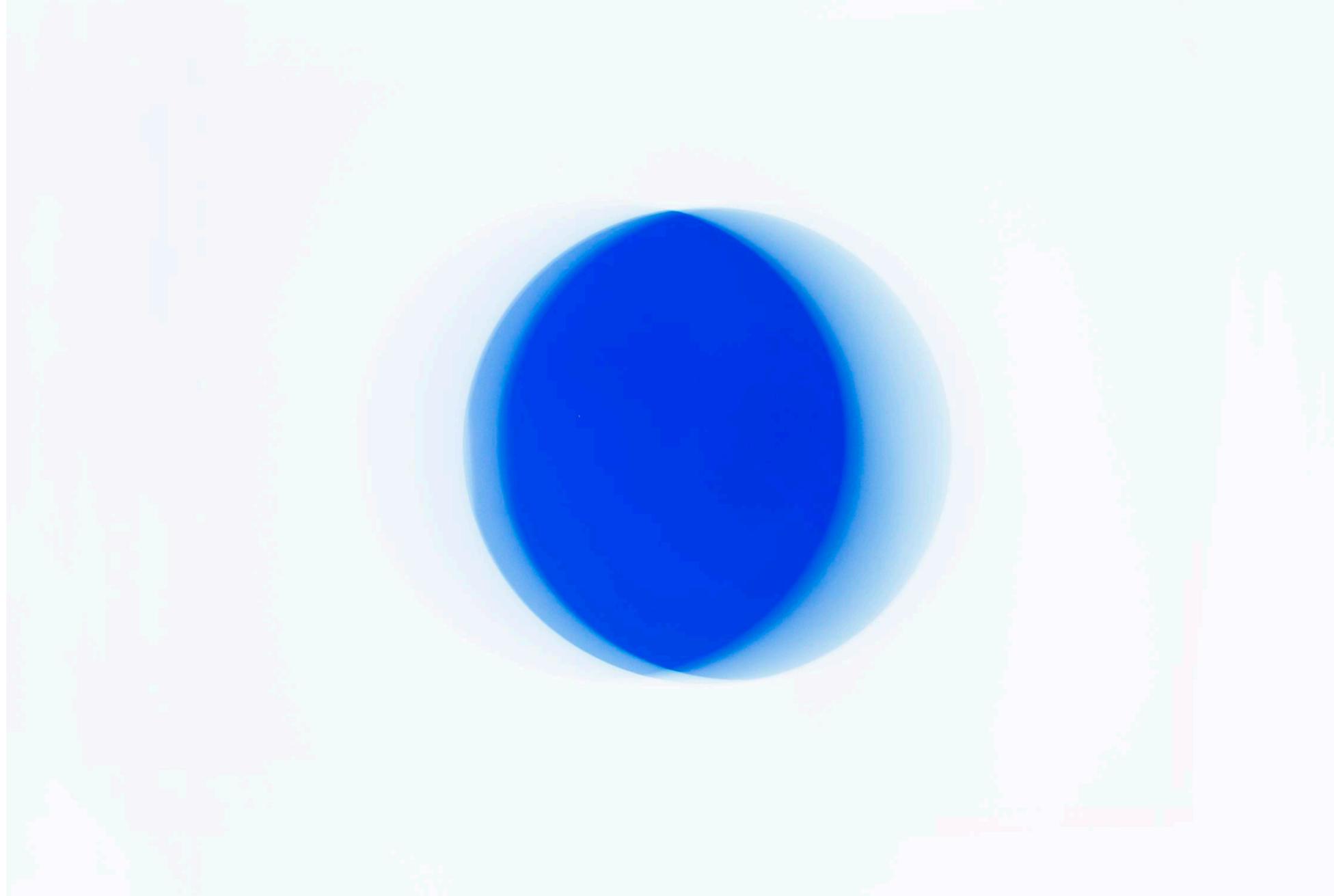
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ECLIPSIS PRIMER CONTACTO, Photograph with low shutter speed of the blue water texture (80x60cm), 2018, Studio, Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

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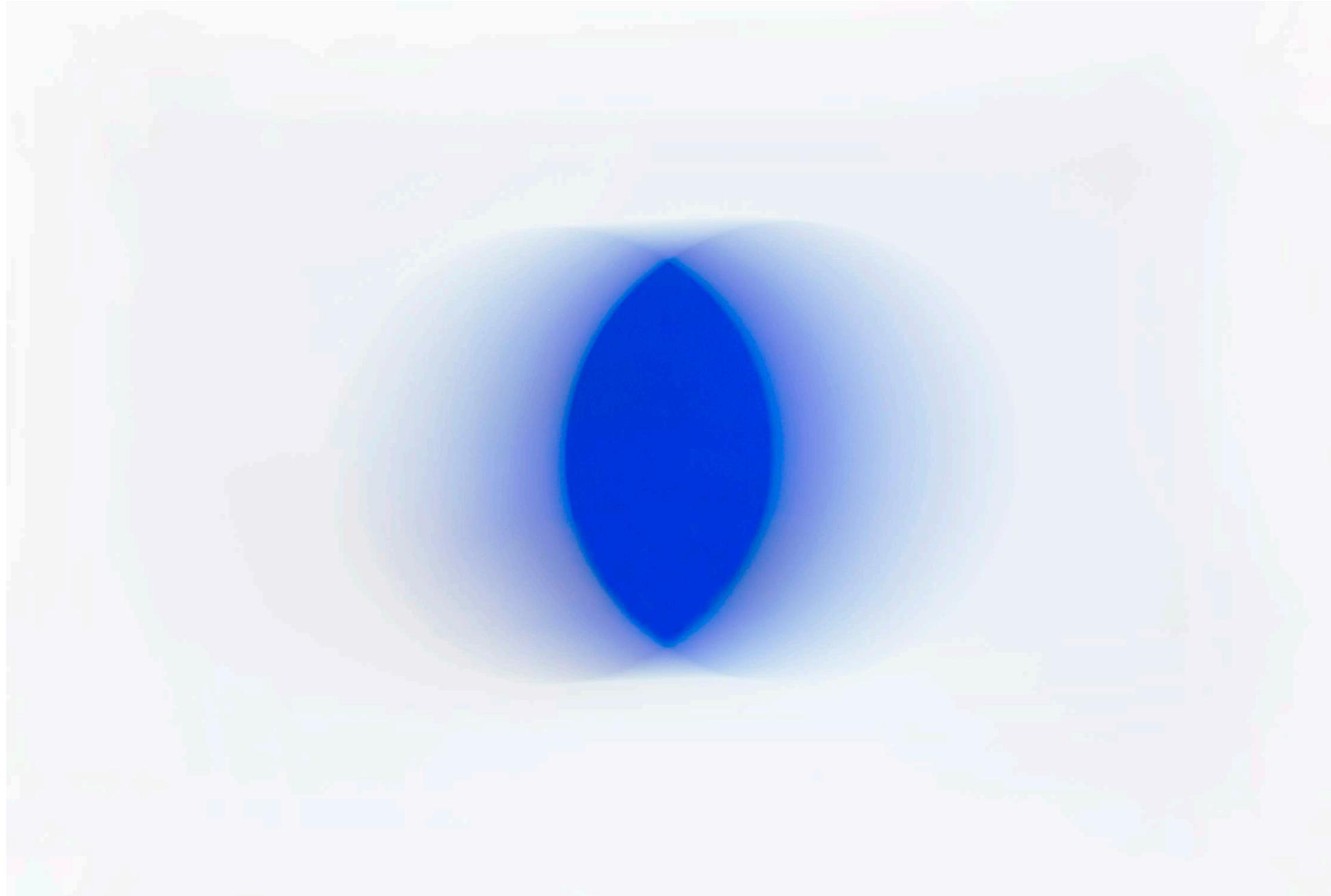
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ECLIPSIS SECUNDO CONTACTO, Photograph with low shutter speed of the blue water texture (80x60cm), 2018, Studio, Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

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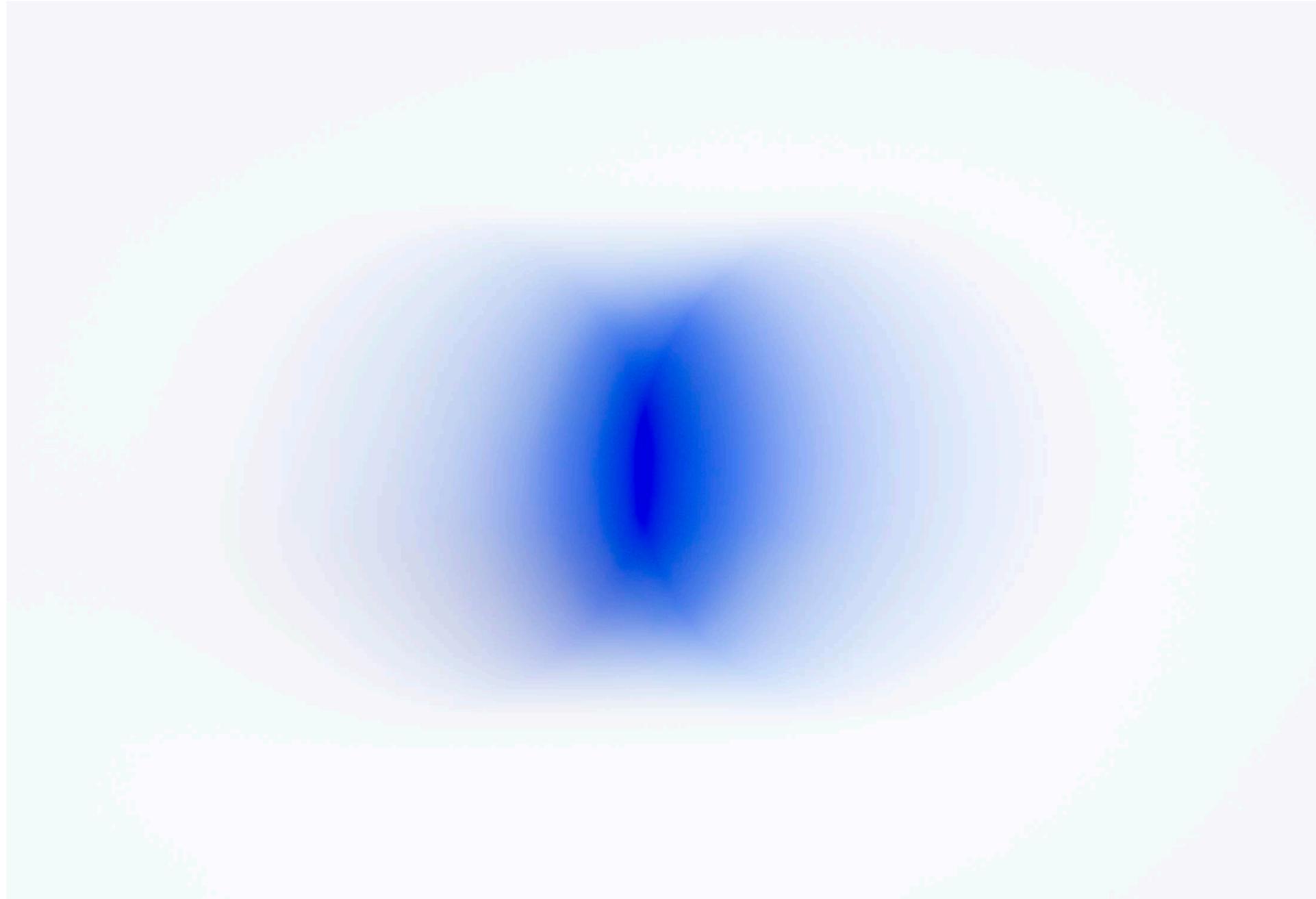
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ECLIPSIS TERCER CONTACTO, Photograph with low shutter speed of the blue water texture (80x60cm), 2018, Studio, Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

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ECLIPSIS CUARTO CONTACTO, Photograph with low shutter speed of the blue water texture (80x60cm), 2018, Studio, Edificio Humboldt, CDMX

ODA AL SOL

It is a dazzling phenomenon that delights the spectator who contemplates this fleeting moment. In a radiant light, the multitude of glass windows in perfect orientation suddenly metamorphoses the city. I often interrupt all activity in the late hours of the day to watch the accidental spectacle of the reflection of the sun rays on the facades of the urban ocean.

Oda al Sol is a daily rendez vous with the sun, a meeting that develops as a performance before the eyes of those around it. Thanks to an in-depth study of the properties of glass and the trajectory of the sun throughout the day, the static installation of glass is exposed with the utmost care to enter into osmosis with light. By gradually revealing its curves and angles, the glass sculpture generates a resplendent creature whose ephemeral existence is reborn daily to offer these few moments.

Located on the roof of Archivo Arquitectura & Diseño in an emblematic street in Mexico, Oda al Sol is inspired by a great master of light, Luis Barragan, whose house is a few meters away. The architect, conscious of the sensation transmitted by the light on the volumes throughout the day, built his masterpieces considering that criterion to exalt the qualities of each space.

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ODA AL SOL, Installation glass and steel (4 x 4 m), 2018, Territorio Urbano, Archivo Arquitectura y Diseño, CDMX

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ODA AL SOL, Installation glass and steel (4 x 4 m), 2018, Territorio Urbano, Archivo Arquitectura y Diseño, CDMX

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ECHO

It only takes a drop.

In this place beyond stillness, where water meets water, the smallest disturbance ripples into a whirl of shapes, lights and sounds.

The underwater surface blurs, as the voids fill and the wholes drain.

From the darkest dust to the brightest fleck, everything is driven by the waves, pulsing in vivid ballets.

Each dance is more intense than the previous one, each time, chaos overcomes harmony, as each cycle feeds off its predecessor's wreckage.

Until entropy finally brings the cycle to put an end to all cycles, deafening the very structure of movement itself.

It only took a drop.

(Text by Cyril Leau)

ECHO is a performance that captivates our senses in a synaesthesia where sound, visual and tactile merge into the element that constitutes our world, water. Thanks to various water manipulation techniques and instruments (breathing, touch, accessories, drops ...), the reflection of the images on the water will enter in osmosis with the music, forming a single body.

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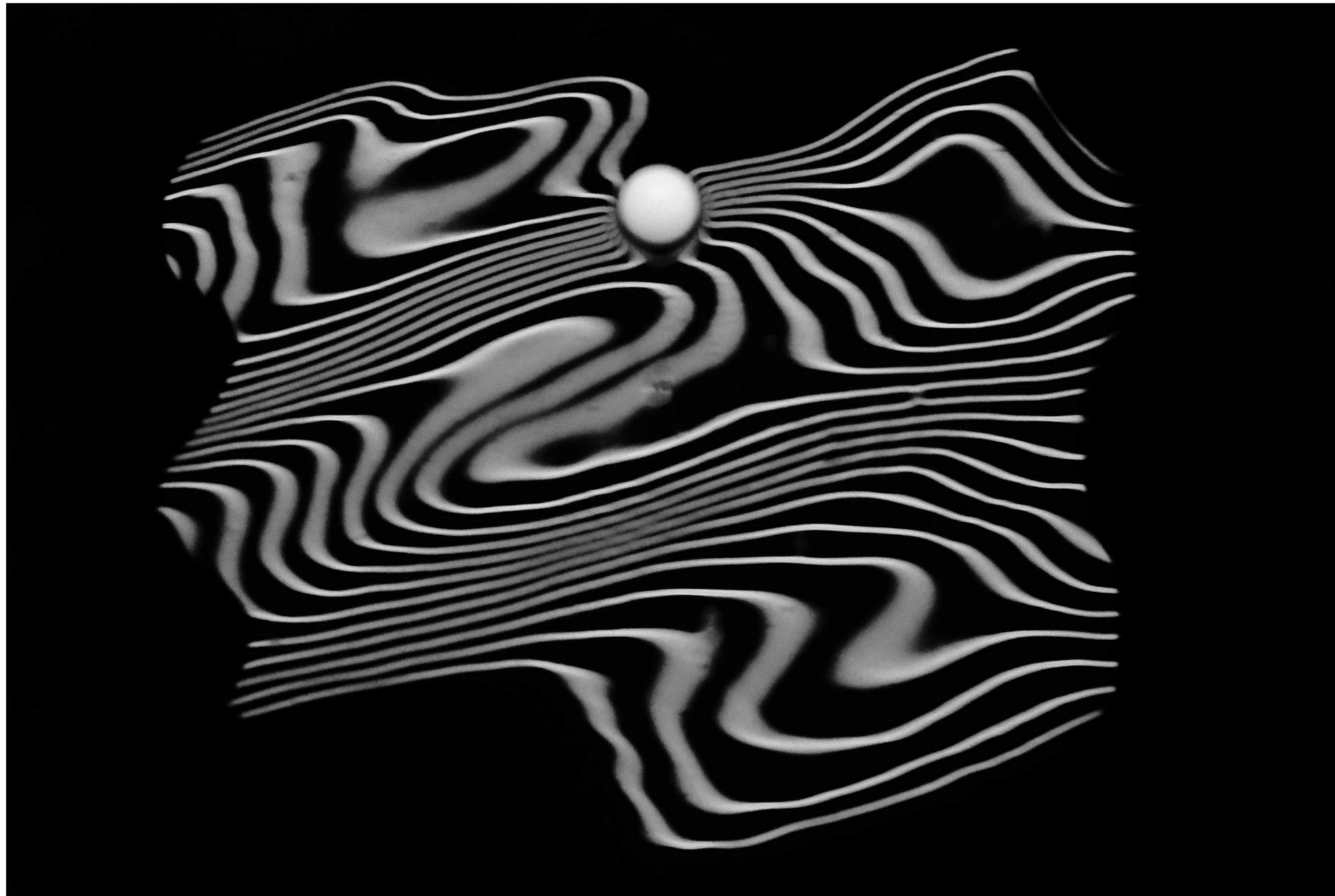
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ECHO, audio visual performance, 2019
Museo Anahuacalli, CDMX

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ECHO, audio visual performance, 2019
Museo Anahuacalli, CDMX

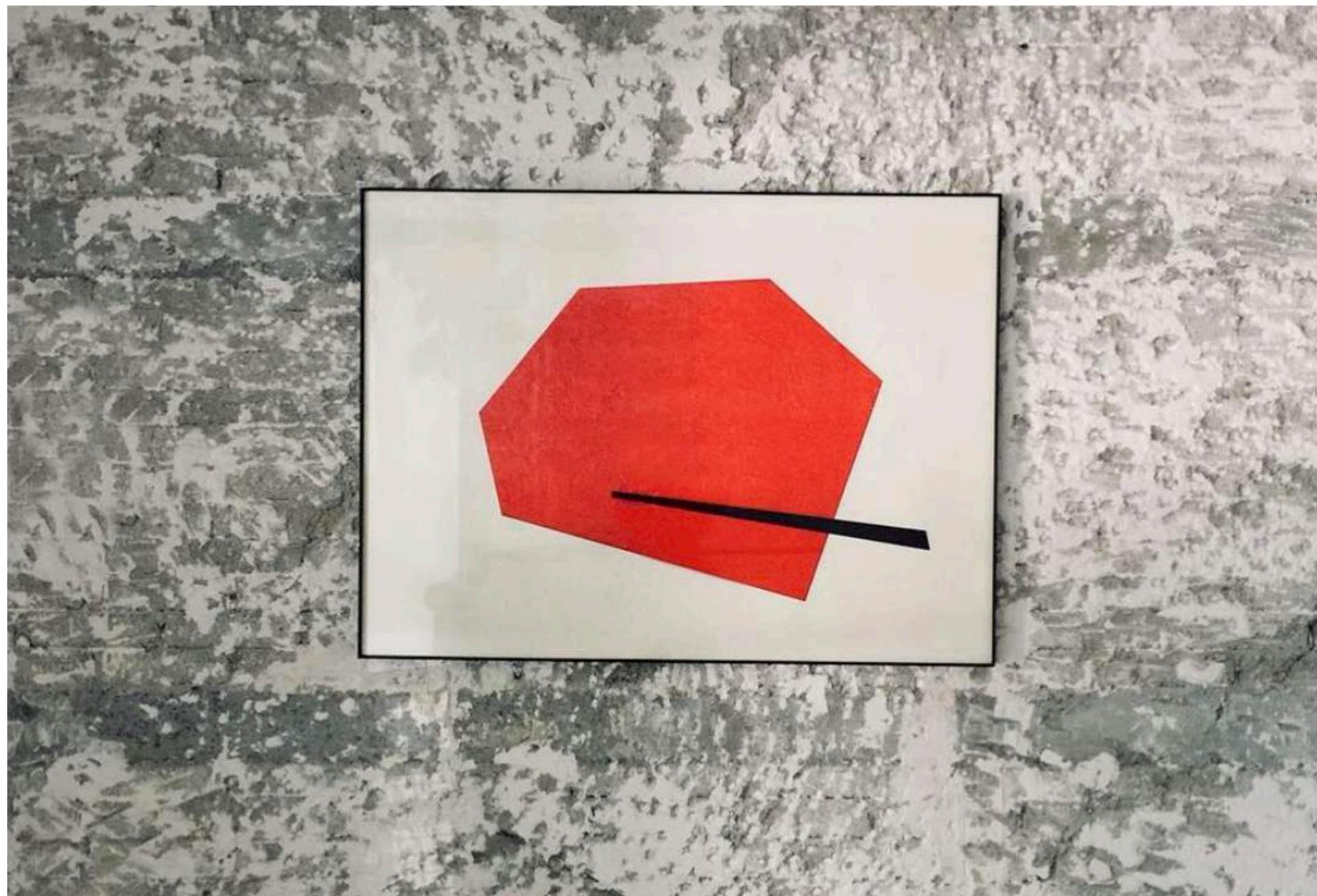
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PHOTOGRAPHS,
SCULPTURES &
SILK SCREEN PRINTS

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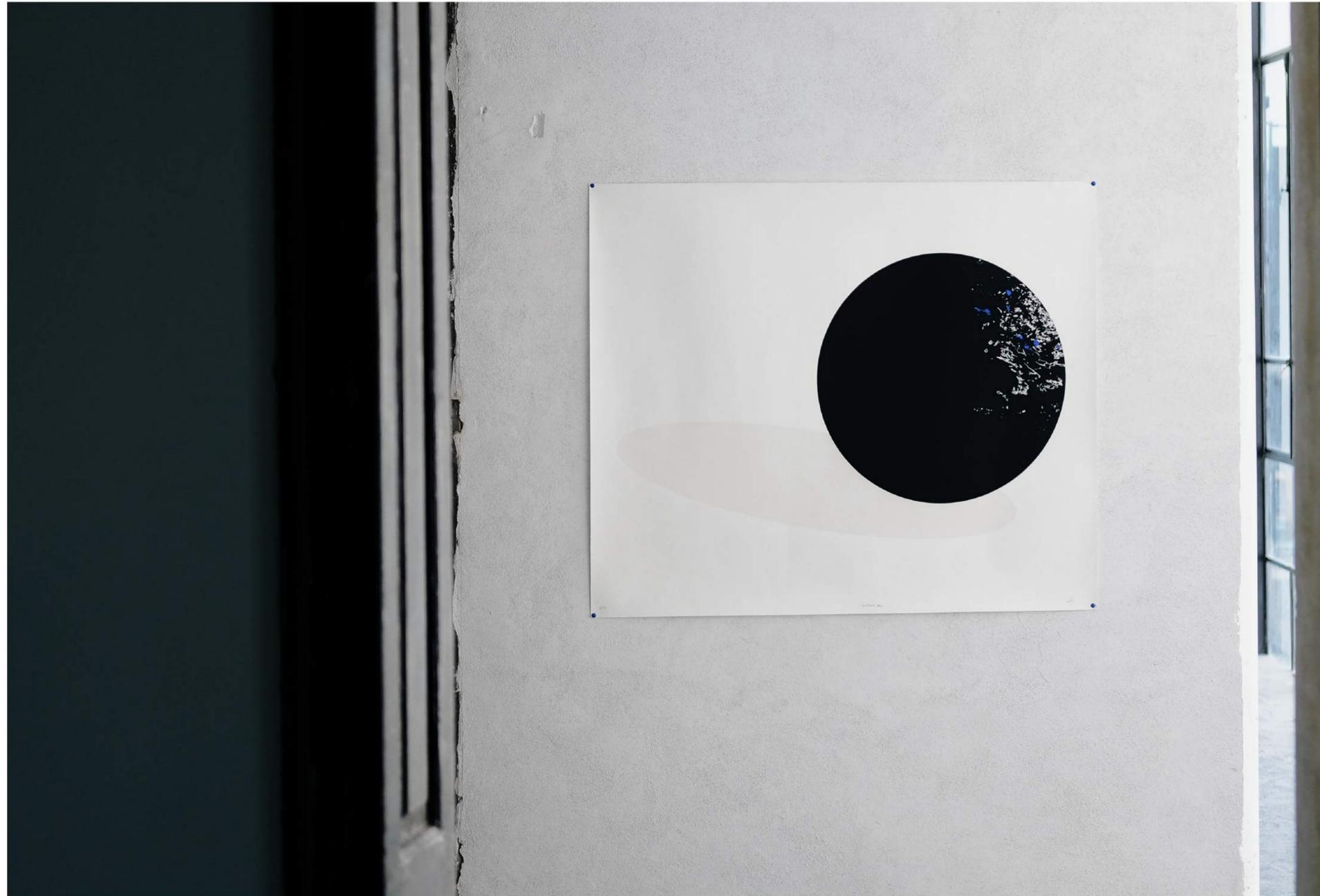
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ROUGE, Silk screen printing, (90 x 120 cm), 2018, Obra en Obra, Alfonso Reyes 164, CDMX

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SANCTUAIRE NOIR, Silk screen printing, (90 x 105 cm), 2018, Private house, Santa Maria de la Ribera, CDMX

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Detail of SANCTUAIRE NOIR, Silk screen printing, (90 x 105 cm), 2018,
Private house, Santa Maria de la Ribera, CDMX

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JAUNE, Metal Sculpture, (90 x 90 cm), 2018, M74, Calle Moctezuma 74,
CDMX

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