

THIBAUT BRUNET
12 minutes de soleil (12 minutes of sun)

Galerie Heinzer Reszler is pleased to present Thibault Brunet's fourth exhibition at the gallery. He is exhibiting four recent series exploring different facets of the transformation of our modern world, from virtual spaces and their potential for anticipation to the gesture of conservation through inventory.

3600 seconds of light, *Clues de Barles*, *Typologie du Virtuel*, and *Utopies* oscillate between pictorial and photographic imagery, and sculptural forms. These works draw the viewer into a contemplative and reflective experience of our reality on the verge of disappearing.

Thibault Brunet works mainly on contemporary issues of representation and understanding of space. He offers a skillful blend of traditional photography and new technologies - whose codes and uses he diverts - and constructs enigmatic images using a variety of media: prints, 3D videos, virtual images, tapestries and book-sculptures.

Typologie du virtuel

With *Typologie du virtuel* Thibault Brunet explores the French territory through Google Earth. The images in this series were taken from buildings located in suburban areas and modelled in 3D by Google Earth users. Shopping centres, low-cost housing estates and corporate towers are part of a global architectural typology that has no connection with the local area. By isolating them and adding a shadow defined according to the day and time they were built, he recontextualizes the image. The context is the shadow, the creation of a projection space fading into the mist that the artist compares to a digital cloud, from which his buildings seem to emerge like pop-ups. The title of the series refers to a type of cataloguing devoid of personal expression, and a composition dictated by a fixed protocol not unlike the approach of the photographers Bernd and Hilla Becher.

In taking gas stations as the new object of study for his latest iteration of his typologies, Thibault Brunet is tackling a characteristic icon of the American landscape, evoking both the myth of the road and the ideal of freedom, while at the same time highlighting the simplicity of its vernacular architecture, an architecture first magnified by Ed Ruscha and his book *26 Gasoline Stations* (1963).

The gas stations in the *Typologie du virtuel* series were extended in the form of sculptures entitled *Utopias*, which resembled scale models, somewhere between a simple monochrome miniature and a possible architectural model.

3600 secondes de lumière (3600 seconds of light)

For this new series, Thibault Brunet has created a kind of video game in which he walks around. The setting is simple: a four-dimensional space, three geometric dimensions to which must be added a fourth temporal dimension (12 hours), 60 clouds that he bought from a database selling backdrops for video game designers, and 60 shades of sky, which run from sunrise to sunset over 12 hours and are reduced to 12 minutes in the universe of the game. Wandering through this universe, Thibault Brunet captures these 60 clouds with 60 celestial hues, giving us the possibility of 3,600 cloud representations.

Clues de Barles

Thibault Brunet's ambition is to scan the boundaries of the world: the *Clues de Barles* are cliffs in the Alpes de Haute Provence department in France, where he has captured the relief using a remote sensing laser. Les Clues unfolds the rock in the dimension of a book, page after page, a long travelling that shows us nothing more than the 3D modelling, our noses glued to the cliff, hollows, ridges, the eye trying to hold on to the recognizable, becoming aware of the monumentality of the cliff. As for the edge, it has been sculpted like a block of stone, revealing the asperities of a place. The sculpture *Les Clues de Barles* is a way of experiencing the limits of the landscape and our inability to capture the immensity of the world.

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Thibault Brunet (1982, French, living in Paris) holds a master's degree from the École supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Nîmes. His awards include Art Collector (2022) and Révélation Livre d'artiste MAD / ADAGP (2019). In 2017, he was the winner of Étant donné Contemporary Art, an artistic collaboration between France and the USA, which led to a residency at the Aperture Foundation in New York in spring 2018. He is also the winner of the Photo London prize (2016), Prix du public Science Po pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris, Prix Carte Blanche, PMU / Le Bal, Paris (2014) ...

His work can be found in major private and public collections such as the Musée de l'Élysée, numerous FRACs (Occitanie Montpellier, Picardie, Languedoc-Roussillon), the BNF Paris, the Artothèque de Lyon, the MUSA in Vienna - AU and the FMAC in Paris, to name but a few.

His exhibitions include *reGeneration*, 50 photographers of tomorrow at the Musée de l'Élysée (2005), *Imprimer le monde* at the Centre Pompidou (2017). *Paysages français, une aventure photographique (1984 - 2017)* at the BNF in Paris, he has exhibited at the Bandjoun Station art centre founded by Barthélémy Togo in Cameroon, in Lishui in China and as part of the Photo Israel festival in Tel Aviv. In Switzerland, he has exhibited at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Le Locle (2018). More recently he has taken part in *Comme un parfum d'aventure* at the MAC Lyon (2021), *Épreuves de la matière* at the BNF and *Voir la guerre et faire la paix* at the Centre Pompidou in Paris (2023).