



CASEY REAS | CONJURED TERRAIN

Solo exhibition

September 5 - September 23, 2023

Casey Reas was born in 1972 in Troy, Ohio and currently lives and works in Los Angeles. Reas' software, prints, and installations have been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions in museums and galleries in the United States, Europe, and Asia. His work ranges from small works on paper to urban-scale installations, and he balances solo work in the studio with collaborations with architects and musicians. Reas' work is in a range of private and public collections, including the Centre Georges Pompidou and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He is a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. With Ben Fry, Reas initiated Processing in 2001, which is an open-source programming language and environment for the visual arts.

Jan St. Werner is a German musician, label operator and professor. He is best known as a member of the Mouse on Mars and Microstoria projects. He also produces music for installation art and multimedia projects. Werner lives in Berlin and teaches at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg.

The videos are a collaboration between Casey Reas, who created the video images and Jan St. Werner, who composed the stereo audio track for each one. It's a set of five videos under the title *Compressed Cinema*.

The *Untitled Film Stills* synthetic photographs are samples of a longer audiovisual experience. The images for the videos were derived from a set of „film stills“ created by Casey Reas with generative adversarial networks (GANs). This process is documented in Reas' 2020 book *Making Pictures with Generative Adversarial Networks*.

As an artist who creates videos and photos using generative systems and software, Reas has described his transition to GANs as a natural progression. Using a hybrid of artificial intelligence and Reas' own intelligence, these GANs have been trained as sophisticated tools. He is firmly in control throughout the creation of this picture-making process. It is Reas' aim to make compelling pictures, whether in photography or with GANs.

Conjured Terrain premieres both a new set of *Untitled Film Stills* photographs and *Compressed Cinema* videos that haven't been exhibited before in Europe.