

CONCENTRATION  
AND  
CONDENSATION

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CONCENTRATION AND CONDENSATION  
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KB Art Gallery

Kaposvár University

Faculty of Arts

Hungary

27. 09. – 10. 10. 2016.

Curator: Gabriella Uhl

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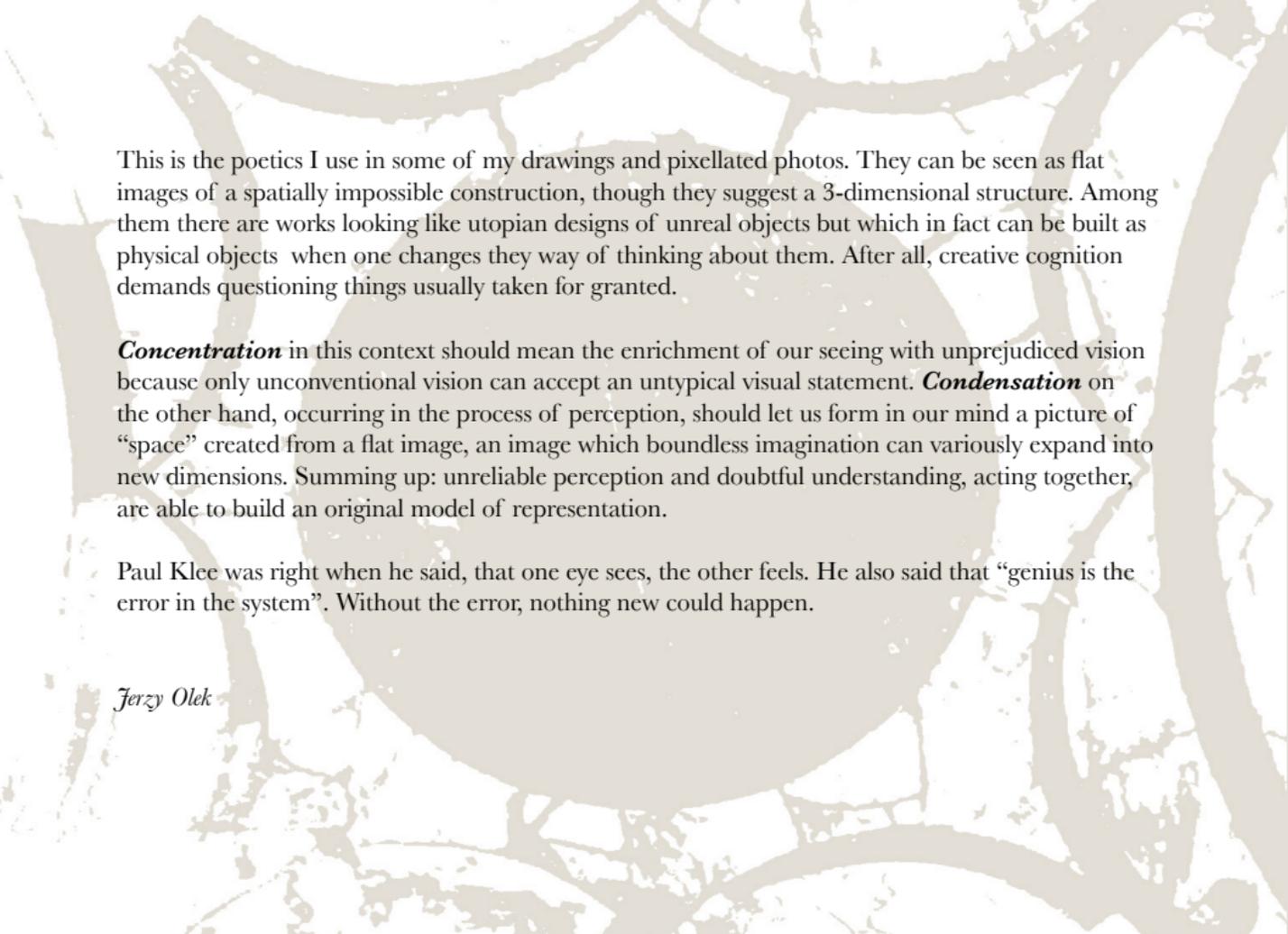


## Uncertain state of things

Contemporary culture, with its ideas and values, philosophy rooted in culture, science – they cannot give us their assurance that the truths they proclaim are constant. They are unstable by nature. Therefore certainties they announce are often certainties of uncertainty or hypotheses only temporarily true. And fortunately so. The greatest value of the creative mind is the perpetual questioning of dogmas, the rejection of the existing state of things and a critical attitude to one's own opinions.

Human curiosity is fueled by the awareness that the world is essentially unrecognizable, that it is impossible to comprehend it in its entirety, that there will always be something relative (Albert Einstein), uncertain (Werner Heisenberg), impossible to prove or disprove (Kurt Gödel), or that apparent obviousness may be misleading (Marcel Duchamp). This consciousness encourages artists to invalidate rules, to negate stereotypes, and to undertake the risk of being uncommunicative.

Art is art due to its ambiguity and its readiness to accept new interpretations and ask questions without obvious answers. The time for mathematically precise representations of reality shaped by perspective is long over. The *trompe l'oeil* principle, which demands a specific point of viewing, is no longer attractive. Now is the time of reception, whose clarity does not depend on the place of observation – the picture or object itself is intentionally incomplete. The rules of perception, known from experience, don't help in reading the image which appears illogical to the mind. Therefore its attempts at transforming a flat representation into a real situation in three dimensions are doomed to fail.



This is the poetics I use in some of my drawings and pixellated photos. They can be seen as flat images of a spatially impossible construction, though they suggest a 3-dimensional structure. Among them there are works looking like utopian designs of unreal objects but which in fact can be built as physical objects when one changes their way of thinking about them. After all, creative cognition demands questioning things usually taken for granted.

**Concentration** in this context should mean the enrichment of our seeing with unprejudiced vision because only unconventional vision can accept an untypical visual statement. **Condensation** on the other hand, occurring in the process of perception, should let us form in our mind a picture of “space” created from a flat image, an image which boundless imagination can variously expand into new dimensions. Summing up: unreliable perception and doubtful understanding, acting together, are able to build an original model of representation.

Paul Klee was right when he said, that one eye sees, the other feels. He also said that “genius is the error in the system”. Without the error, nothing new could happen.

*Jerzy Olek*



*Jerzy Olek: New Order, Basilica of Saint Mark, photograph, 10,2x7,7 cm, 2015*



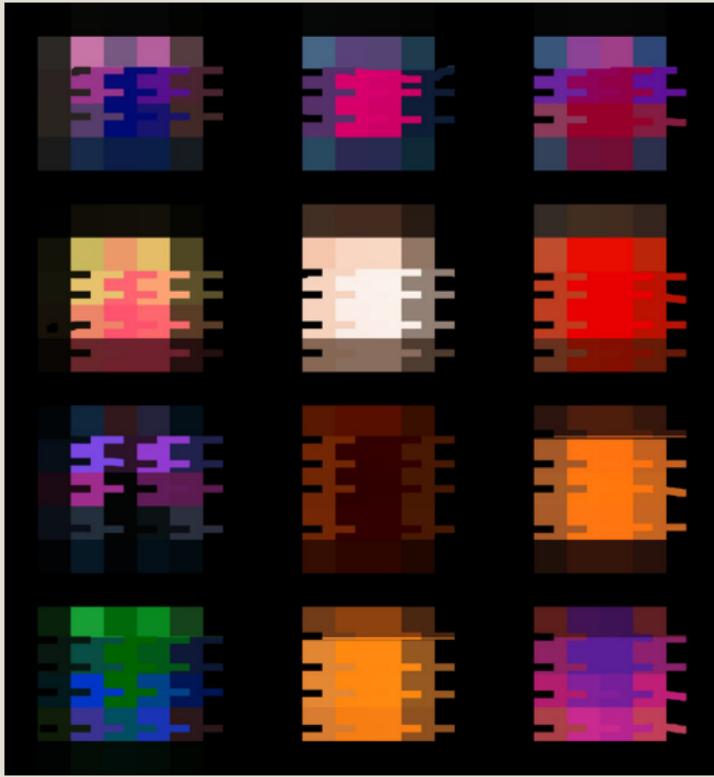
*Jerzy Olek: New Order, Dodge's Palace, photograph, 10,2x7,7 cm, 2015*



*Jerzy Olek: New Order, Church of San Giorgio Maggiore, photograph, 10,2x7,7 cm, 2015*



*Jerzy Olek: New Order, House of Goldoni, photograph, 10,2x7,7 cm, 2015*



*Jerzy Olek: Homage to Zsolt Gyenes, computer graphic, 40x60 cm, 2016*

“Then one minute ...

Two minutes ...

Three minutes ...

Henry didn't move. His concentration was intense and absolute. He was visualizing the reverse side of the playing-card. No other thought of any kind was allowed to enter his head.

During the fourth minute, something began to happen. Slowly, magically, but very clearly, the black symbols became spades and alongside the spades appeared the figure five.

The five of spades!

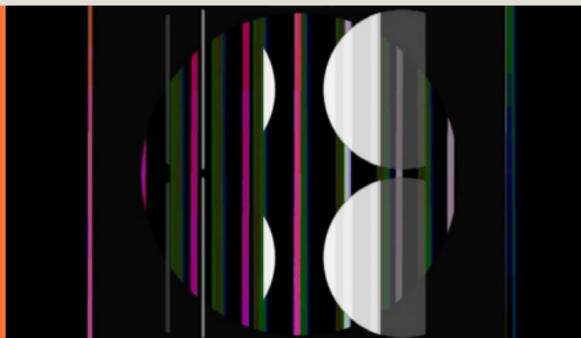
Henry switched off his concentration. And now, with shaking fingers, he picked up the card and turned it over.

It *was* the five of spades!”

**Roald Dahl:** The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar (1977), In: Roald Dahl: The Complete Short Stories – Volume Two, Penguin Books, 2013, 556. p.

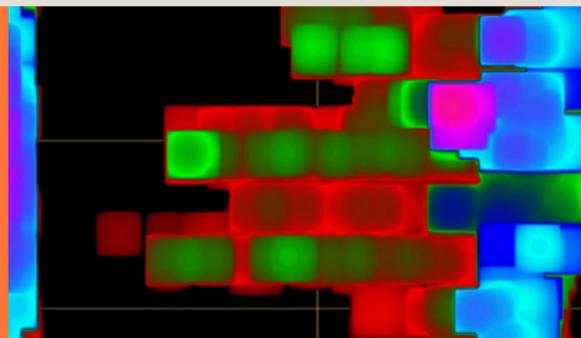
HOMAGE  
TO

ERIK SATIE



HOMAGE  
TO

KURT SCHWITTERS

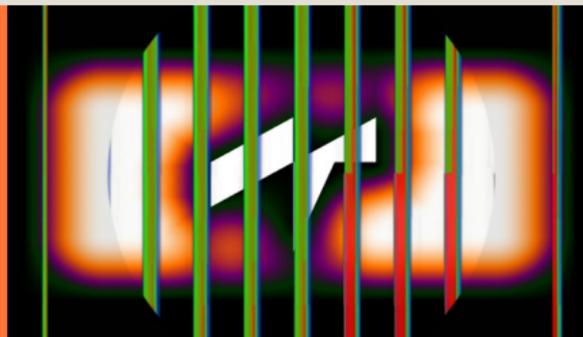


*Zsolt Gyenes: Homage to..., Audio-Video, 1280x720 px, MPEG2, 12:30 min., 2016 (stills)*

HOMAGE  
TO  
THOMAS WILFRED

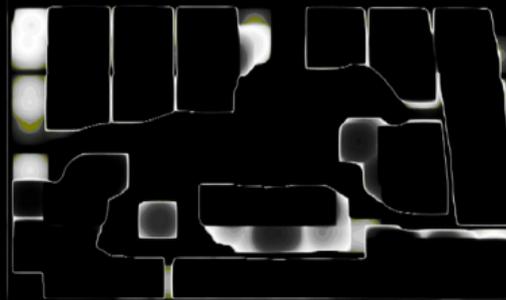


HOMAGE  
TO  
BRUNO MUNARI

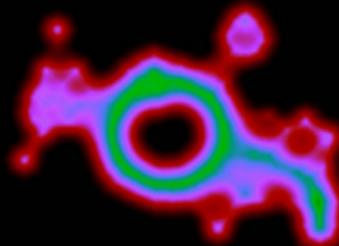


*Zsolt Gyenes: Homage to..., Audio-Video, 1280x720 px, MPEG2, 12:30 min., 2016 (stills)*

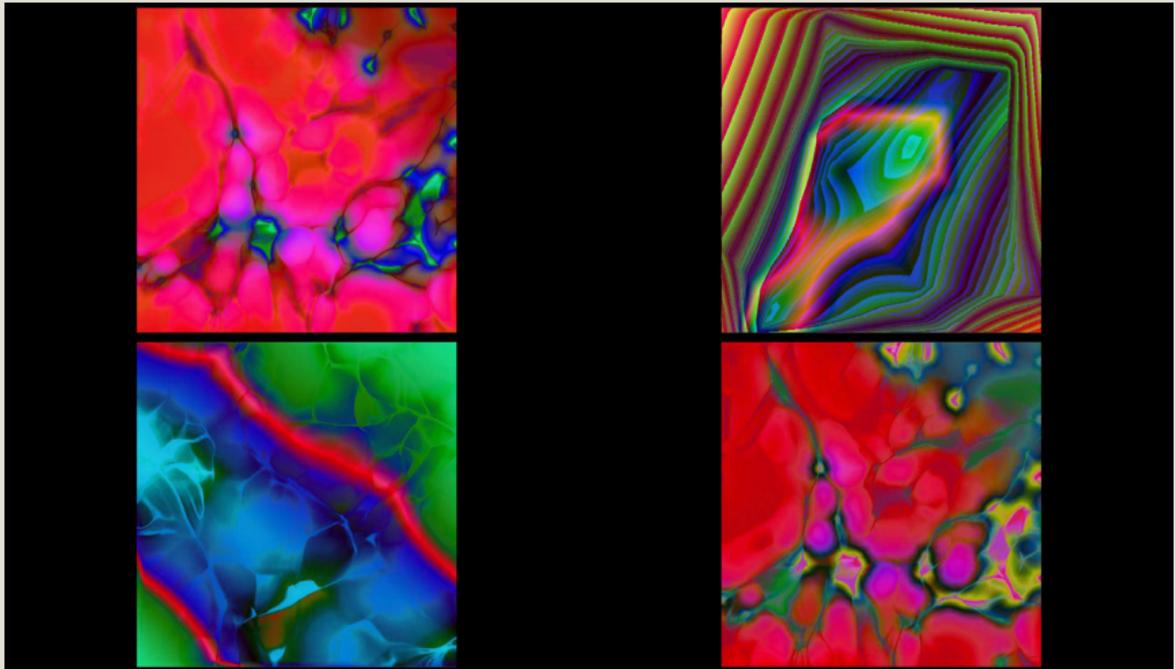
HOMAGE  
TO  
PIERRE CORDIER



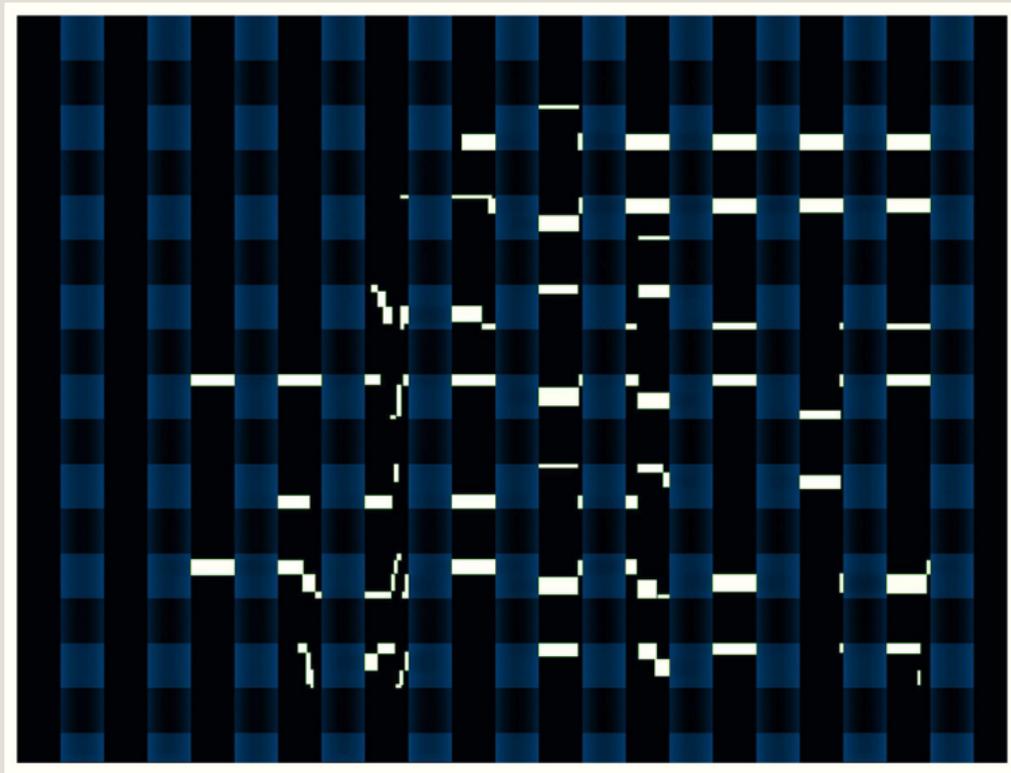
HOMAGE  
TO  
ILONA KESERÜ ILONA



*Žolt Gyenes: Homage to..., Audio-Video, 1280x720 px, MPEG2, 12:30 min., 2016 (stills)*



*Žsolt Gyenes: Geográfia Gif, MPEG2 Video, 1280x720 px, 01:10 (loop), 2016 (stills)*



*Zsolt Gyenes: Homage to Jerzy Olek, electrographic work of art, C-print, 30x40 cm, 2016*

Photo: Kurt Buchwald, 2012

