

Originally trained as a painter, US-born and -based artist Jakob Dwight was drawn to digital art and software as an opportunity to explore the impact of digital media on the painterly perspective. Inspired by the opiated, meditative quality of the screen-based televisual space, in 1999 the artist saw the exploration of the illuminated image as significant to contemporary sensory culture and produced his first digital works in that year.

After 23 years of creating works almost solely through digital processes the artist has returned to painting, extracting and layering images from his archives of computer assisted or generated images.

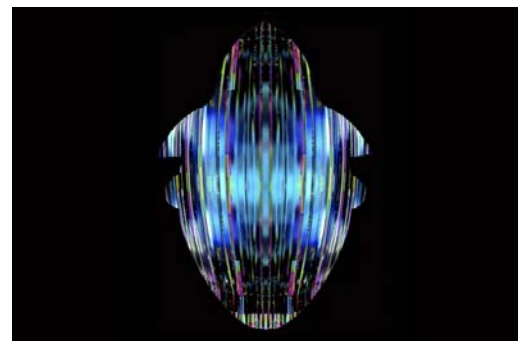
The artist seeks the transformative potential of light and space by employing multiple media including painting, digital processes: photography, drawing, and filmic backlit prints on lightbox, and the dome master (circular ‘fisheye’ images produced in the process of making fulldome video) to achieve an overall cinematographic sensibility, as if the entirety of the artist’s output are pieces of a single and ongoing abstract film. Through these varied media Dwight engages in what he calls “cross-media mimicry”, a practice of self-referential intermedia play where photographs look like paintings, fields of digital striations appear as hand drawn graphite lines, video sequences of abstract collages become filmic backlit prints on LED lightbox.

In his recent paintings as another example, the uniquely light-based art trope called the afterimage, the image that remains temporarily in a viewer’s mind after looking away from an original image, is introduced to painting. Again, asking: What can painting learn from 50 years of digital art, more than a century of film, cinematography and the post-photographic era?

Described by intermedia art pioneer Claudia Hart as a classical romantic, Dwight's work often examines properties of the natural world like compression, scale, complexity in noise/turbulence (ie: fractalism), and the birth and evolution of form, often presenting deceptively simple and timeless seed or ovule forms. A survivor of a (noncancerous) childhood brain tumor, Dwight's images often reference neurological or biological forms and imagery. In these ways the artist seeks to embrace the universality of the art experience through an iconic visual poesy, an emotive appreciation of physics and the natural world.

Dwight's work has been presented internationally, including in Amsterdam, Paris, Los Angeles, Berlin, Seattle, Atlanta, Vienna, Salzburg (Switzerland) and New York. He has exhibited in Kassel, Germany as part of the Kreuzberg Pavillon at dOCUMENTA (13), 2012. In the same year, he was awarded the Harvestworks New Works residency in New York. In 2010, Dwight was invited to attend GlogauAIR artists' residency in Germany, and in the following year, 2011, he was awarded a United States Artist's Residency. As part of the Aesthetics + Therapeutics Lab, a collectively run platform developed to initiate installations and experiments in immersive art and healing, Dwight has installed a multi-sensory environment at Vortex Immersion Media Dome at LA Center Studios in 2014.

He was commissioned by the **Seattle Art Museum** to create new work for the ***Disguise: Masks and Global African Art*** exhibition at **UCLA's Fowler Museum**, which traveled to the **Brooklyn Museum Art**, New York in April 2016. Dwight's first US one-person Museum exhibition was at the **Wiregrass Museum of Art** in Dothan, Alabama in 2023.



JAKOB DWIGHT      Born in the US, 1977. Lives and works in the US.

### Select Exhibitions

2024 *Solarwind in Array*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL [solo]

2023 *A Trillion Verses*, Wiregrass Museum of Art, Dothan, AL [solo]

*Various Analysands*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL [solo]

2022 *Art from Rebecca and Jack Drake Collection*, St. Andrews Episcopal Church,  
Birmingham, AL

*Anyone Can Move A Mountain*, Maus Contemporary, Birmingham, AL

*Digital Combines*, Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2021 *Workings of Media*, Harvestworks Dig. Media Art Center, Governor's Island, NY

2019 *1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair*, with 50Golborne Gallery, New York, NY

2018 *Out of the Whirlwind's Radiance*, AKA Fair, w/ 50Golborne Gallery, Paris, France

*Out of the Whirlwind's Radiance*, 50Golborne Gallery, London, UK

2016 *Disguise: Masks and Global African Art*, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

2015 *Disguise: Masks and Global African Art*, Fowler Museum at UCLA, Los  
Angeles, CA

2015 *Disguise: Masks and Global African Art*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA

2014 *MORPHOS*, Vortex Immersion Media, Los Angeles, CA

2013 *PLAY.GROUND.BREAK*, Hotel Particulier, New York City, NY

*Harvestworks New Works Resident Open Studio*, New York Electronic Arts  
Festival, New York City, NY

2012 *YOU ARE HERE*, Kreuzberg Pavillon, Kassel, Germany

2011 *Künstlerischer Großeinsatz*, Großeinsatz, Berlin, Germany

2010 *GlogauAIR Open Studios*, Glogauer Artist in Residence, Berlin, Germany

2008 *The Vinyl Show*, New Street Gallery, Atlanta, GA

*The Superorganic*, Galerie CcG, Vienna, Austria

2007 *New Portraiture*, Romo Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2006 *Projectorettes*, Basics Festival, Galerie 5020, Salzburg, Austria

2005 *Synthfest*, Transplant Gallery, New York City, NY

## Screenings, Lectures & Presentations

2013 *Leaders in Software Art*, presentation at Harvestworks Digital Media Arts Center, New York City, NY

2012 video screening at Brooklyn Electronic Arts Festival, Brooklyn, NY

2012 *Visiting Artist, Jakob Dwight*, New York State Summer School of the Arts at SUNY, Fredonia, NY

2012 *New Multimedia Processes*, lecture at Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY

2011 *Black Mirror | The Autonomous Prism*, Papillion Art, Los Angeles, CA

2010 *JD Studio Launch*, video screening at White Box, New York City, NY

2009 *Selected Animation Works*, GTM Rock Garden, Atlanta, GA

2006 *Survey of New Media Art & Communication*, lecture at Loras Coll., Dubuque, IA

2006 *Survey of New Media Art and Communication*, lecture at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

2006 *The Flowers of Air*, European Graduate School, Saas-Fee, Switzerland

## Education

2005 Art Students League of New York, New York City, NY

1997 Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

1996 Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, FL

## Awards & Residencies

2015 Invited Artist, Pioneer Works Center for Art + Innovation, Brooklyn, NY

2014 Resident Artist, Fulldome Artist in Residence, Vortex Immersion Media, Los Angeles, CA

2012 Resident Artist, New Works Residency, Harvestworks Digital Media Arts Center, NY

2011 Invited Artist, United States Artists, Chicago, IL

2010 Resident Artist, Glogauer Artist in Residence Program, Berlin, Germany

## Collections

permanent collection of the Paul R. Jones Museum, Tuscaloosa, AL

permanent collection of the Wiregrass Museum of Art, Dothan, AL

Rebecca and Jack Drake Collection, Birmingham, AL

Dr. Lisa Mani Collection, Birmingham, AL

Dr Lawrence Sincich Collection, Birmingham, AL

Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Washington, DC

Peggy Cooper Cafritz Collection, Washington, DC

Harvestworks Digital Media Art Center Collection, New York, NY

Glogauer Art Residency Collection, Germany

Steve Spacek, Collection, Austria

## Bibliography

- 2022 Stuart, Shauna “‘This Show is Long Overdue’: Thornton Dial’s Artistic Legacy on Display in Birmingham”
- 2018 Peggy Cooper Cafritz, “Fired Up! Ready to Go!: Finding Beauty, Demanding Equity: An African American Life in Art, The Collections of Peggy Cooper Cafritz”
- 2016 Sesay, Nadia, “Jakob Dwight’s ‘Autonomous Prism’”, Blanc Modern Africa
- Eckhardt, Stephanie, "At the Brooklyn Museum, African Masks Take On A Fresh Glow", W Magazine
- Vikram, Anuradha, "Naked in the Sight of the Object: Masking, Masquerade, and Black Identity, X-TRA Contemporary Art Quarterly
- Abrahams, Megan, "Disguise: Masks & Global African Art at the Fowler Museum at UCLA", Whitehot Magazine of Contemporary Art
- Knight, Christopher, "Identity Transformed in the Fowler's 'Disguise: Masks and Global African Art'", LA Times
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- 2015 Jennings, Helen, 'Disguise', Nataal Media
- Ebony, David, "Multimedia Masquerade: Masks and Disguise in Contemporary Art Interview with Pamela McClusky", Yale Art Books (blog)
- Murakami, Kenta, "Artists of African Descent Don Disguises in the Digital Age", Hyperallergic

- 2015 Ponnekanti, Rosemary, "Seattle Art Museum Opens Disguise: Masks & Global African Art", The News Tribune
- Miller, Brian, "Put a Mask On It: SAM's Contemporary Take on Traditional African Art", Seattle Weekly
- Sefa-Boakye, Jennifer, "Celebrating 21st Century Masks from Africa and the Diaspora", Okay Africa
- Frank, Priscilla, "Global African Artists Explore the Meaning of Disguise in the 21st Century", Huffington Post | Arts
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- McClusky, Pamela Z. & Massaquoi, Erika Dalya, "Disguise: Masks and Global African Art", Yale University Press
- 2014 Onyewuenyi, Ikechukwu. "Interview: Aesthetics & Therap. Lab", CoOL Hunting
- 2013 Zimmer, Lori, "Jakob Dwight at Hotel Particulier", Art Nerd: New York
- Büsch, Thomas, "N'CHI: Visions of a New World", Interactive Enthusiasts in Art
- 2012 Massara, Kathleen, "Jakob Dwight Creates Art Role-Playing Game With N'CHI", Huffington Post | Arts
- 2011 Onyewuenyi, Ikechukwu, "Jakob Dwight: A Multifaceted Video Artist Explores the Communicative Effects of Light", Cool Hunting