# Anti-synergy Clemens von Wedemeyer

Opening on Sunday 26 May 2024, 2 pm during PARIS GALLERY WEEKEND!



Galerie Jocelyn Wolft | 43 rue de la commune de Paris | 33230 komainville | luesday to Saturday 10 am - 6 pm | +33 1 42 03 05 05 | www.galeriewolft.com

Clemens von Wedemeyer explores the links between **memory, history and human relationships** through cinematic and digital works. On view at the Galerie Jocelyn Wolff for Paris Gallery Weekend will be Wedemeyer's new work `There are several scenarios we could end up with', in which **the artist uses artificial intelligence in his work for the first time** to generate a poem which is then transcribed in a medieval aesthetic, ultimately abolishing the boundaries between the past and the present, the real and the virtual.

Two recent films of his will also be on show: 'Social Geometry', which explores **the schematic representation of society and human interaction through geometric shapes**, and 'Surface Composition' made in California, which delves into other form of networks, **exposing the impersonality of technological giants and commercial infrastructures**.



Clemens von Wedemeyer, Social Geometry, 2024, video installation, animated, b&w, sound, 19 min, with Alexander Repp and Samuel Richer, voice: Anne Clarck, installation view KOW 2024, photo Ladislav zajac

Clemens von Wedemeyer's work focuses on the relationship between memory and history. Through research and the application of cinematic and digital tools, Wedemeyer explores the relational connections that stem from specific places and events. Following his interest in the movement of crowds in the last years, the artist also studied the influence of technological tools on our understanding of a globalised world.

In a time where the quotidian is increasingly being monitored, and where behaviours and habits get fed into algorithms that control our consumption patterns, Wedemeyer questions the links that exist between individuals. In his new video installation *Social Geometry*, he considers the schematic representation of social structures through modeling. Using geometric shapes projected onto a black background, he explores how individuals and groups interact with each other in the form of hierarchies and organized networks. This form of network modeling however bases itself on abstract concepts, and can therefore influence the capturing of reality itself. The preliminary studies for the film take the form of cyanotypes and depict some significant constellations seen in *Social Geometry*.

Another film in the exhibition, *Surface Composition*, examines yet another form of network. On a trip through California, Wedemeyer filmed the office sites of major companies such as Apple, Meta, Amazon, Space X, but also the postal services and data centres which function as representatives of (governmental) power. The film also contains shots of infrastructures specific to commerce, such as sea containers and mines. These impersonal images, often devoid of busy human presence, flash before our eyes and confront us with opaque surfaces which distract the eye. The soundtrack, composed by Hungarian musician Zsolt Söres, adds to this sense of disassociation.

For the first time, Clemens von Wedemeyer has produced an edition using artificial intelligence: from a few given words, he has composed a poem entitled «There are several scenarios with which we could end». The poem is transcribed onto a sheet of paper with a design and typography inspired by William Morris. Wedemeyer presents a contemporary text composed in part by artificial intelligence, but simultaneously encapsulated in a form from the past. In so doing, he connects resistance against the technological sphere with the arts and crafts movements.

Clemens von Wedemeyer (b. in 1974 in Göttingen, Germany) lives and works in Berlin. He had solo shows among others at MoMA PS1, New York, ARGOS Centre for Art and Media, Brussels, the Barbican Art Centre, London, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, and Hamburger Kunsthalle. "ESIOD 2015" premiered at the 66. Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin (Berlinale) in 2016. Most recently he had solo exhibitions such as *Im Kontext der Sammlung: Clemens von Wendemeyer,* Kunstmuseum Lichtenstein, Vaduz (2023) and *BAKHMUT;* Albertinum Dresden (2023). He also participated in group shows such as the 1st Moscow Biennale (2005), the 4th Berlin Biennale (2006), Skulptur Projekte Münster in 2007, the 16th Biennale of Sydney (2008) and dOCUMENTA (13) (2012).





Clemens von wedemeyer, Surface Composition, 2024, video, color, sound, 22 min, music: Zsolt Sores





Clemens von Wedemeyer, *Social Geometry*, 2024, video installation, animated, b&w, sound, 19 min, with Alexander Repp and Samuel RIcher, voice: Anne Clarck

# **CONTACT & INFORMATIONS**

Public Opening | Sunday 26 May 2024 | 2 pm

PARIS GALLERY WEEKEND: 24-26 May 2024. The exhibition can be visited from Friday 24 May 2024.

For press enquiries (images, interviews or private tour) <u>bonjour@annabelleoliveira.fr</u> For any additional information : <u>c.bondis@galeriewolff.com</u>

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