Sales inquiries contact curator Jürgen Dehm dehm_j@gmx.de +49 176 98589350

Solo exhibition by Gretchen Andrew
Curated by Jürgen Dehm
September 27 - October 5, 2019
The Cookhouse Gallery at Chelsea College of Arts, London

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"Everything computers do is built on 1s and 0s. This binary way of thinking has seeped into our increasingly divided world. As our technology-based tools know no nuance we too have dispensed with it. Art, with its endless gray zones, perspectives, and metaphors is a savior of our current condition. It targets what the binary can't; it reminds us of uncertainty as a form of knowledge, of gray zones, and of contradictions that are worth living with."

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Google "Turner Prize Winners" Select "Images"

Gretchen Andrew's insertion of her paintings into universal search results for "Turner Prize Winners" continues her practice of using Internet Hypnosis to expose where technological failure, commonly talked about in apocalyptic terms, can be positively used to reimagine the internet as a creative space.

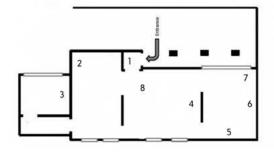
Playfully using "turner" as another name for a cooking spatula, Gretchen recasts the world's most famous art prize in the mode of the popular Great British Bake Off, using technology's binary limitations to confuse the internet into thinking that she and her mentors are Turner Prize winners.

Joining a long history of Turner Prize institutional critiques, this exhibition follows Gretchen's process from her paintings into a new reality yielded by a search for "Turner Prize Winners", passing through the content (text, social media, videos, objects) she creates to bend the internet to her will.

In doing so, she exposes how computers create false dilemmas, informal fallacies in which something is falsely claimed to be an "either/or" situation. This exhibition asks us to deal with things that are "both." Gretchen's practice is both figurative painting and conceptual art. A "turner" is both a cooking tool and an international art prize just as nationalism is both a dark political force and the paramount cultural identity of the Tate and The Great Britsh Bake Off.

Gretchen Andrew (born in California, 1988) is a Search Engine Artist and Internet Imperialist who programs her paintings to manipulate and dominate search results. She trained in London with the artist Billy Childish from 2012-2017. In 2018 the V&A Museum released her book Search Engine Art. Gretchen's work has recently been featured in The Los Angeles Times, Artnet News, Hyperallergic, Artillery and The Financial Times.

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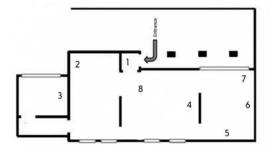
Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

 Not Not Penny Slinger Not Not Tony Kaye Not Not Billy Childish Not Not Derek Boshier

Oil on canvas, 2019 72" x 36"

Portraits of famous, living, British artists who are mentors to Gretchen. Each subject is depicted brandishing a spatula, or "turner" to be used in a pancake flipping contest between the four artists. This tongue-in-cheek play on words deliberately confuses Google, pushing these portraits to top results. These results imply that these four artists (along with Gretchen) have won the Turner Prize.





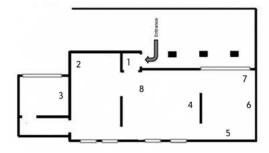
Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

3. Turner Prize Winners Hypnosis Script (7:80)

Moving Image, 2019

Created from clips of existing YouTube hypnosis videos and then uploaded to YouTube, Turner Prize Winners Hypnosis Script repurposes part of Gretchen's process as a new moving image work. Formatted between a programming scripting language and the format used by hypnotherapists, the language is carefully structured so as to literally hypnotize Google into displaying Gretchen's paintings as top results for Turner Prize Winners.





NOT NOT

THE TURNER PRIZE

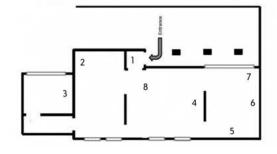
Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

4. The more baby dog guide dogs and Turner Prize winners the better!!

Installed text, 2019

Text that playfully talks directly to Google through sites that allow user-generated content, a language developed to speak to the internet while remaining on the edges of human intelligibility.



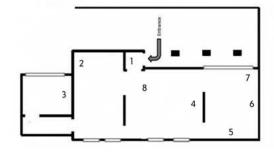


Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

5. Secret Ingredients

Oil on Bisquick box, 2019 23.25" x 15.5"



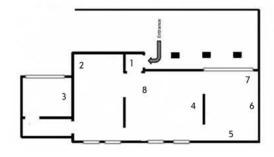


Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

6. Not Not Drawings

Charcoal on paper, 2019





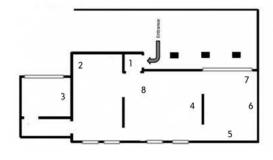
Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

7.Not Not Conceptual art

Oil on cardboard, 2019 Various sizes

To view the paintings made on the inside of these boxes go to turner-prize.com. By driving traffic to her site, viewers further convince Google that Gretchen's paintings are Turner Prize winners.





Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew

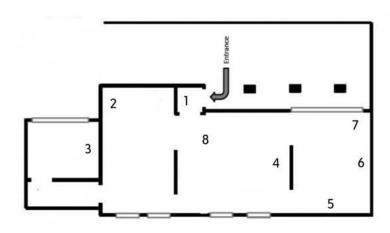
8.Not Not Winning

Single base solid wood, 2019 16" x 4" x 4"



Solo exhibition of paintings and search engine art by Gretchen Andrew Curated by Jürgen Dehm: dehm_J@gmx.de gretchenandrew.com | @gretchenandrew | #TurnerPrizeWinners

This exhibition is a journey through Gretchen's process where every medium serves a different role in achieving her search engine manipulation of "Turner Prize Winners." In each room, the viewer is presented with works that are both ends and means, products and process. With her paintings as inputs and the hacked search results as outputs the videos, text, and installations get their medium specificity from the different ways the internet makes use of user-generated content such as YouTube videos, tweets, and product reviews.



August 20, 2019, and September 27, 2019

Change in search results for "Turner Prize Winners" over time.

2

Not Not Penny Slinger Not Not Tony Kaye Not Not Billy Childish Not Not Derek Boshier

Moving Image, 2019

Oil on canvas, 2019 72" x 36"

Portraits of famous, living, British artists who are mentors to Gretchen. Each subject is depicted brandishing a spatula, or "turner" to be used in a pancake flipping contest between the four artists. This tongue-in-cheek play on words deliberately confuses Google, pushing these portraits to top results. These results imply that these four artists (along with Gretchen) have won the Turner Prize.

3

Turner Prize Winners Hypnosis Script (7:80) Moving Image, 2019

Created from clips of existing YouTube hypnosis videos and then uploaded to YouTube, Turner Prize Winners Hypnosis Script repurposes part of Gretchen's process as a new moving image work. Formatted between a programming scripting language and the format used by hypnotherapists, the language is carefully structured so as to literally hypnotize Google into displaying Gretchen's paintings as top results for Turner Prize Winners.

4

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Text that playfully talks directly to Google through sites that allow user-generated content, a language developed to speak to the internet while remaining on the edges of human intelligibility.

5

Secret Ingredients
Oil on Bisquick box, 2019
23.25" x 15.5"

6

Not Not Drawings Charcoal on paper, 2019 Various sizes

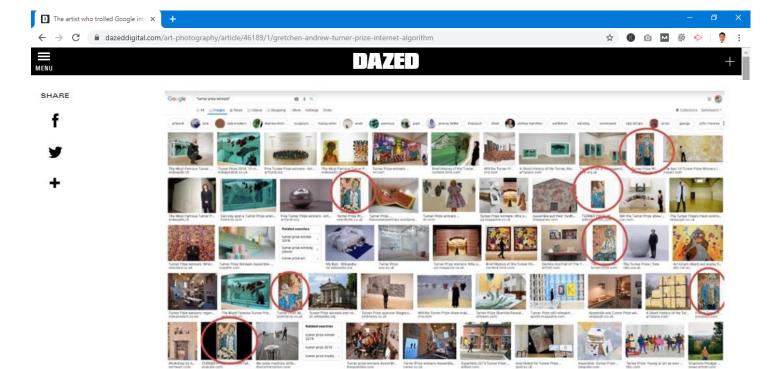
7

Not Not Conceptual art Oil on cardboard, 2019 Various sizes

To view the paintings made on the inside of these boxes go to turner-prize.com. By driving traffic to her site, viewers further convince Google that Gretchen's paintings are Turner Prize winners.

8

Not Not Winning Single base solid wood, 2019 16" x 4" x 4"



The artist who trolled Google into making her win the Turner Prize

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY - FEATURE

LA-based artist Gretchen Andrew used SEO to play the algorithm at its own game

27th September 2019

Text Gunseli Yalcinkaya

Gretchen Andrew has won the Turner Prize, or that's what Google wants you to believe anyway. The LA-based artist is an internet renegade, whose latest project *Turner Prize* is one of three digital performance pieces so far, which aim to flip the lid on some of the art world's most exclusive events, such as the Turner Prize, the Whitney Biennial, and Frieze. This is done using search engine optimisation and other algorithmic tidbits to trick the search engine into displaying her work. Think of it as a form of intellectualised trolling, or a literal interpretation of, 'I Google, therefore I am' – regardless, you can admire the hustle.

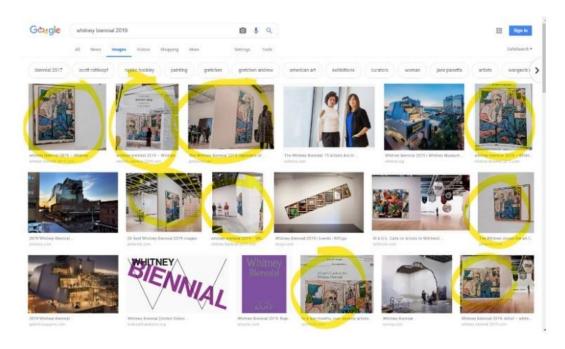
"I take my paintings and I programme them online in a way where they come up in unexpected search results where I'm targeting the way that humans can understand but the way that computers fail," says Andrew, who used to work at the Google headquarters in Silicon Valley before pursuing a career in figurative painting and digital art. Her most recent trickery comes in the form of "Not Not The Turner Prize", a series of four portraits featuring her artist mentors, Billy Childish, Penny Slinger, Tony Kaye, and Derek Boshier, flipping pancakes, using a spatula, or 'turner'.



"Not Not The Turner Prize" Gretchen Andrew

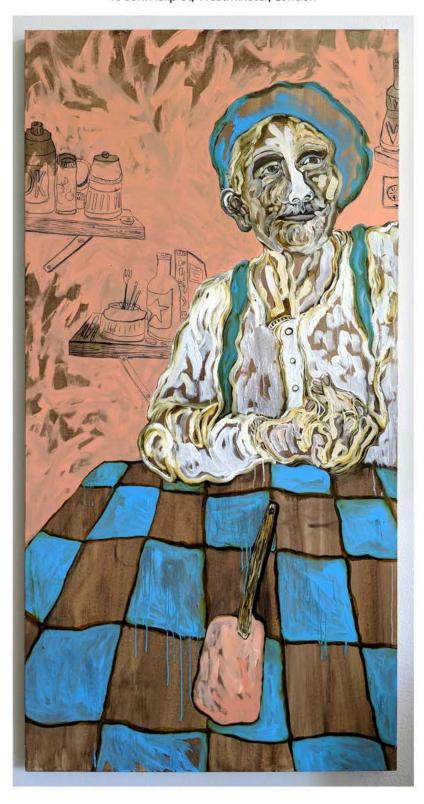
"It's funny because when I look at them they are sort of these absurd paintings because everyone's holding this spatula," she laughs. The 31-year-old spent endless late nights on Amazon, Twitter, Facebook, and writing WikiHow articles, and answering "every question" on Quora, on how to win the Turner Prize – that is, a pancake 'turning' competition. It was through associating her name, and her paintings, with the prestigious award that soon enough, her paintings began to dominate the event's top search results. She had adopted a similar approach earlier this year with Frieze LA and Whitney Biennial, where Andrew again used wordplay to fool the Internet Powers That Be into listing her art as top search engine listings.

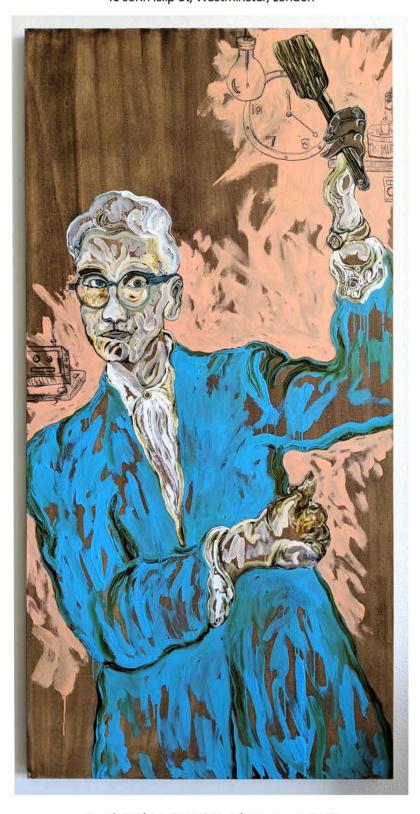
You'd be forgiven for interpreting the project as an institutional critique of the art world, but Andrew assures me this isn't the case. "I would love to have my paintings in presented at Frieze and in the Whitney Biennial, and I would love to win the Turner Prize," she explains. Rather, Andrew hopes to highlight the shortcomings of search engine algorithms, and by extension, the internet. She compares the idea to Rene Magritte's surrealist painting, "The Treachery of Images" (1929) that shows a smoking pipe, with the words, "this is not a pipe". She says: "Now that the internet, through the lens of search engines and the optimisation algorithms they operate with, is the arbiter of definition, interesting things are happening. Whatever a pipe is or is not, Google determines it." Because, if you haven't already heard, we're living in a big data economy.



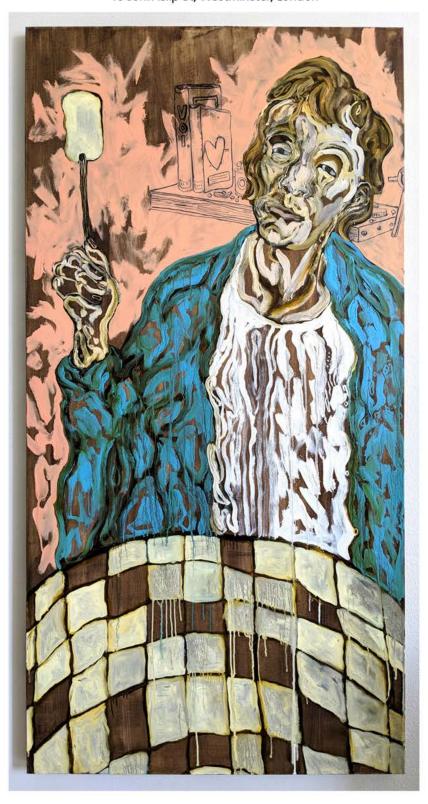
It's an abstract *term du jour*, dictated by search engines and social media sites, and informed by mathematicians wielding magic formulas, which we now know as algorithms. Whether it is through personalised Spotify playlists tailored to go with your listening history, that pair of Acne shoes that keep on appearing on your sponsored ads, or simply, your Instagram Explore page, algorithms are at the heart of our very digital ecosystem, and Andrew's project highlights its inconsistencies. "The entire system of the internet, every computer breaks down into ones and zeros and I think this binary thinking has seeped into us," says Andrews. "You know everyone is talking about how our world is completely divided, it's left and right, it's black and white, it's rich and poor."

The problem with algorithms is, of course, nothing new. Just look at <u>Trevor Paglan's latest</u> <u>project</u>, <u>ImageNet Roulette</u>, which highlights the downright reductive side of machine learning, and let's not forget <u>Taylor Swift's racist chatbot</u>. But what Andrew offers us isn't so much a criticism of its flaws, as a positive way to interpret them. Like, if Andrew can win the Turner Prize, so can you.





Derek Boshier, 72" x 36", Oil on canvas, 2019





Tony Kaye, 72" x 36", Oil on canvas, 2019

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The woman with the winning hand Oil on Amaxon box 52" x 16.25"



The woman who has time on her side
Oil on Amaxon box
67" x 26.5""

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The man who is still awake Oil on Amazon box 15.5" X 44"



The woman who is still awake Oil on Huang Fei Hong box 12.5" X 32.5"

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Secret Ingredient 23.25" x 15.5", Oil on Bisquick box, 2019

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The man who is crossing his heart Oil on pizza box 31.5" x 15.5"



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This Is Not Not a Metaphore This Is Not Not Conceptual Art This Is Not Not Enough Time

17" x 14", Charocoal on paper, 2019

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Not Not a Turner 11" x 8.5", Charocoal on paper, 2019

Solo exhibition by Gretchen Andrew
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The Cookhouse Gallery at Chelsea College of Arts, London























Solo exhibition by Gretchen Andrew
Curated by Jürgen Dehm
September 27 - October 5, 2019
The Cookhouse Gallery at Chelsea College of Arts, London



















Gretchen Andrew

Born in Los Angeles, United States, 1988 Lives and works in Los Angeles

EDUCATION / WORK

B.S. in Information Systems, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, 2010 Intuit, software engineer, 2006 - 2009
Google, people technology manager, 2010 - 2012
Billy Childish Studio Apprenticeship, 2013 - 2017

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

SELE	CTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2019	NOT NOT THE TURNER PRIZE, Chelsea Cookhouse, London, United Kingdom
2019	Whitney Biennial 2019Vision Board, LACDA, Los Angeles, CA
2018	Roughly Translated As: Ubuntu, A4 Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
2017	Internet Imperialism: Bow, NH, 18th Street Art Center, Santa Monica, CA
	HOW TO HOW TO HOW TO draw, http://linkcabinet.eu
2016	Interior, Whitcher Projects, Inglewood, CA
	HOW TO HOW TO, Arebyte Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	Crossed Lines, Ace Hotel, London, United Kingdom
2015	Virtual Reality, De Re Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
	Pigment As Pixel, Hoxton Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2014	Painting As Interface, The White Building, London United Kingdom

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018	Search Engine Art, V&A Museum, London, United Kingdom (book)
2018	Mozfest Open Web, Mozilla Foundation, London, United Kingdom
2014	Digital Futures, V&A Museum, London, United Kingdom
2013	De Re Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

CONFERENCES & LECTURES

2018	Wikimania, Cape Town, South Africa
	Lux Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	The British Computer Society, London, United Kingdom
2017	Emmanuel College at Cambridge University, Cambridge, United Kingdom
	The Photographer's Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	Vivid Projects, Birmingham, United Kingdom
2016	The London Film School, London, United Kingdom
	The International Conference on the GIF, Bologna, Italy
2014	Digital Utopias, The British Arts Council, Hull, United Kingdom
	The British Computer Society, London, United Kingdom
2013	The British Film Institute, London, United Kingdom

SHORT LISTS

- 2015 The Delfina Foundation, London, United Kingdom
- 2016 Ace & Tate, London United Kingdom

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https://medium.com/read-write-participate/this-artists-paintings-are-making-the-internet-more-open-and-equal-2c9b4340f08c

Neal, Stimler. "Making New Art Inspired by the Met's Collections with Google Glass.' The Metropolitan Museum of Art, February 6, 2014.

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