

UPSTREAM  
GALLERY

FRANK  
AMMERLAAN





## Frank Ammerlaan

[Frank Ammerlaan](#)'s practice includes painting, sculpture and video. A paradigm shift took place in his most recent works. Instead of just observing our own planet, Ammerlaan has changed his perspective from horizontal to vertical. Perception has always been important to Ammerlaan: he turned his attention outside the very center of the gaze. By focusing his view upward, he now explores a new kind of peripheral vision.

In his newest paintings he makes use of unconventional materials and techniques ranging from dirt and dust, (liquid) metals and meteorite particles. Subsequently you find complex machine embroidery and 'patchworks' of diverse canvasses and fabrics that have been exposed to the elements outdoors. Tiny particles of dust have gathered on the canvas: the resulting stains are rudimentary, indexical recordings of the natural cycles of the environment.

With pulverised metals and meteorites the artist creates powderlike and complex geometric patterns. The cosmic material dates from the early times of our solar system: it is by far the oldest material to be found on earth. Scientists consider it as the vital source of the organic compounds that gave rise to life on earth.

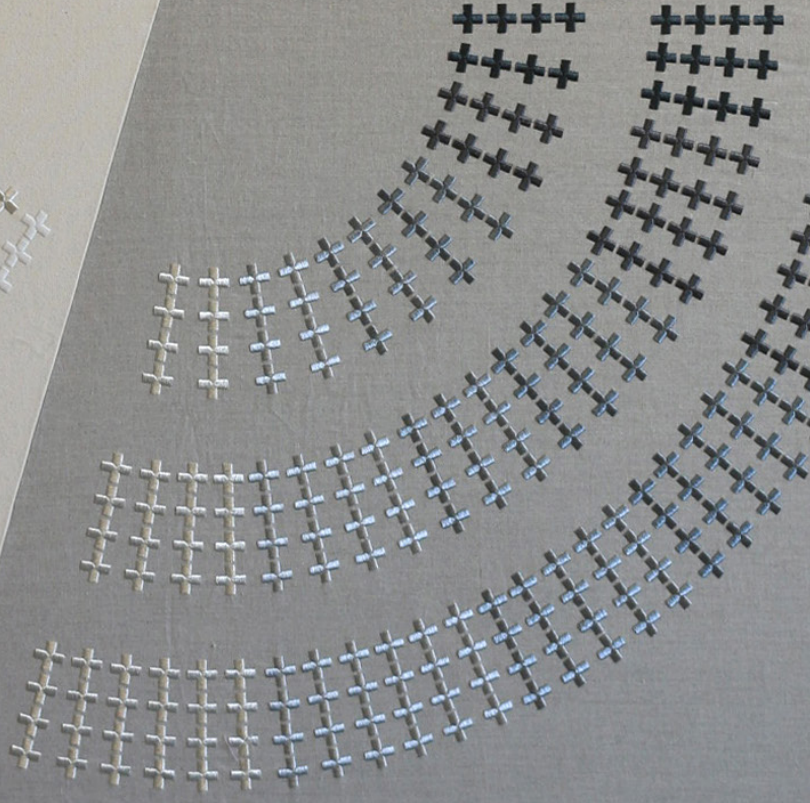
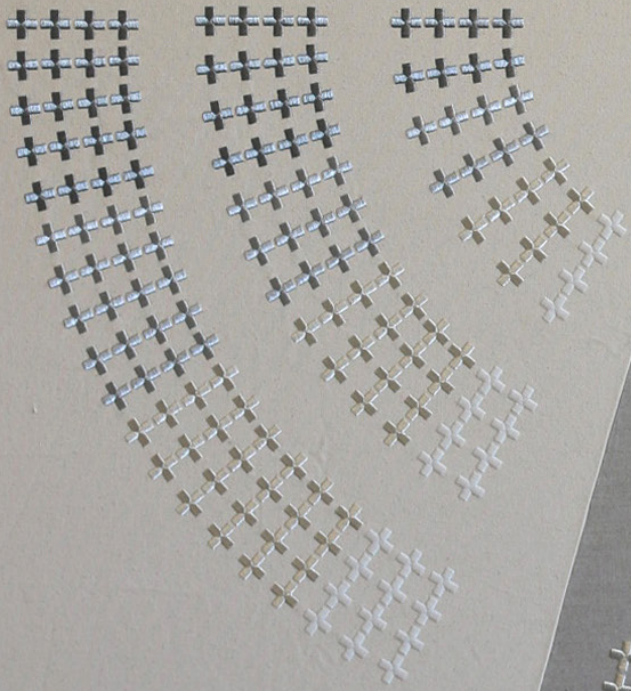
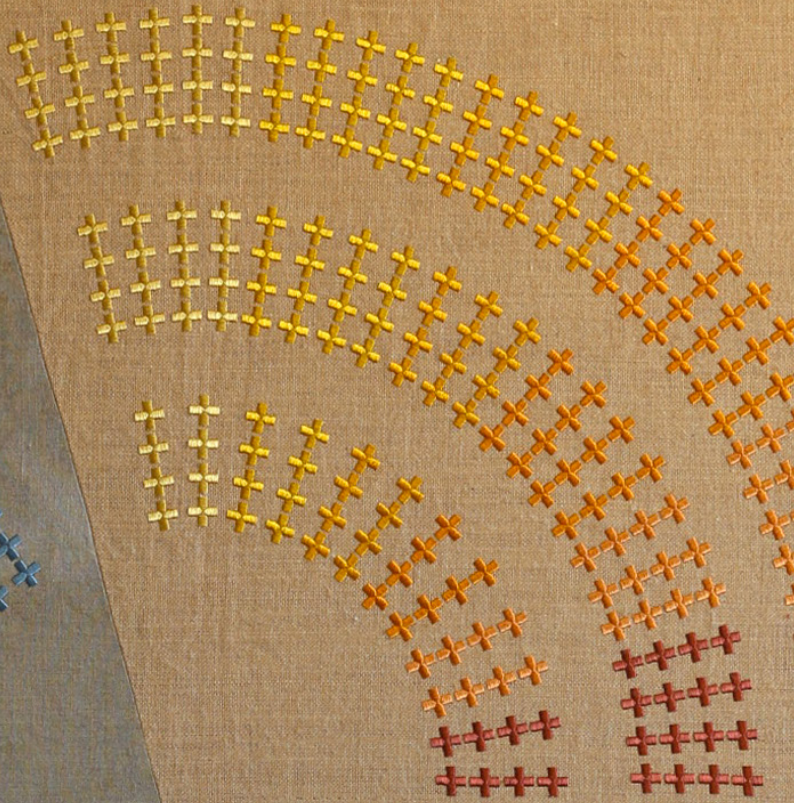
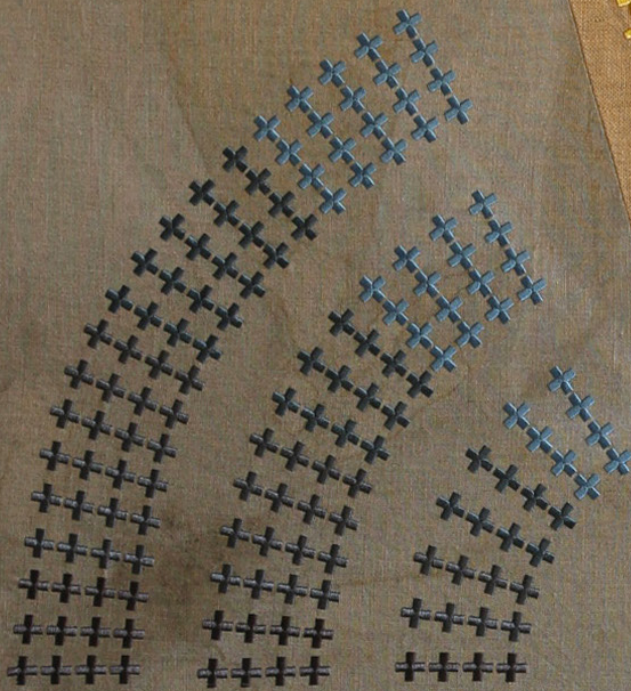
Although the new work is formally different from the paintings with which Ammerlaan made his breakthrough, they are essentially a continuation of Ammerlaan's 'alchemical' research into perception, into the boundaries of painting and unpredictable processes.

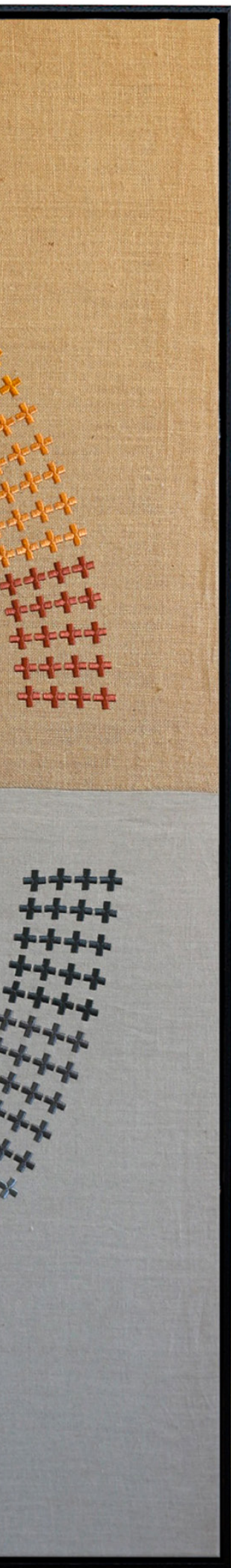
Frank Ammerlaan (1979) is based in London. He studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam and the Royal College of Art, London, and was awarded among other things the Gerrit Rietveld Academy Painting Prize, the Koninklijke Prijs voor de Vrije Schilderkunst, Land Securities Studio Award, Royal College of Art and the Scheffer Award. Ammerlaan's work is frequently exhibited in galleries and museums in the Netherlands and abroad and is part of the collections of Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, Museum Voorlinden, Dordrechts Museum and Stedelijk Museum Schiedam.





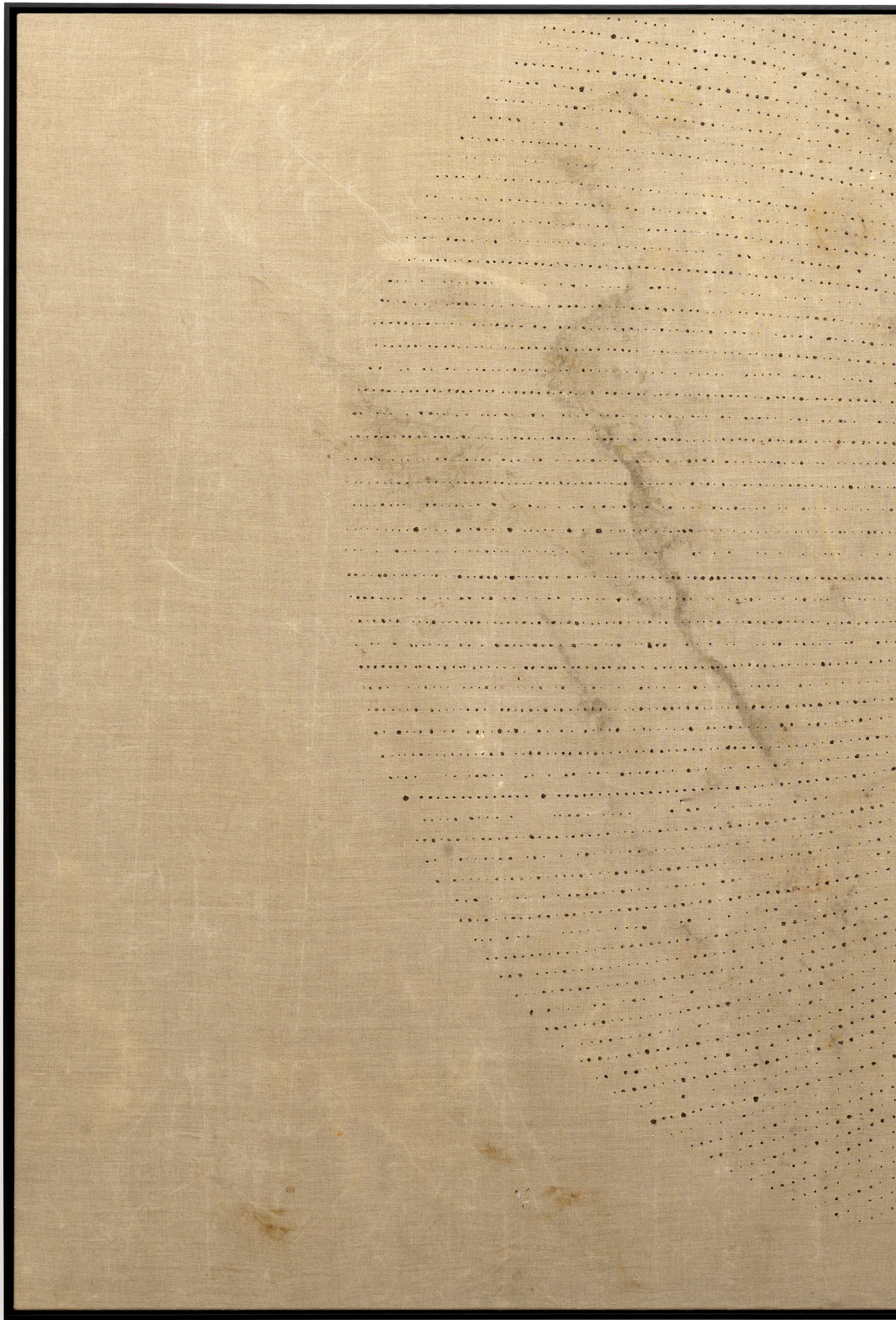
*Particles of Dust, 2017*  
Dust, dirt, meteorite particles, iron particles and iron powders on canvas, linnen and jute  
170 x 375 cm



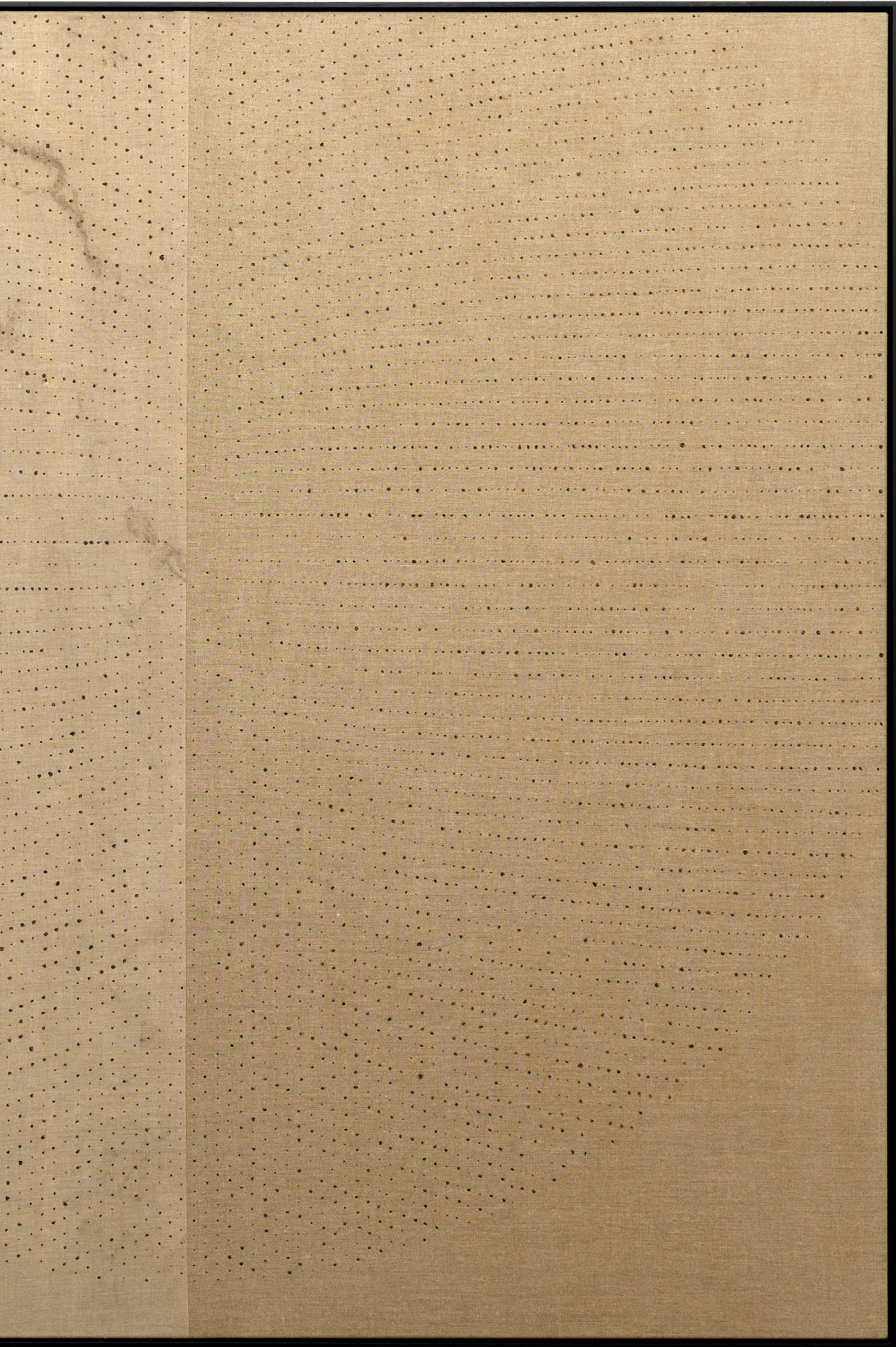


*Untitled, 2017*

Dust, dirt, embroidery on jute, canvas and linen  
150 x 130 cm







*Periodic Cycles, 2017*  
Dust, dirt, meteorite particles on linen  
185 x 250 cm





*Anechoic #2, 2017*  
Metal particles on canvas  
75 x 60 cm

## Oil paintings and Oil and Thread Paintings

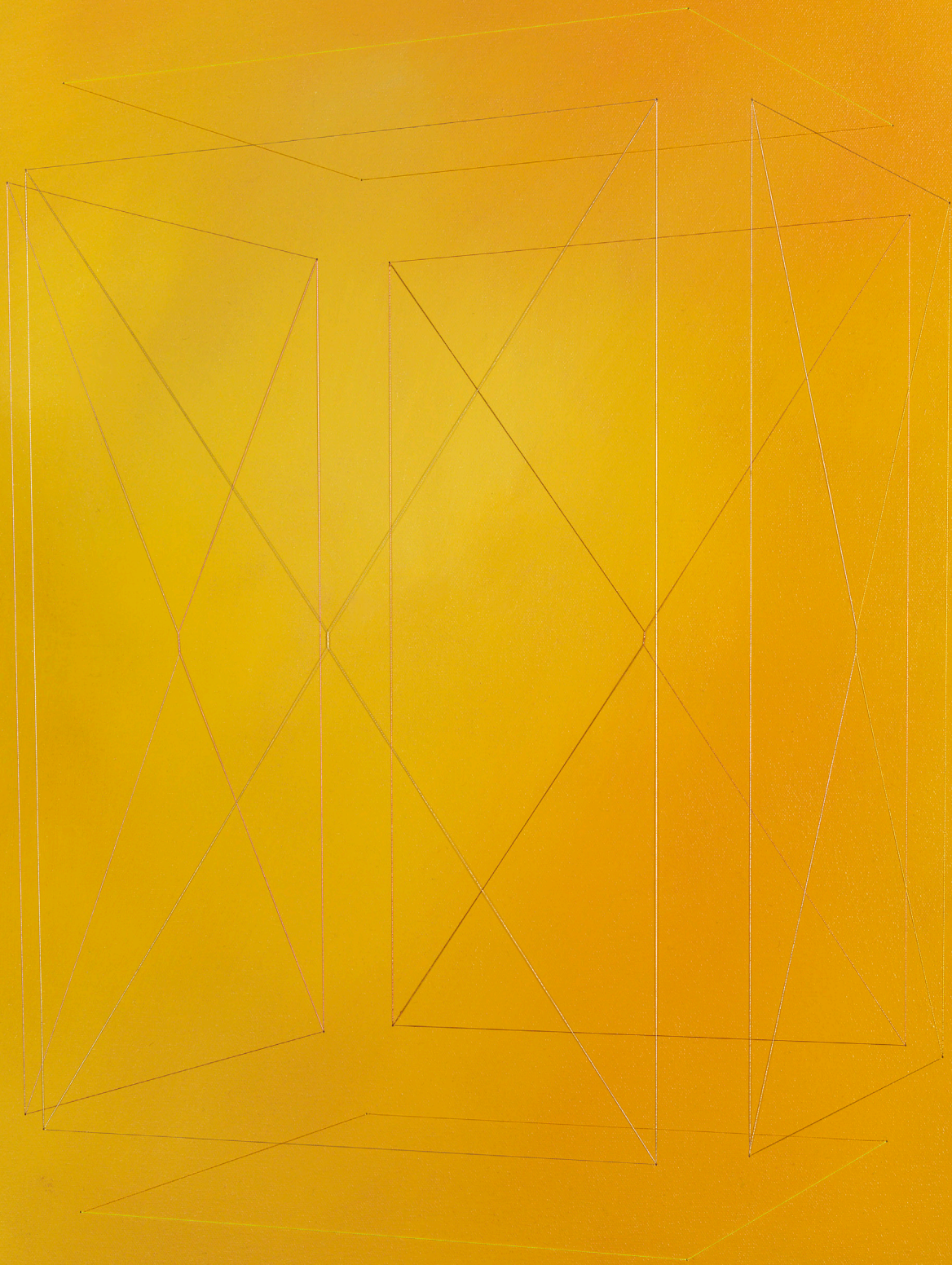
Ammerlaan's large, dark oil paintings bear subtle looming color spots embroidered with shiny, fluorescent threads. The shift between figure and ground in the work runs parallel with the development between central to periphery, the thread plays an active protagonist that structures this painted ground. The fragile and trembling strings pick up the sunlight in daytime and the changing electric lights at dusk, the work vibrates slowly like an Aeolian harp, set to play by the changes of the wind outside. The geometrical patterns of thread create a permeable fence, like a web or weave able to get stuck in - or hold on to. These works behave as an illuminating and seductive omen but curdle into a form of dilemma.





*Untitled, 2014*  
Oil and thread on canvas, 150 x 130 cm

*Untitled, 2014*  
Oil and thread on canvas, 65 x 50 cm







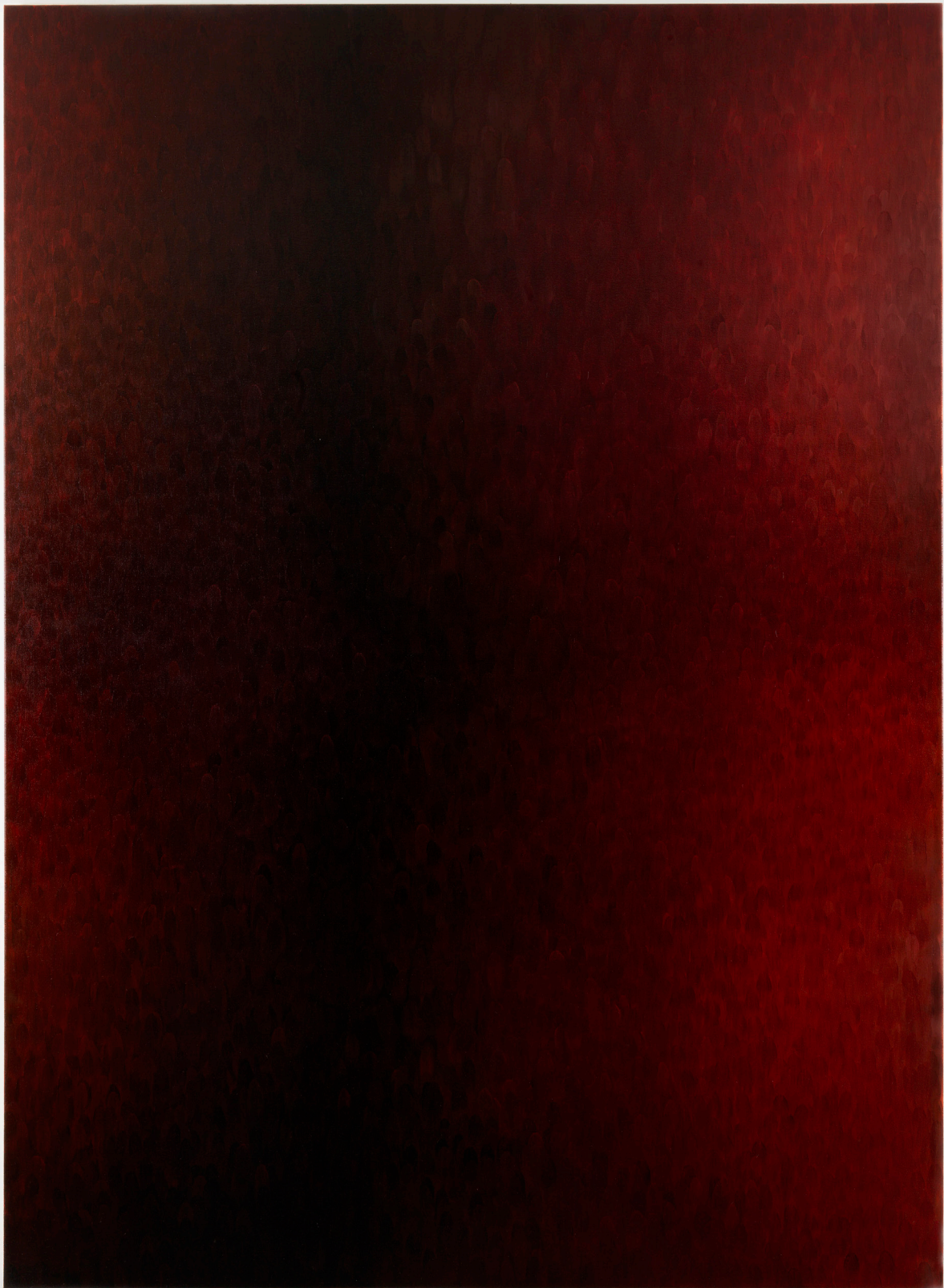


*Untitled*, 2016  
Oil and thread on canvas  
70 x 55 cm



## Stigmata

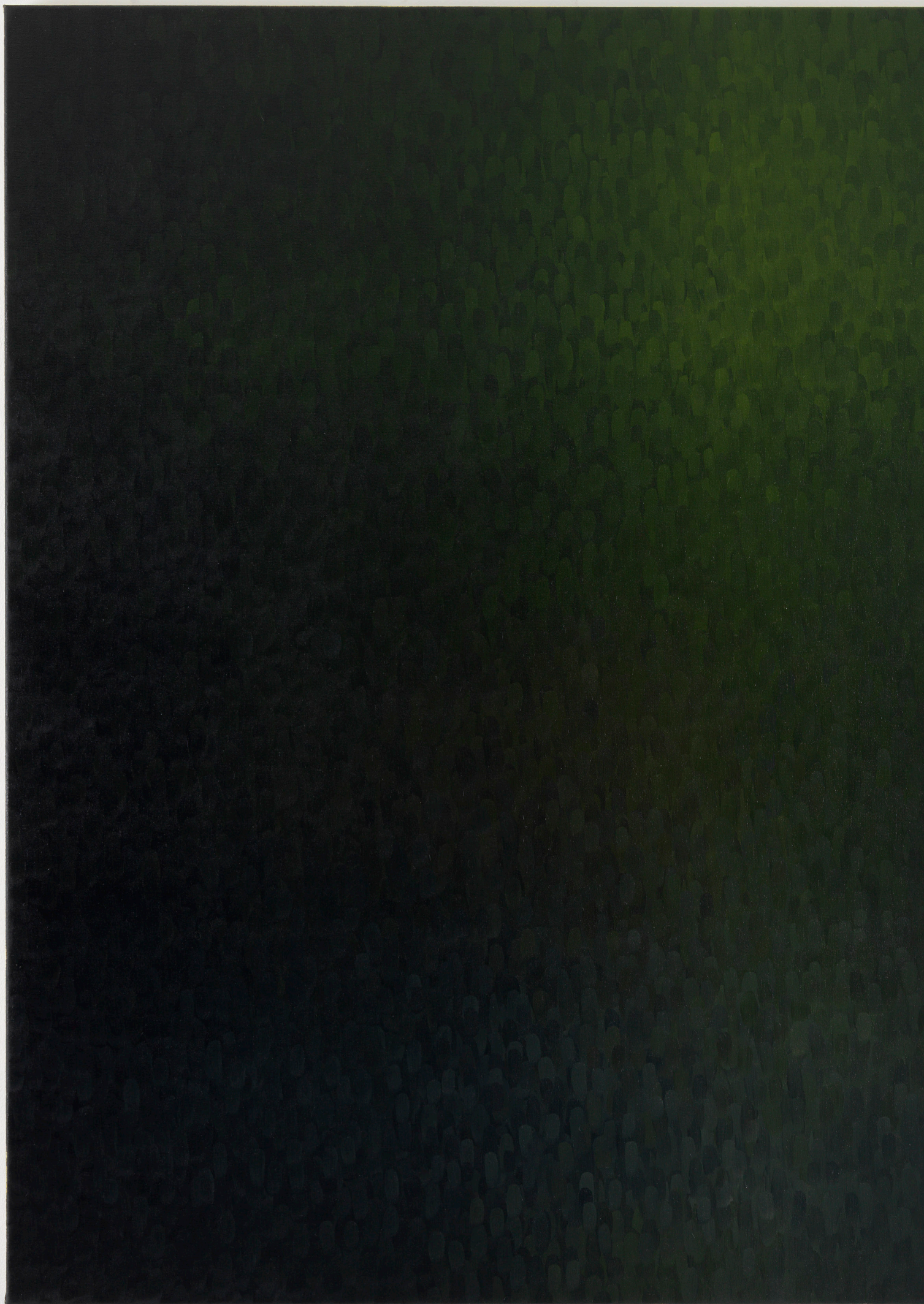
The large-scale diptych painting titled Stigmata has a rich, deep, almost ethereal quality of similar form. Under close inspection it becomes apparent that one of the paintings is in fact a re-enactment, each stage of the first act recorded, copied and re-made. Revealing evidence that the notion of pure expression is undermined.



*Stigmata*, 2014

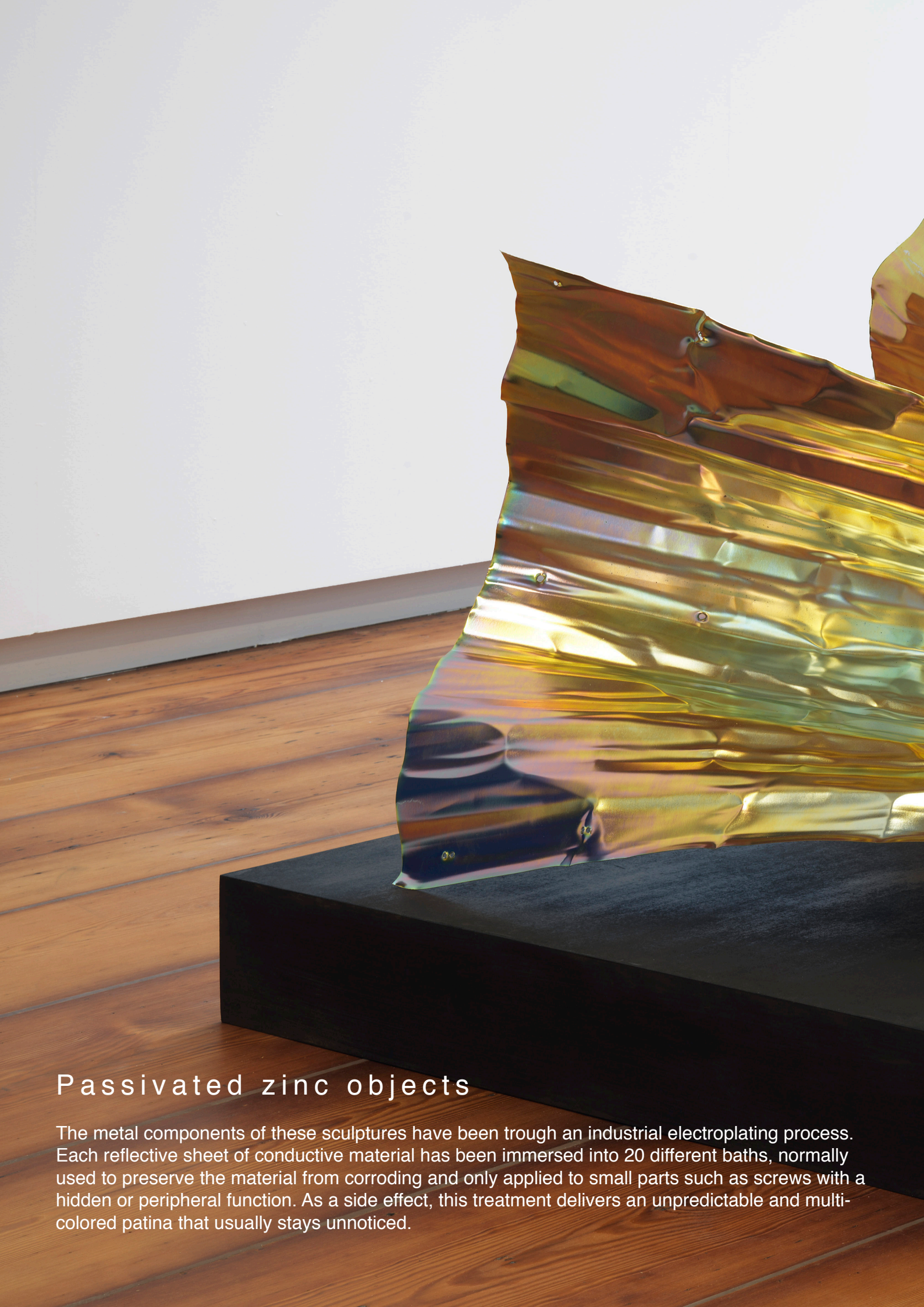
Oil on canvas, 2 x 255 x 185 cm

urface and yet presents an uncanny  
act a copy of the other, a step-by-step  
of a strict and rational process, the





*Untitled*, 2014  
Oil on canvas, 155 x 135 cm



## Passivated zinc objects

The metal components of these sculptures have been through an industrial electroplating process. Each reflective sheet of conductive material has been immersed into 20 different baths, normally used to preserve the material from corroding and only applied to small parts such as screws with a hidden or peripheral function. As a side effect, this treatment delivers an unpredictable and multi-colored patina that usually stays unnoticed.



*Untitled, 2015*  
Passivated zinc on metal, 94 x 94 cm



*Untitled, 2014*  
Colour passivated zinc on steel, 140 x 120 cm





*Untitled, 2014*  
Colour passivated zinc on steel, 140 x 140 cm



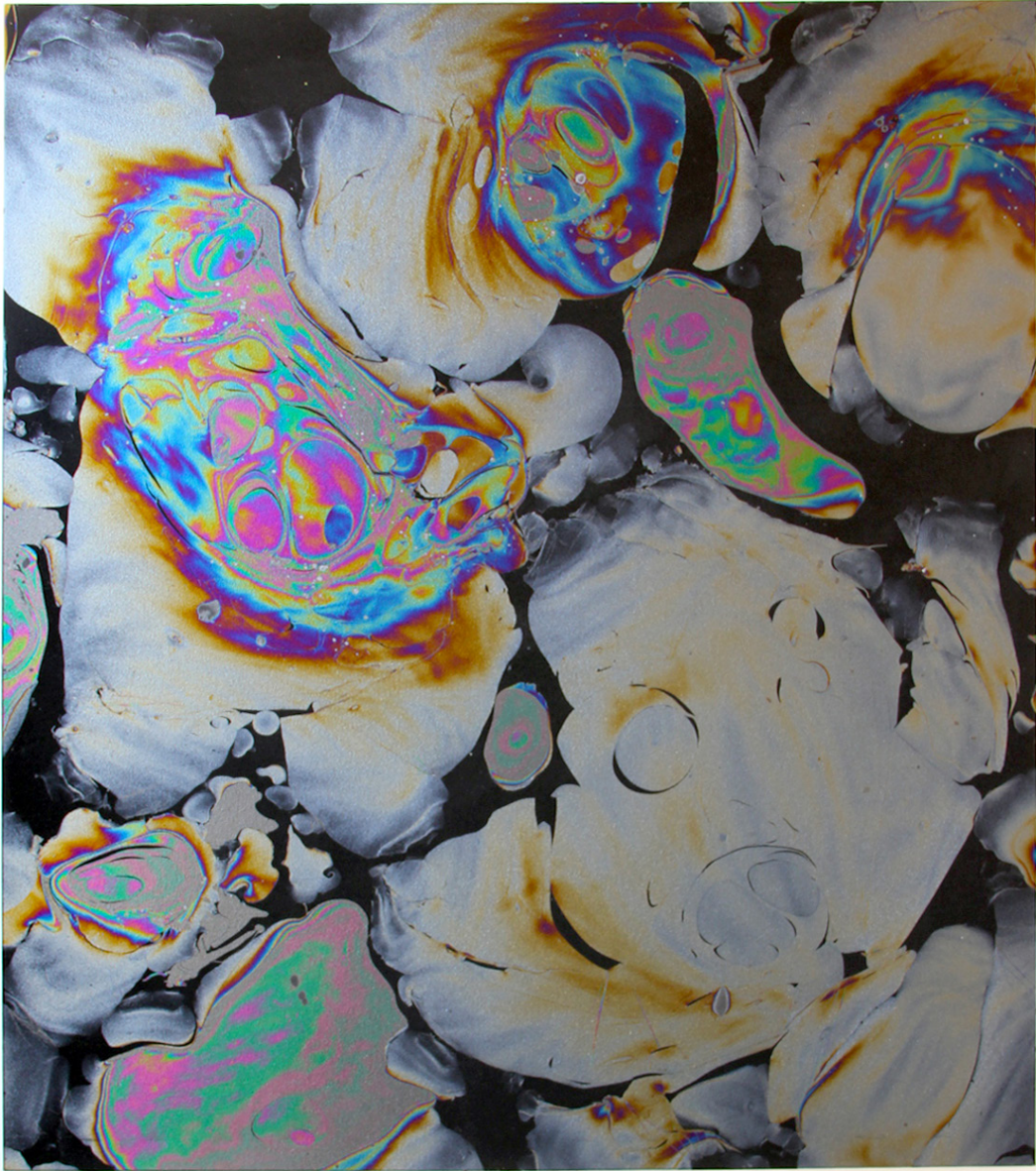


Installation view of the exhibition *Faith by Proxy* (2015) at Upstream Gallery Amsterdam



*Moonless, 2016*  
Installation view at Bosse & Baum

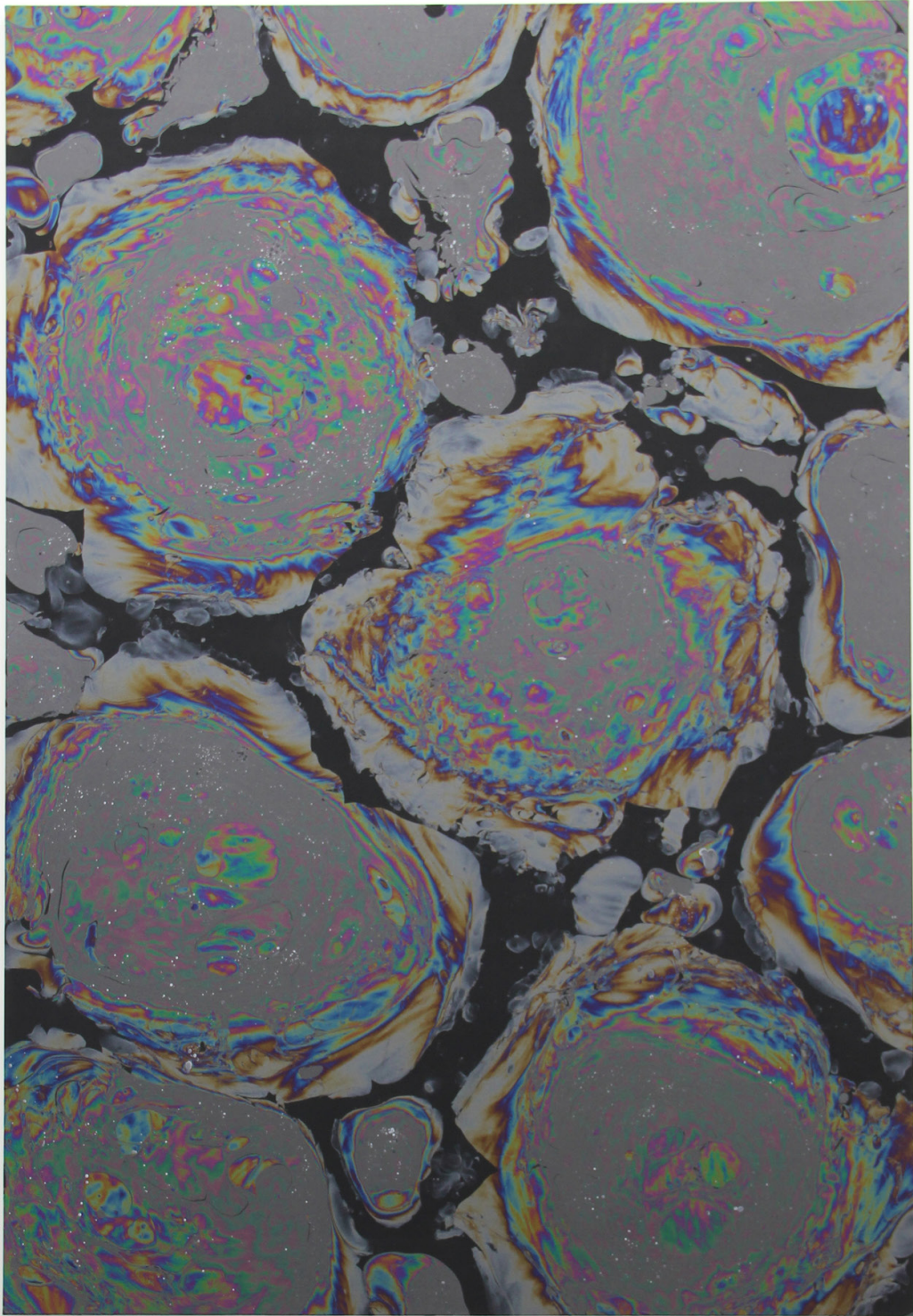




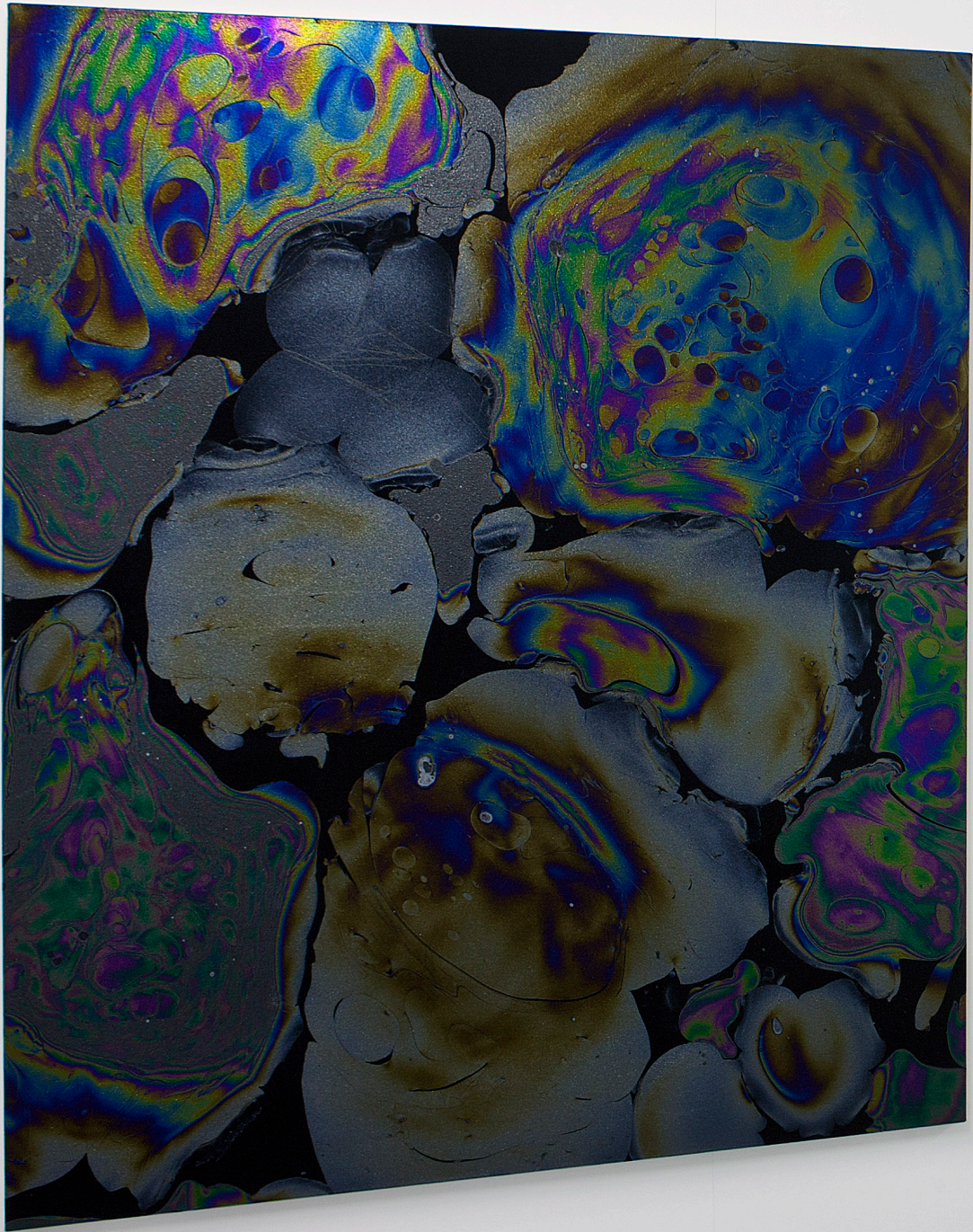
Untitled, 2012  
Chemicals on canvas, 290 x 200 cm

## Chemicals on canvas

These paintings, that Ammerlaan started to make in 2012 are made with chemicals. Having done research for a number of years with chemists and scientists he physicalized the phenomenal aesthetics of the organic colour arrangements - visible on an urban rainy day - in the form of oil spills. The result is extremely detailed, holographic but toxic, and becomes noxious in its contemporary political context.



Untitled, 2012  
Chemicals on canvas, 290 x 200 cm







Installation view of the exhibition *Day's End* (2012) at Upstream Gallery Amsterdam



## Faith by Proxy

This 2-channel video work named 'Faith by Proxy' shows material the artist shot in countries like Italy, Russia and Brazil. Combined with found footage from different international news outlets, the video juxtaposes images of political and religious convictions and reforms. Pervading through the video, a dichotomy of different communities with their own condemnation and conflicts is portrayed.



*Faith by Proxy*, 2015  
Video, 14:55 min



## Reforming Intervals

Ammerlaan shot the material for *Reforming Intervals* in Russia. The video juxtaposes scenes of political protests and scenes in Orthodox monasteries and churches, such as Rizopolozhensky monastery in Suzdal, started in 1207 and known as the oldest active monastery in Russia. The video positions the viewer as an unwitting voyeur, caught in the middle of private rituals and actions of conflicting ideologies and authorities. The film's powerful representation of different ideas of conviction questions the notion of belief: the belief in faith on the one hand, and on the other the belief in reason. Not supported by spoken word or dialogue, the emphasis lies on the kinship of imagery and sound.



*Reforming Intervals*, 2014  
Video, 13:13 min

# UPSTREAM GALLERY

Kloveniersburgwal 95 - 1011KB Amsterdam - The Netherlands

## Curriculum Vitae // Frank Ammerlaan

Name Frank Ammerlaan  
Birth 1979, the Netherlands  
Residence London, UK  
Education MA Painting course of the Royal College of Art in London  
(grad. 2012)  
Fine Art department of the Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam  
(grad. 2007)  
College of Wood- and Furniture making, Amsterdam  
(grad. 2002)

## Exhibitions

- 2018 Nominated for *De Wolvecamprijns 2018*, national prize for painting  
*EXTENSION.NL - Model for Consensus*, Triumph Gallery, Moscow  
*De Meest Eigentijdse Schilderijen Tentoonstelling*, Dordrechts Museum, Dordrecht,  
the Netherlands  
*Shelter*, Museum CatharijneConvent, Utrecht, the Netherlands  
*Avesso Viés*, SIM Haleria, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
SP-ARTE 2018 with SIM Galeria, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Another Dimension*, NEST, The Hague, the Netherlands
- 2017 *De Scheffer*, Dordrechts Museum, Dordrecht, the Netherlands  
*Song for my Hands*, Curitiba Biennial, Curitiba, Brazil  
Seattle Art Fair with SIM Gallery, Seattle, USA  
*Particles of Dust*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam (solo)  
Drawing Biennial 2017, London
- 2016 *Sparkling Like the Surface of the Ocean Tonight*, Garage Rotterdam, the  
Netherlands  
*Reset II*, Priska Pasquer, Cologne, Germany  
*Your future as I remember*, XPO Gallery, Paris  
*Moonless*, Bosse & Baum Gallery, London (solo)  
Art Cologne with David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen  
*Door Schilderogen 2*, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam
- 2015 *Transformer*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam  
*Desire of the Other*, Annka Kultys, London  
*Reset I*, Priska Pasquer, Cologne, Germany  
*Outside the Wireframe*, SIM Galeria, Curitiba, Brasil (solo)

Volta II (Art Fair), David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen  
*The extended Arms of the Transom*, David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen (solo)  
Amsterdam Art Fair with Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam  
Residency at Pivo, Sao Paulo, Brasil  
*Faith by proxy*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam (solo)  
Art Rotterdam with Upstream Gallery, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
SP Art Fair with SIM Galeria

- 2014  
*I'm a painting*, KUMU Art Museum, Tallinn, Estonia  
*Frank Ammerlaan & Salome Ghazanfari*, Cristopher Crescent, Brussels  
*Alchemy*, NEST, The Hague, The Netherlands  
Art Berlin Contemporary with Upstream Gallery, Berlin  
*Some Things Perishable*, NEST, The Hague, the Netherlands  
*PS 1999 - 2014: 15 years anniversary exhibition*, de SERVICEGARAGE PS  
Projectspace, Amsterdam  
*Reforming Intervals*, Laura Genillard, London (solo)  
*Projections*, Art Rotterdam with Upstream Gallery, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
*Academy Now*, Bologna, Italy
- 2013  
The Armory Show (sold out) with Upstream Gallery, New York City (solo)  
*Open Cube* (curated by Adriano Pedrosa), White Cube Gallery, Mason's Yard, London  
*De Scheffer 2013: Frank Ammerlaan*, Dordrechts Museum, The Netherlands (solo)  
*Love Illumination*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam  
Fondazione MACC Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Calasetta, Italy (solo)  
*Every bird brings a different melody to the garden*, Harrington Way, London  
*Concrete Fragments*, Morgan Concrete, London  
*They died with their boots on*, Teksas, Denmark by PS Project Space, Denmark  
Two person show with Nathan Barlex, 4 windmill Street gallery, London  
ArtIstanbul International, with Upstream Gallery, Istanbul
- 2012  
*Day's End*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam (solo)  
*Nature / Structure*, Dutch design week, Eindhoven, the Netherlands  
*PS*, Co/Lab Los Angeles  
*Stereopsis*, The Drawing Room, Tannery Arts London (with and curated by Frank Ammerlaan, i.a), London  
*Land of the Seven Moles*, PS Projectspace Amsterdam  
*Graduation show*, Royal College Of Art, London
- 2011  
*Mapping the Horizon*, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam  
*New Space*, B&N Gallery, London  
*Unlit*, PS, Amsterdam (solo)  
*Zomeratelier 2011*, CBK Zeeland, the Netherlands  
*Interim Show*, Royal College of Art, London  
*Life is Elsewhere*, The Crypt Gallery, St Pancreas Church, London  
*Pep*, Post-Museum, Singapore
- 2010  
*Royal Prize of Painting '10*, Royal Palace Amsterdam  
*Und#6*, Schwartz gallery, London  
*Derivation*, Skånes konstförening Malmö, Sweden  
*Art Blossom*, Brug 9, Amsterdam  
*Magnitude*, Alpineum producentengalerie, Luzern, Switzerland  
*Amsterdam-Berlin*, Forgotten bar, Berlin  
*Marsupial*, Supermarket art fair, Kulturhuset, Switzerland
- 2009  
*Let's take it outside*, 2nd anniversary De Service Garage, Amsterdam

Royal Prize of Painting '09, Royal Palace Amsterdam  
*Quantum Vis V*, RC De Ruimte & De Service Garage, Amsterdam  
*UND#5*, Nice, France  
DREI, Raum für Gegenwartskunst, Köln  
*Power to the paint*, Arti & Amicitiae, Amsterdam

2008 *Koud*, De Service Garage, Amsterdam  
*Three is a nice couple*, De Veenvloer, Amsterdam  
*Uit De Tijd*, De Service Garage, Amsterdam  
*1141, Magnetic field*, Galerie Gist Brummen, Amsterdam  
*Re-understandings*, Kunstvlaai 7, De Service Garage, Amsterdam  
*Frank Ammerlaan & Michael Agacki*, Horse Move Project Space, Amsterdam  
*Clup-ivoor*, Art Rotterdam

2007 *De Service Garage*, Amsterdam  
*Jong Talent, Artolive '07*, zuiveringshal westergas, Amsterdam  
*Eindexamentoonstelling*, Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam  
*Clup-ivoor*, PAKT, Amsterdam  
*De Belofte*, PAKT, Amsterdam

## Awards

De Scheffer Award '13  
Royal Prize of Painting '12  
Land Securities prize '12  
Doha studio art prize '12  
Nomination Royal Prize of Painting '11  
Nomination Royal Prize of Painting '10  
Fonds BKVB Studiebeurs buitenland '10-'12  
Hendrik Muller Fonds '10  
Nomination Royal Prize of Painting '09  
Startstipendium '09, Fonds BKVB  
Stichting Niemeijer Fonds, '09  
Gerrit Rietveld Academy Painting Prize '07





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