MASK MUTATION NICK ERVINCK



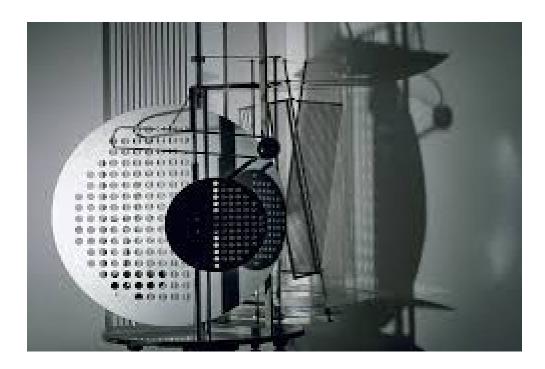
MASK MUTATION

The line has known a fascinating career not only in art history, but also throughout the whole human existence. At a first glance, the line simply reveals itself as such, in a kind of eternal presence, a mould that endlessly can be repeated and recycled. However, it also expresses a deeply rooted human desire to connect, to combine and link, and hence to know what dimensions are ready and suitable to be joined together and to result in true and faithful knowledge. As an epistemological instrument, the line is therefore one of the basic conditions to make the human life possible and bearable.

Yet, the history of art shows many possibilities to play interesting games with so-called true and secure knowledge. Indeed, some artists let their lines fade out, others accentuate them. From the soft sfumato-lines in Renaissance paintings to the fluid, sharply defined curls in Art Nouveau-decoration, artists have always searched for new ways to surpass the rigidity of the (drawn) line.

As for now, Ervinck's research project MASK MUTATIONS asks other questions, since here, lines do not dominate, nor does colour prevail. Rather, Ervinck combines them both in an innovative way, as he explores how to visually merge fluid lines in an unseen, yet fascinating dynamic narrative. And more specifically, the complimentary use of colour, derived from rich coloured African fabrics and masks, adds an extra dimension to the visual language he designs. In his oeuvre, the patterned network of complex lines also is inspired by ancient South-American art from the Maya and Inca cultures, what results in an interesting interplay between worldviews.

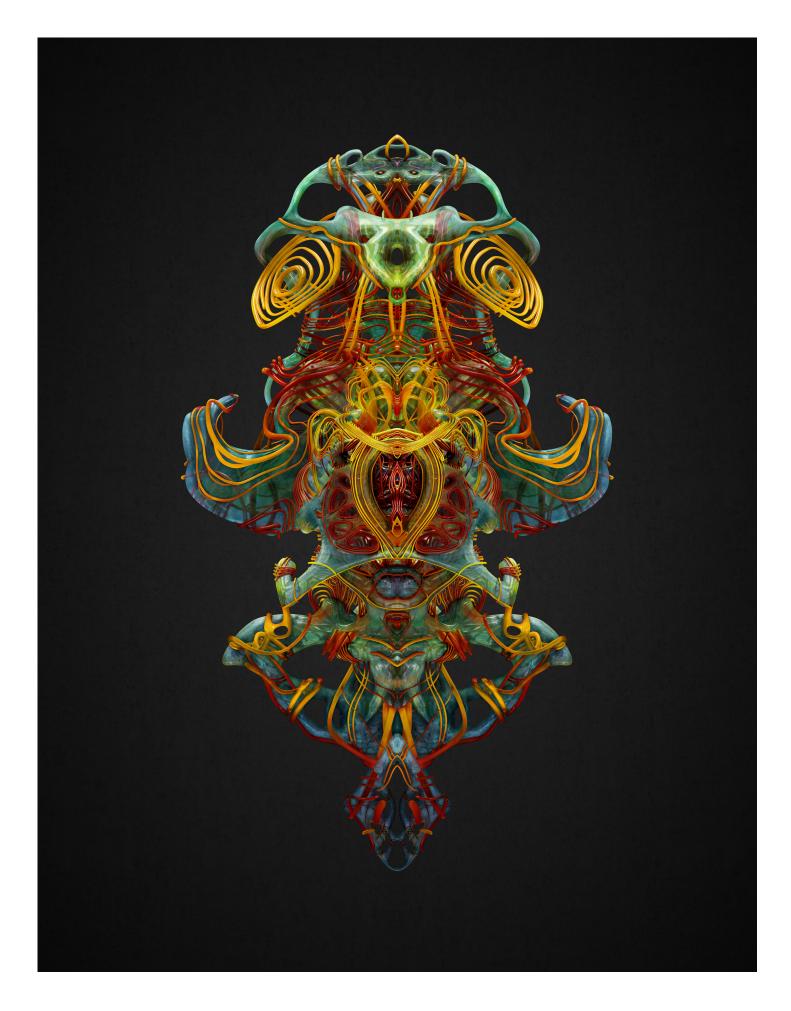
Besides, the creation of movement in these series also reveals Ervinck's fascination for Futurism. We effortlessly recognize a historical debt to the famous Light-Space Modulator by Moholy-Nagy or to the imagery of Van Tongerloo, particularly his research on light and energy. On the whole, the dynamic interplay between light, colour and movement always has been an important source of inspiration for Ervinck. Elements such as "endless

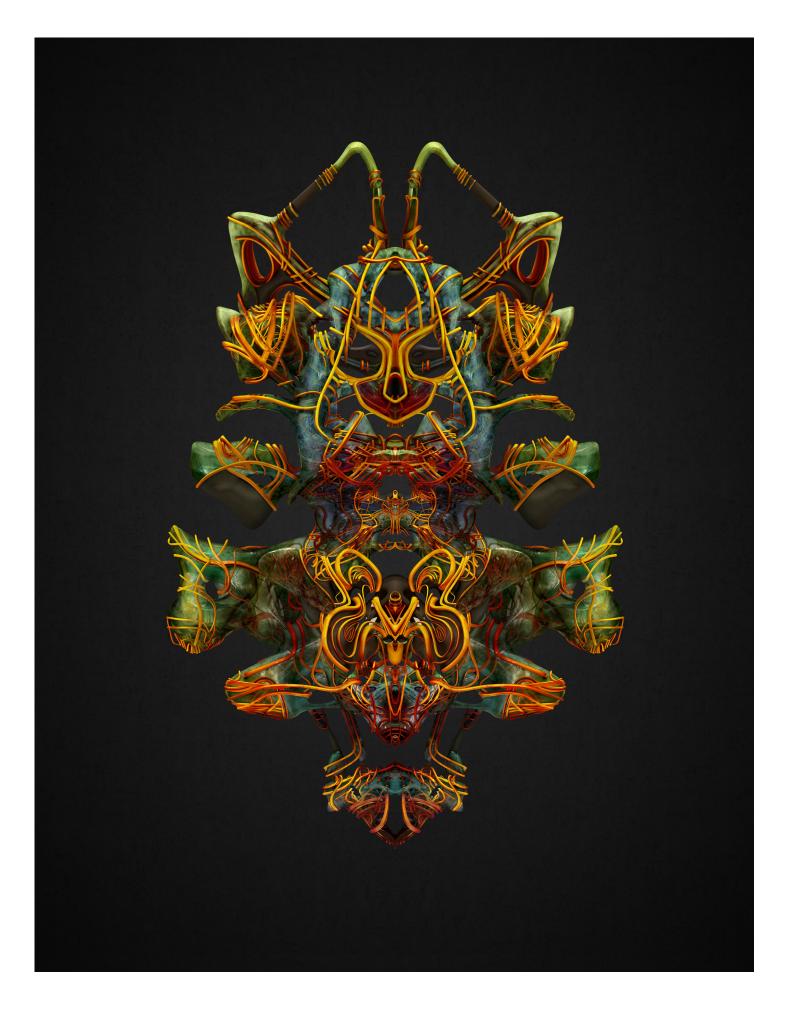


space" or "cosmic indeterminacy" are easily recognized within these line series, a project where the point of contact between lines and perspectives often is problematized. Lines no longer connect, but seem to have a life of their own, fed by a strange kind of energy that does not seem to depart from a well known natural source.

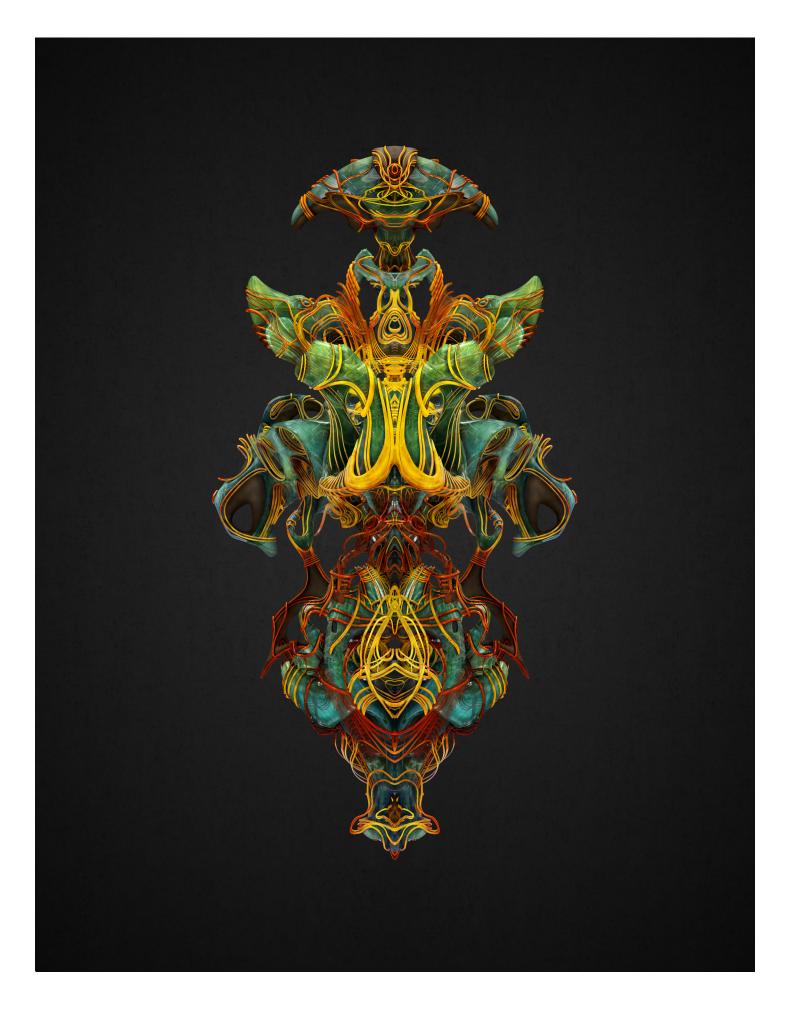
The balanced use of old and new, the constant reference to past cultures and present technologies is a method Henry Moore implemented his entire career in his sculptures. Moore visited very often the foreign collection of the British Museum, and each time he was surprised by the visual language of other cultures. However, the origin of lines and their final position into patterns and structures were not yet subjected to the radical doubts and energetic possibilities that our decades have raised.

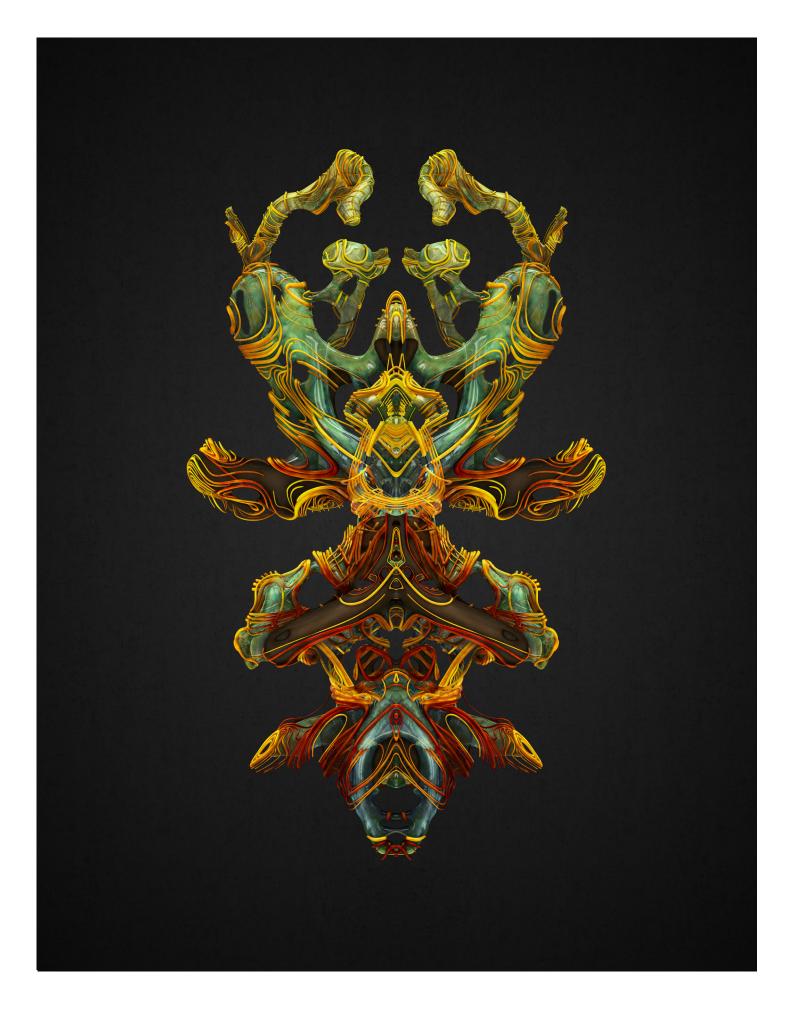
Therefore, watching a series like MASK MUTATION and the use it makes of lines, is an intriguing and challenging adventure that deeply questions interpretation as such. Spectators are given a glimpse of the future, not without experiencing an unknown, yet fascinating feeling of strangeness. Like the old shaman, the artist intentionally opens a number of unknown worlds, tickles our imagination, but wisely refuses to provide clear answers.





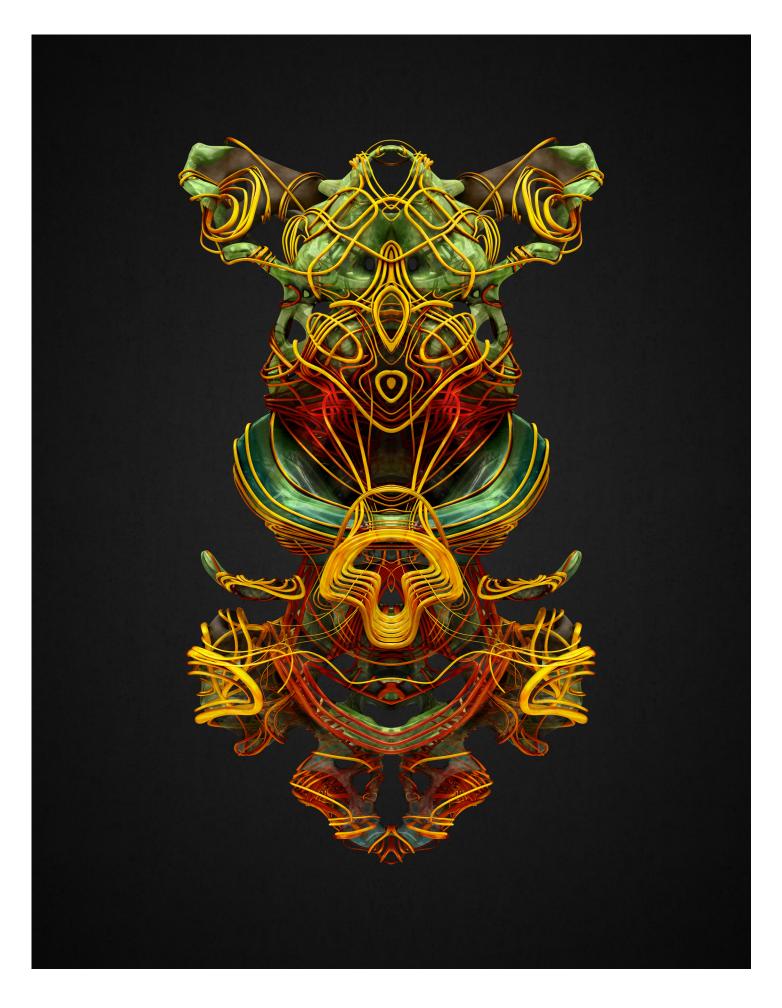


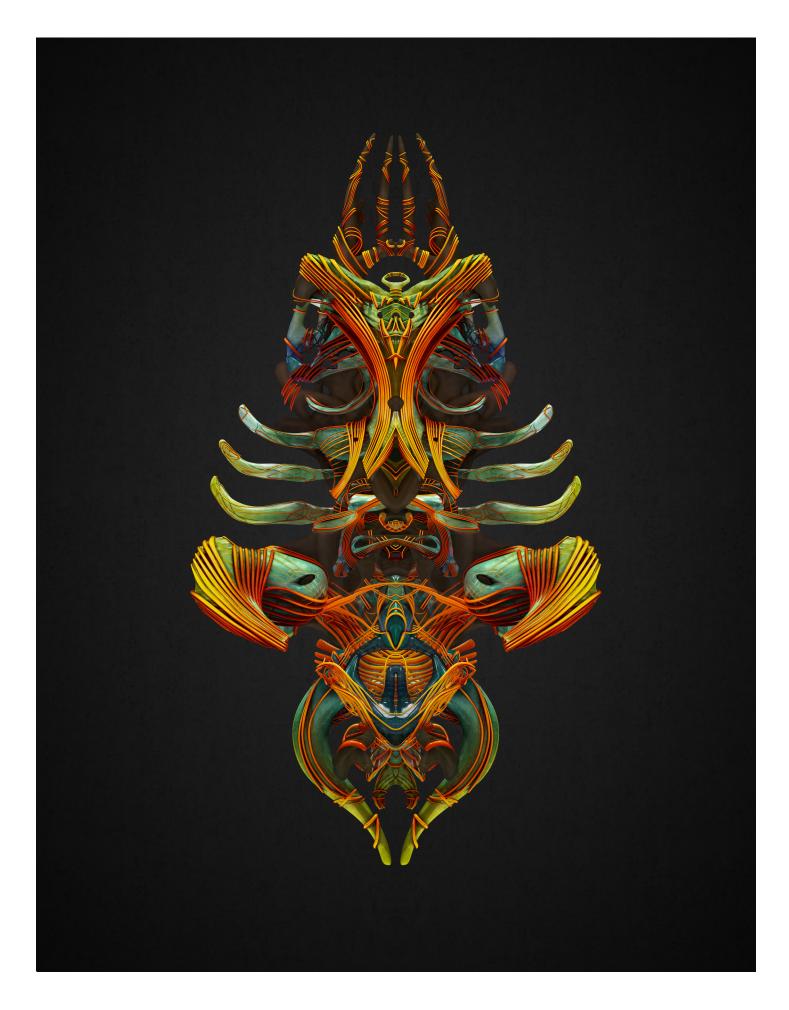




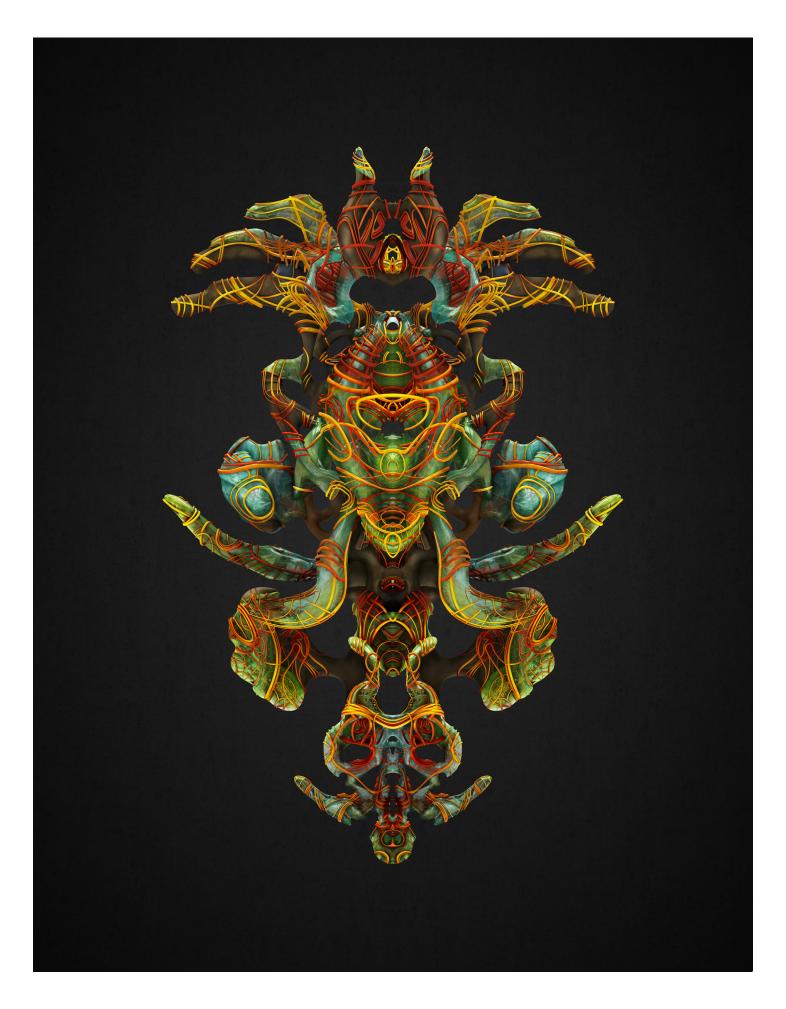


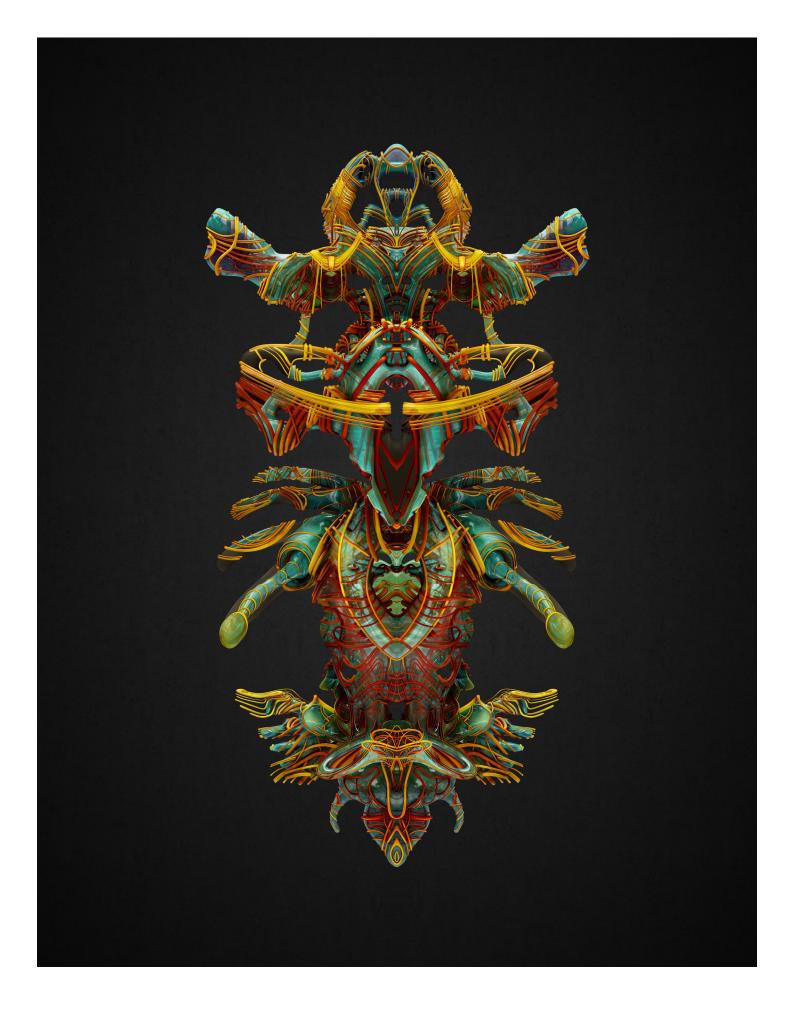




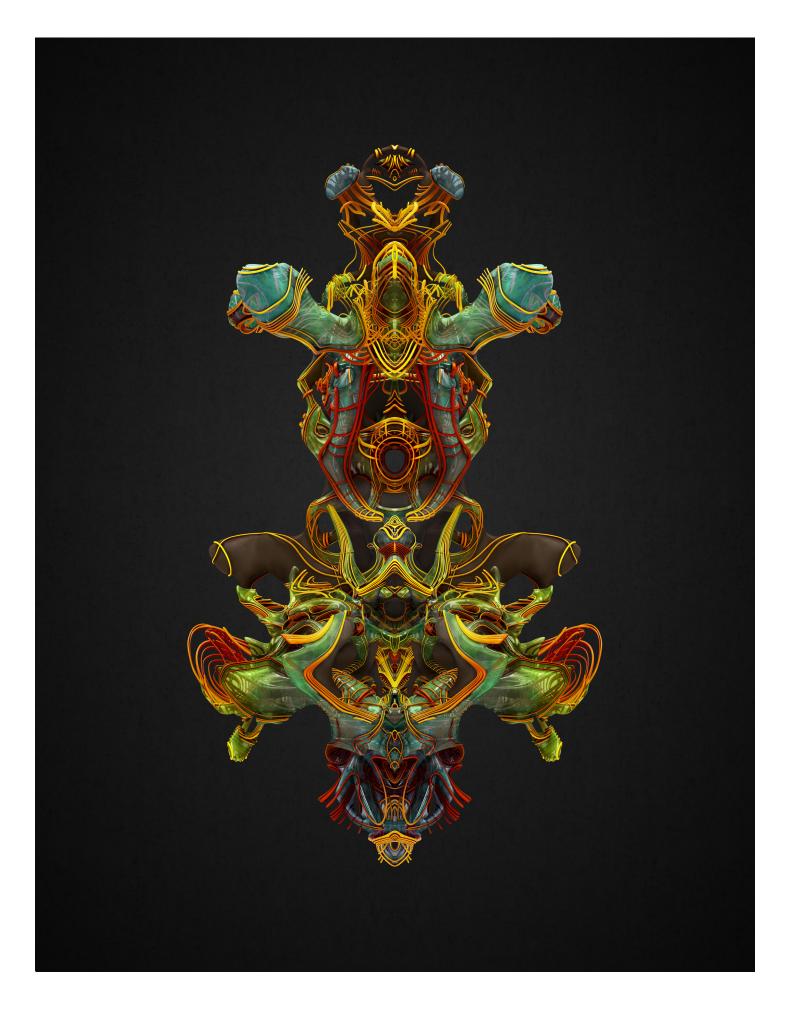


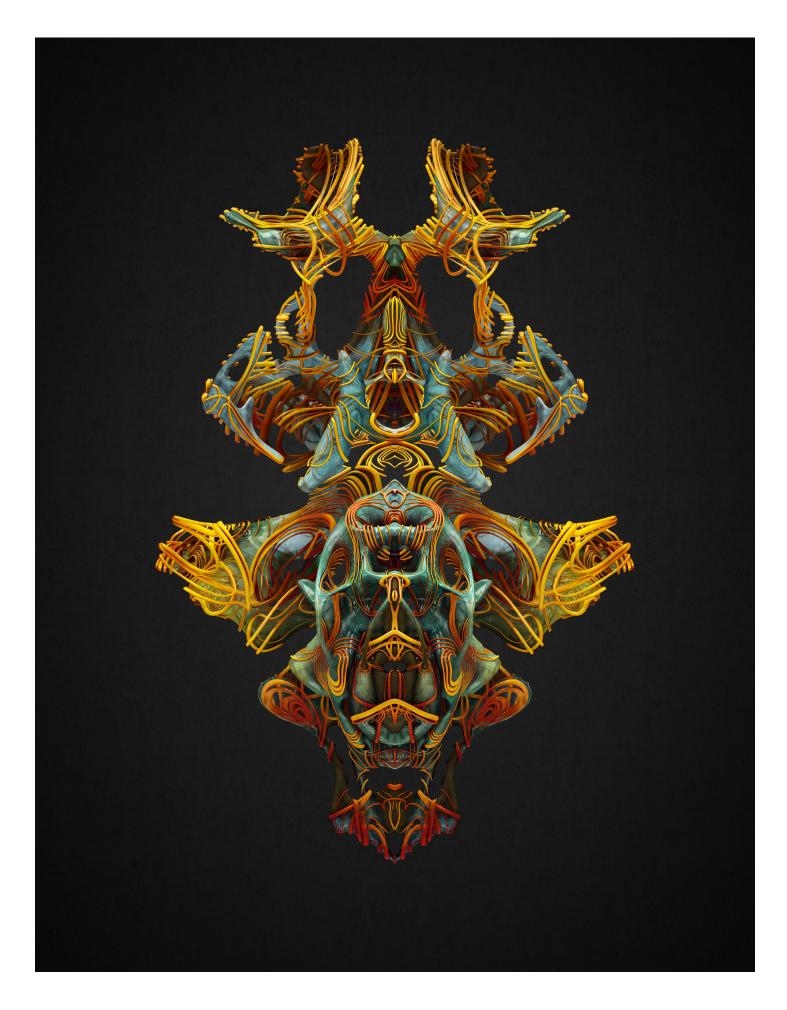




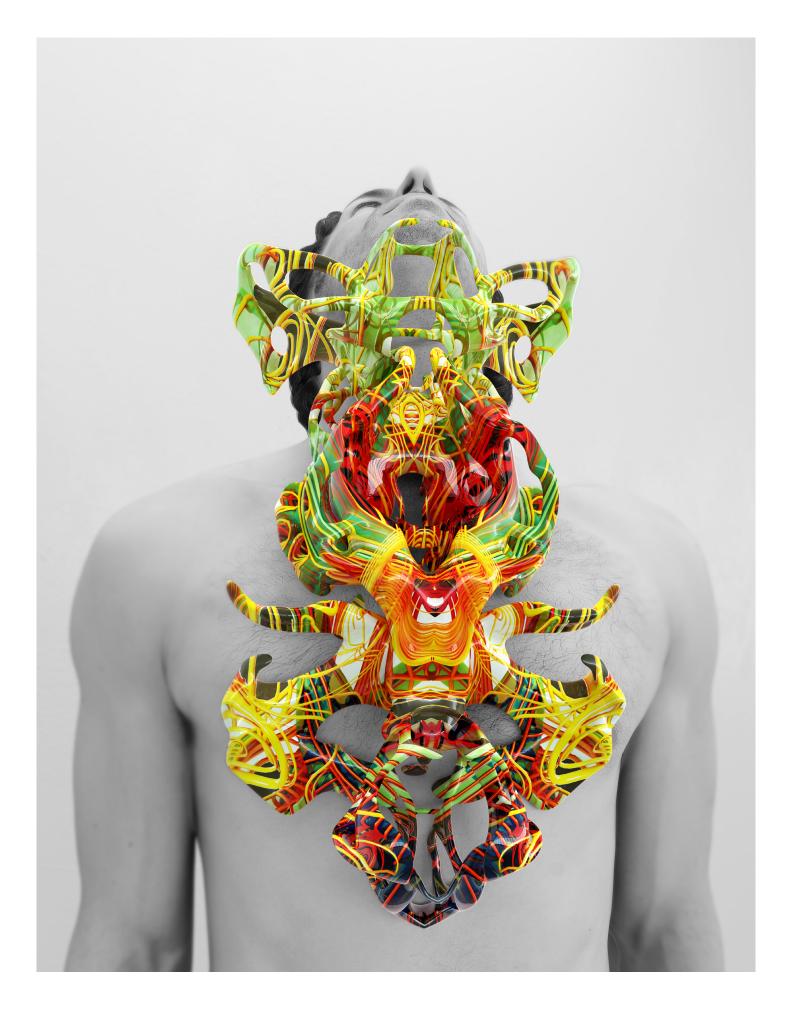


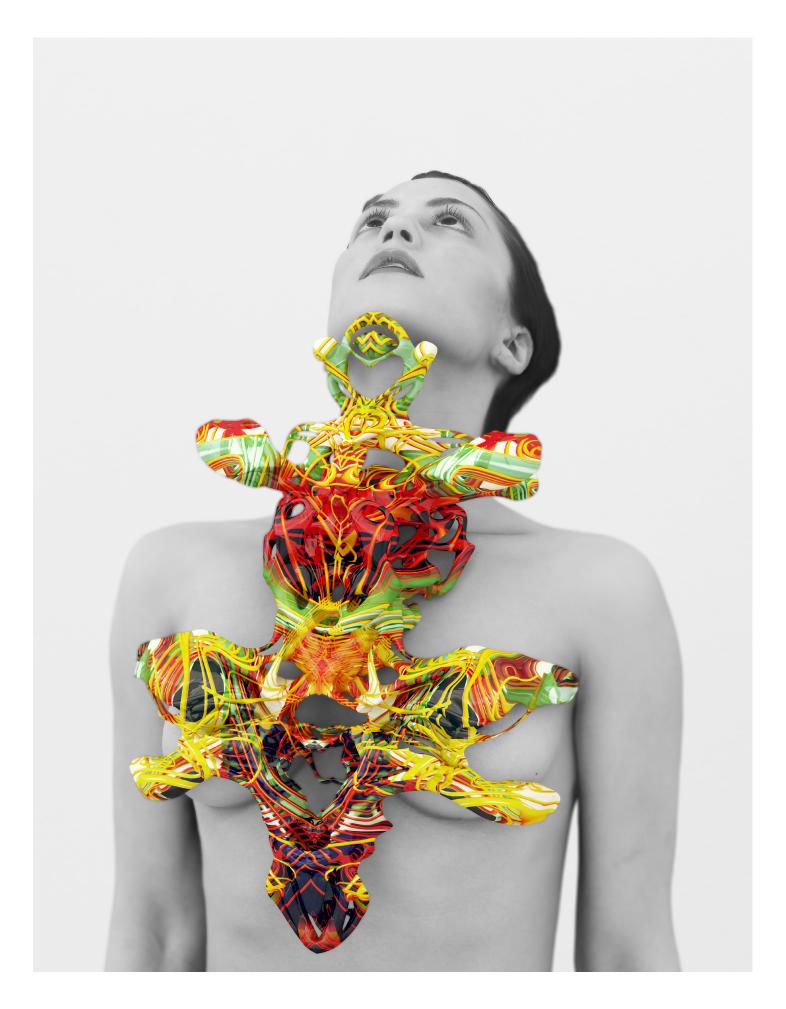












TAYTEZUMA

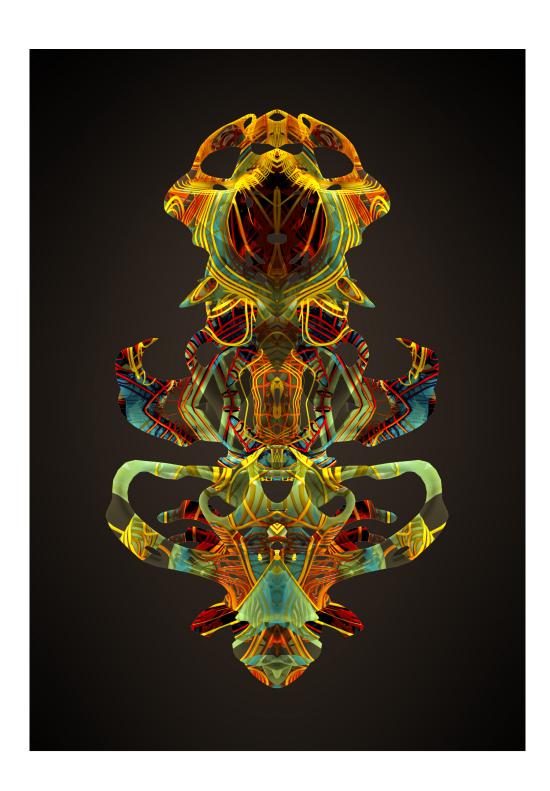
DEATH - Incessantly, life gnaws and tinkers, we float on a sea that is both gift and curse. That is why each mask evokes one of those moments in which we think we recognize fragments of a reality that is there, but also is not there. These masks, in all their existential unequal equality, as forms of discordia concors, therefore also have a strong meditative value that refers to the hybrid being that we are.



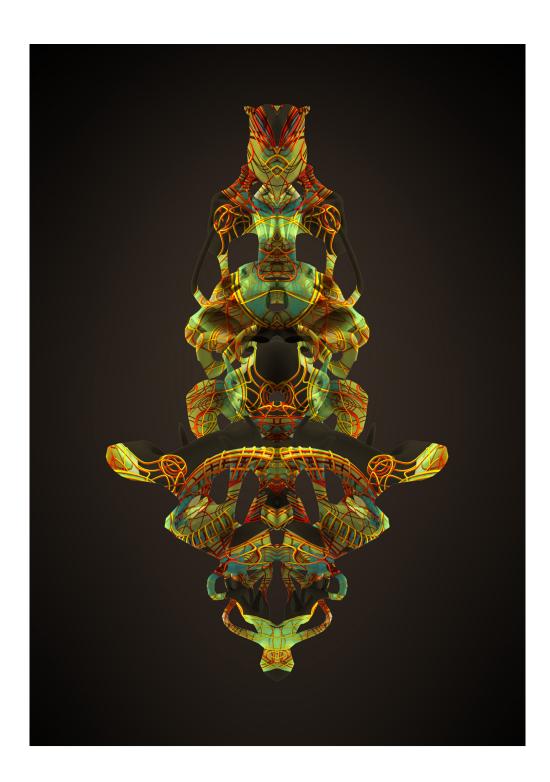
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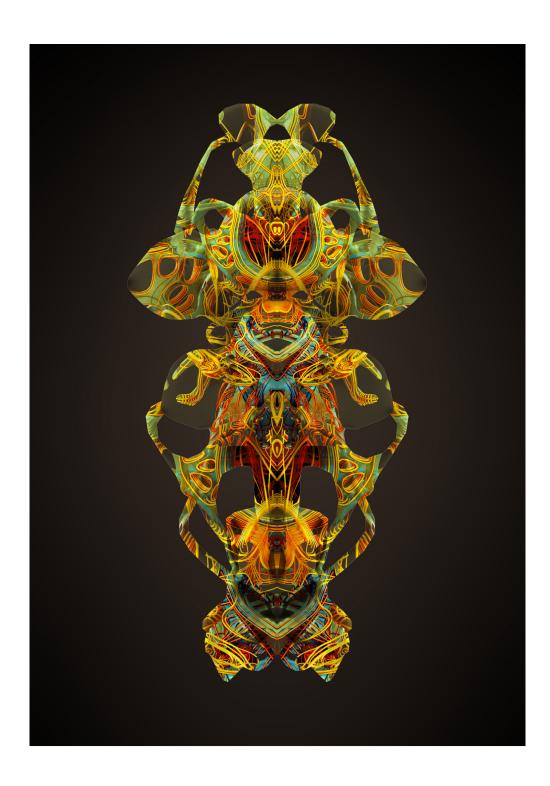


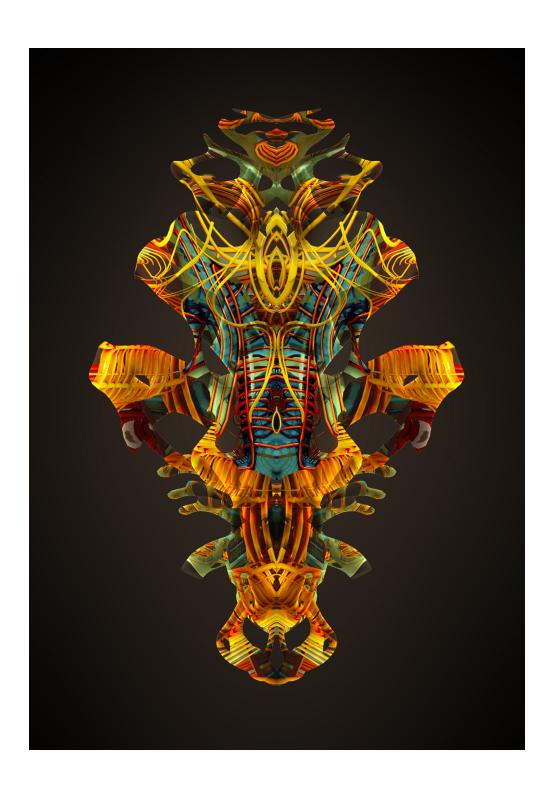


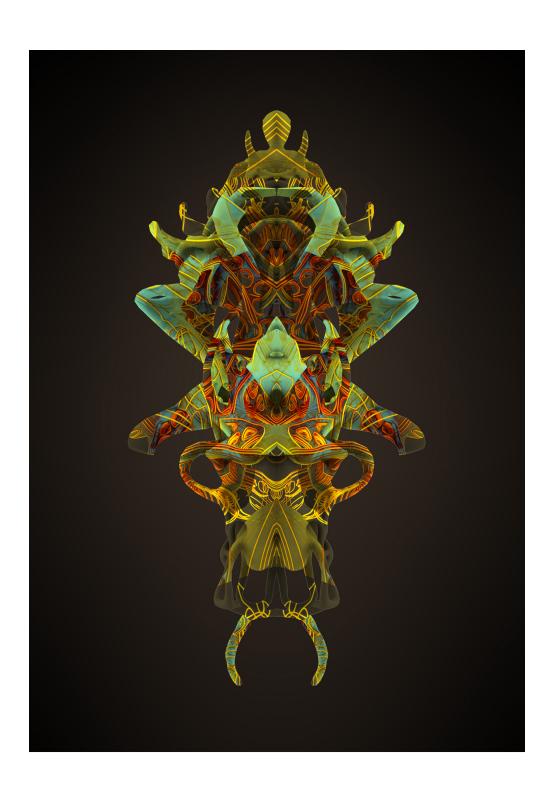


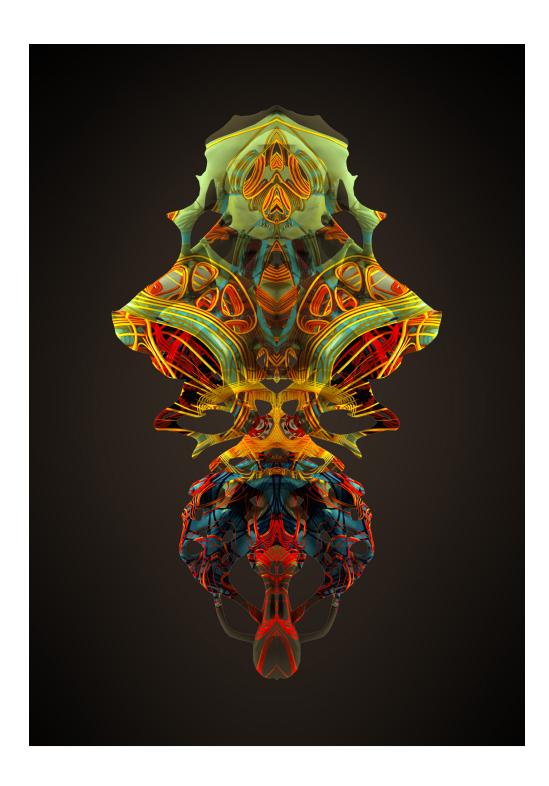


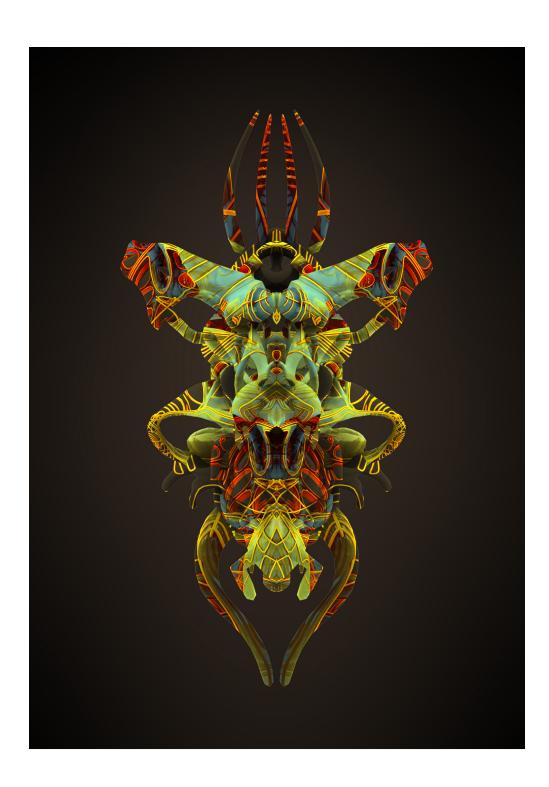




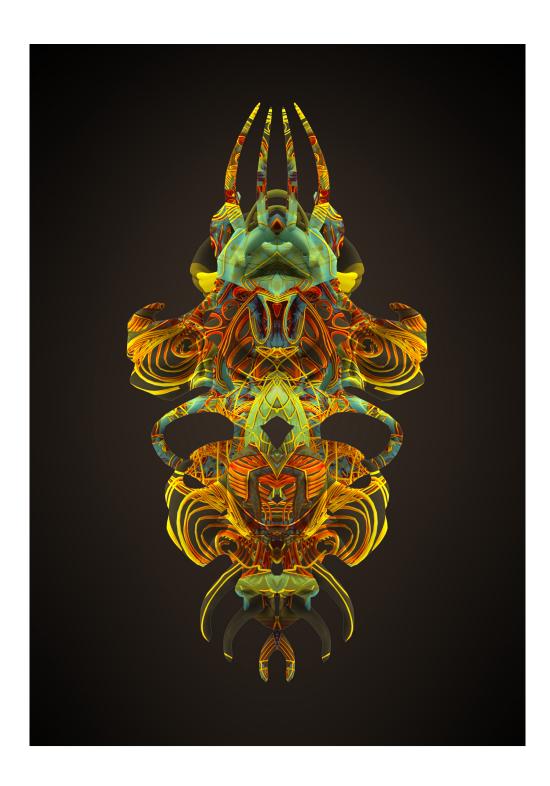


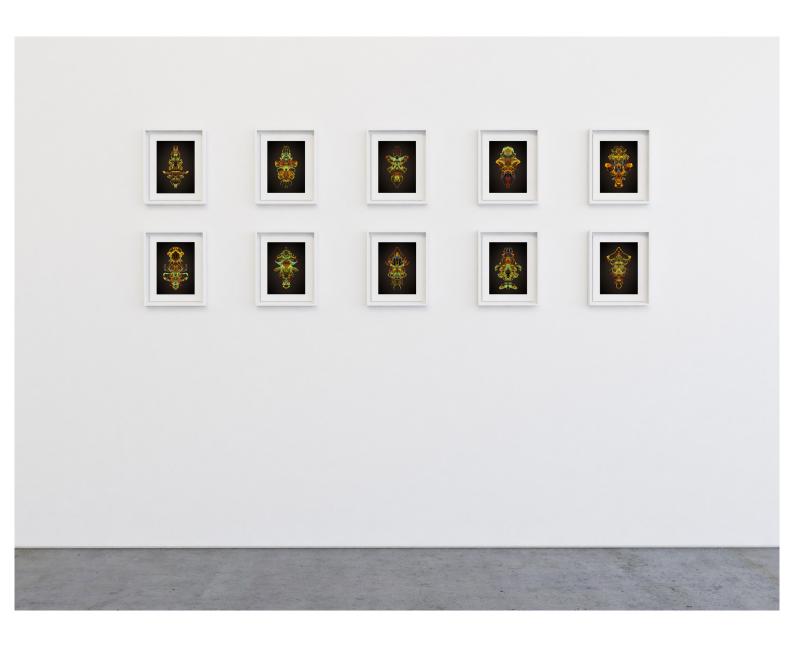












TEZLETOML

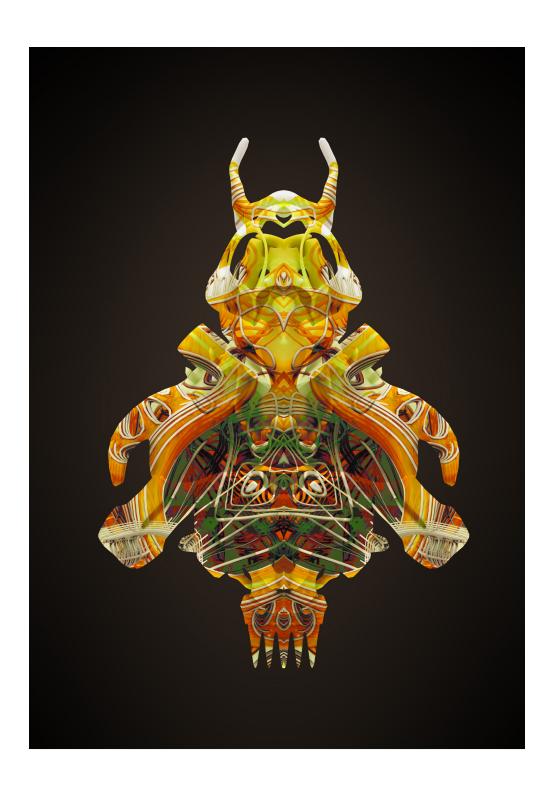
METAMORPHOSIS - Masks as an eternal place of change. Follow the lines and colors of these precarious life forms and you drays will be amazed by patterns of perfect symmetry, but also of total unpredictability. Where do these lines lead, where do hey come from? That is why we keep thinking about ourselves in terms of eternal transformation and lack of a fixed definition these hybrid masks therefore invite us to look behind the mirror of this sublime interplay of lines, what, in the end, involves ar appeal to unmask ourselves.



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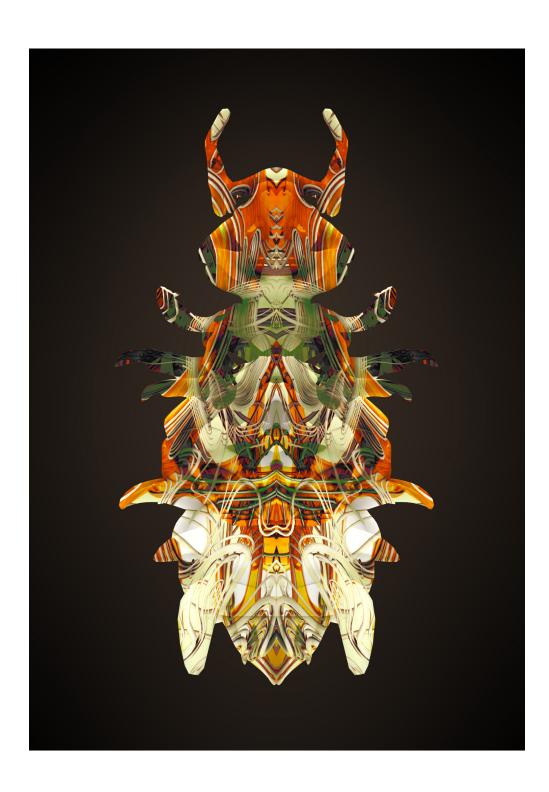


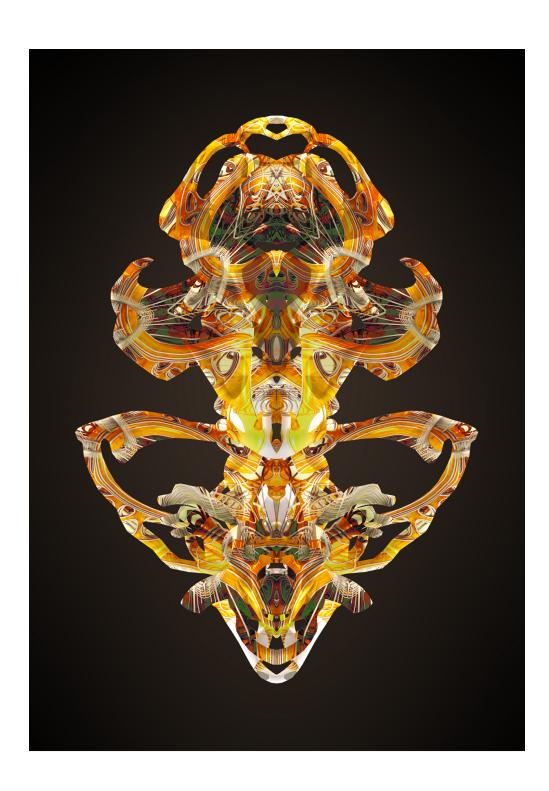
print 28 x 22 cm, framed 29.6 x 23.6 cm 11 x 8.6 inches, framed 11.6 x 9.3 inches



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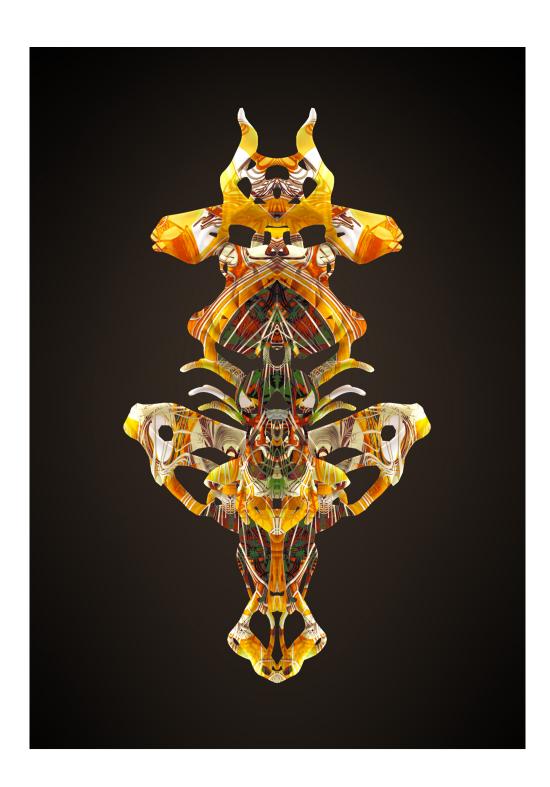








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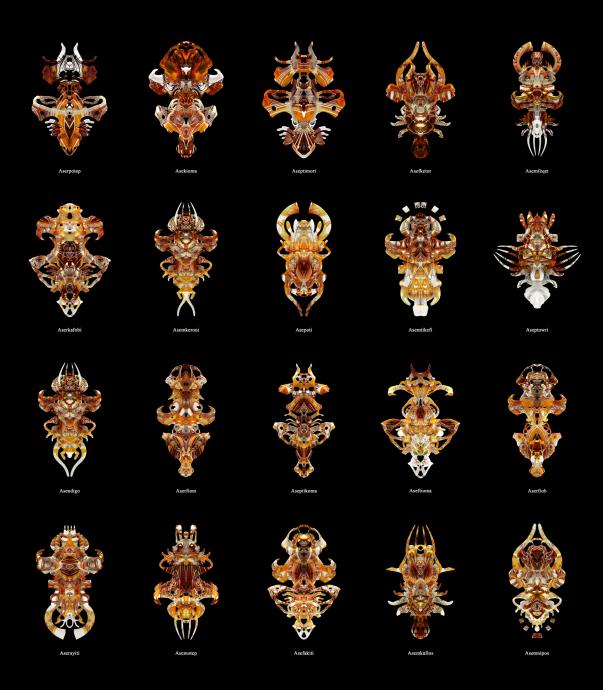


TEZUYATLI, 2017 print 28 x 22 cm, framed 29.6 x 23.6 cm 11 x 8.6 inches, framed 11.6 x 9.3 inches

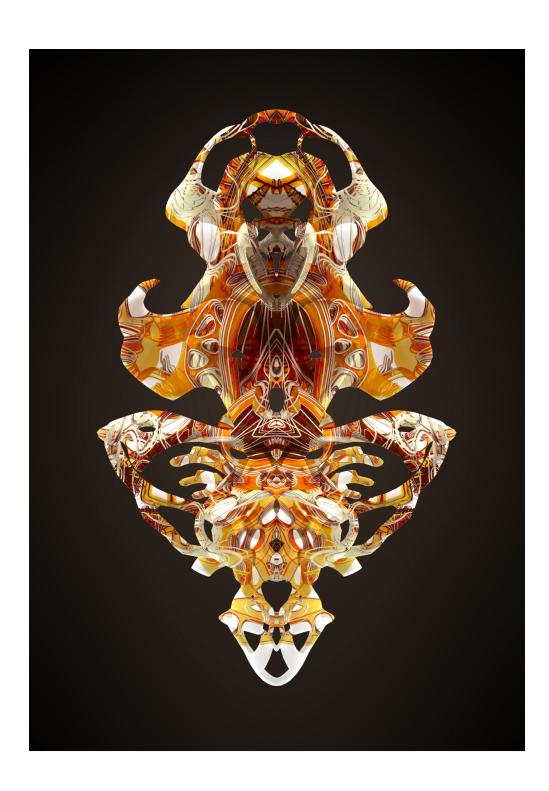


ASEFNIMOS

STATUES OF GODS - People wanted to become god and transcend their human condition. Masks always expressed their eternal longing for immortality, for did they not want to become the magnified gods of the future? Hundreds of versions to anesthetize their human-animal-reptilian status and to fly from crawling creatures to heaven. Legs became wings, feelers ended up as human senses. Each time a call to sublimate fear into beauty and to translate uncertainty into variously dressed idols.

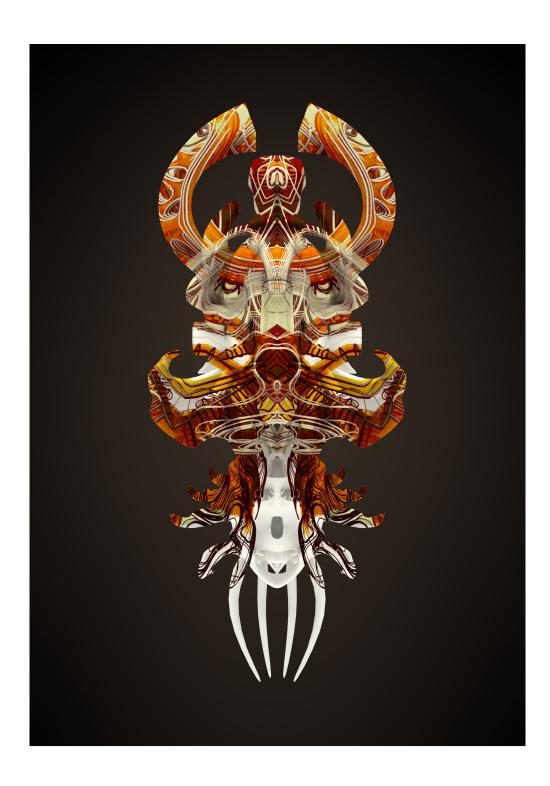


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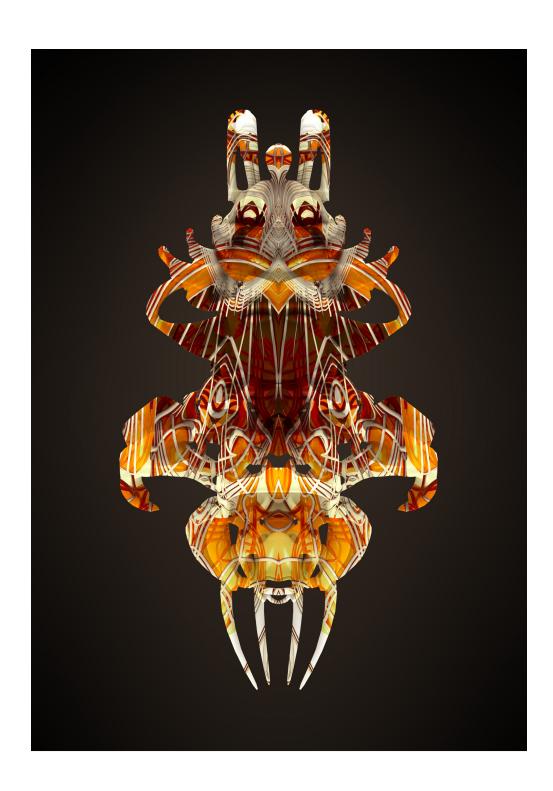
ASEKONIOS, 2017 print 28 x 22 cm, framed 29.6 x 23.6 cm 11 x 8.6 inches, framed 11.6 x 9.3 inches

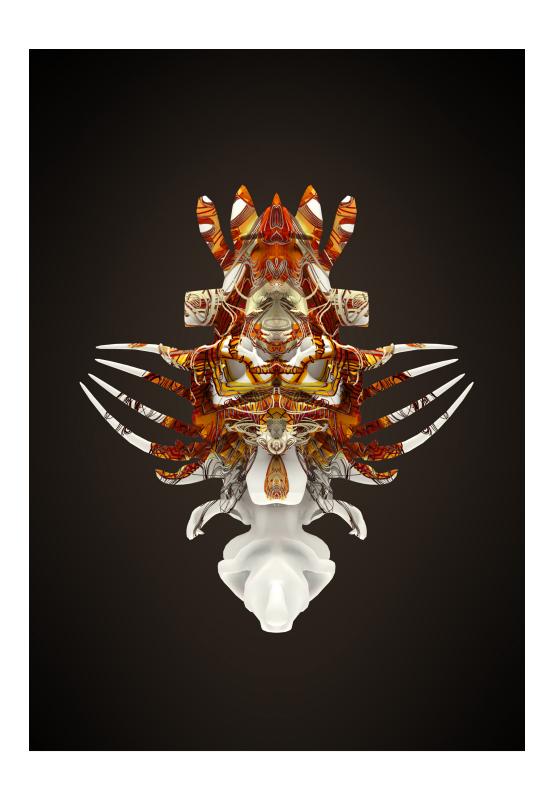


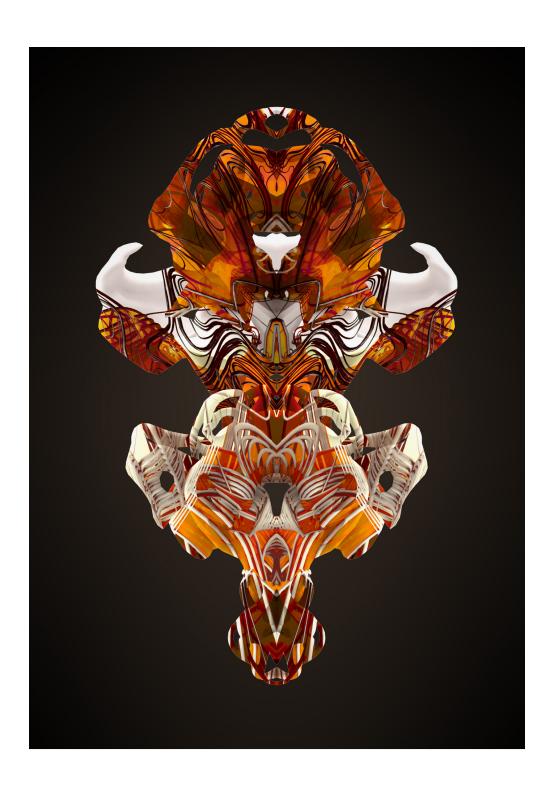




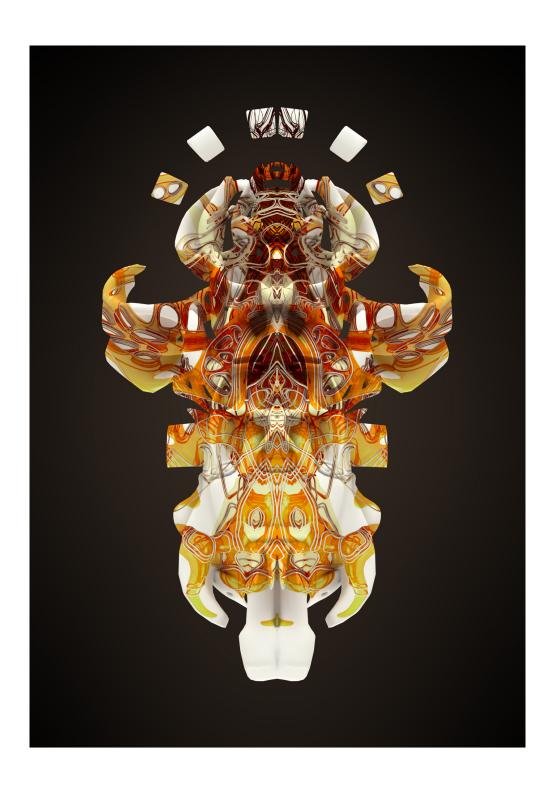










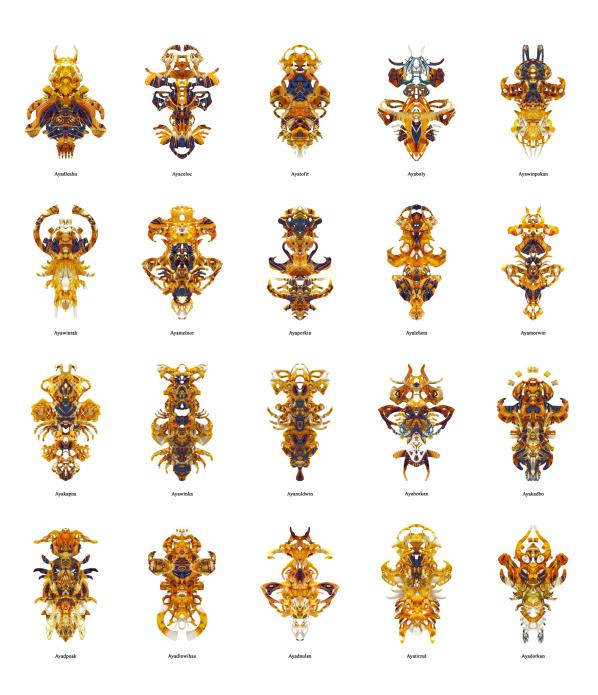




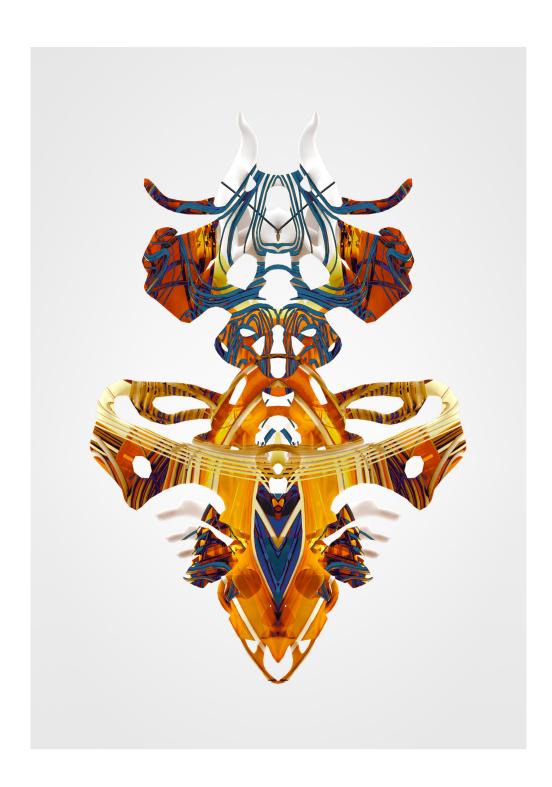


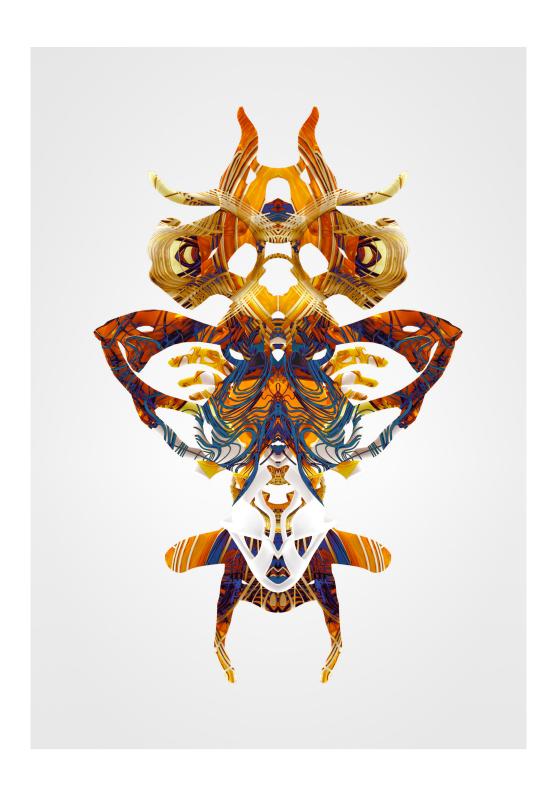
AYAMORFUM

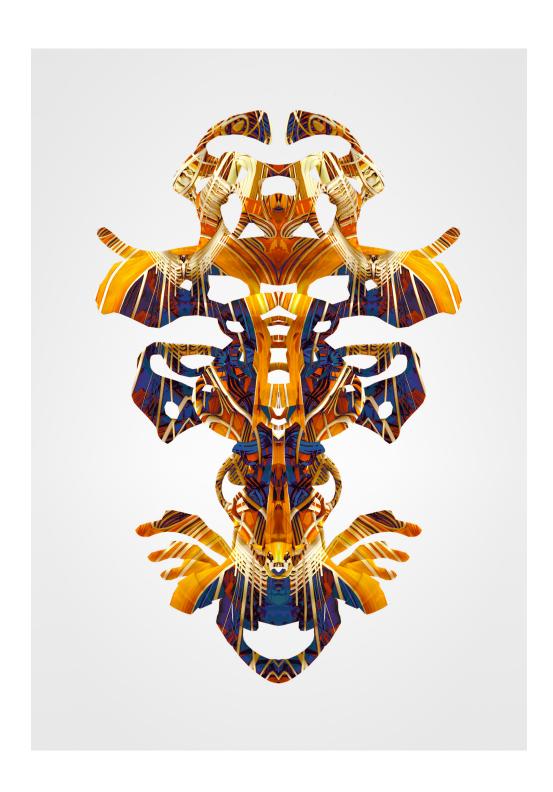
INDETERMINACY - Masks pinned to the wall like butterflies and insects. Hence taxonomically organized ways of thinking. Only from a large cultural order, our Western order, did we think we could live and interpret meaningfully. Yet, the anthropocene teaches that nothing could be further from the truth. Man also carries within him the mask of a cosmic indeterminacy and an incomprehensible destructiveness.

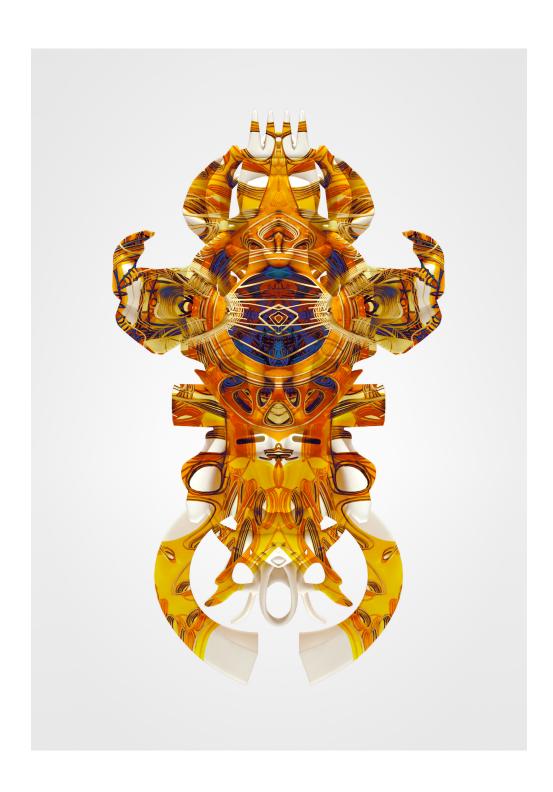


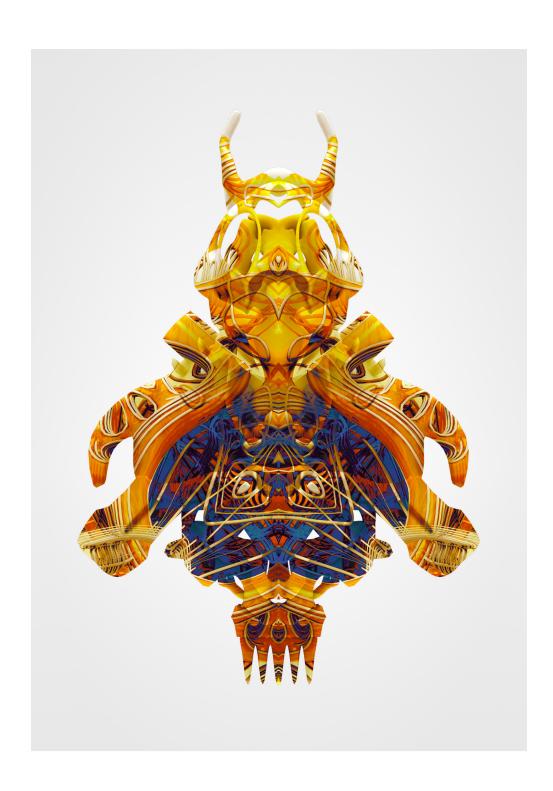
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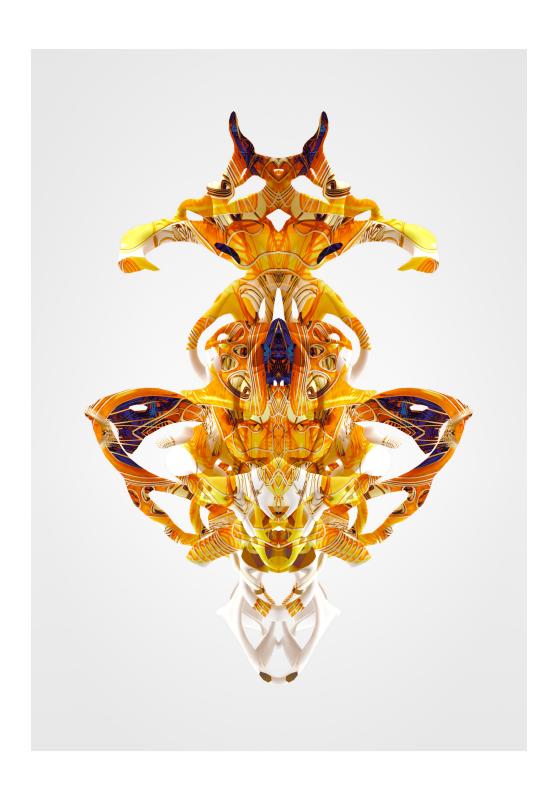




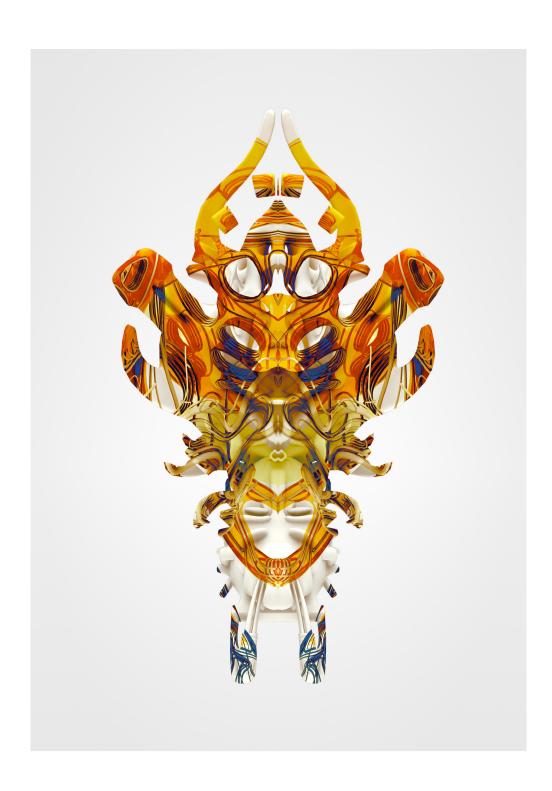




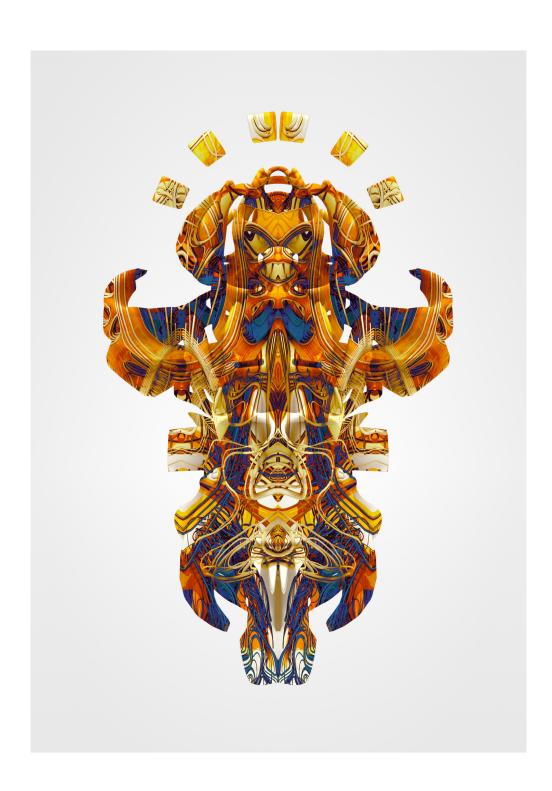


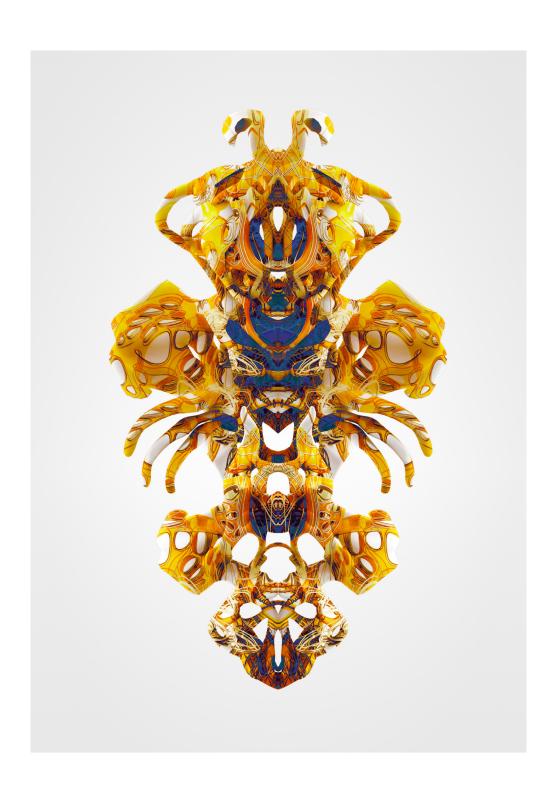


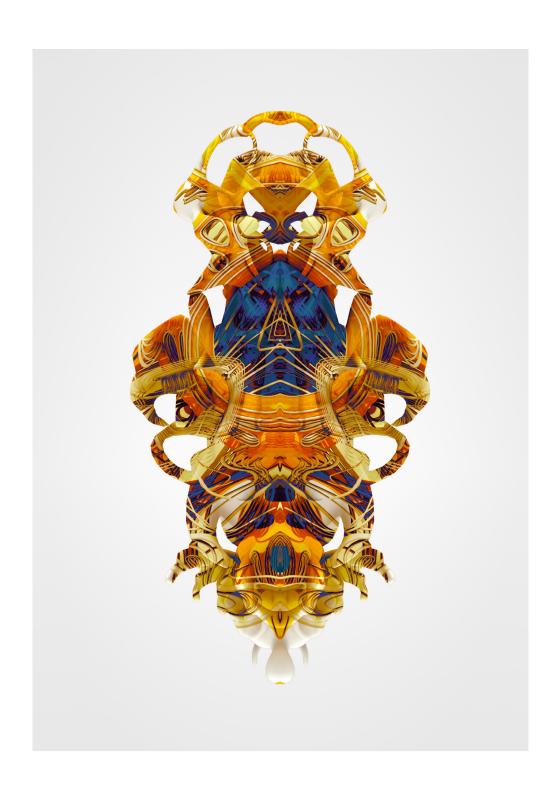
AYADNULAN, 2017 print 28 x 22 cm, framed 29.6 x 23.6 cm 11 x 8.6 inches, framed 11.6 x 9.3 inches

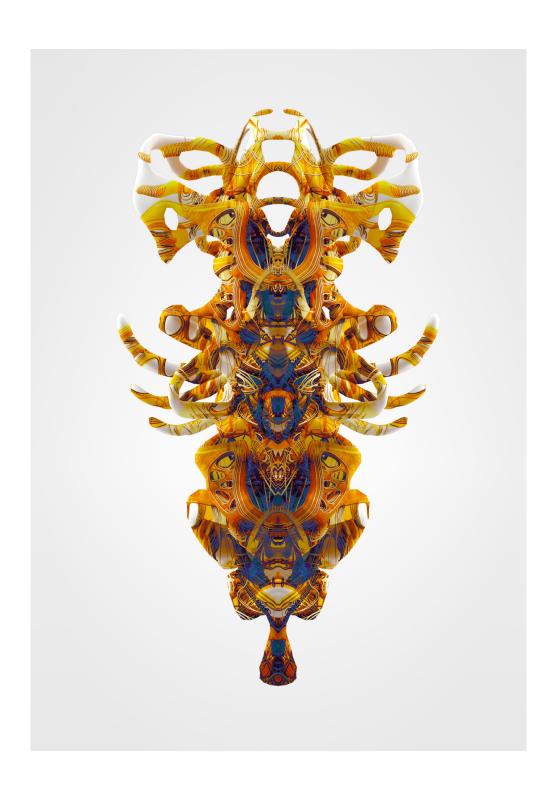


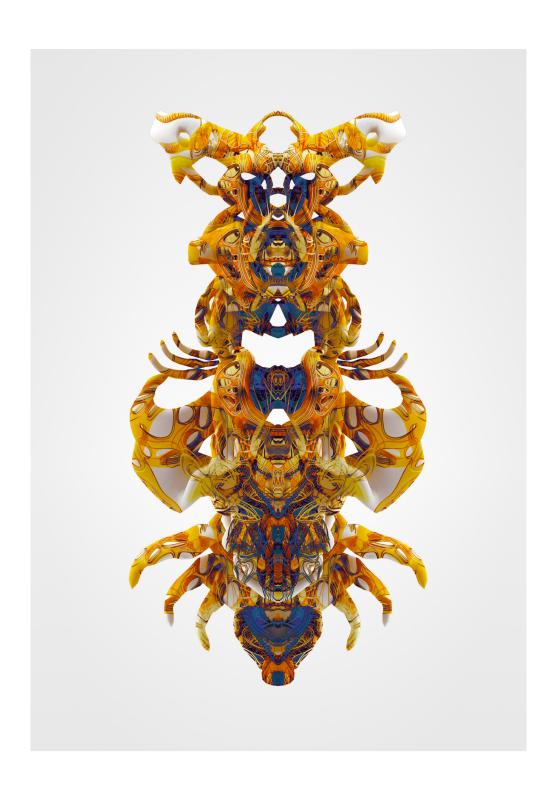


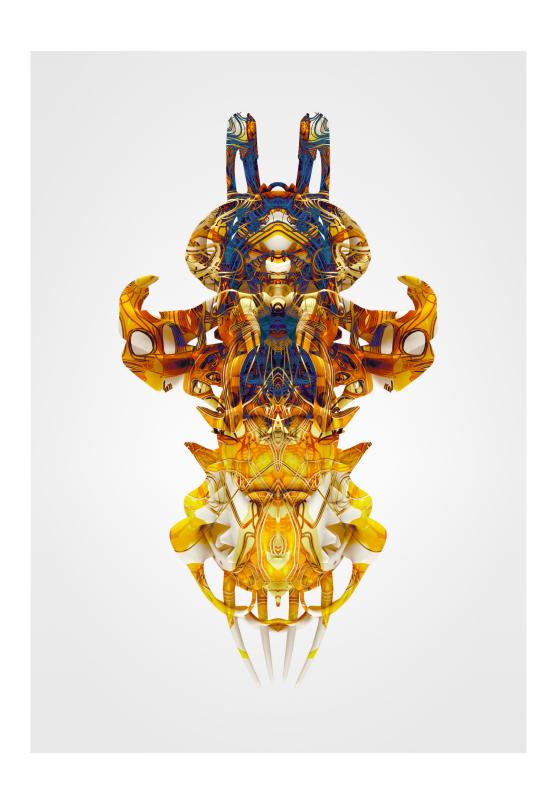


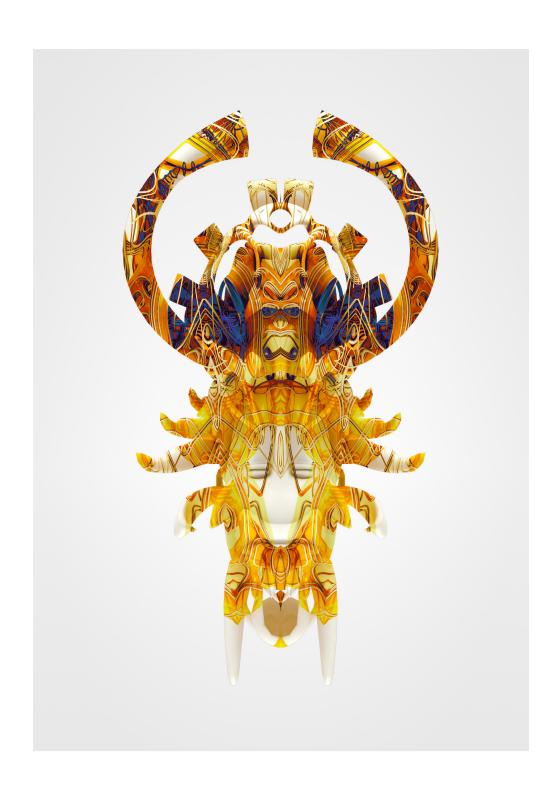


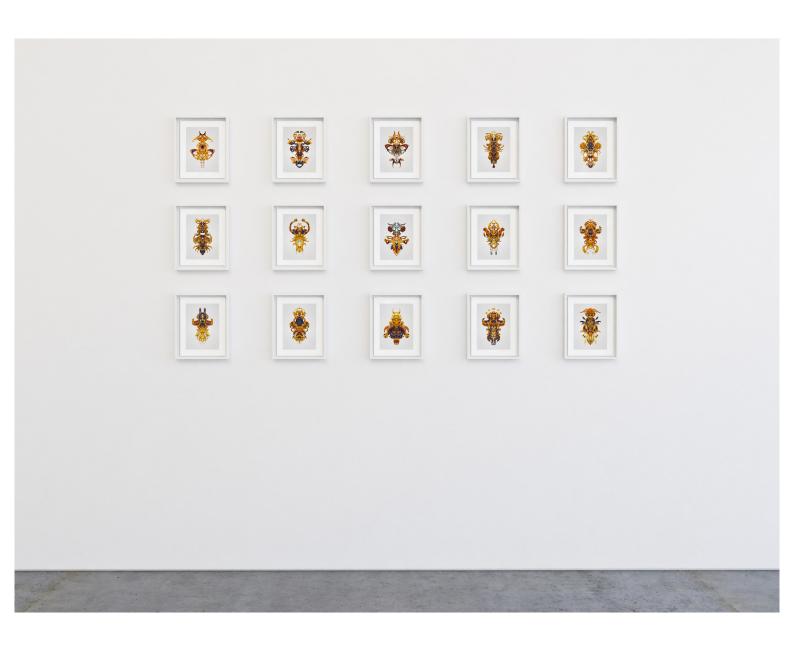


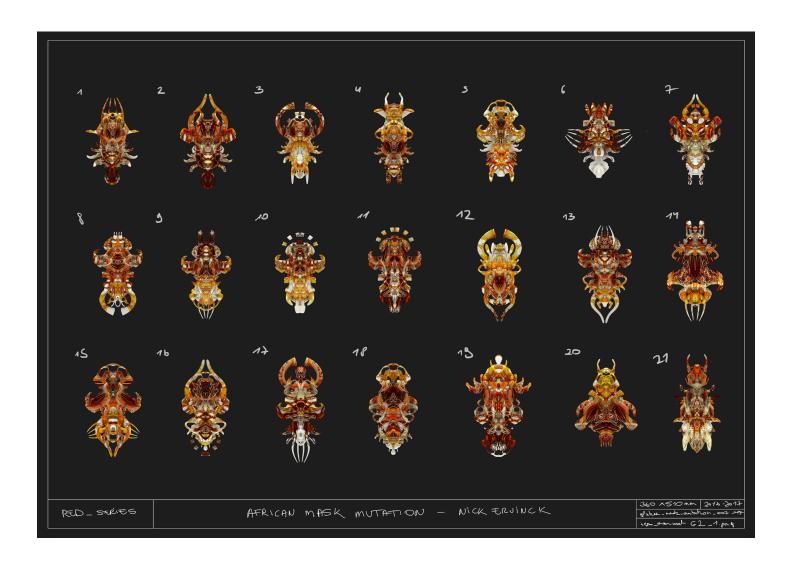




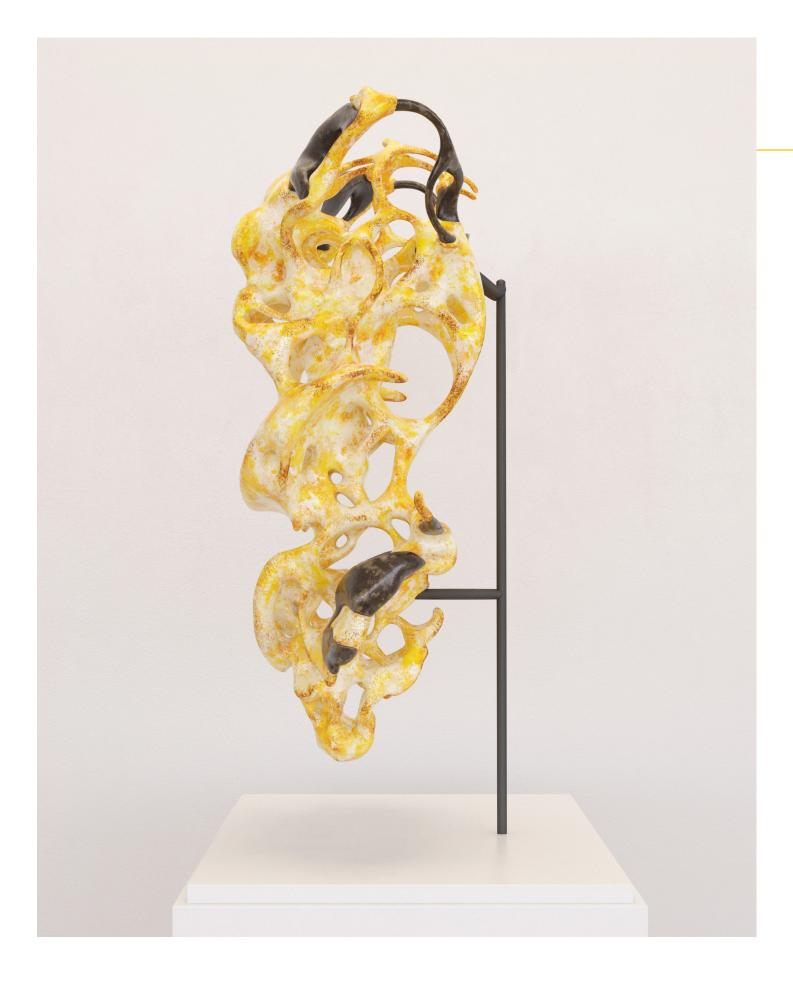


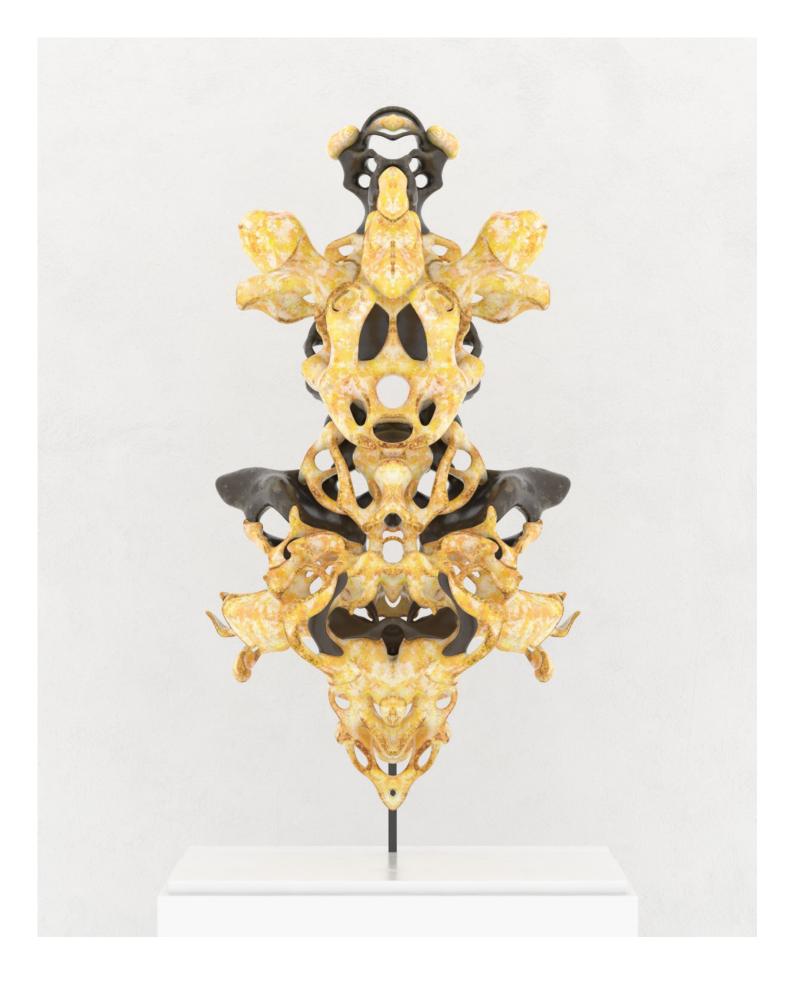












AYAWINRAH YELLOW, 20203D print
35 x 15 x 19 cm
13,8 x 5,9 x 7,5 inches



AYAWINRAH YELLOW, 2020 3D print 35 x 15 x 19 cm 13,8 x 5,9 x 7,5 inches



AYAWINRAH GREEN, 20203D print
30 x 12 x 18 cm
11,8 x 4,7 x 7,1 inches



3D print 35 x 15 x 19 cm 13,8 x 5,9 x 7,5 inches







