

ROMAN ROAD

PRESS RELEASE

INDEPENDENT BRUSSELS

STAND 3_2

Thursday 08 November – Sunday 11 November 2018

Opening Hours:

Vanderborght Building
Schildknaapstraat
50 rue de l'Ecuyer
1000 Brussels

Thursday 08 November: Private Viewing 3 – 10 PM
Friday 09 November: 12 – 9 PM
Saturday 10 November: 12 – 7 PM
Sunday 11 November: 12 – 7 PM

Roman Road is pleased to be participating at Independent Brussels 2018 with a solo booth by British artist Antony Cairns. With a keen interest in experimental printing methods and technological developments, Cairns is known for his ingenuity in transforming machines and recycled materials into art objects. Roman Road's stand brings together works from two of his latest series – *IBM* and *E.I.* – through which he presents his nocturnal images of cities printed on IBM computer cards and frozen in e-reader screens.

Cairns began his *IBM* series in 2016 following his research into the history and evolution of computing. Introduced in 1928, the 'IBM Computer Card' was one of the most important technological innovations in early computing, serving as a major medium for data recording and storage for nearly half a century. IBM cards are now obsolete and seldom found today, but over the past two years Cairns has been sourcing both unused and recycled cards online, stockpiling a collection of these punch cards which he employs for his new *IBM* works. To make these pieces, Cairns inkjet prints sections of his chosen photograph onto individual cards, which are then assembled together and hand-pinned onto a backing support. Roman Road's stand specially features new and large-scale photomontages from this series, progressing a novel experience of his distinctive imagery.

Together with his *IBM* pieces, the display features a selection of works from Cairns *E.I.* series, whereby he presents his dystopian cityscapes petrified in e-reader screens. Each of these unique works is encapsulated in a custom-made Perspex armature and rests on a floating shelf within the stand. Earlier this year, Cairns was specially commissioned by Tate to create a unique installation of 45 new *E.I.* works, which was recently presented in the major exhibition *Shape of Light: 100 Years of Photography and Abstract Art* at Tate Modern, London.

Coinciding with Roman Road's participation at Independent Brussels, further new *IBM* works by Antony Cairns are currently exhibited in *Artificial Impressions* at the Stedelijk Museum Breda until 03 February 2019.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Antony Cairns (b.1980, London) lives and works in London, England. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in photography from the London College of Printing in 2002. In 2015, Cairns received the Hariban Award and he was awarded the Images Vevey Special Jury Prize in 2017. He is currently participating in major institutional exhibitions at the Museum of London and Stedelijk Museum Breda. Recent solo exhibitions include *The Tale of Adam Earl Gordons*, Théâtre de Verdure, Vevey (2018); *TYO2-LDN4*, Roman Road, London (2017); *OSC – Osaka Station City*, Roman Road, London (2016); and *LA-LV / LDN Process*, SferaExhibition, Kyoto, Japan (2016). His works have been shown in international group exhibitions, including *Shape of Light: 100 Years of Photography and Abstract Art*, Tate Modern, London (2018); *A Matter of Memory: Photography as Object in the Digital Age*, George Eastman Museum, New York (2016); *TOUCHED – Craftsmanship in Contemporary Photography*, Museum Het Schip, Amsterdam (2016); and *Memory Lab: Photography Challenges History*, Mudam, Luxembourg (2015). Upcoming residencies include Gapado Artist in Residence, Seogwipo-si, Republic of Korea, in Autumn 2019.

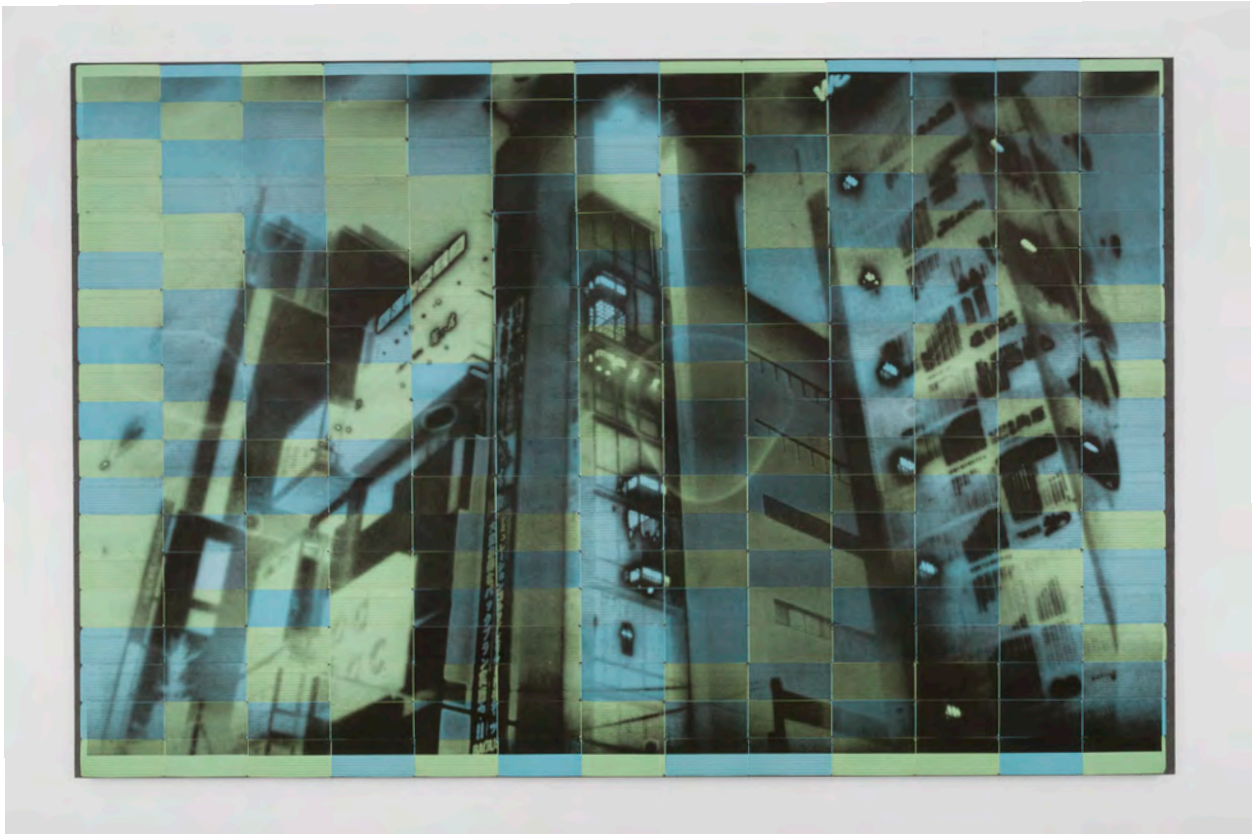
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ABOUT ROMAN ROAD

Roman Road was founded in 2013 by Marisa Bellani and initially began as a project space. The peculiarity of the premises has had a direct impact on the gallery's programme since its beginning. Tall and with a small footprint, the space led the director to challenge artists to employ the architectural elements in order to develop or restructure a body of work. Artists have frequently been asked to use the exhibition as a medium and have managed to transform the gallery room into a unique work of art. In 2014, the building underwent refurbishment to instate an additional private viewing space that gathers varied works by the gallery's represented artists, which are viewable by appointment. Since completing this renovation in 2015, Roman Road has established a qualitative programme, including participations at art fairs, and has seen its represented artists become internationally recognised by institutions and collectors.

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Antony Cairns, *IBM TYO2_80*, 2018. Inkjet on 247 green and blue computer punch cards mounted with pins on archival charcoal (grey) sprayed wood covered with charcoal (grey) softboard, 158 x 243 cm, unique.

Courtesy of Roman Road and the artist. © Ollie Hammick