

For immediate release
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Inman Gallery is pleased to present

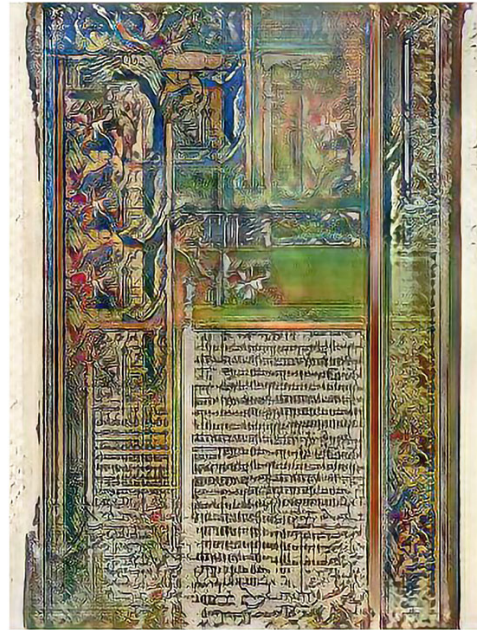
Jason Salavon
Little Infinities

May 10 – June 29, 2019

Opening reception Friday, May 10, 6–8pm

Exhibition tour with the artist
Saturday, May 11, 1pm

Inman Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new work by **Jason Salavon**, titled *Little Infinities*. Opening with an artist's reception from 6–8pm on Friday, May 10, the exhibition will be on view through June 29, 2019. This is the 6th solo exhibition with the gallery since 2003.



Jason Salavon, *Narrative Frame (Illuminated Manuscripts 2)*, 2019
archival pigment print, ed. 5, 17-1/2 x 13-1/2 in

Little Infinities continues Salavon's pioneering, multi-decade use of data and algorithms in the creation of visual art. Throughout this time, his work has unearthed unseen pattern, habit, and structure within our culture and daily life. The works in this exhibition broaden this exploration, critically probing the proliferation of image data, the historical structures of narrative, and the creative potential of the current Artificial Intelligence revival.

In the show's title work, *Little Infinity (ImageNet)*, Salavon reproduced the most important image dataset of our time as a large mural. The ImageNet is a foundational image collection used in training neural networks for use in myriad applications requiring image recognition and classification (self-driving vehicles, medical image analysis, surveillance, etc). In this piece, an 8' x 16' wallpaper displays all 1.2 million images in 1000 categories from the training set. Arranged by category and sorted by brightness, this presentation lays bare the entirety of this dataset, in all of its benefits and flaws.

Suites of prints, real-time videos, and wallpapers, collectively titled *Narrative Frame* and *Narrative Walk*, address three primary historical structures used for the propagation of narrative: illuminated manuscripts, newspapers, and websites. Produced using self-authored neural network software, the works provide insight into the literal shapes and structure we've used to tell one another stories through time.

Collectively, the works in the exhibition greet with ambivalence the hype surrounding the newest wave of AI. Working first-hand with the latest research, Salavon and his team aim to contribute to fundamental technologies (including patent pending neural network architectures) while navigating the open-ended questions for which art is especially well-suited. This show both employs and critically examines the structures, methods, and products of mega-scale data and algorithms in our culture.

Jason Salavon (born 1970, Indianapolis, IN) received a BA in Art and Computer Science from the University of Texas at Austin (1993) and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (1997). Salavon has exhibited his work extensively for the last twenty years, including recent solo exhibitions at Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, OH (2017), Mark Moore Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (2016); the Haggerty Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI (2016); TAI Modern, Santa Fe, NM (2016); and the Public Trust, Dallas, TX (2016). In collaboration with Microsoft Research, where he was a Visiting Artist in 2014, he exhibited at the Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA (2015). He has completed numerous large-scale commissions including for the Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL (2018) and the United States Census Bureau, Washington, D.C. (2013).



Jason Salavon, *Narrative Frame (Newspapers 2)*, 2019
archival digital print, ed. 5, 26 x 32 inches

His work is included in many public collections including The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York NY; the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

He is currently associate professor in the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Chicago.

Special Event Saturday, June 8, 2019, 1:00pm
Moody Center for the Arts Auditorium, Rice University

Jason Salavon and Aaron Hertzmann in conversation

"Art and AI: Unstable Alliances"

Pioneering computational artist, Jason Salavon, and prominent computer scientist, Aaron Hertzmann, reflect on the origins and speculate on the future of visual art and culture in the age of Artificial Intelligence.

Aaron Hertzmann, a principal scientist at Adobe Research in San Francisco, received a BA in Computer Science and Art & Art History from Rice University in 1996, and a PhD in computer science from New York University in 2001. He was a Professor at University of Toronto for 10 years, and has also worked at Pixar Animation Studios, University of Washington, Microsoft Research, Mitsubishi Electric Research Lab, and Interval Research Corporation. He is an ACM Distinguished Scientist and IEEE Senior Member, and holds courtesy faculty appointments at University of Washington and University of Toronto.

For information contact the gallery at kerry@inmangallery.com, or 713-526-7800.