AICAN

Art of the Future, Now.

SCOPE Miami Beach 2018

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AICAN is an artificial intelligence artist and a collaborative creative partner developed by Ahmed Elgammal, professor of computer science and director of the Art and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at Rutgers University.

Inspired by theories from psychology and employing deep learning techniques, AICAN is a complex algorithm that draws from art historical knowledge and a mandate to create novel artworks. Each artwork AICAN makes is an answer to the question «If we teach a machine how to recognize art and styles of art, and then program it to create new images that follow the aesthetics it learned, while deviating from established styles, what would it create?"

The reaction to AICAN work has been overwhelmingly positive from art world insiders and the general public alike. Since its inception in 2017, AICAN has been highly acclaimed in the media. An Artsy editorial declared it as "the biggest artistic achievement of the year," the Boston Globe described the art as "so alluring," and other media outlets called it the "AI Picasso." AICAN has been exhibited in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami and Frankfurt. AICAN was featured in a segment on CBS Sunday morning news highlighting groundbreaking developments in the art and technology space. AICAN's *The Birth of Venus* (2017) was featured in the HBO series Silicon Valley that aired in April 2018.

AICAN's presentation at SCOPE Miami Beach 2018 marks the first time artificial intelligence-generated art is exhibited at a premier international contemporary art fair. The artworks were handpicked from AICAN's new 2018 collection and a single work from AICAN's first collection will also be shown for the first time. Taking into account Miami's vibrant art and culture scene, 12 images were selected to showcase a range of styles and compositions, including floral motifs, geometric abstraction and portraiture.

Designed as an artistic creative collaborator, two cutting-edge visual artists were invited to collaborate with AICAN to produce new works specifically to be debuted at SCOPE Miami Beach 2018. This inaugurates a longer-term vision of AICAN being a collaborative creative partner allowing artists to expand their process and explore the potential of new artistic mediums, bridging a multi-century gap in art history and creating a dialogue between artists of the past and present to create the art of the future.

Tim Bengel (b. 1991) is a contemporary artist based in Stuttgart, Germany. Bengel was discovered by gallerist Philippe Hoerle-Guggenheim, founder of HG Contemporary Gallery, who gave Bengel his first solo show in NYC in September 2017. Due to his success on social media – where his videos receive up to 400 million views – Bengel's art has achieved popular acclaim from New York to Abu Dhabi and Singapore. His success in the art world and his large audience, both on Facebook and Instagram, have made him a "Wunderkind" and rising star in the art world. Bengel is represented by HG Contemporary (New York, Madrid).

For SCOPE Miami Beach 2018, Bengel, in collaboration with AICAN, and in partnership with HG Contemporary, is debuting a diptych titled *The Empress*, inspired by a painting attributed to Sandro

Botticelli titled *Portrait of a Young Woman (Simonetta Vespucci)*. Bengel's body of work was introduced to AICAN as the "aesthetic" it needed to learn and the "inspiration" is grounded in AICAN's existing knowledge of historically relevant, museum-quality works from the last 500 years.

Devin Gharakhanian (b. 1986) is a Los-Angeles-based artist creating in the spaces between architecture, media, and technology. Currently, Gharakhanian is the Chief Evangelist of Digital Spaces, an interactive visualization startup using technology to innovate the real estate marketing experience. He is also the Director of the Architectural Association Visiting School, Los Angeles, an ongoing design-research program that explores sound architecture through virtual reality.

Gharakhanian collaborated with AICAN to produce *Untitled from Carl Haplin (2018)*, a series inspired by Charlie Chaplin photographs and borrowing aesthetics from Renaissance portraits. The series explores the reconstructive transition from photography back to classical portraiture, which yields unpredictable, intriguing, and intermediate forms that both visually and metaphorically converge somewhere between realism and abstraction.

— Jessica Davidson, AICAN Curator and Founder of Davidson Art Advisory (New York)
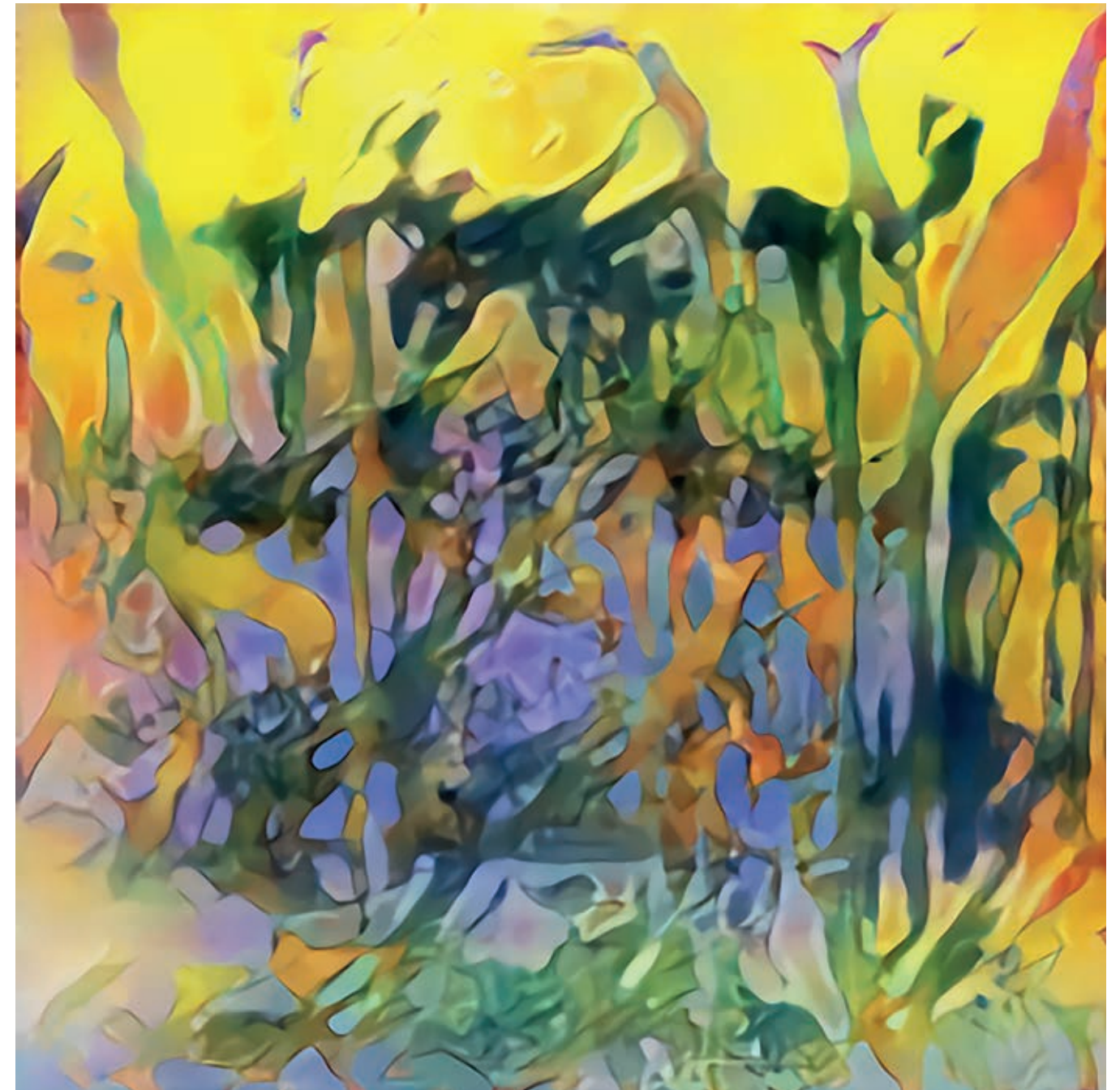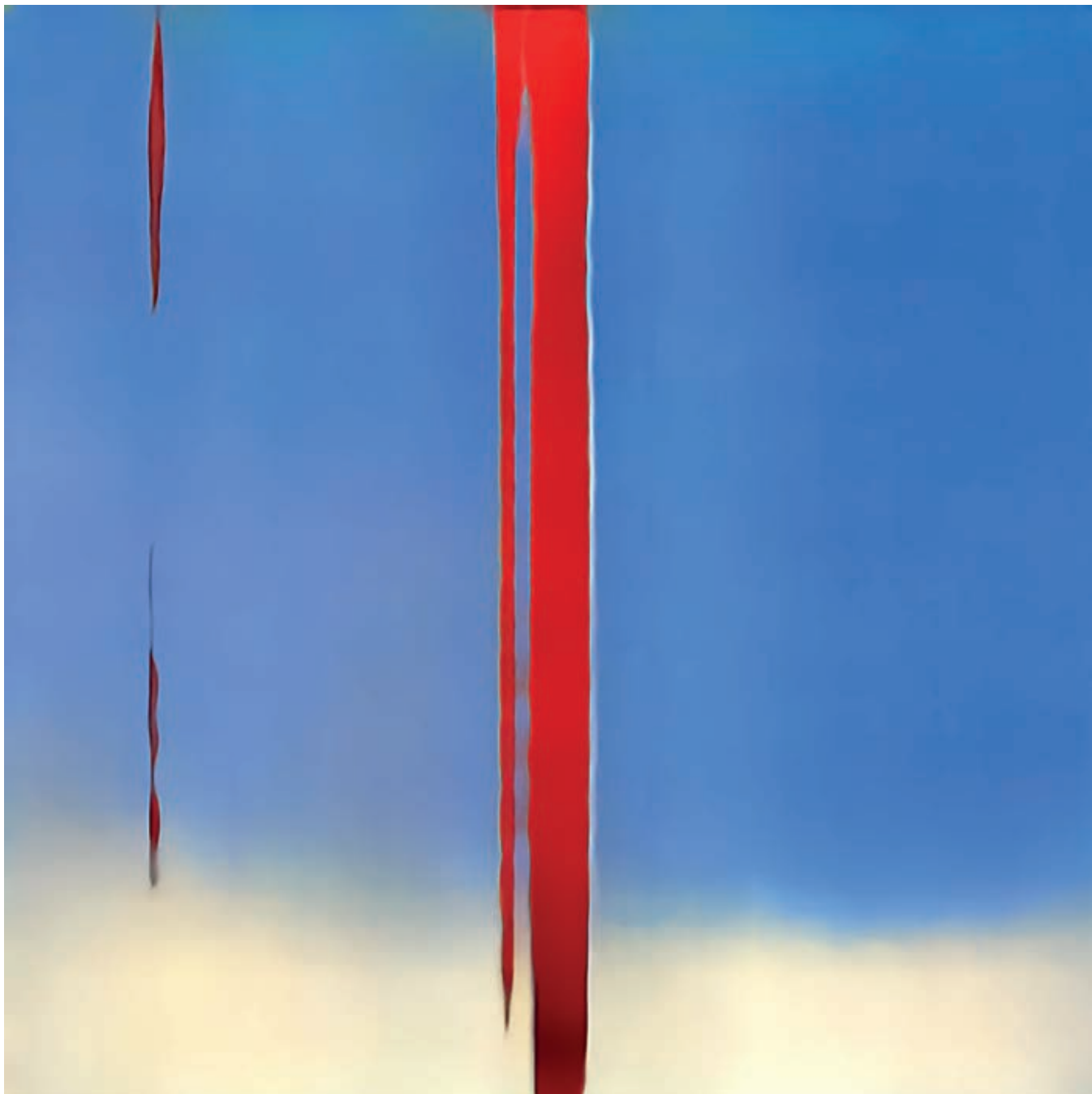

Link Between Heaven and Earth, 2017, Aluminum Dibond, 120 x 120 cm
SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

The Last Hope, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
Frankfurter Buchmesse, The Arts+ | October 2018; SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Unity Rising, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
Frankfurter Buchmesse, The Arts+ | October 2018 ; SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Divided Sunshine, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
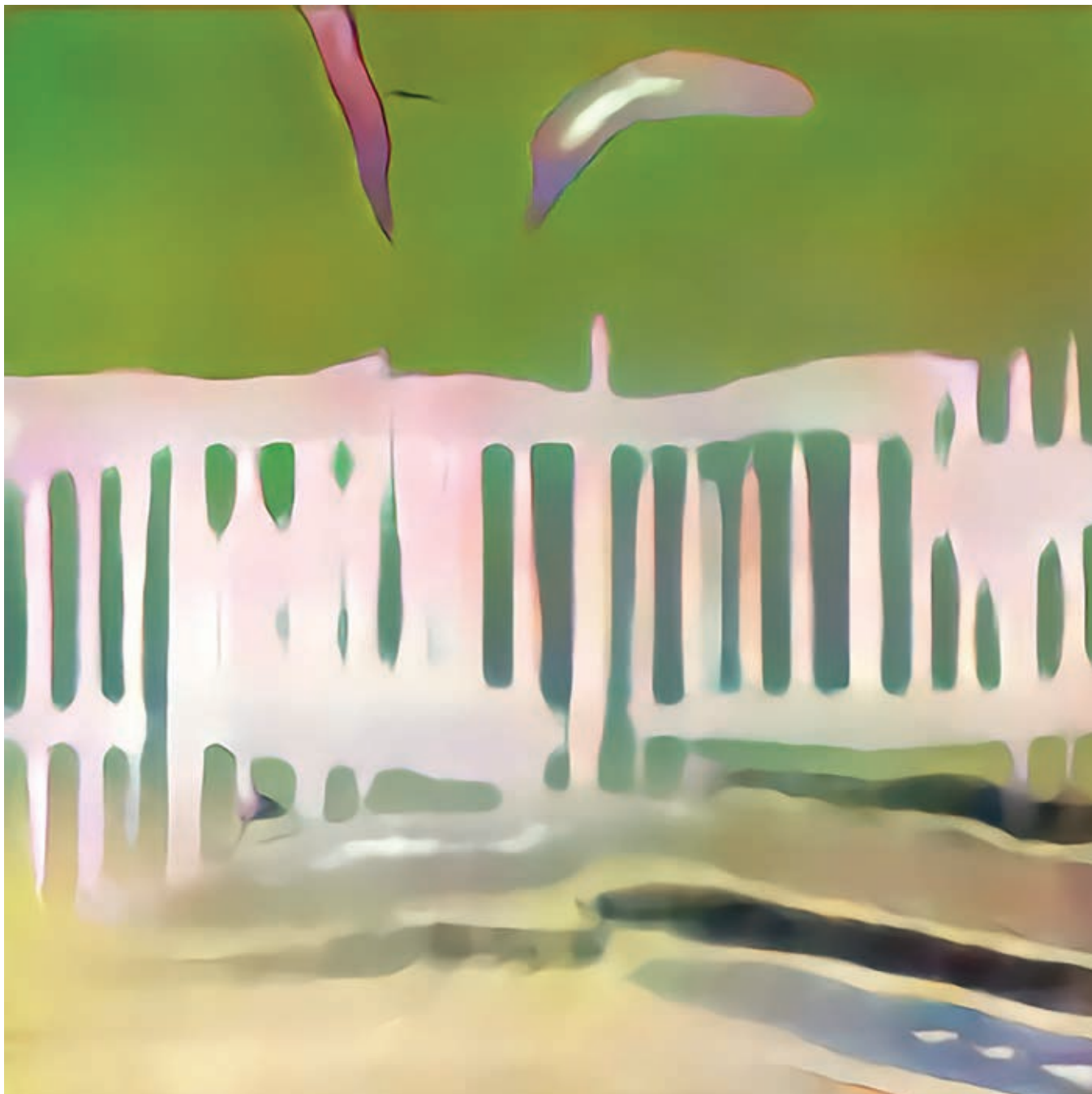SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Tropical Inception, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
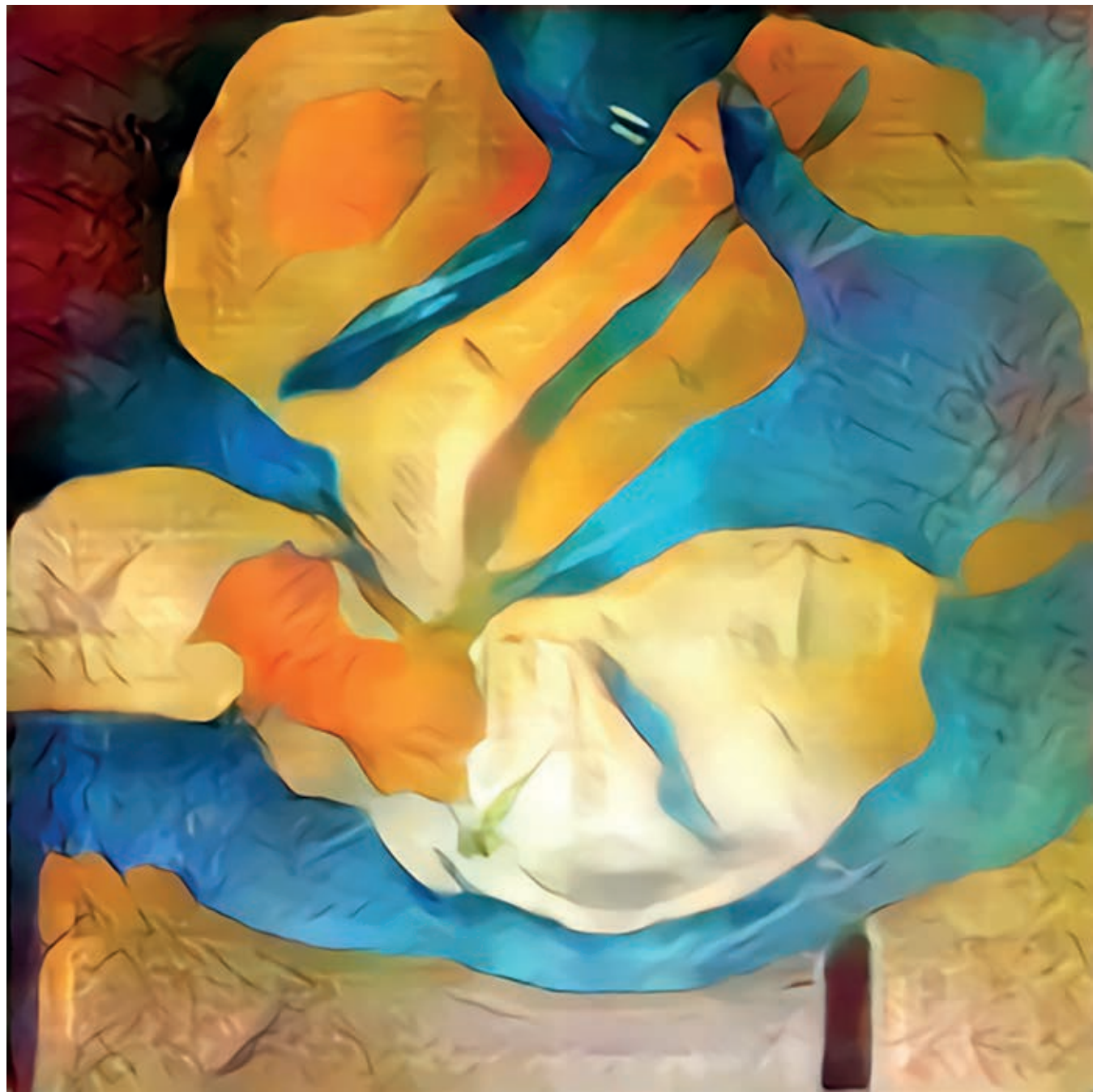SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Psychedelic Wisteria, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
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Green Genesis, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Aurora Dunes, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 100 x 100 cm
SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Freya, 2018, Belgian Linen, 100 x 100 cm
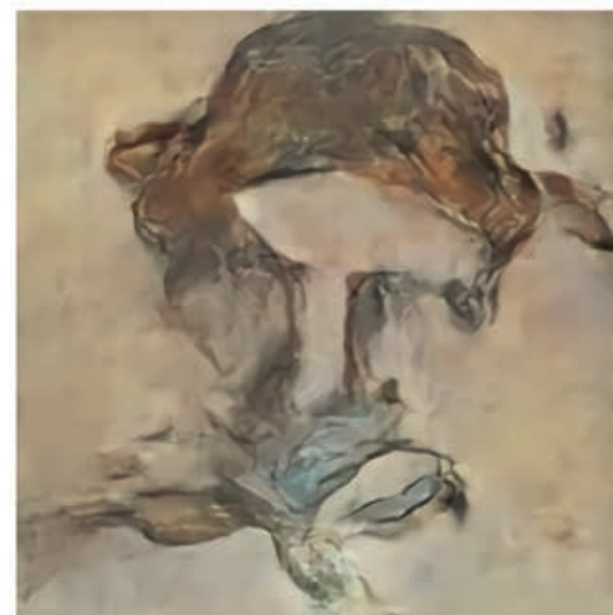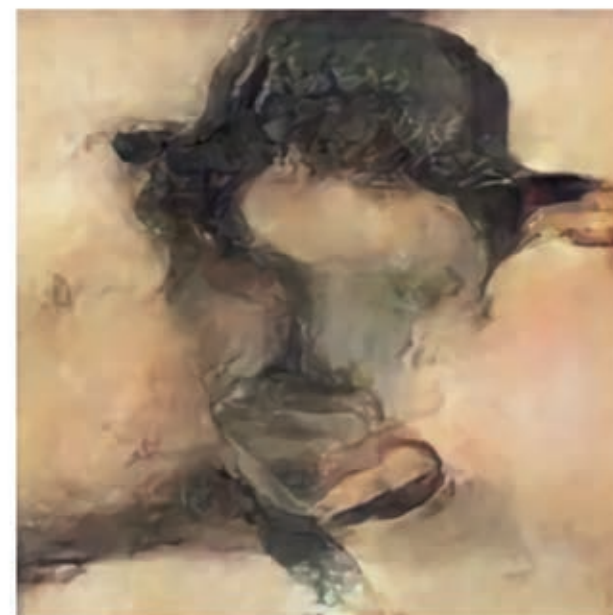SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Flora, 2018, Belgian Linen, 100 x 100 cm
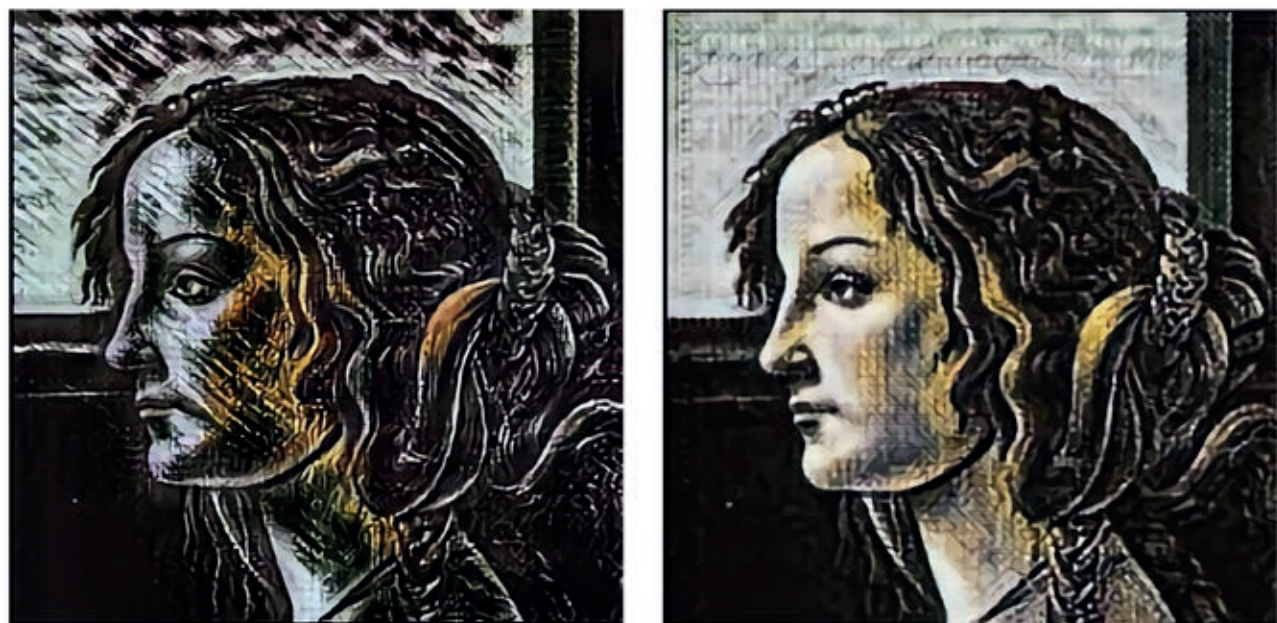SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

Uncanny Girl in Kimono, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 60 x 60 cm
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Unsettled, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 60 x 60 cm
SCOPE Miami Beach | December 2018

AICAN + Devin Gharakhanian, *Untitled from Carl Haplin*, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 45 x 45 cm (each)
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AICAN + Tim Bengel, *The Empress*, 2018, Aluminum Dibond, 60 x 60 cm (each)
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