



Through his work in digital imagery for science fiction films, Simon Diebold holds a remarkable ability to create his own toolkit for reimagining worlds. Liberated from the confines of physical space, he orients his camera and manipulates lighting to sculpt environments with skewed perspectives. His models evolve within these meticulously crafted fictional realms, their proportions intentionally distorted to achieve an exquisite final outcome.

This creative dynamism now extends to his current photographic endeavour, although it now exists within the intimate conditions of his studio - a creative laboratory. Here, he trades the glossy screen and the blue lights for tangible materials and the warmth of silver photographic prints. Every detail is meticulously controlled—from crafting costumes to sewing to hand-painting backgrounds to distorting scenes with the help of mirrors, capturing reflective model interactions.

It's as though he's rediscovering the sensitive aspect and infinite possibilities he has extracted from his virtual creations. He substitutes grain for noise and wields brushes to paint and fashion, positioning his body to find elusive angles through adept light manipulation.

The emerging dreamlike figures are unsettling because they exist within our reality.

Their skin textures, intense gazes, and nuanced postures imprint themselves upon our retinas, evoking ethereal and disquieting imagery—akin to moments when our perception of reality is momentarily captured by déjà vu, blurred by psychological fatigue or psychotropic effect.

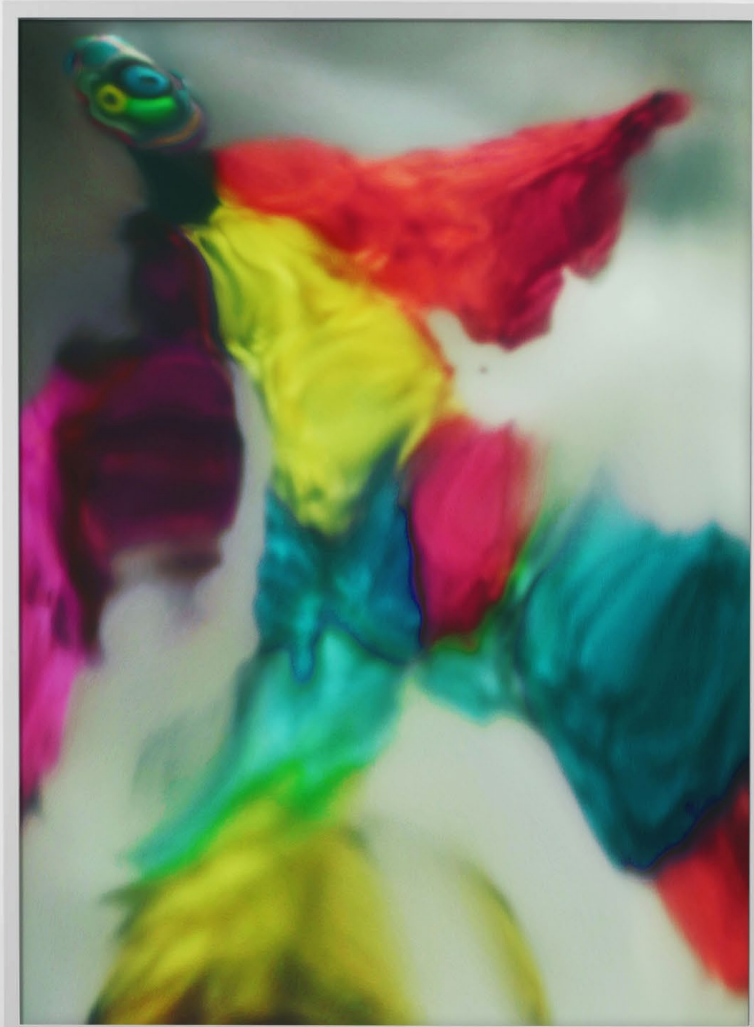
Simon Diebold serves as a curator of this altered reality, channelling his hand and eye to serve characters striving to transcend the two-dimensionality of paper.

— Sarah Mercadante







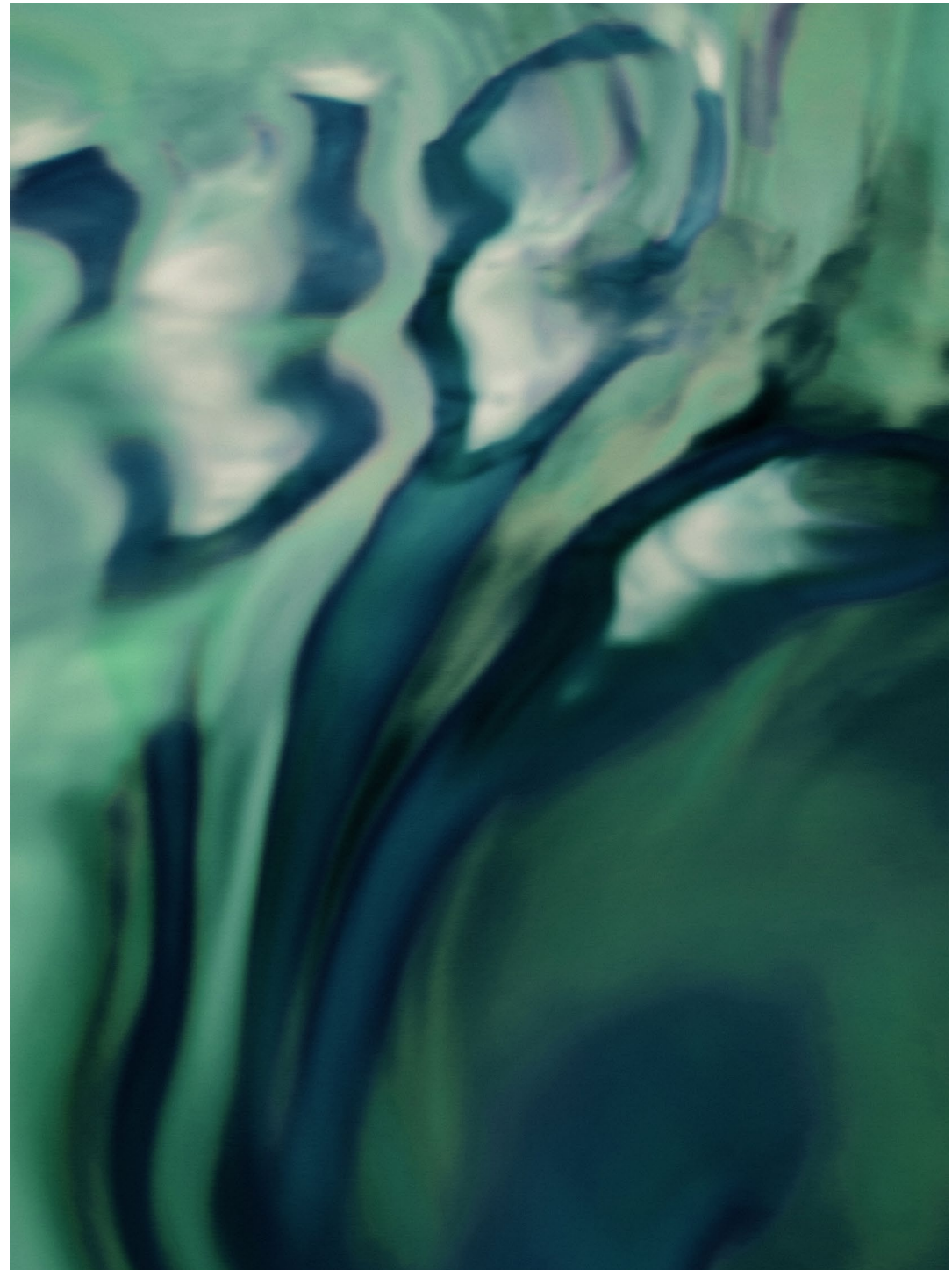




Every living creature can become a genius, from its bizarre imagination to its magnificent extravagance.







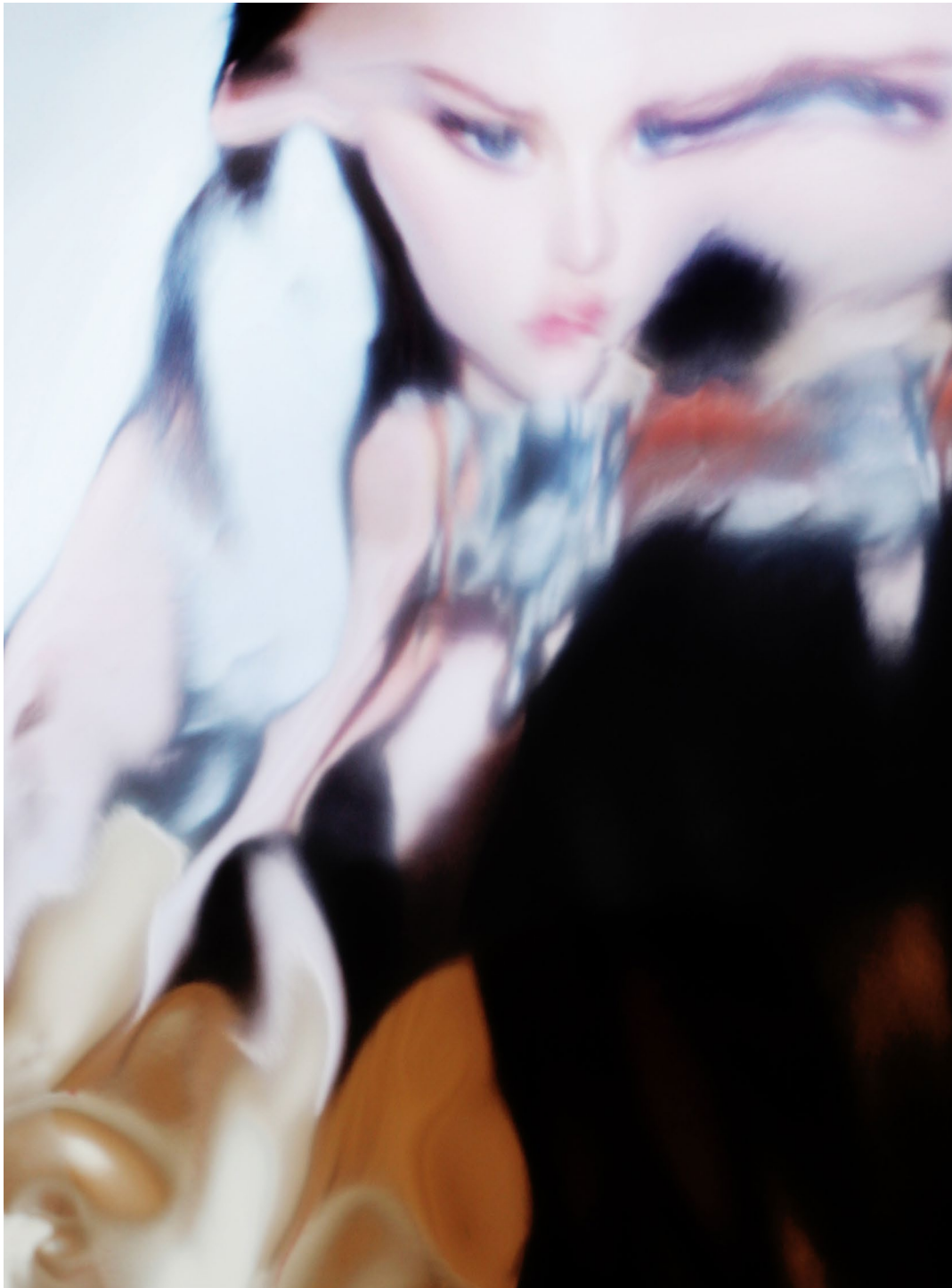






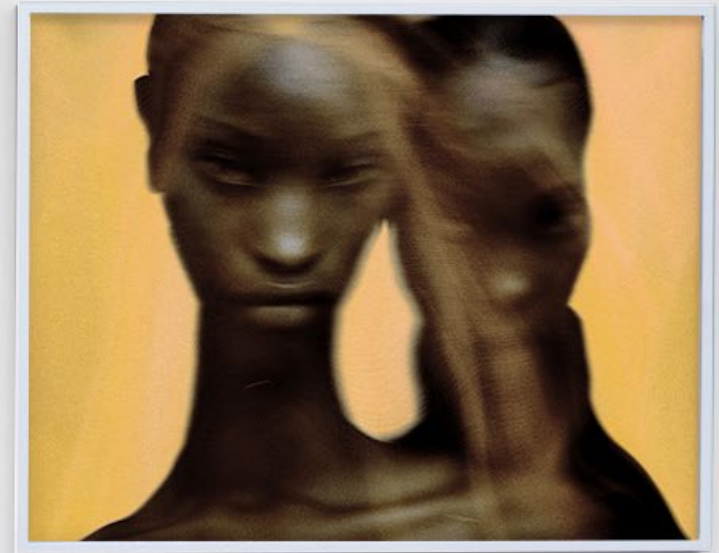
I see faces blurred with heat.
It printed as is; blood reds, diluted pomegranates
In the ambient gloom they broke through;
A possible latent otherness.

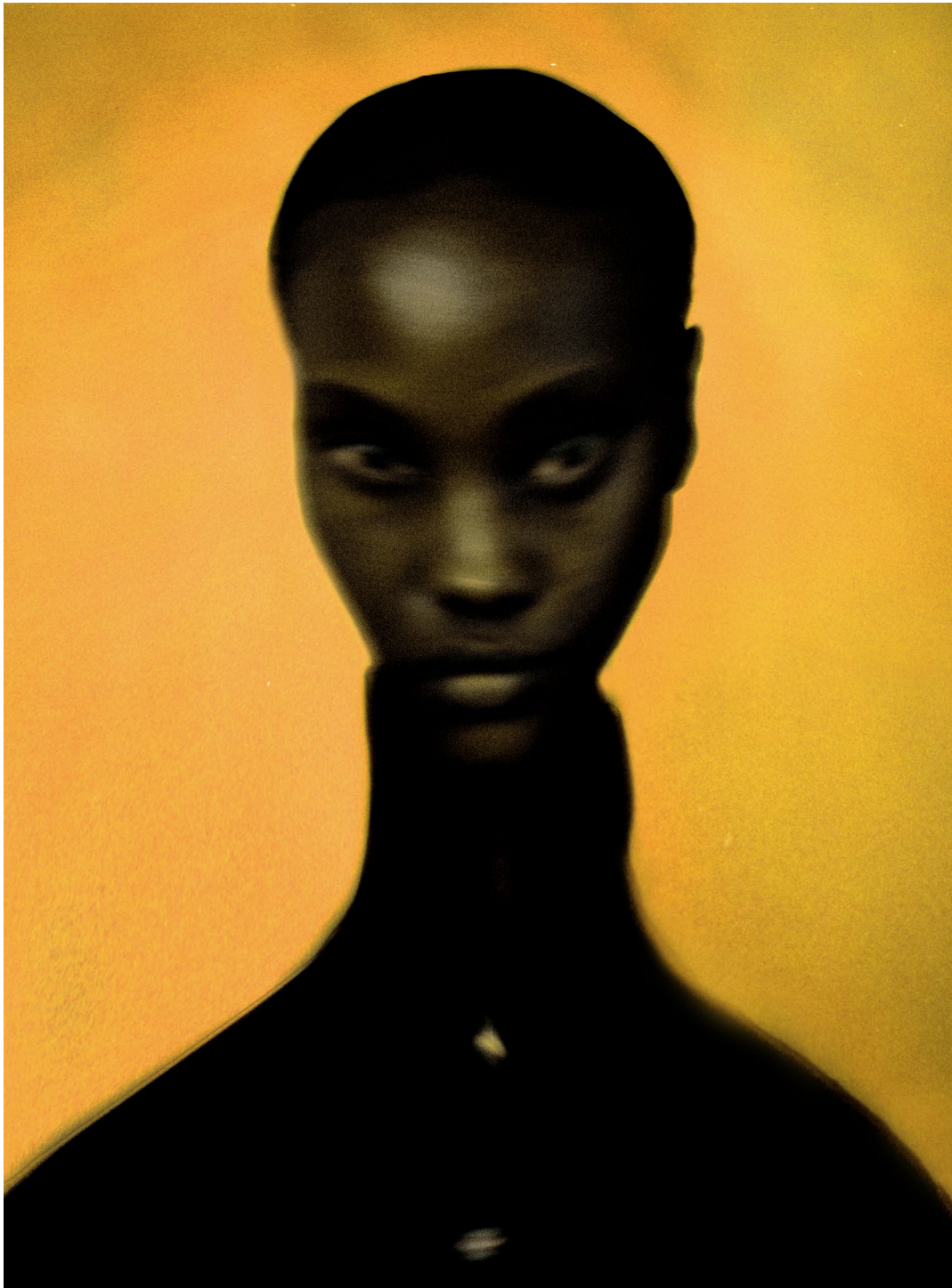






I have a haunting memory of you.
You who pass, you who settle down
Your reflection somewhere that I catch







I
YOU
ME
WE?

Simon Diebold is a Paris-based photographer from Strasbourg. He graduated from ESMA Montpellier in 2014, after which he moved to London to work with Lucasfilm studios on VFX for science fiction films.

Alongside his professional endeavours, Diebold pursued personal artistic projects, blending various art forms such as painting, sculpture, and costume design into his primary medium: photography.

Diebold relocated to Paris in 2017 to hone and focus entirely on his artistic practice. He joined Le Wonder, a prominent space in French contemporary art, where he explored new visual perspectives for his photography, integrating elements of painting and scenography.

In 2019, he partnered with another photographer, Gabriel Lenoble to establish a studio in Paris to enhance his creative capabilities and delve deeper into traditional silver print techniques.

His achievements include being a finalist for the Prix Picto de la Mode at the Palais Galliera in 2023.

Diebold has exhibited his photographs at the Galerie Hors-Champs in Paris under the curatorship of Hannibal Volkoff. His work was showcased at the «China-France International Photography Exhibition Shanghai» in June 2024, with an upcoming group exhibition scheduled at the Beijing Fine Arts in November 2024.

