

Yuri Zupancic (1980-)

Born in 1980, Yuri Zupancic is an American artist living and working in Paris, France. He is best known for miniature paintings made directly on microchips—objects that crystallize the ambitions and paradoxes of contemporary technological progress. Approaching technology as a site of inquiry rather than critique, he treats the microchip as both material and metaphor.



Working on a tiny scale, often painting with a single eyelash, Zupancic's practice resists the flashy, maximalist aesthetics of consumer culture while echoing the relentless miniaturization of our most powerful and coveted devices. His work is driven by a fascination with the esoteric elegance of circuitry—forms typically hidden from view. Painting on the very components that transmit and store private data, emotions, and memories, he gives visual form to a felt digital presence.

Blending classical painting techniques with digital processes, his works inhabit a liminal space between the tactile and the virtual. Alongside these micro-scale paintings, Zupancic develops hybrid works combining painting, sculpture, Photoshop, and video mapping, extending his investigation into accelerating technological evolution as a force intimately shaping contemporary life.

Solo Exhibitions

2024

REAL VIRTUALITY, Aspen Collective Gallery, Aspen, CO, USA

2019

Afternet, Cider Gallery, Lawrence, KS, USA

Présent Composé, HCE Galerie, Saint-Denis, France

2017

Nouvelles Lunes, Fort Villès-Martin, Saint-Nazaire, France

Microchip Paintings, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts / Semicon, San Francisco

2016

Screen Deep, Lawrence Arts Center

Microchip Paintings, Semicon San Francisco & Grenoble, France

2014

ZØØM, Plenum Space, Kansas City, MO, USA

2013

In the Reign of King Harad, Leon Gallery, Denver, CO, USA

2012

Icons & Virtual Memories, Marquee Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2010

HEAVYLIGHT, Invisible Hand Gallery, Lawrence

2009

Blending Modes, DotDotDot ArtSpace, Lawrence

2008

Abracadata, The Bourgeois Pig, Lawrence

Group Exhibitions

2026

ArtHouse Tai Hang, Art Fair, Hong Kong

Pavilion Taipei, Art Fair, Grand Courtyard, Taipei, Taiwan

2025

Made on the Mountain - Residency Showcase, Aspen Collective Gallery, Aspen, CO, USA

2024

Xmas Hanging, Avant Galerie, Paris

2023

Nano Musée, Zero1 Festival, La Rochelle, France

Terrains Vagues, Le Sample, Bagnolet, France

2020

Tales of Water, Skye Gallery, Aspen

2019

counterART, RedLine Contemporary Art Center, Denver

Modern Panic X, Truman Brewery, London and Vanilla Gallery, Tokyo

Chants Orphiques Pour la Nature, HCE Galerie, Saint-Denis

2018

Through the Looking Glass, COB Gallery, London

SOYOUZ, Galerie Olivier Meyer, Nantes, France

Fragility, HCE Galerie, Saint-Denis, France
Myriad, Apex Gallery, Kansas City
Art@Tech, Cologne, Germany

2017

AKAA-Also Known As Africa, Art Fair, le Carreau du Temple, Paris

2016

AKAA-Also Known As Africa, Art Fair, le Carreau du Temple, Paris
Ratio, Cider Gallery, Lawrence;
Afriques à Venir, Galerie KO21, Paris

2015

Modern Panic VI, Guerrilla Zoo, London
Free State Festival, Lawrence, KS USA
Peripheral Visions, Plateau Gallery, Berlin
Expo Collectif, Galerie KO21, Paris

2014

Animals in the Wall, LondoNewcastle, London
Free State Festival, Lawrence, Kansas

2006-2013

Fresh Produce, Spencer Museum of Fine Arts, Lawrence
Modern Panic IV, Guerrilla Zoo, London
Through the Looking Glass, Kaleidoscope Gallery, Sydney
Burroughs Live, Royal Academy of the Arts, London
Russian Frost Farmers, Wellington, NZ
Closer, Wandering Room, Brisbane

Publications

Soft Need #23, Basel, Switzerland, 2021

Continuous Present, Volume 1, New York, 2021

New York Times, "The Great Art Behind Hunter S. Thompson's Run for Sheriff", March 2021

Aspen Daily News, Agus on Art: Tales of Water at Skye Gallery Aspen, Mar 13, 2020

Maintenant: Journal of Contemporary Dada, New York City, 2018

Through the Looking Glass, catalogue for COB Gallery exhibition, London, 2018

Ouest France, Le Micro Monde de Yuri Zupancic, 2017

Beat Generation, Centre Pompidou, Paris 2016

Departures Magazine, Micro Art, Macro Impressions, 2013

Huffington Post, Artist Yuri Zupancic Produces Tiny Paintings on Microchips, 2011

WIRED, Microchip Art: the artistic potential of your computer's silicon innards, 2011

Juxtapoz, Microchip Paintings of Yuri Zupancic, 2011

Professional Experiences

Curator of CUT ART LINES exhibition at CUT-UPS@2023, University of Chicago, Paris

Co-curator of Freak Power exhibition at Poster House, New York City, 2021

Co-curator of Freak Power exhibition at Museum of Arts and History, Santa Cruz, CA 2022

Resident Curator at Gonzo Gallery, Aspen, CO, Summer 2020

Presenter at Conference L'artiste et la Commissaire (The Artist and the Curator), INHA (National Institute of Art History), Paris, February, 2018

Public Presentation at Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, KS USA, December, 2016

Curatorial Advisor for Beat Generation exhibition at Pompidou Center, Paris, June-October 2016

Presenter at European Beat Studies Network conference in Tangiers, Morocco, November 2014

Curatorial Advisor for The Name Is Burroughs exhibition at ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany, March-August 2012

Curatorial Advisor for Burroughs Live exhibition at Royal Academy of the Arts, London, December 2008

Co-founder and manager of DotDotDot ArtSpace, Lawrence, KS, 2008

Assistant to Romuald Hassoume in creation of Article 14 installation, London, 2005