

LECTURE SERIES

JOANNA VESTEY

Created over the period of one year at The University of Oxford, these works take as their starting point, audio recordings from thirty six lectures. These lectures span the three academic terms that make up the year - Trinity, Hilary and Michaelmas - and encompass a broad range of academic presentations from a multitude of disciplines.

From its beginnings, photography's power to transform has held a fascination. The camera's ability to reveal, to make visible, to make permanent things which were fleeting or fugitive, was a key part of its early success. "The phenomenon ... appears to me to partake of the character of the marvellous", wrote William Henry Fox Talbot in 1839, "almost as much as any fact which physical investigation has yet brought to our knowledge. The most transitory of things, a shadow, the proverbial emblem of all that is fleeting and momentary, may be fettered by the spells of our 'natural magic' and may be fixed for ever in the position which it seemed only destined for a single instant to occupy."

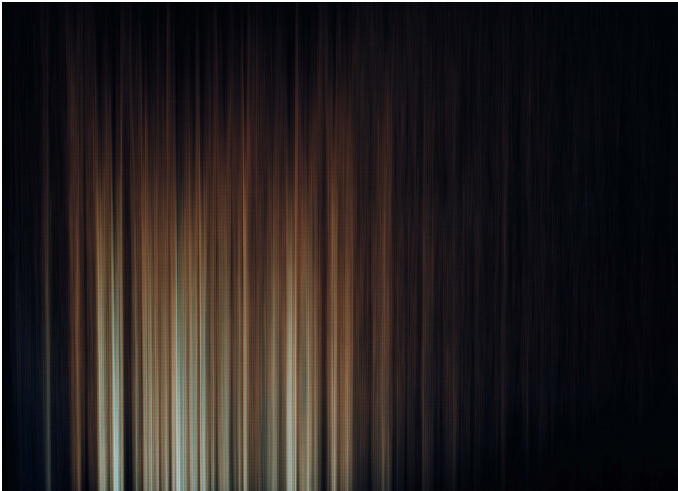
Lecture Series explores this notion of transformation, converting sounds into sights, taking transient moments and converting them into static, spatial patterns using a hybrid of technologies. The digital audio files have been made visible through a monitor and subsequently photographed, using a long exposure on a 10x8 film camera. The resulting images use the mediums of both past and present to create a physical marking, a trace in some way, a reference of - and to - something ordinarily intangible which has taken place.

While there are no claims that they directly picture the mechanisms of another sense, these photographs playfully allude to the transformation of one sense to another; and of one medium to another; reflecting both photography's shift from analogue to digital and the digitisation of knowledge. The images invite the viewer to consider the technological transformations we are experiencing, the seismic shifts in the systems and structures all around us.

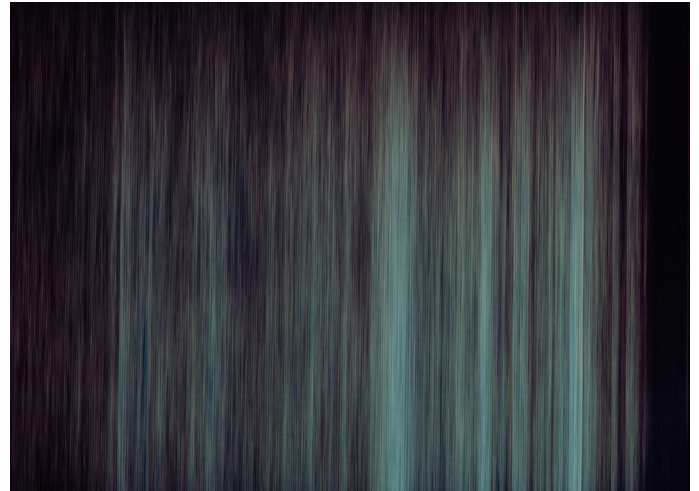
Picturing the mechanisms of another sense has long been of interest to artists and scientists, from Ernst Chladni (1756-1827), who perfected a technique to visualise acoustic vibrations in dust known as Chladni's Figures, to Georgia O'keefe (1887-1986). Her paintings, such as Music- Pink and Blue No 1, (1918) and Blue and Green Music (1919) were directly influenced by the famous synesthete Wassily Kandinsky (1866-1944). Kandinsky reportedly could 'see sound'. In his art he looked to invoke sound itself through vision: "Our hearing of colours is so precise," he wrote, "... Colour is a means of exerting a direct influence upon the soul. Colour is the keyboard. The eye is the hammer. The soul is the piano with its many strings. The artist is the hand that purposely sets the soul vibrating by means of this or that key. Thus it is clear that the harmony of colours can only be based upon the principle of purposefully touching the human soul."

In notebook P, arguably some of his most important writing, William Henry Fox Talbot referred mysteriously to 'Words of Light'. My hope is that in Lecture Series, you enjoy these lectures in their new form, as 'Words of Light'.

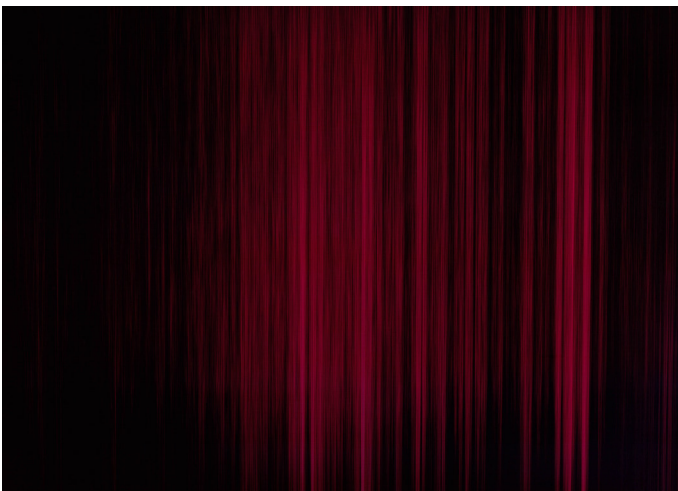
Trinity Term



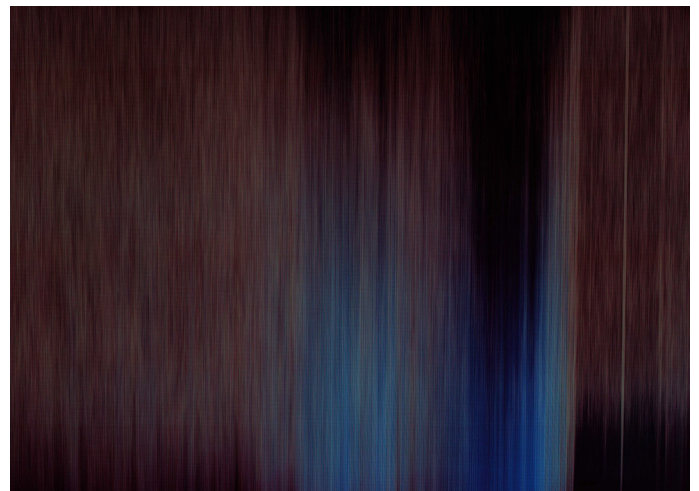
Lies, damned lies and statistics - how we get science coverage wrong - Dr David Robert Grimes, St Aldate's Tavern Oxford. April 20th 2016



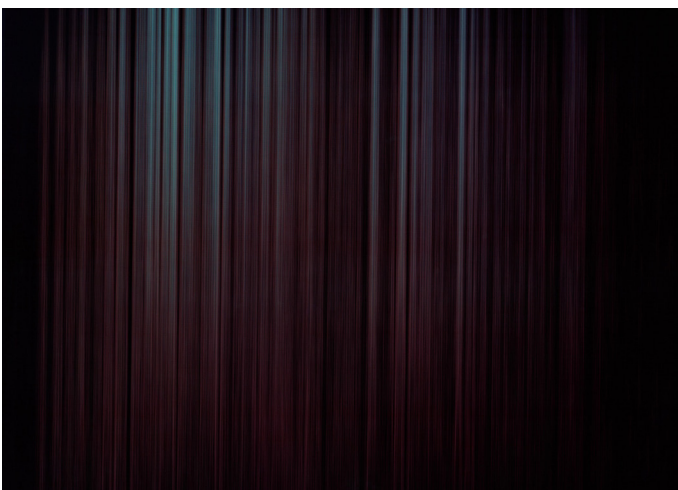
The Magic of Shakespeare - Sir Jonathan Bate, Weston Library, Oxford. April 25th 2016



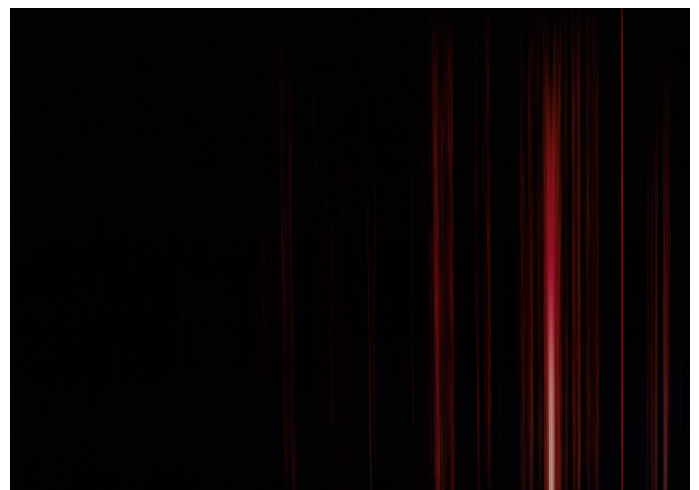
Beyond Trent: Secular Music as Catalyst for the Reform of Catholic Church Music in the 16th Century - Professor Christian Leitmeir, Faculty of Music, St Aldate's, Oxford. April 26th 2016



Who can infer the existence of God from the concept of 'product'? - Dr Marie-Hélène Gorisse, Balliol College, Oxford. May 2nd, 2016

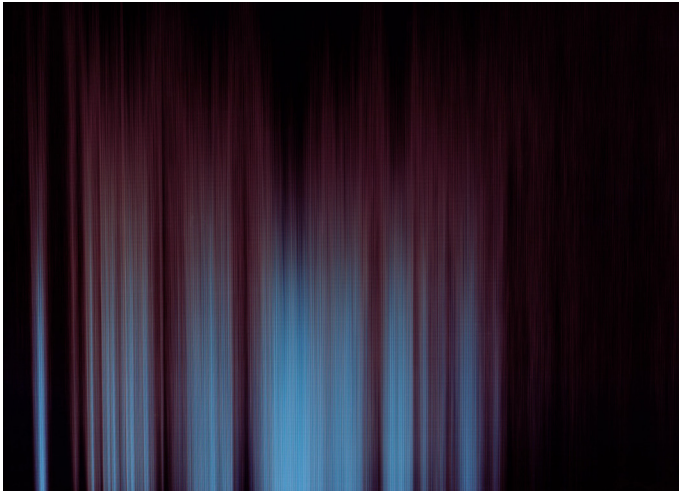


Public reading in monastic observance: the framework of norms - Dr Teresa Webber, Weston Library, Oxford. May 3rd, 2016

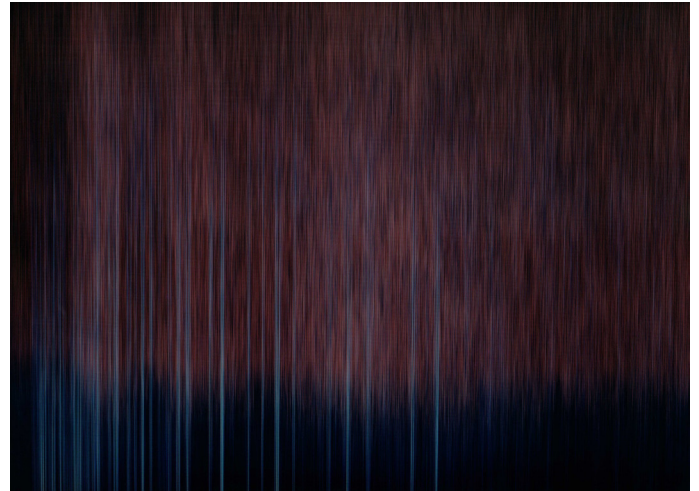


Sound I'm Particular - Patrick Farmer
The Old Fire Station, Oxford. May 3rd 2016

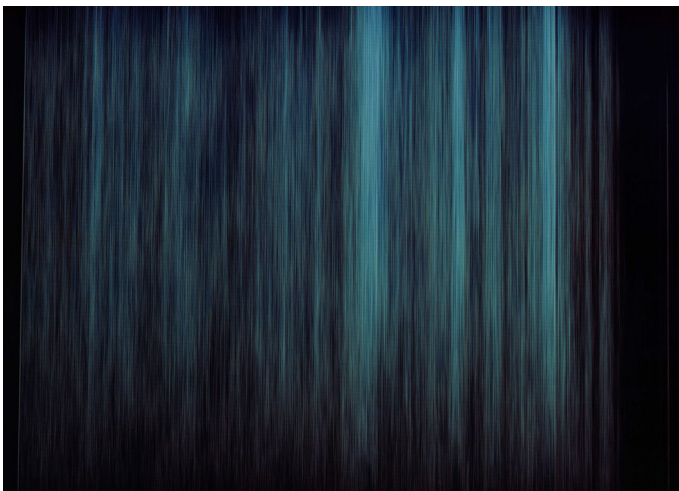
Trinity Term



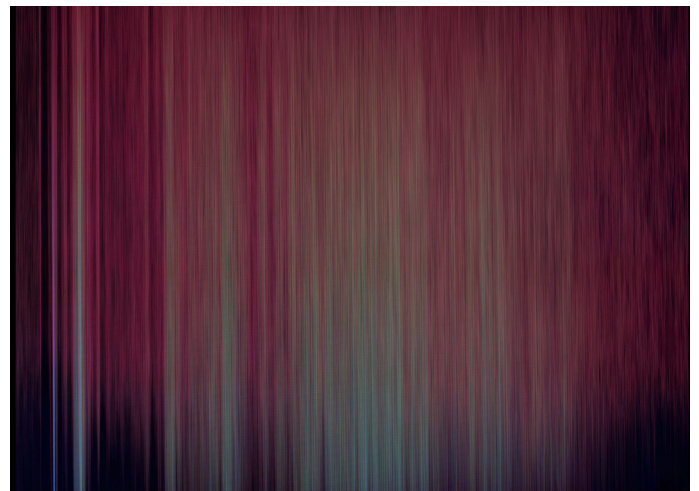
Alois Riegl and Classical Archaeology - Professor Jaś Elsner, Department of History of Art, Oxford. May 11th 2016



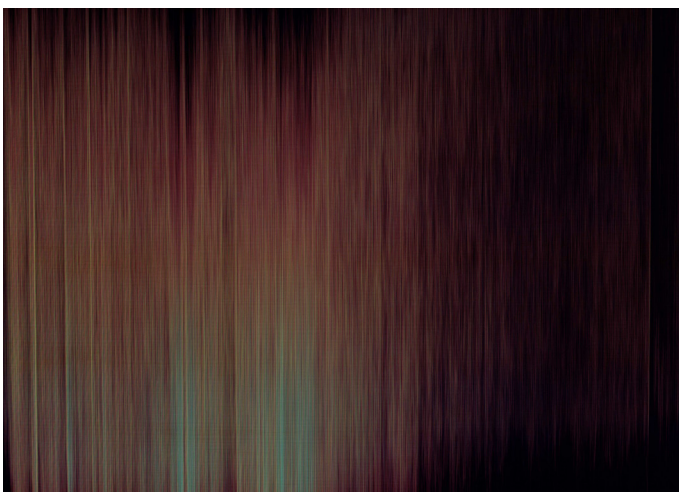
Are conspiracy theories harmless? - Dr Daniel Jolley, Wig and Pen, Oxford. May 19th 2016



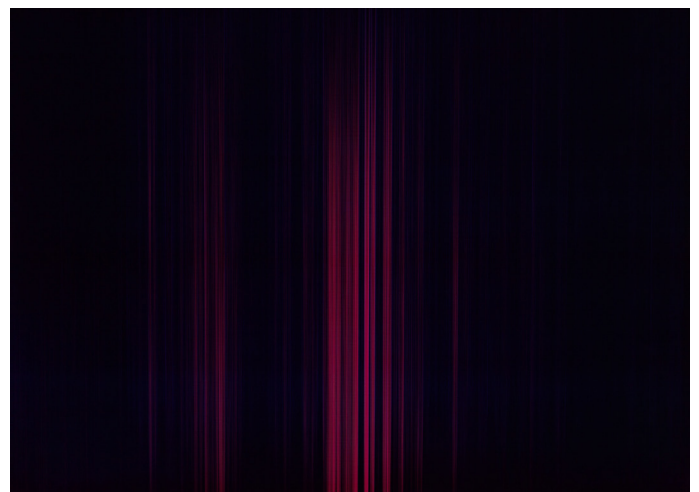
'The Past and Its Publics' - Professor Simon Schama in conversation with Craig Clunas and Margaret MacMillan, Museum of Natural History Lecture Theatre, Oxford. May 11th 2016



Inter-city Interaction at the Dawn of Sumerian Civilisation: new insights from the 'city seals', 3000-2700 BC - Roger Matthews, Wolfson College, Oxford. May 25th 2016

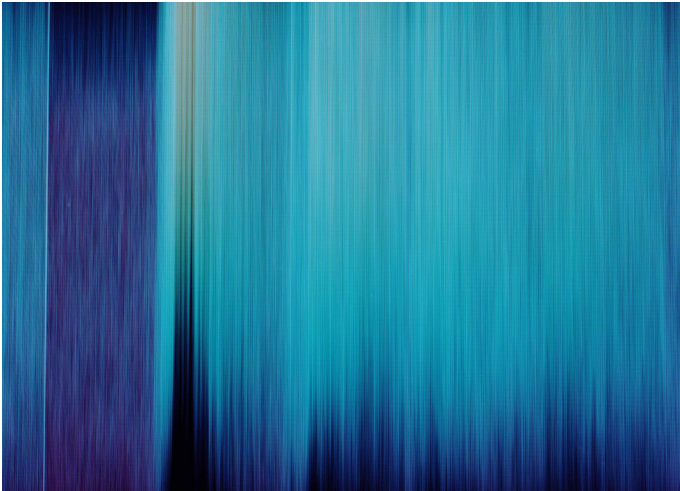


What Happens to Literature If People are Artworks? - Professor Eric Hayot, Ertegun House, Oxford. May 13th, 2016

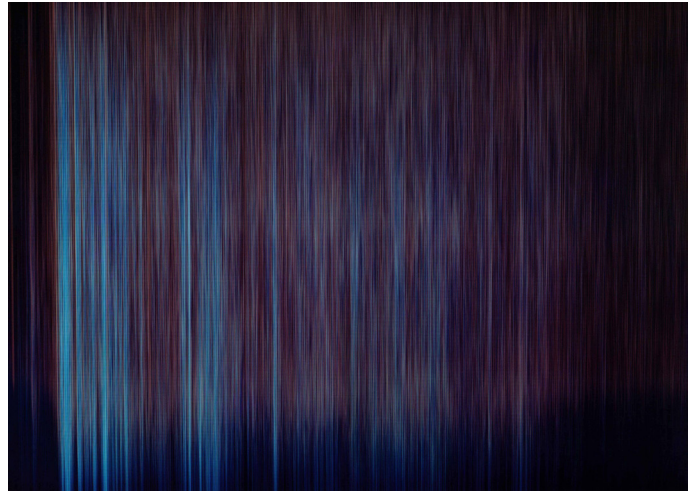


Emotional Lives: Intimacy and identity in 18th and 19th Century England - Professor Joanne Begiato, John Henry Brookes Lecture Theatre, Oxford. June 8th 2016

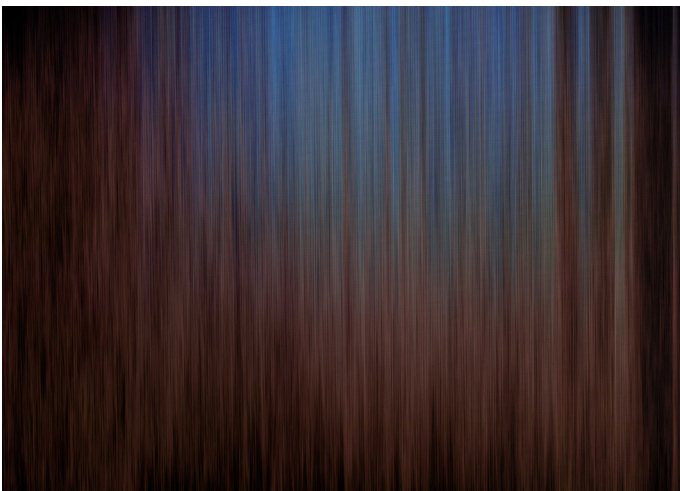
Michaelmas Term



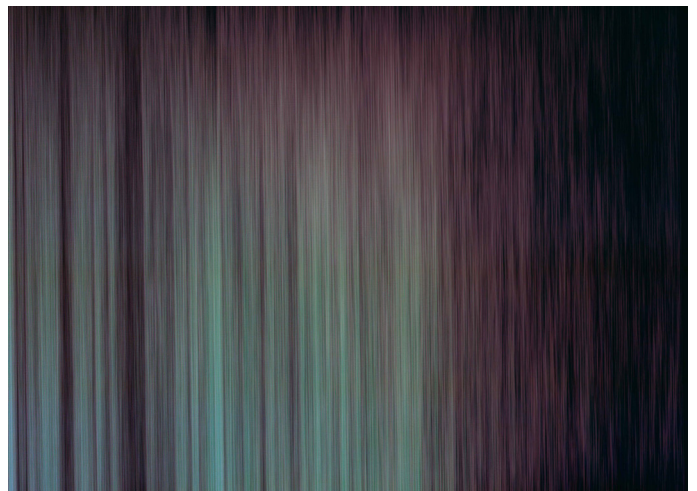
The Hippocratic Paradox: When is Resuscitating a Patient Doing Them Harm? Dr Elizabeth Dzeng, Green Templeton College, Oxford. September 15th 2016



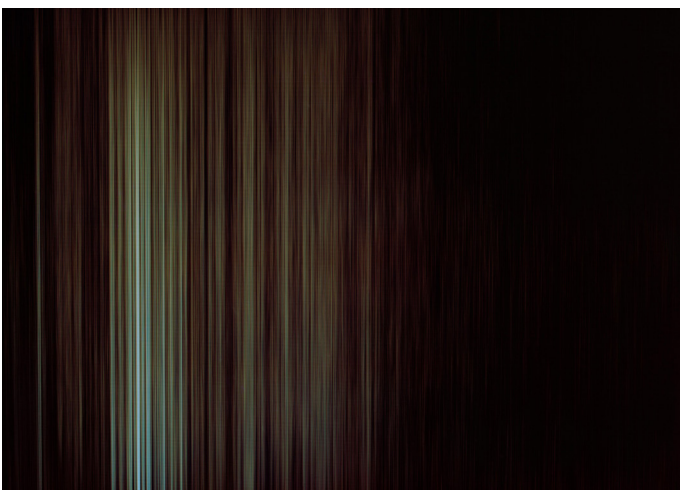
The Natural History of Pokémon - Mark Carnall, The Museum of Natural History, Oxford. October 10th 2016



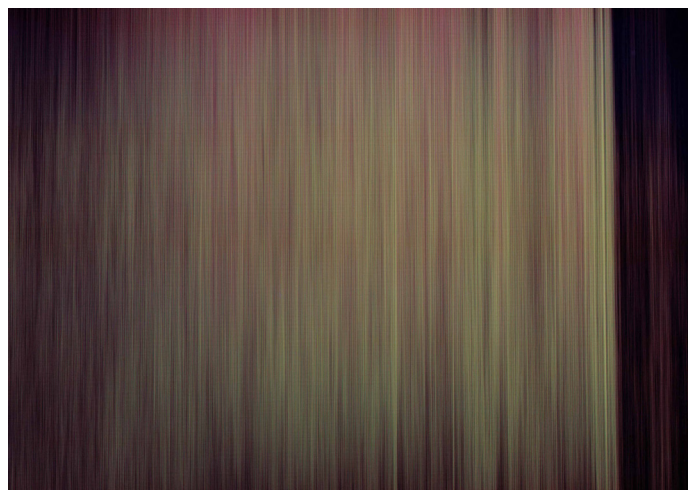
Could Brexit lead to the rediscovery of culture grounded in place? Shaun Chamberlin and Jonathon Porritt, Trinity College, Oxford. September 19th 2016



The Science of Healthy Ageing - Professor Dame Linda Partridge. Department of Zoology, Oxford. October 10th 2016

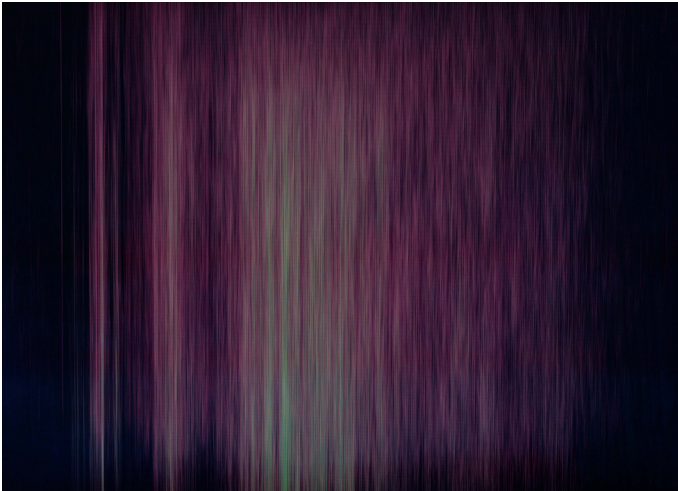


The Chilcot Report - The Unbelievable Lightness of Truth - Sir Ivor Roberts, Wesley Church Hall, Oxford. October 4th 2016

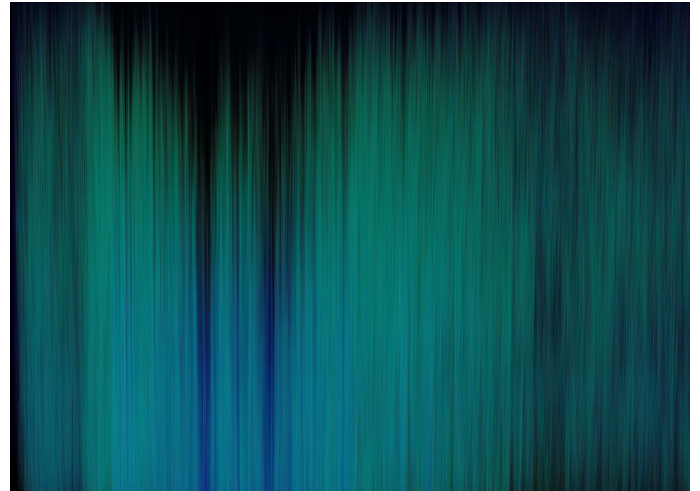


Misremembrance of Things Past: Autobiographical memory disturbances in mood and anxiety disorders and the emergence of memory therapeutics - Tim Dalglish, Warneford Hospital, Oxford. October 11th 2016

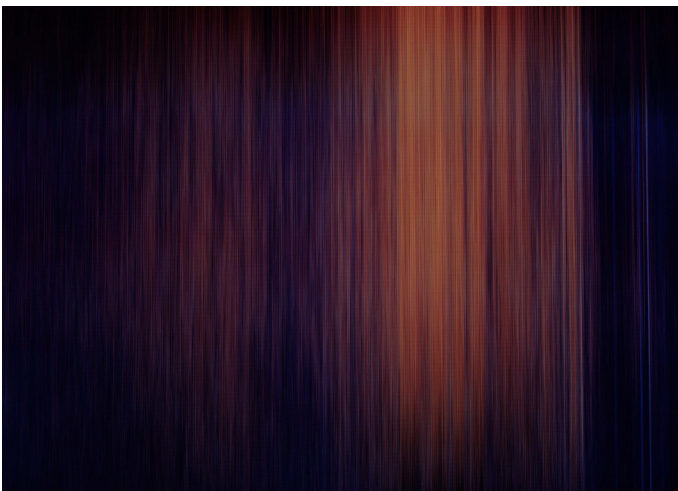
Michaelmas Term



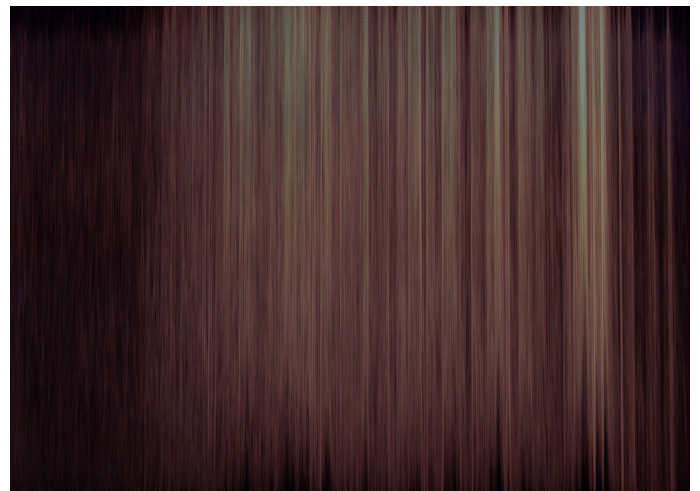
Light and Sir Isaac Newton - Professor Anthony Watts, St Hugh's College, Oxford. October 14th 2016



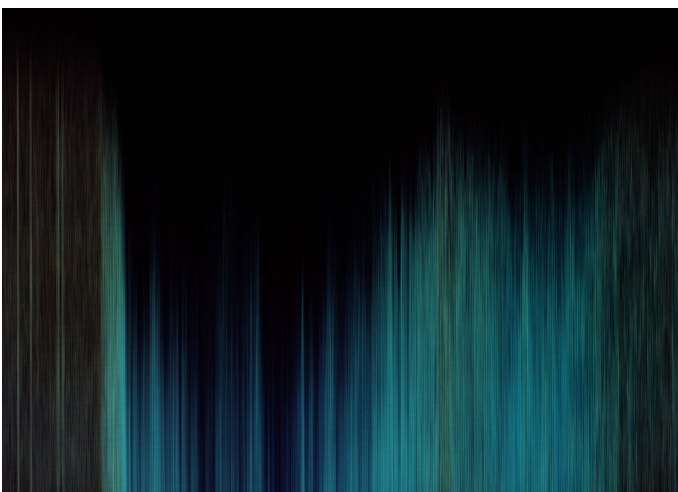
Religion and belief in Britain: the Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life - Dr Edward Kessler, Department of Education, Oxford. November 7th 2016



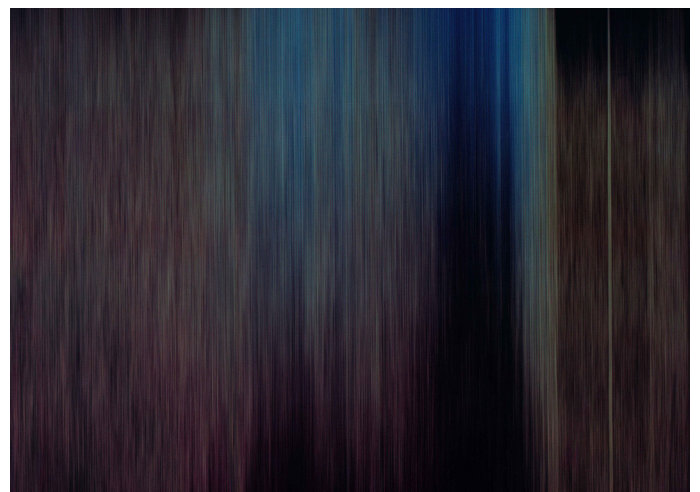
Living I was Your Plague; Dead I will be your death, O Pope': Luther and Antipapalism - Professor Lyndal Roper, St Edmund Hall, Oxford. October 14th 2016



Pitchers of Death: The Nepenthes of Malaysia - Dr Christopher Thorogood, Oxford Botanic Garden, Oxford. November 14th 2016

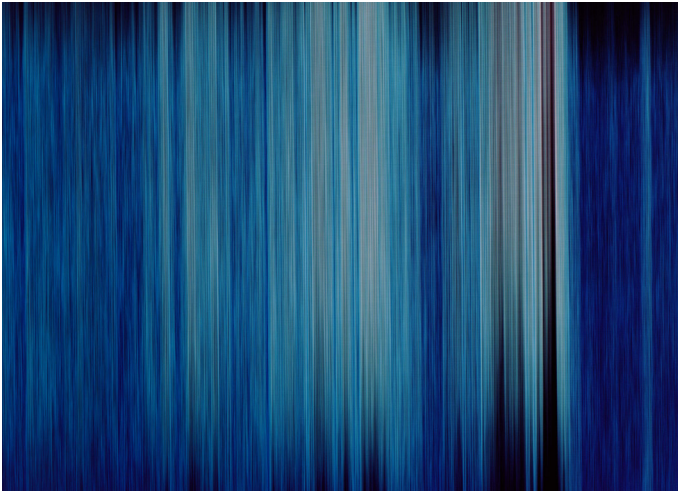


At The Frontlines of Change: Feminist leadership transforming lives - Dr Noeleen Heyzer, St Anne's College, Oxford. October 17th 2016

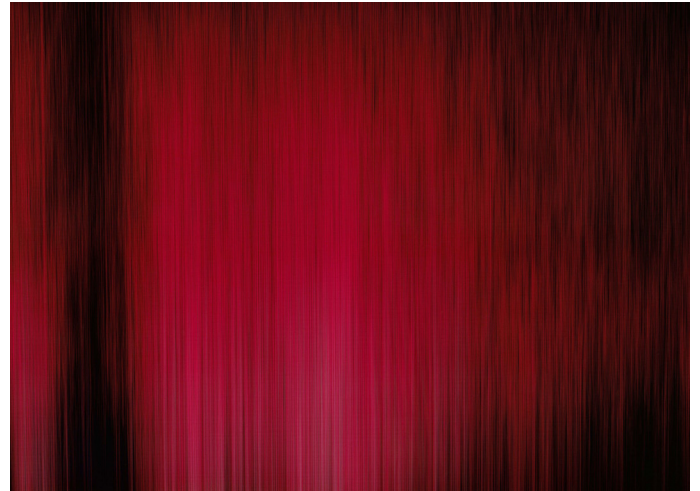


Feminine Abandon and the abducted Woman in post-Partition Shorey Comedies - Salma Siddique, St Anthony's College, Oxford. November 15th, 2016

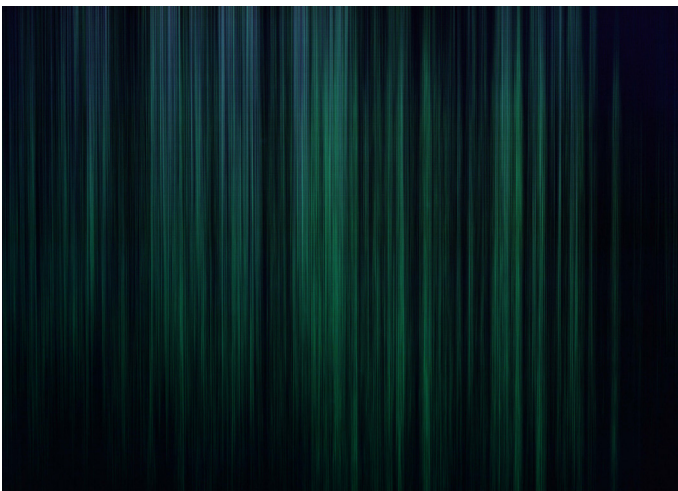
Hilary Term



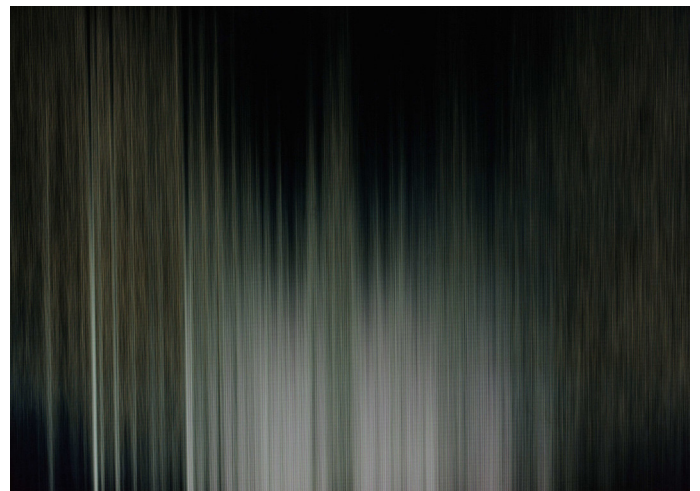
On Madness and Expertise: the Atomic bomb and visions of Global order in the 1940's - Dr Or Rosenboim, Radcliffe Humanities Building, Oxford. January 20th 2017



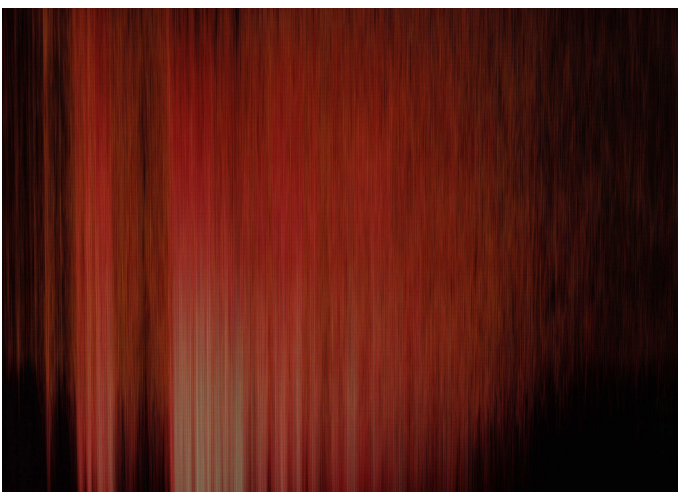
Expressing what exists is an endless task: On instruments of the arts and instruments of thought. A lecture on music, philosophy and painting - Dr Lydia Goehr, Faculty of Music, St Aldate's, Oxford. January 24th, 2017



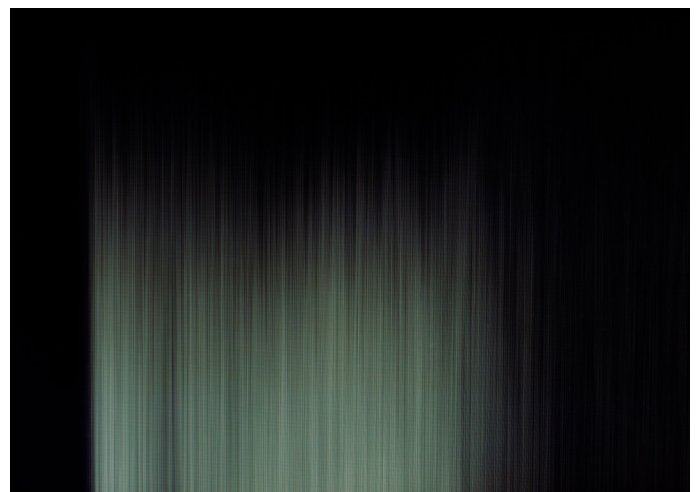
From broken heart to divided song: 'divisio' at the intersection of poetry and music in the Due-and-Trecento - Dr Mikhail Lopatin, All Souls College, Oxford. January 26th, 2017



The Comparative Study of Perpetrator Ideologies - Dr Jonathan Leader Maynard. Wolfson College, Oxford. January 30th 2017

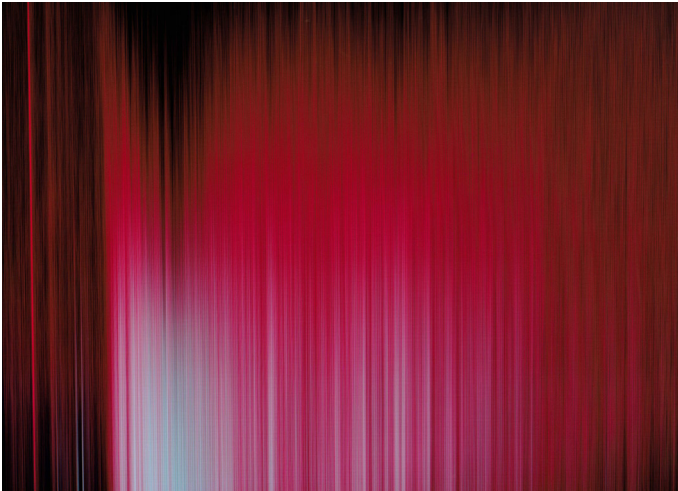


Digitalizing the Korean Cosmos: Representing human-non-human continuity and filiality through digital photography in South Korea - Dr Julien Dugnoille. Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford. February 3rd 2017

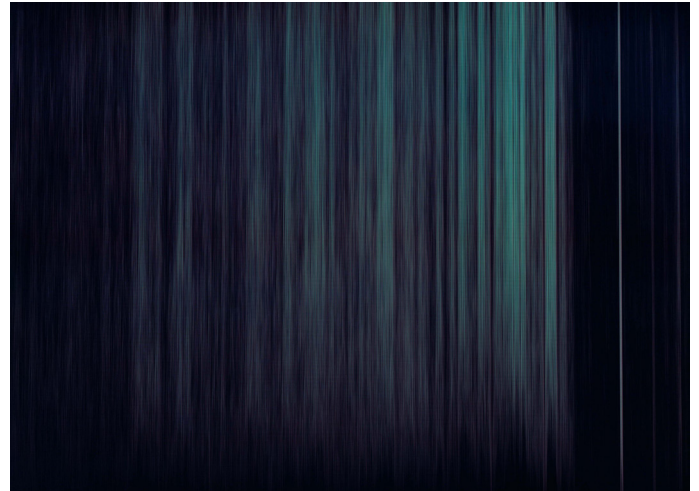


Statistics: Why the Truth Matters - Tim Harford, Mathematical Institute, Oxford. February 8th, 2017

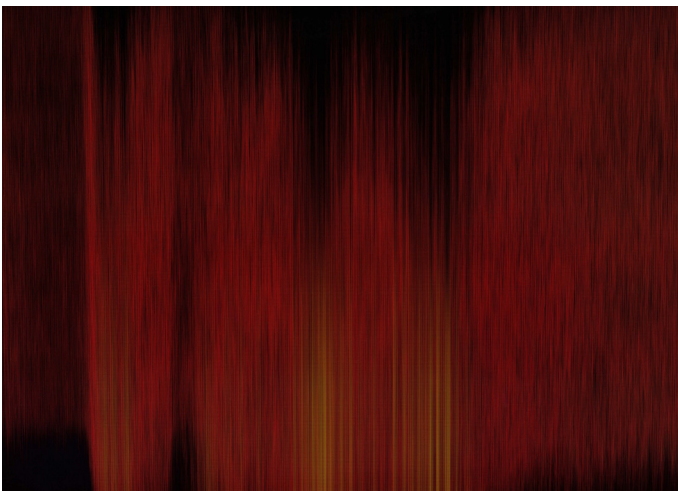
Hilary Term



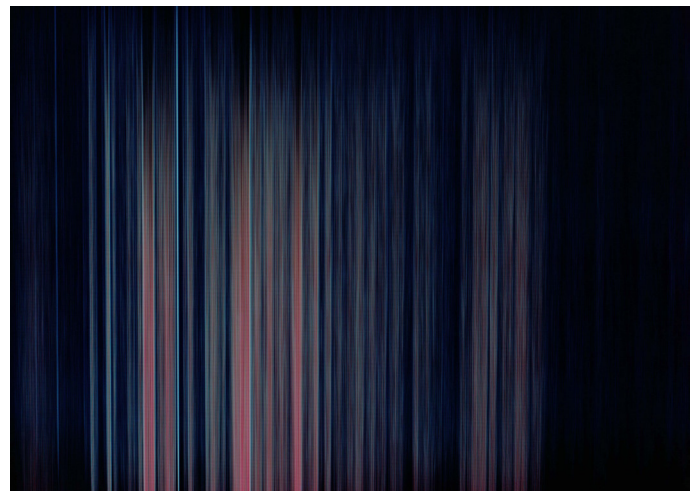
Whose Alternative Public Space? Gender dimensions of music on the internet in Iran - Dr Laudan Nooshin. Faculty of Music, St Aldate's, Oxford. February 21st, 2017



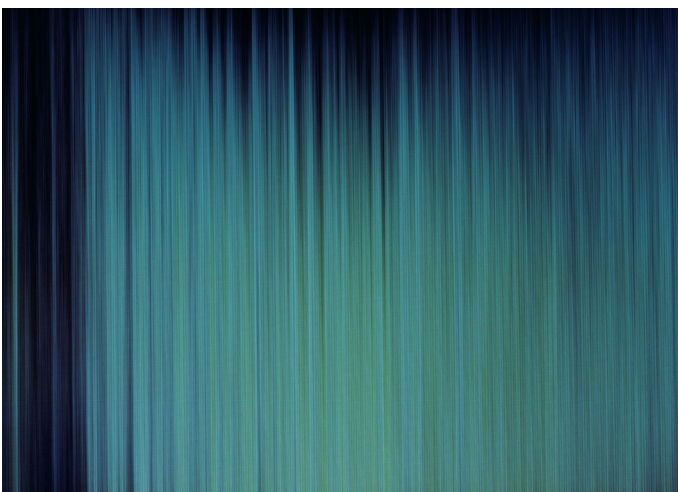
Translation as Afterlife - Marcela Sulak and Adriana X Jacobs St Anne's College, Oxford. February 22nd 2017



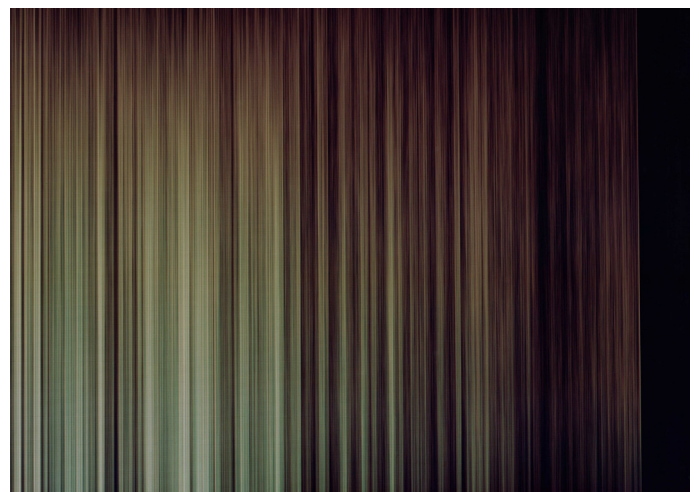
Knowing what not to know: Sharing and hiding information in digital societies, Dr Joss Wright, Oxford Martin School, Oxford. February 23rd, 2017



'O Say Can You See?' Art, propaganda and the First World War - Professor David Lubin., Rothermere American Institute, Oxford. February 28th 2017



The Lure of Paris: The Republic of letters and Eighteenth century speed-dating - Professor Laurence Brockliss, Voltaire Foundation, Oxford. March 6th 2017



Bory-Latour-Marliac: The source of water lilies, before and beyond Monet - Caroline Holmes, Saïd Business School, Oxford. March 23rd, 2017