



Landscape with Notre-Dame (inverted), 2026

Camera obscura

'My little Paris' (Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, 2026)



Negative, 2025

Wax on copy paper, 13 x 18 cm

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MINISTERE DE LA CULTURE
France

Untitled, 2026
Door sign, 7 x 20 x 2 cm
'My little Paris' (Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, 2026)

Arnaud Ferron

My little Paris

Studio 8421, Ministère de la Culture

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The wax rubbings on pink copy sheets were taken from Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica of Saigon in Vietnam, product of the Second Empire under Napoleon III; constructed with materials imported from France made newly accessible through the opening of the Suez Canal, itself a product of the Second Empire under Napoleon III; set atop a Haussmannian “percée” transplanted from Georges-Eugène Haussmann’s renovation of Paris, likewise another product of the Second Empire under Napoleon III; and modeled after Notre-Dame de Paris around which Haussmann leveled everything, but the cathedral itself.

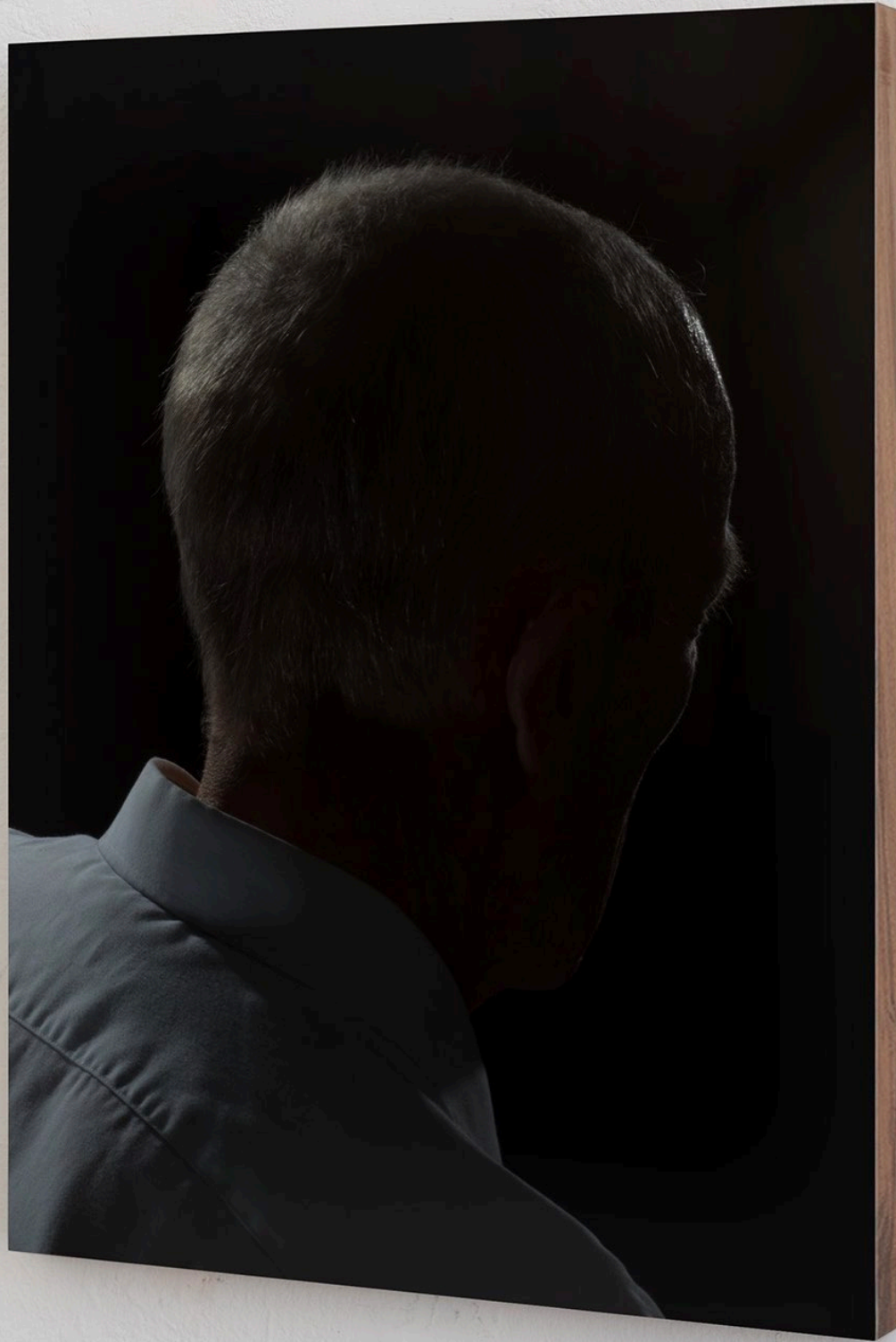


The Emperor (back), 2025

The Emperor (front), 2025

Archival pigment print, French walnut, 70 x 52.5 cm

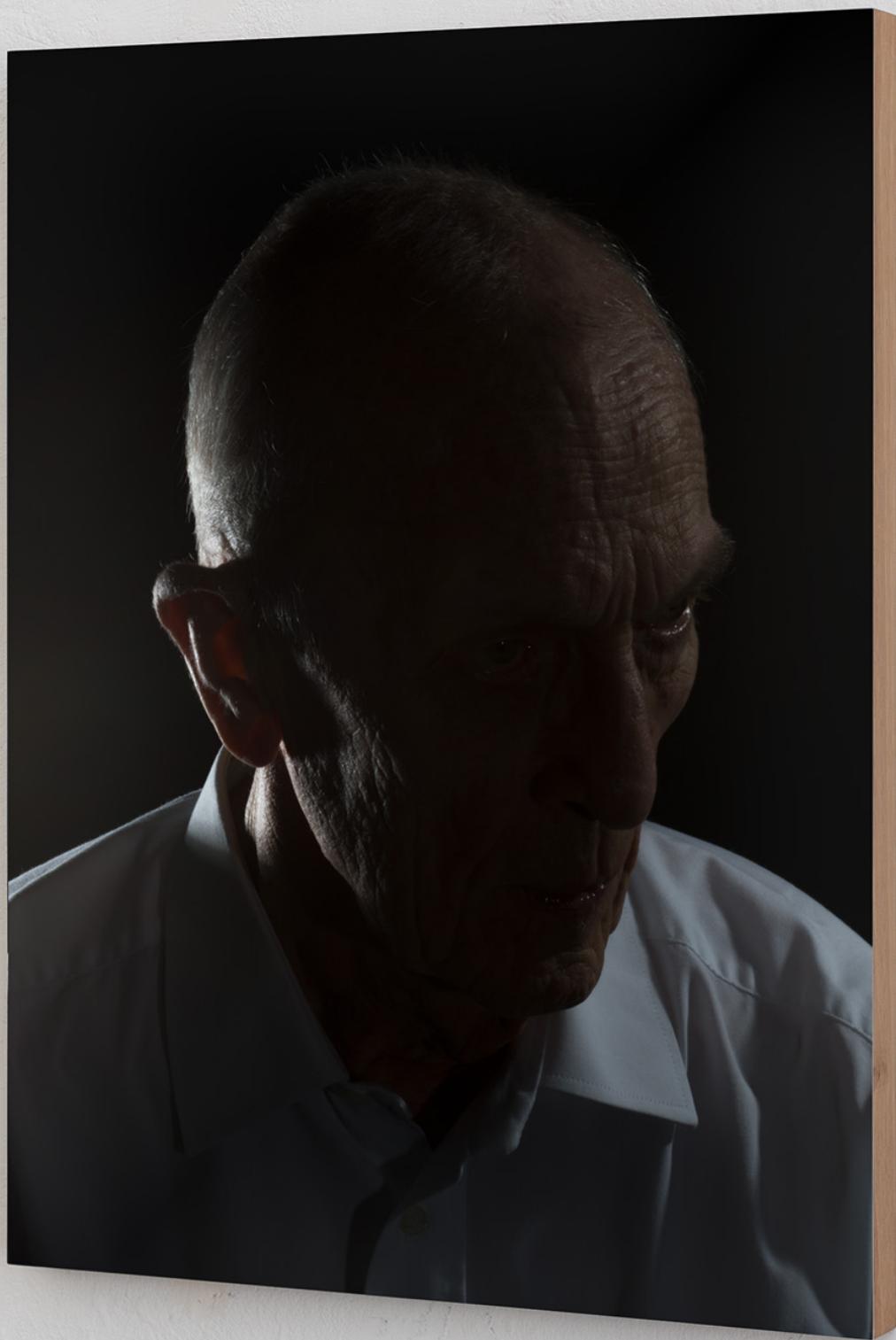
Städelschule Graduate Exhibition (Städel Museum, Frankfurt, Germany, 2025)



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The Emperor (front), 2025

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Two pictures from 1858, 2025

STF117: Gustave Le Gray, *Salute of the French fleet off Cherbourg*, 1858, albumen print mounted on cardboard, 21.9 x 29.9 cm, courtesy of Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main, not on display; SG1140: Gustave Courbet, *View of Frankfurt with the Old Bridge from Sachsenhausen*, 1858, oil on canvas, 53.5 x 78 cm, courtesy of Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main, on display: 1st upper level, Modern Art, room 4

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Two pictures from 1858, 2025

SG1140
Gustave Courbet
View of Frankfurt with the Old Bridge from Sachsenhausen, 1858
Oil on canvas
53.5 x 78 cm
Courtesy of Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main
On display: 1st upper level, Modern Art, room 4

STF117
Gustave Le Gray
Salute of the French fleet off Cherbourg, 1858
Albumen print mounted on cardboard
21.9 x 29.9 cm
Courtesy of Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main
Not on display

Fearing rising nationalism and authoritarianism under Napoleon III, Gustave Courbet temporarily left France in 1858. In a letter to his family dated December 21, 1858, he wrote: *I could only write insignificant things, full of unhappiness, nothing very interesting. I ramble through foreign countries to find the independence of mind that I need and to let pass this government that does not hold me in honor; as you know. My absence has been very good.* ¹ *View of Frankfurt with the Old Bridge from Sachsenhausen* was painted during Courbet's stay in Germany, where he spent much of his time painting and hunting. The picture portrays a pastoral view of the Frankfurt Main River, emptied of buildings and passersby. Though Courbet is widely regarded as the founder of the Realist movement, which rejected Romanticism in the wake of the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution, this picture, not quite a topographically precise rendering, captures an unreal, proto-impressionist atmosphere. ²

Taken during Gustave Le Gray's tenure as official photographer of Napoleon III and the Second Empire, *Salute of the French Fleet off Cherbourg* records the naval exercises of the French and British fleets in the harbor of Cherbourg during Queen Victoria's official state visit to France. The photograph is a notable example of combination printing, an early form of photographic manipulation used to balance different exposures. Le Gray famously printed his seascapes from two negatives on a single sheet of paper: one exposed for the sea, the other for the sky. ³ Despite its technological mastery, the picture gives no indication of the coming decline of the Age of Sail. The sailing ships it depicts would soon be rendered obsolete by the rise of steamboats, a shift accelerated by the opening of the Suez Canal.

By significantly reducing travel time, the Suez Canal would become the principal maritime route connecting France to what would later be known as French Indochina. The same year, Napoleon III launched the first phase of French expansion into Vietnam with a naval intervention known as the Siege of Tourane (now Đà Nẵng).

¹ Gustave Courbet, *Letters of Gustave Courbet*, edited and translated by Petra ten-Doesschate Chu. The University of Chicago Press, 1992.. Accessed 27 June 2025.

² Klaus Herding, "Courbet in Frankfurt. Debatten über Malerei 1851-2011" in Christian Freigang, et al. (eds.), *Das neue Frankfurt: Innovationen in der Frankfurter Kunst vom Mittelalter bis heute*. Kramer, Waldemar, 2010.

³ *The Great Wave, Sète* (1857) by Gustave Le Gray. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Object Number: 1976.646. <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/261941>



Untitled, 2024

Chrome-plated steel tubes and chrome-plated brass balls, hardware

Installed at standard picture-hanging height, dimensions variable

Dimensions at Jean-Claude Maier: 1008.5 x 14 x 2.4 cm, 2-degree angle

'Shiny' (Jean-Claude Maier, Frankfurt, Germany, 2024)



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Jean-Claude Maier

Münchener Str. 38
60329 Frankfurt am Main
jeanclaudemaier.de

Arnaud Ferron

Shiny

February 09 - March 15, 2024

Untitled, 2024

Chrome-plated steel tubes and chrome-plated brass balls, hardware

Dimensions at Jean-Claude Maier: 1008.5 x 14 x 2.4 cm, 2-degree angle, standard picture-hanging height

The Metropolitan, undated

Silver-plated brass police whistle

Gift

Jean-Claude Maier is a gallery in Frankfurt doubling as an occupied apartment. For the duration of this exhibition, the apartment has been entirely cleared of its furnishings, while the white walls have been kept as they were. The single sculpture consists of patented tubes and connectors cutting through several rooms of the apartment at a 2-degree angle and standard picture-hanging height.



Interior Sculpture (Poesie der Stille), 2022
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Furniture paint, MDF, furniture hardware, 200 x 50 x 50 cm
'Mostly Sunny' (Fragile, Berlin, Germany, 2022)



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Furniture paint, MDF, furniture hardware, 200 x 50 x 50 cm
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Interior Sculpture (North Sea), 2024
Furniture paint, MDF, furniture hardware, 200 x 50 x 50 cm
'Against Nature' (Neue Alte Brücke, Frankfurt, Germany, 2024)



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Untitled, 2022
Plastic, 76 x 25 x 25 cm
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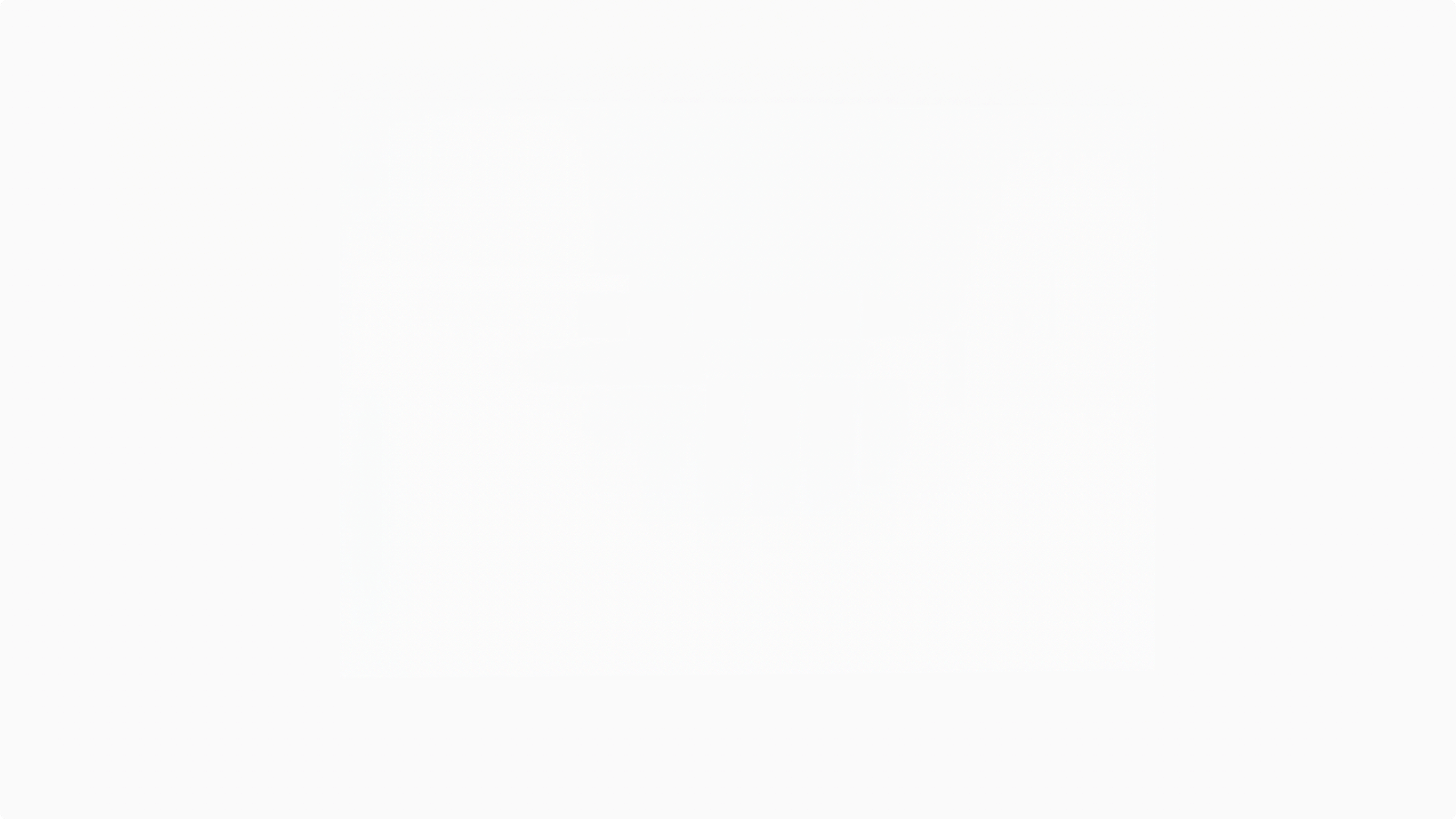
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Blinder, 2024

Video on monitor, sound, 2 minutes 38 seconds, loop
'White on white' (kettles, Frankfurt, Germany, 2024)

vimeo.com/1175541625?share=copy&fl=cl&fe=ci



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White cat, 2023

Hand-painted porcelain figurine, stainless steel cage, hardware, 22 x 28 x 21 cm
Städelschule Rundgang (Städelschule, Frankfurt, Germany, 2023)

