

Trees in the Night

I would not have made these images of trees if I had not been able to create in them a sense of perspective and depth and an impression of reality. Through an investigation into representation, my interest lies in alluding to the real. I think in three dimensions.

The Hindu concept of matter as nothing more than an endless series of waves has always intrigued me. The digital is, above all, a plunge into matter : millions and millions of potentially moving and changing particles which, through a process of cutting and pasting, make possible every manipulation and variation desired, superimposing multiple surfaces. Vibrations and shudderings : the real becomes malleable. It's like working with an image-making machine with an almost metaphysical volatility.

These images illustrate the beginning of a reflection on nature which was, to my great surprise, rediscovered, the way one rediscovers a beloved place that had nevertheless been forgotten. This event, however, was not as simple and untroubled as all that ; something strange happened. Nature was no longer the comforting and very real world we'd like to remain unchangeable. I have the feeling that it is contaminated by the unreal, or the *surreal*. I can't help but think of genetic manipulation or cloning. For me, nature will never again be what it once was.

Translation Timothy Barnard

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