



HARRY SELDOM

particles and waves

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RICH FOG



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Particles and Waves is a meditation on the paradoxes implied by hyper-dimensional energy dynamics. My process combines a painterly approach to gesture and texture with sacred numbers, technologically significant numbers, and the mathematics of self-similar pattern formation to form a union of intuition, Vedic scriptural reference and applied reason. The consequent effect of radiating color harmonics and intersecting planes suggests energy fields and energetic sources at the outer edge of perception.

My work reflects my belief that the material world is intimately connected to an extra-dimensional space-time beyond the boundaries of direct sensory experience. The idea that "reality" is an extra-dimensional landscape which lies more beyond our perception than within it calls into question common assumptions about the nature of "reality": that every human and natural phenomenon is given substance and form by the actions of historical forces, and that a thing must be tangible in order to be considered real. This worldview offers no explanation for the experience of consciousness. When combined with an empirical bias against the notion that our inexplicable consciousness can be expanded through spiritual methods, this belief system effectively conceals our connection to underlying modes of existential cause and effect.

Questions arise from a critical examination of this narrow paradigm: how can something - or someone - be composed of mutually exclusive elements possessing opposing qualities? Why would a conscious being measure the validity of experience exclusively in terms of sensorial phenomena? How can complexity arise from simplicity? Are we influenced by extra-dimensional forces of which

we are unaware? Can an energetic source be simultaneously one with yet distinct from its energies?

In this series, I use rule sets derived from auspicious numbers traditionally connected to a conception of the Supreme Absolute Truth within the canon of Gaudiya Vaisnavism and numbers commonly associated with my medium: digital technology. Gaudiya Vaisnavism, a devotional philosophy of Vedic origins comprised of a comprehensive cyclical hyper-dimensional cosmology and a supra-linguistic theory of transcendence, acts as my internal point of reference. Digital technology acts as my external means of expression. The fundamental numbers used in digital technology coincidentally correspond to many of the significant numbers of Vedic tradition but represent a contradictory framework for acquired knowledge. Using numbers in common to both a internal reference point with ancient origins and an external medium born of contemporary technology to produce representations of particles and waves - paradoxical mutually exclusive expressions of the same infinitesimal substance - is one means by which I construct abstract compositions that act as visual references to a synchronic understanding of the universe.

Particles are produced by the abstraction of a symmetrical configuration using an iterative application of specific color halftone patterns, layer styles and filters. Waves begins with a simple formal pattern of alternating black and white vertical lines. I then systematically deconstruct the color components of the lines to generate complex waveforms.

Each piece is an archival ink print on art paper in a limited edition.

Harry Seldom
June 1,2005

particles

Displacement Particles
2004
20" X 20" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

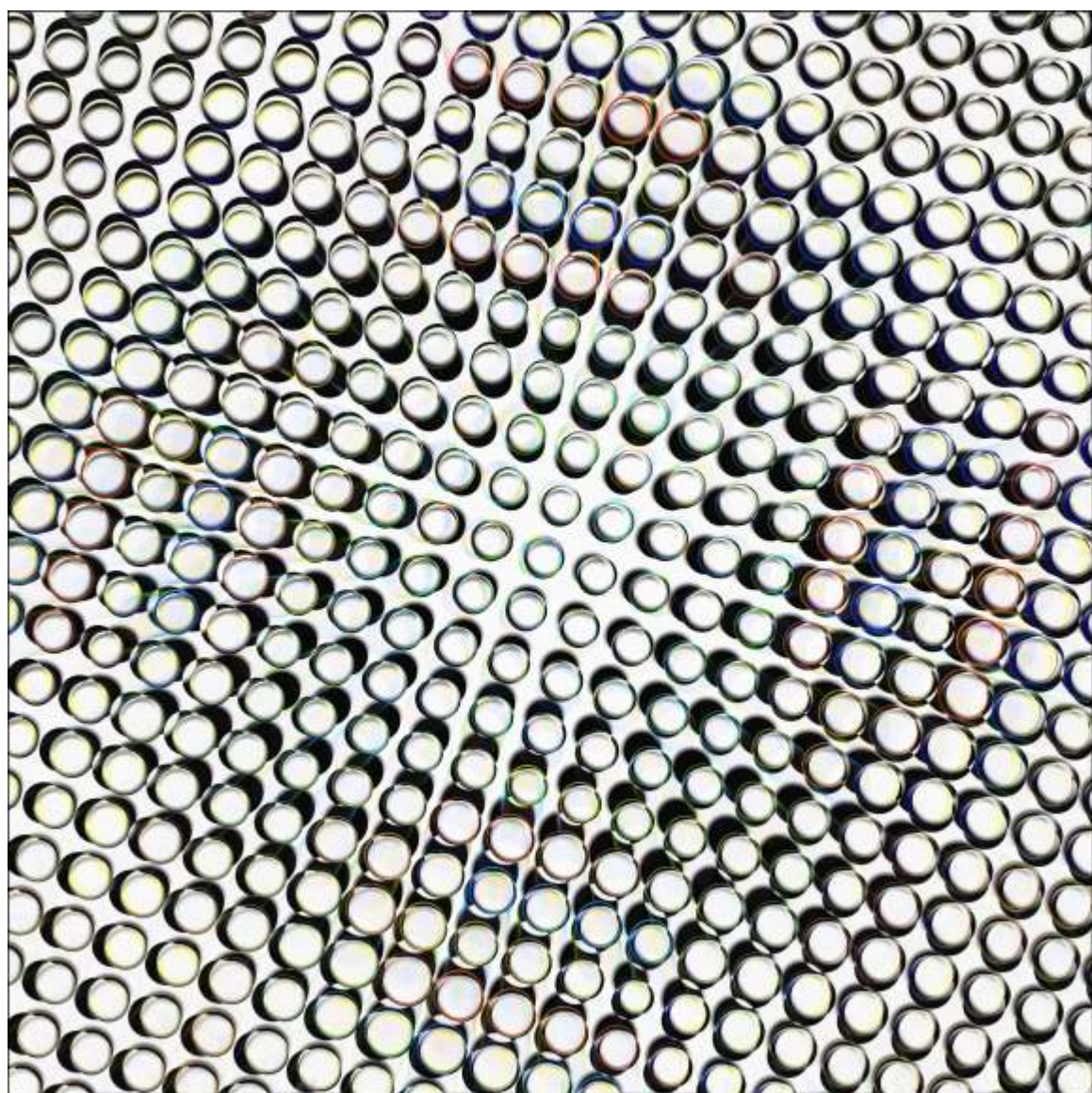
Displacement Particles - Detail

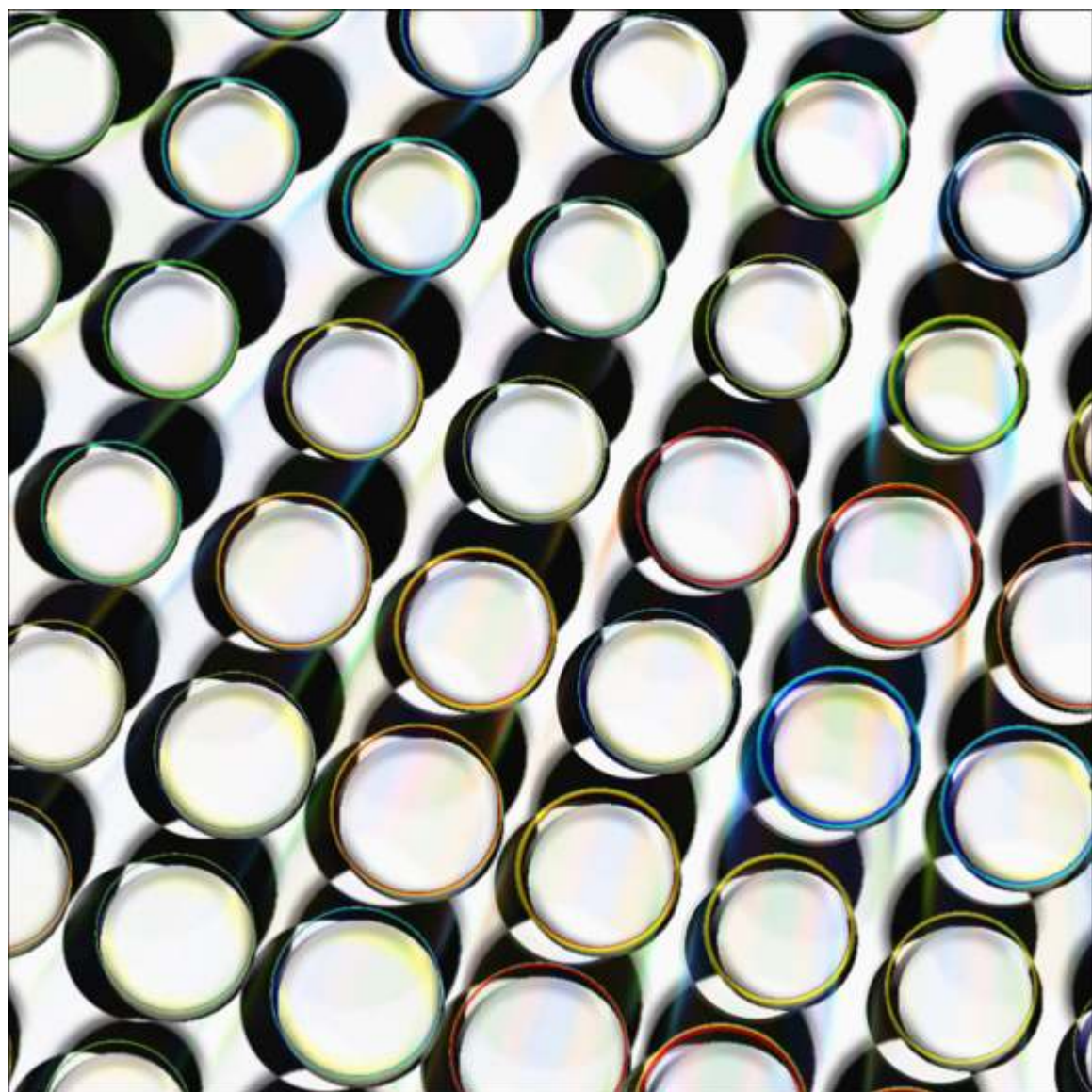
Whirlwind Particles
2004
20" X 20" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

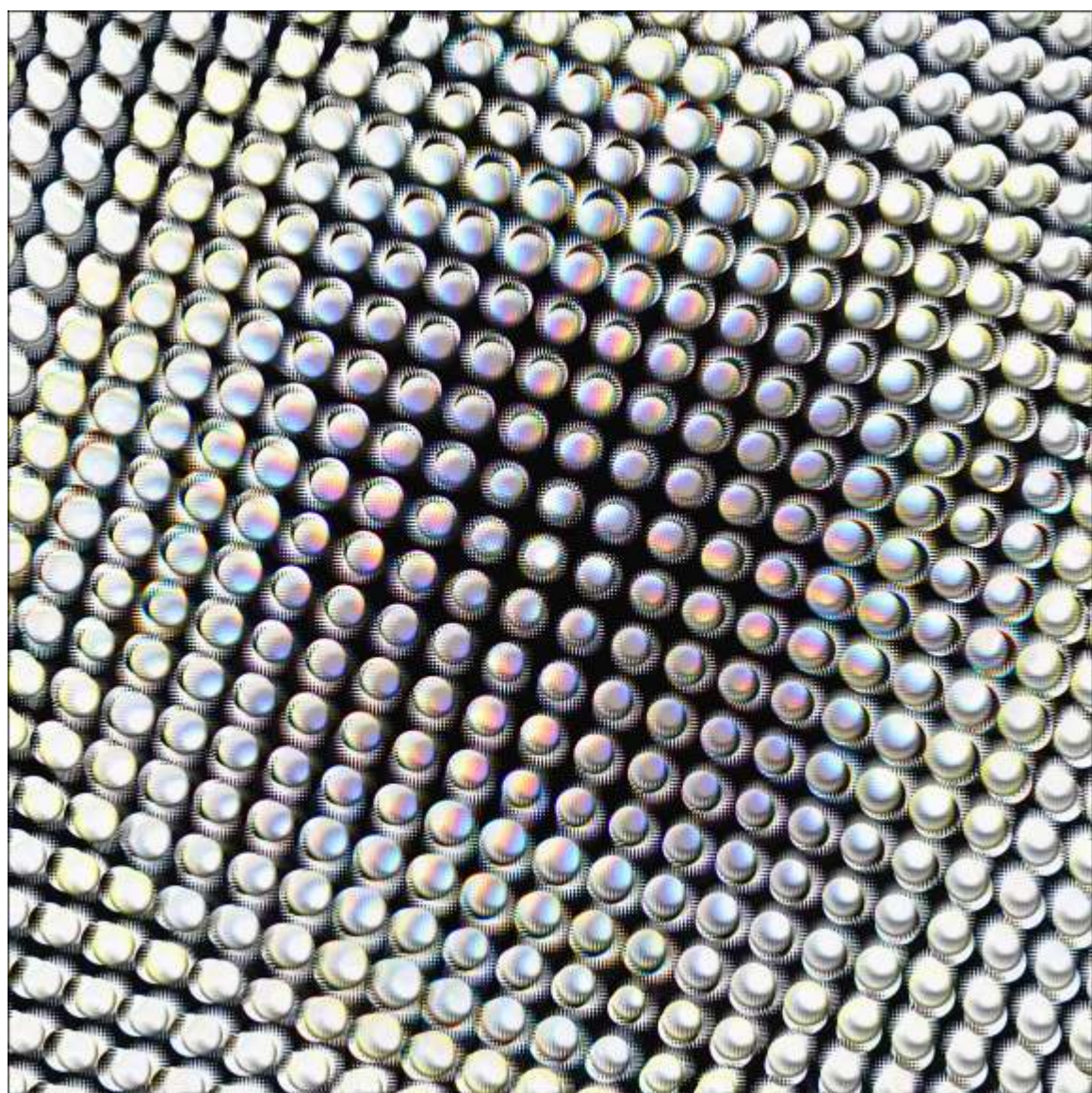
Whirlwind Particles - Detail

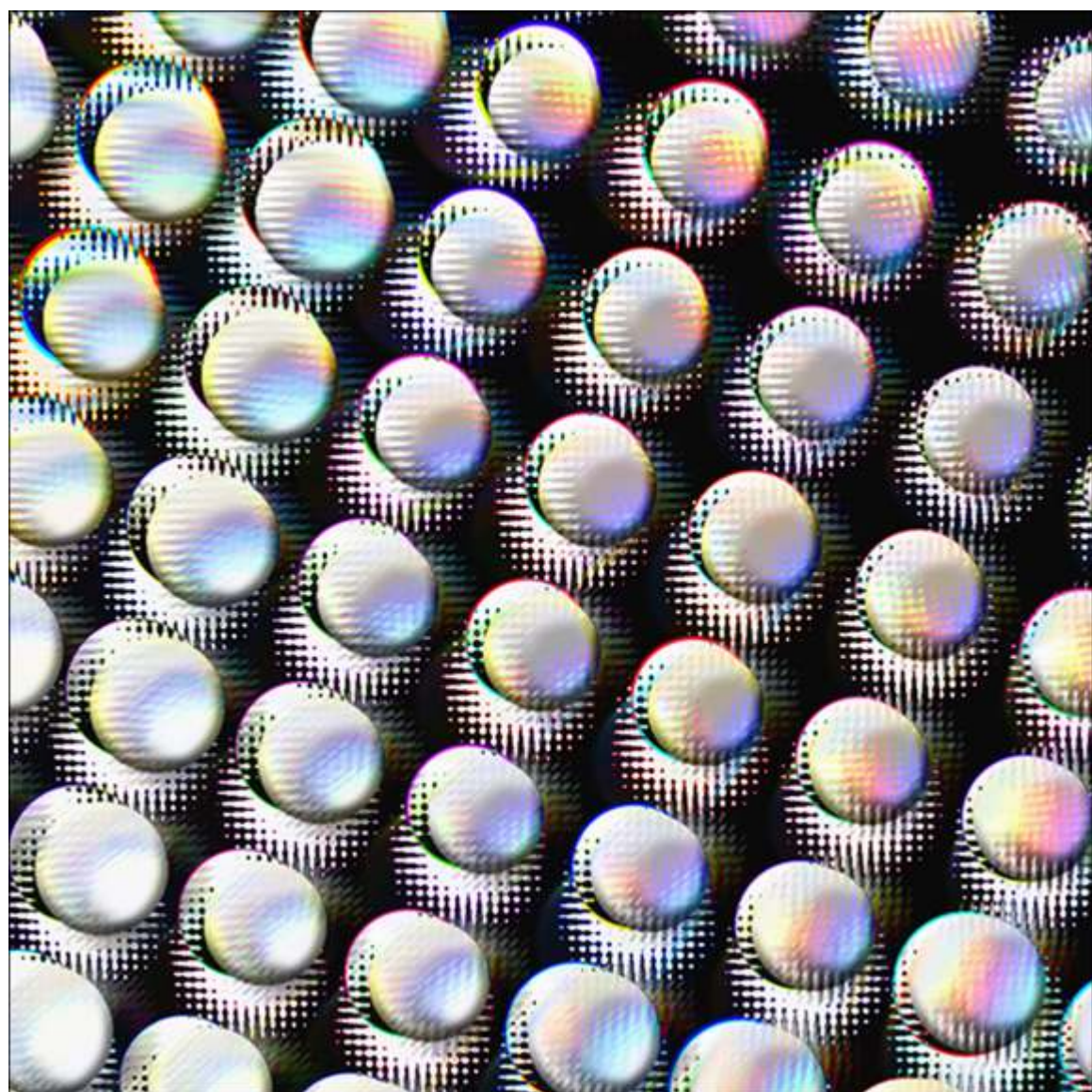
Rising Particles
2005
19" X 16" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

Floating Particles
2005
16" X 19" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

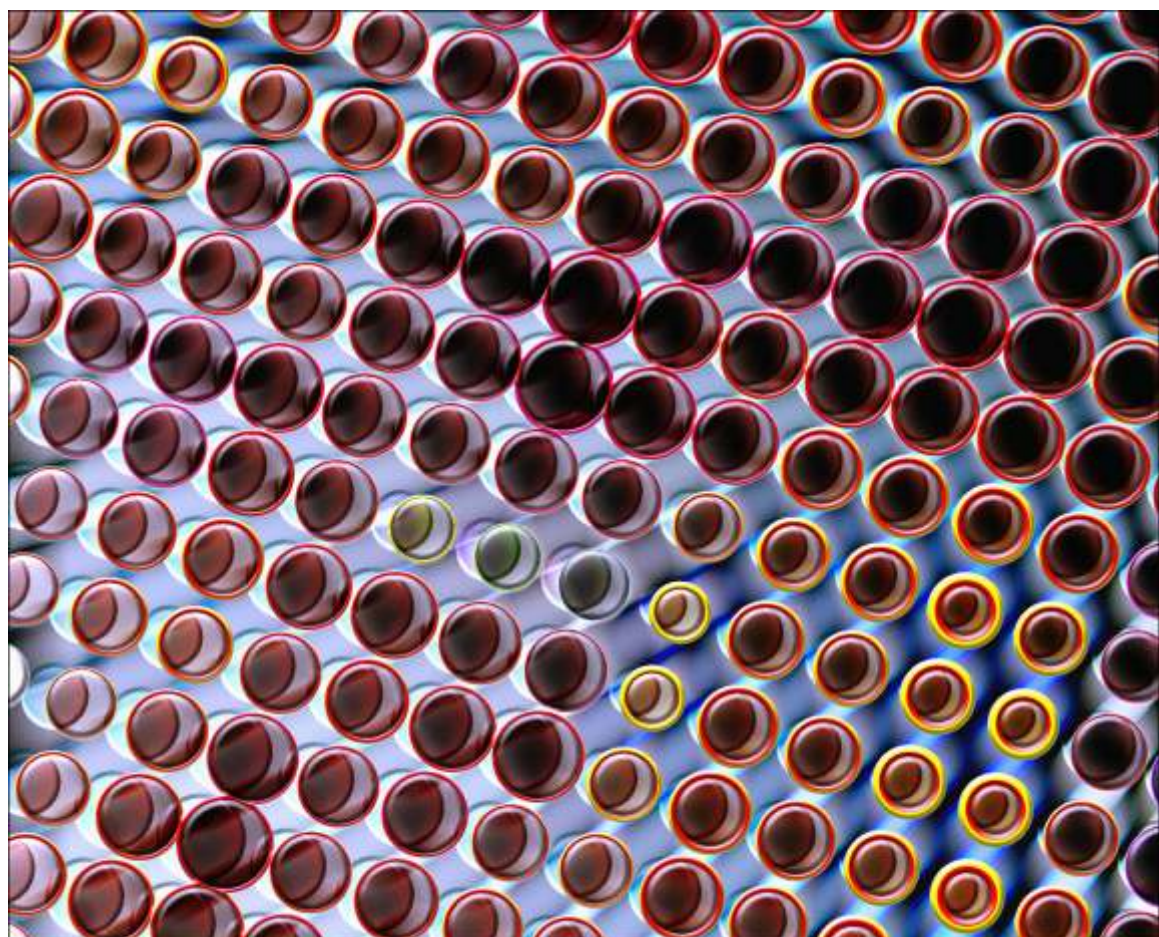












waves

Flying Waves
2005
16" X 24" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

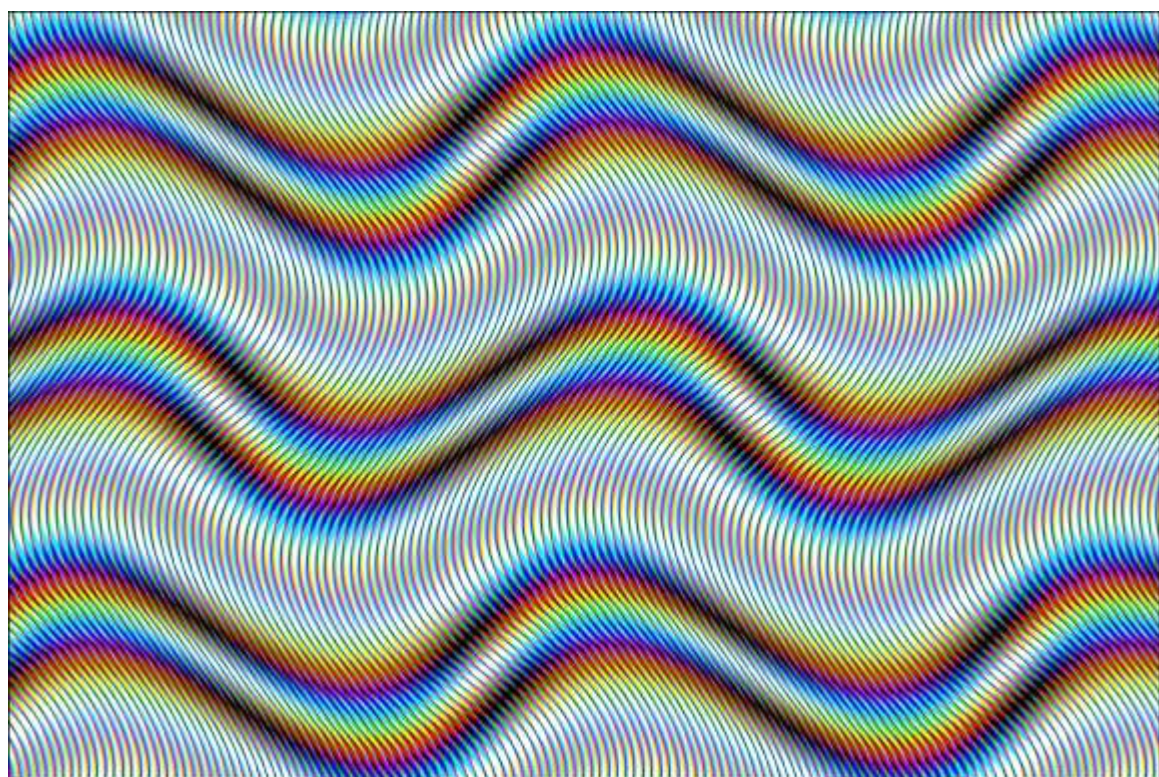
Flying Waves - Detail

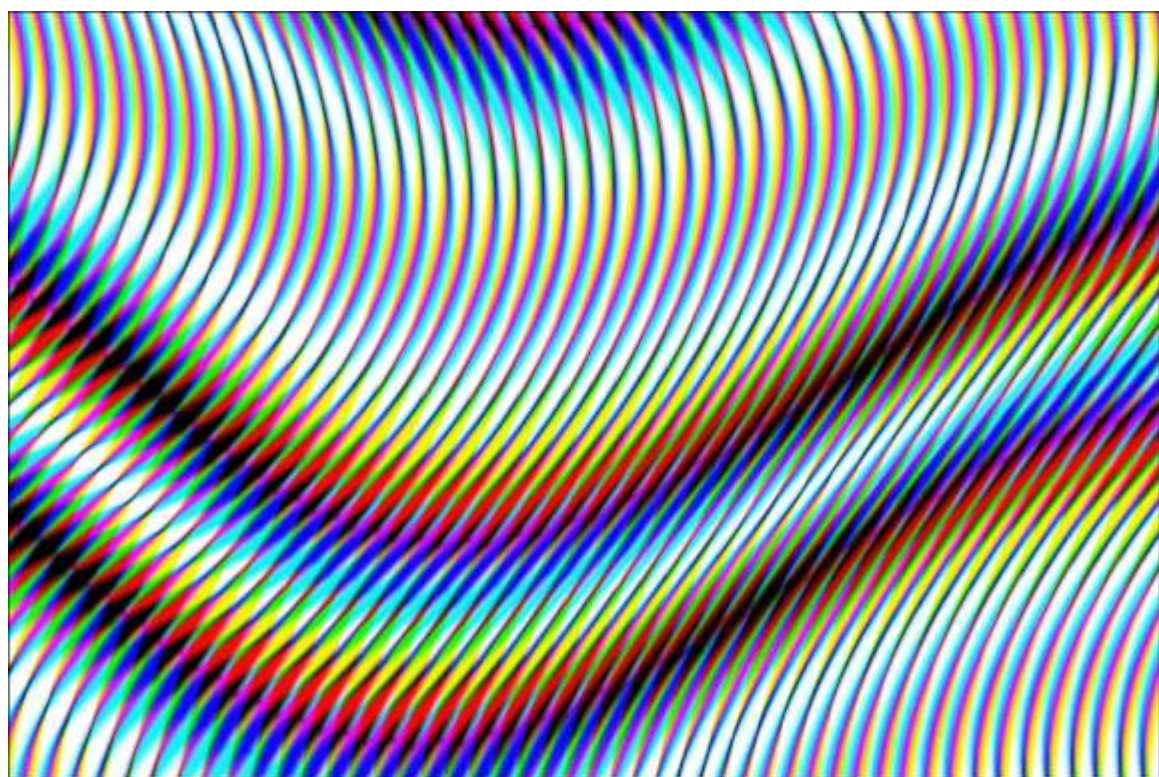
Electric Waves
2005
15.25" X 24" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

Peacock Feather Waves
2005
16" X 24" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

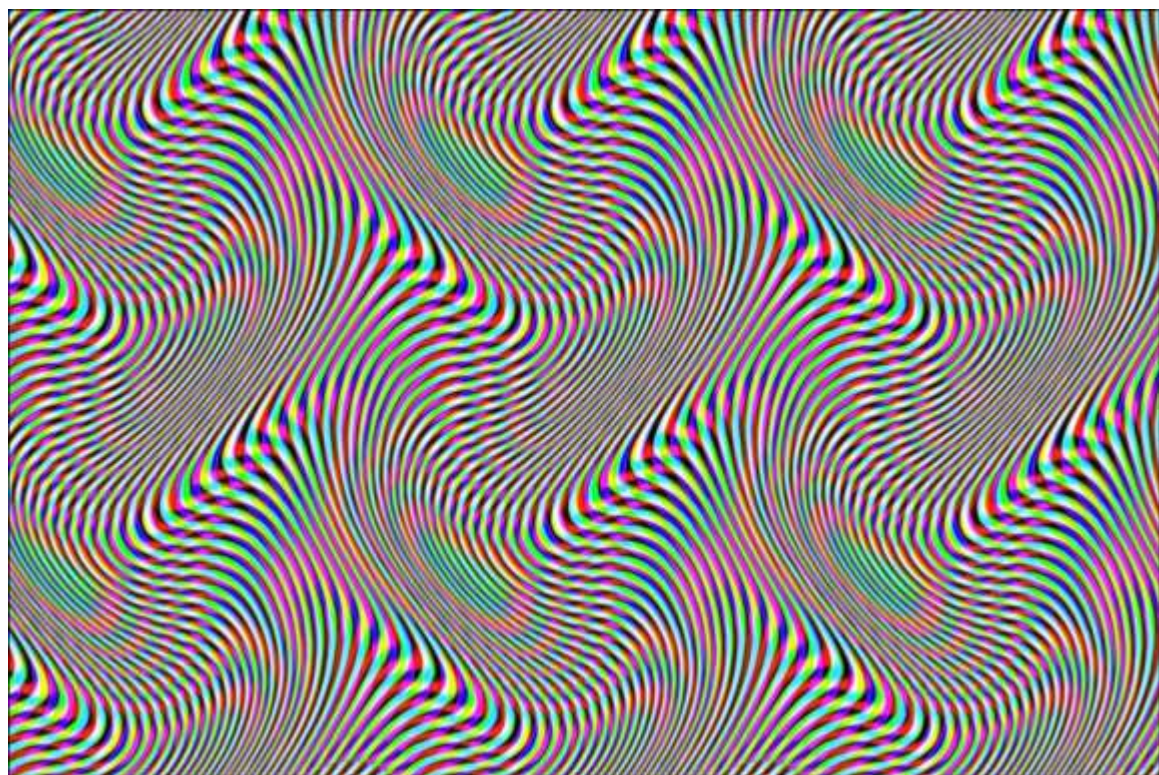
Peacock Feather Waves - Detail

Sliding Waves
2005
16" X 24" Archival Ink Print
Edition of 10

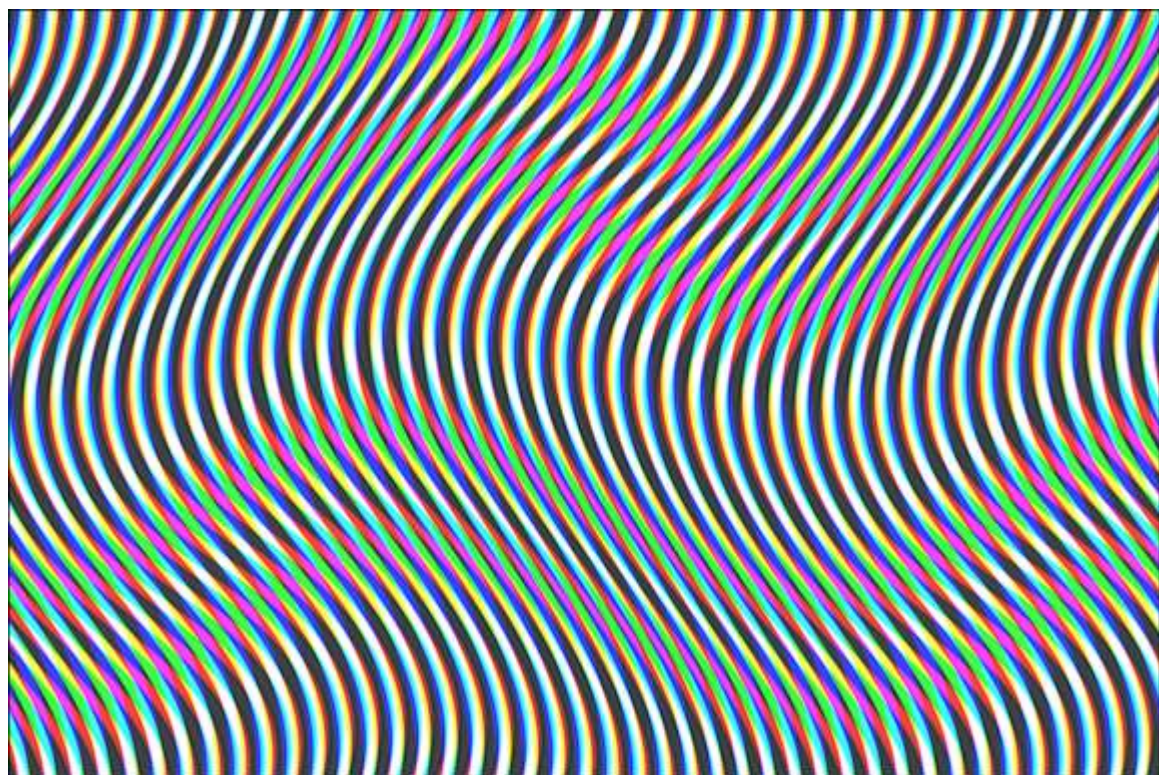












biography

Harry Seldom was born in New York City in 1956 and began working with digital imaging systems in 1986 after having undertaken independent studies of painting, experimental music and eastern philosophies. His early work focused on recursive formulae to produce idiosyncratic pattern formations. In 1989, Seldom began taking virtual photographs of abstract models and environments created using 3-D graphics systems. In 1999, Seldom returned to digital imaging as a creative medium, this time augmented by photography, and has since developed a wide-ranging body of work that address the issues of transforming the profane into the sacred, symbolism and meaning, compulsion, objectification, psychogenesis and psychopathology, and the relationship of material and spiritual energies. His current work uses pulsing color and the imposition of formal rule sets to explore the boundaries of perception and power dynamics. Harry Seldom lives and works in New York City.

Published Papers

“Iterative Systems In Self-Similar Pattern Formation”, Journal of Chaos and Graphics (1989)

“From Mundane To Mandala: Digital Transformations Of Photographic Art” ”, Journal of Chaos and Graphics (2001)

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