I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch that, a statement of sorts almost ingrained into my mind from wielding an iPhone with the in-built Artificial Intelligence (AI) known as Siri for the past five years. This response, seemingly obtained by silently murmuring into your microphone, will soon become an announcement of the past, an anecdote that Millennials and early Generation Zs will gleefully tell their screen-obsessed children about through their hyper realistic virtual reality goggles, developed by Amazon and distributed via their nearest drone depot. Exaggerated encounters with early AI assistants will proliferate these virtual encounters, the augmented elderly telling of a time that saw Siri and Alexa unable to participate in any given social situation. Simultaneously the in-house AI will refill everyone's digital glass, laugh politely at the gentle mockery of their ancestors and experience a thousand similar scenarios concurrently occurring across the globe.

A stereotypical scenario akin to this one is inevitable. The introduction of industry 4.0 has seen a revolution in autonomous production, the Internet of Things continues to evolve, intent on establishing smart homes throughout the western world and our lives continue to be shaped and quietly adjusted by unclear algorithms. Will the autonomous world of the future be a utopian paradise, where intelligent Als and augmented beings work side by side, enabling the widespread adoption of a universal basic income, freeing the world from jobs deemed repetitive and tedious? Alternatively will we as a race eventually become irrelevant, catering to our complicated human needs whilst mechanical robots rise up, conspiring to push us into a new age of mass unemployment?

isthisit? is a platform for contemporary art founded in 2016 by its current director, Bob Bicknell-Knight. Online, it operates as a gallery producing monthly exhibitions showcasing emerging to mid-career artists, hosting a roster of guest curators experimenting with the medium of the internet to interrogate a variety of concepts. The website also hosts monthly residencies, where artists are given a web page to create new work that exists on the internet as a piece of net art. Offline, it has held exhibit ans nationally and internationally and is the publisher of *isthisit?*, a book series released on a triannual basis.

arebyte Gallery is a London-based art organisation which supports the development of contemporary artists working across emerging artforms. Through their gallery space and affordable studio complex, they create thriving environments for artists to expand on their practices, explore collaborative working and meet new audiences.



I'm sorry. I didn't quite catch that

23rd March - 5th April 2018 Private View 22nd March, 6-9pm arebyte Gallery, London, E14 0LG

Sarah Derat & Rachel McRae

Digital & Dead, 2017 AR app, urethane, marble powder, acrylic Dimensions variable

2

Marie Munk

Don't Worry I'm Here, 2017 Silicone, pigment, wadding, electronics 10 x 10 x 20 cm

3

!Mediengruppe Bitnik

Ashley Madison Angels at Work in London, 2017 5-channel looping video installation with sound, Full HD. 16-9. 8 min 07 sec, five 40" LCD screens, five trolley stands, five video players, five cables 150 x 95 x 61 cm

Harm van den Dorpel

Hybrid Vigour, 2017 Interactive website **Duration infinite**

Harm van den Dorpel

Adoreway, 2016 Digital print 100 x 80 cm

6

lain Ball

Bold 2in1 Liquitabs / Tide Pods [genus/symptoms/slimefest], 2009/2018 Fair non bio pods Dimensions variable

7

Iain Ball

Productlaneevol (self titled) [genus/ symptoms], 2009 IBA Naturals Liquid Wick Pyramid Air Freshener 10 x 9 x 9 cm

lain/Ball

Lutetium Hyperflag, 2018 Digital print on fabric 65 x 98 cm

Yuri Pattison

outsourced views, visual economies, 2013-2014 Digital video (colour, sound, 1080p) 24 min 42 sec

!Mediengruppe Bitnik, Anne De Boer, Bora Akinciturk, Dominic Dispirito, Emma Stern, Harm van den Dorpel, Iain Ball, Jakob Kudsk Steensen, Marie Munk, Olga Fedorova, Sarah Derat & Rachel McRae, Stephan Backes, Stine Deja and Yuri Pattison

Curated by Bob Bicknell-Knight / isthisit?

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17

13

12

10

Marie Munk

Look At Me!, 2017 Silicone, pigment, wadding, fabric, electronics 50 x 30 x 30 cm

11

Bora Akinciturk

Amber #49, from the collection of The New Seoul Human Confederation Archaeological Museum of Ancestor Tech & Modern Life,

Tripod, Cheetos bag, SIM cards, IBM motherboard, house flies, food soldier action figure head, dolphin pendant, cigarette butts, printed transparent paper, tt net USB inside transparent epoxy cast 112 x 50 x 50 cm

12

Stine Deia

Foreigner, 2018 Video 5 min 11 sec

13

Anne De Boer

I am breathing, 2017 HD inkjet print on aluminium diam. 50cm

14

Anne De Boer

breathing-xxxx-am-yyyy-I, 2017 HD inkjet print on aluminium diam. 50cm

15

Anne De Boer

bhgemlaanrit, 2017 HD inkjet print on aluminium diam. 50cm

16

Marie Munk

I Adore You, 2018 Silicone, pigments, fabric, electronics 35 x 20 x 20 cm

17

Dominic Dispirito

Fag ash folly, 2018 Manually 3D printed PLA plastic on board 24 x 18 x 5 cm

Olga Fedorova

Between two islands, 2017 Lenticular print 91 x 119 cm

19

Jakob Kudsk Steensen

Pando Endo, 2017 Realtime simulation with 4 drone cameras **Duration** infinite

20

Emma Stern

THE END (panoramic render), 2018 HD inkjet print on aluminium 60 x 40 cm

Olga Fedorova

Hot work, 2017 Lenticular print 71 x 94 cm

Stephan Backes

Mask (Screen), 2018

Video, 10min, screen, Raspberry Pi, speaker, carbon fibre, resin, straps, cables Dimensions variable

