

I Can't Remember When It Started 2020

A Digital Work for Instagram and Galerie Barbara Thumm Online Viewing Room

Project Outline

At the beginning of 2020 Neudecker was working on the production of a video work, *Everything Happens Once*, inspired by her residency within the CLOUD scientific experiment at CERN. CLOUD, (Cosmics Leaving Outdoor Droplets) is an experiment, led by physicist Jasper Kirkby, which investigates the impact on the climate of the microphysical activity between galactic cosmic rays and cloud formation.

Addressing the unperceivable extremes of scale at CERN Neudecker had taken extensive tracking footage offering views into or under the 'skin' of CLOUD, the nuts and bolts, the shielding for the radioactivity, the tinfoil, the mundane materiality that is so often overlooked, essential yet irrelevant to what is going on in the experiment.

Whilst developing this footage for *Everything Happens Once*, the impact of the Covid Pandemic forced much of the globe into lockdown, which meant the cancellation of any physical exhibitions. Inspired by her research for *Everything Happens Once*, Neudecker responded by creating **I Can't Remember When it Started**, a digital work to be shown virtually on Instagram and Galerie Barbara Thumm's online Viewing Room.

I Can't Remember When it Started shows 6, almost, floor to ceiling windows or floating images, circulating the gallery's virtual walls displaying tracking footage of the visible, material paraphernalia of the CLOUD experiment at CERN, moving at the speed at which it was shot. This virtual tracking of a reality challenges our capacity to relate to what we are witnessing, as like most of the experiments at CERN everything you physically see, is too large and too late to be seen, what is analysed is invisible, behind steel, or too small for human perception and has often happened in the recent past.

In **I Can't Remember When it Started**, what we see is a digital representation of a tracked physical reality which is virtually rendered to be viewed online and on our phones through Instagram. Drawn to this layering of different mediated realities Neudecker questions the capacity of our imagination to comprehend these representations and distinguish between fact and fiction .

This project would not be possible without making the commission *Everything Happens Once* for Arts at CERN, curated by Mónica Bello, Head of Arts at CERN and funded by the partnership with Odonata Fund, a special fund of the Didier and Martine Primat Foundation

