

Hoël Duret
UC-98, Sonar souls

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The main characteristic of 20th century schools of thought is that they modelled their work on a vision that saw time as a linear space advancing towards the future with an idea of progress.

The 21st century is beginning a disintegration of this vision. It is remodelling time into a continuous present, a time that has become circular, in which everything is constantly changing but does not develop towards a definite objective.

To conceive this change of paradigm, in 1998 Polish sociologist Zygmunt Bauman advanced the concept of liquidity. Liquid life, which is lived in liquid society, cannot preserve its primary form, nor durably follow a trajectory. It is in this permanent stream, or flow, that everything must be conceived and understood today.

UC-98 is a new fiction created by Hoël Duret in 2016, divided into four stages, each of which presents new pieces from this set of works. It presents observations of a swarm of jellyfish trapped in the knot of a submarine fibre-optic cable that transmits our digital data. Like all cables of this kind, it is identified by a name: UC-98. For several years, the soft, gelatinous, translucent bodies of the jellyfish have been crossed UC-98's light, which transports billions of data circulated by human beings via the Web.

The exhibition UC-98 Sonar Souls presented at TORRI is the first stage of this new project. It constitutes the narrative beginning of a fiction that depicts an imagined societal state of the world.

Hoël Duret offers us a first dive into the cosmogony he is establishing.

One by one, the elements of this fiction reveal themselves and invite us to wander through this three-dimensional history. Floating forms evoking the swarm of jellyfish enter into dialogue with soft bodies out of comic books on the fourth dimension. Tubes in flowing lines—references to the mobile structures of 1950s' design—support ecosystems whose light irradiates, enveloping everything it reaches.

Imagining unexplored submarine landscapes, in the space of the gallery Hoël Duret offers an environment based on one of the key components of his new

Katell Jaffrès and Hoël Duret

After studying history of art, Katell Jaffrès worked in different cultural institutions in France and in Europe. In 2005 she joined Cartier Foundation's team. from 2007 she is curator at the Palais de Tokyo.