Research Statement

Title: too perfect to be natural (Exhibition and catalogue)

Creator: Kevin Todd
Year: 2010

Research Background

The research involves an exhibition of computer-generated artworks and paintings, supported by a catalogue and essay. The same underlying geometric structure is utilised within the artworks to generate imagery. In so doing, the artworks examine a historical quest for perfection and question the cultural context of art and technology in relation to nature.

Research Contribution

The artworks show a sophisticated use/understanding of digital art and technology and its place in a broader cultural context (beyond the actual medium itself). New digital print technology was used to print the computer-based images on aluminium. The work also explored the archaeology of new media art. The artworks contribute to dialogue between new and traditional media in order to better understand contemporary visual language and aesthetics. Digital technology is changing our cultural relationship to the image and the exhibition creates new insights in relation to visual culture by positioning the digital in the context of a broader history.

Research Significance

The work was selected for exhibition at the Ruth S. Harley University Centre Gallery, New York and at Millersville University, Pennsylvania, USA. A paper exploring the broader concepts associated with the work was presented at the 2011 International Society for the Arts in Society Conference, Berlin, Germany and published in the International Journal for the Arts and Society, Volume 6, Issue 3.