

Marcus Lyall

Marcus Lyall - Test Subject Thu 16 Jan 2020 - Sat 29 Feb 2020

Works for sale 2020

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NEW
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For his first exhibition Marcus looks at how our intimate data can be (and often is) extracted from us and how it quantifies and exploits the human condition.

Marcus Lyall grew up in a house steeped in architecture, science fiction and hobby electronics. The geometric forms in the show are based on his memories of a set of Buckminster Fuller-style geometric forms made from matchsticks, in his father's home office.

His previous artworks and public commissions have been based on capturing and amplifying bio-data and performances from members of the public. This began in 2008 with his CAS/Becks Futures commission "Pitch Control" where he made a musical instrument entirely from human voices. Further commissions include "On Your Wavelength" a site-specific installation in Canary Wharf that maps human brain waves in light, and music.

For this exhibition, he has captured his own bio-data including heart activity, movement and an EEG scan session at UCL's Neuroscience Lab. This data contained gestures and patterns of behaviour that he was not ever consciously aware of. It is brought to life by the use of vintage oscilloscopes and through the application of bespoke written software. All of these works are essentially self-portraits that use software to interpret and amplify signals, which are then made fleetingly physical by using lasers and electron guns as drawing tools, resulting in unique photographic prints

Visually, the work builds on the experimental animation techniques of Mary Ellen Bute, John Whitney and Larry Cuba and makes direct reference to Laszlo Moholy-Nagy's photograms.

The simulacrum of this ground-breaking exhibition consists of a unique laser installation where the artist invites you to control a laser-based composition by handing over your own data. Your hand gestures will be recorded into an archive of body movements that will dictate the movement of the laser (and may be used for training purposes.....)

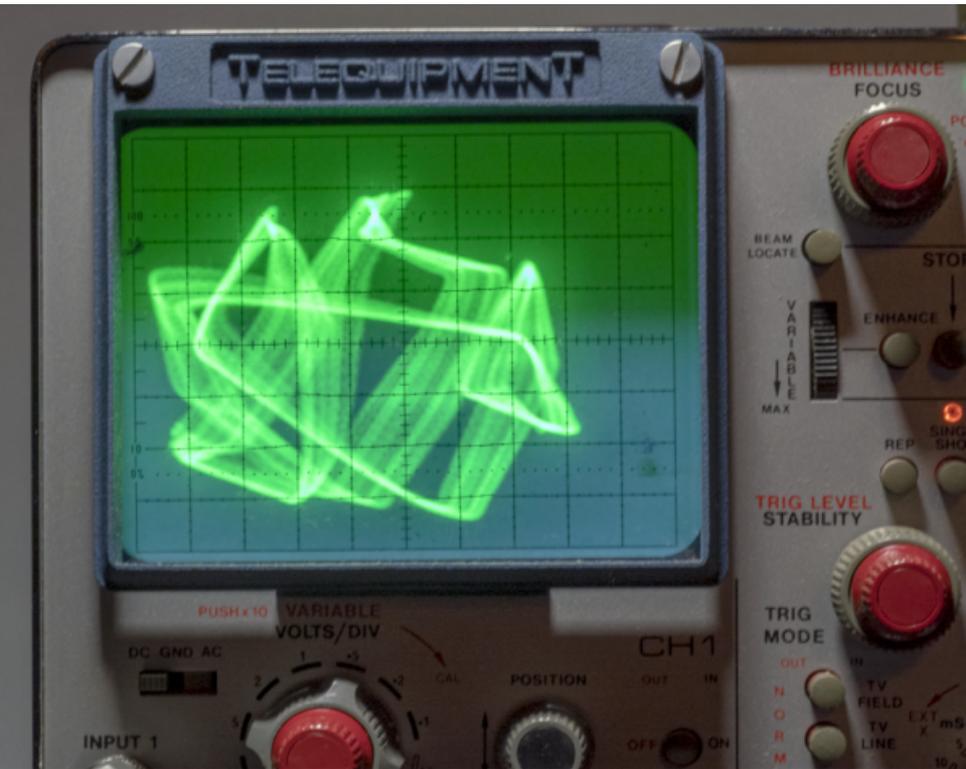
Notes for editors:

As well as a remarkable series of public commissions, Marcus Lyall's artistic skills have been utilised by The Chemical Brothers, Metallica, Adidas, Deadmau5 and Calvin Klein. He lives and works in London and is represented by New Art Projects.

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The Traces We Leave (2020)

176cm (h) x 145cm (w) x 78cm (d)

Eight assorted CRT oscilloscopes, aluminium
and wood plinth,

Sound interface, computer, cables,
Custom software, heart rate, voice and
movement data.

£20,000 +VAT

Marcus Lyall



Alpha Beta Delta Gamma (2020)

300cm (h) x 245cm (w) x 245cm (d)

Four identical CRT oscilloscopes, aluminium
and wood plinth,

Sound interface, computer, cables,

Custom software, EEG data.

£12,000 + VAT

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Study For 'The Summoning' (2020)

300cm (h) x 245cm (w) x 245cm (d)

Aluminium Frame, Back projection screen,

Black fabric,

BB4 laser projector, optical lens and bracket,

laser interface, computer, cables

Custom software, Leap Motion sensor, plinth.

£32,000 + VAT

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Untitled 2 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)

51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x
59.5 cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)

Fibre-based photographic paper

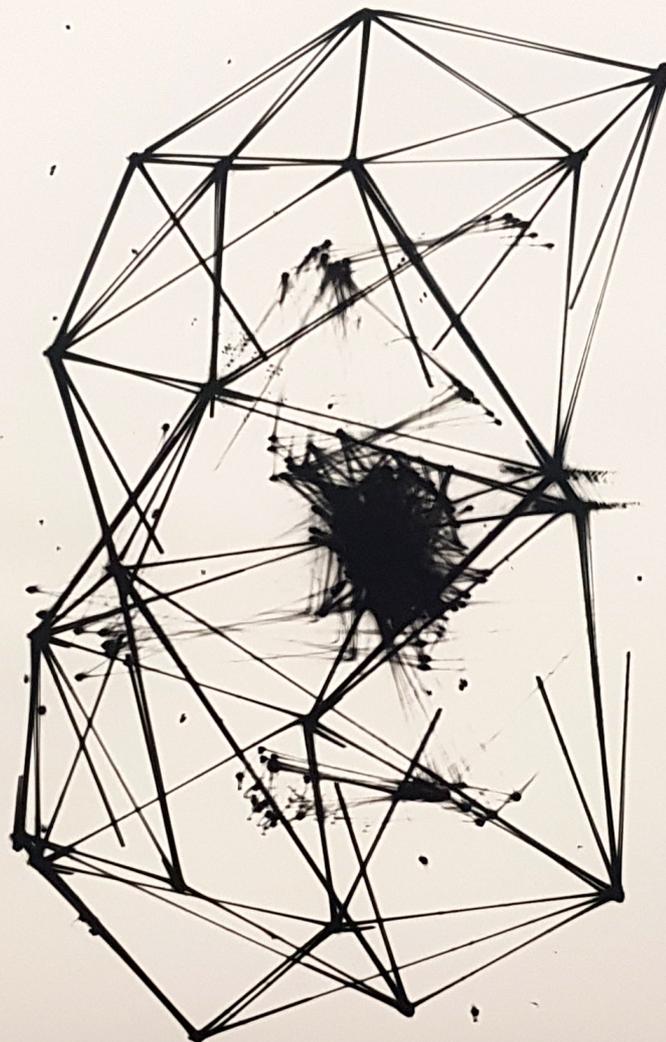
£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)

£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)

£1700 +VAT

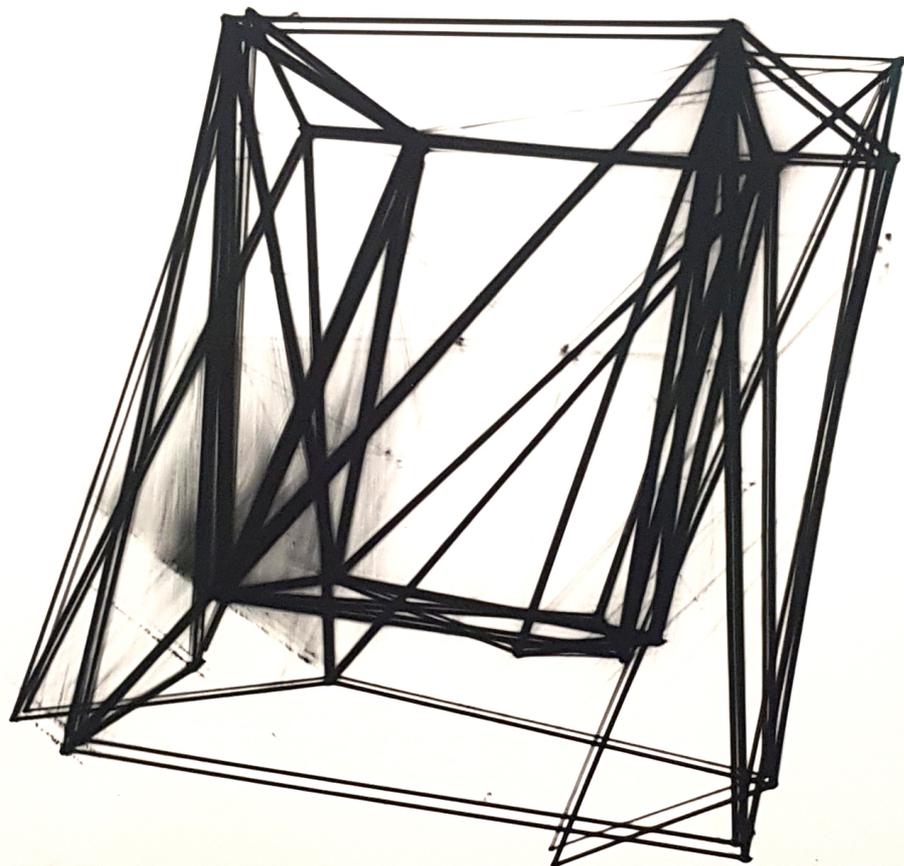
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Untitled 2 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)
51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x 59.5
cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)
Fibre-based photographic paper
£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)
£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)
£1700 +VAT

Marcus Lyall



Untitled 3 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)

51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x 59.5
cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)

Fibre-based photographic paper

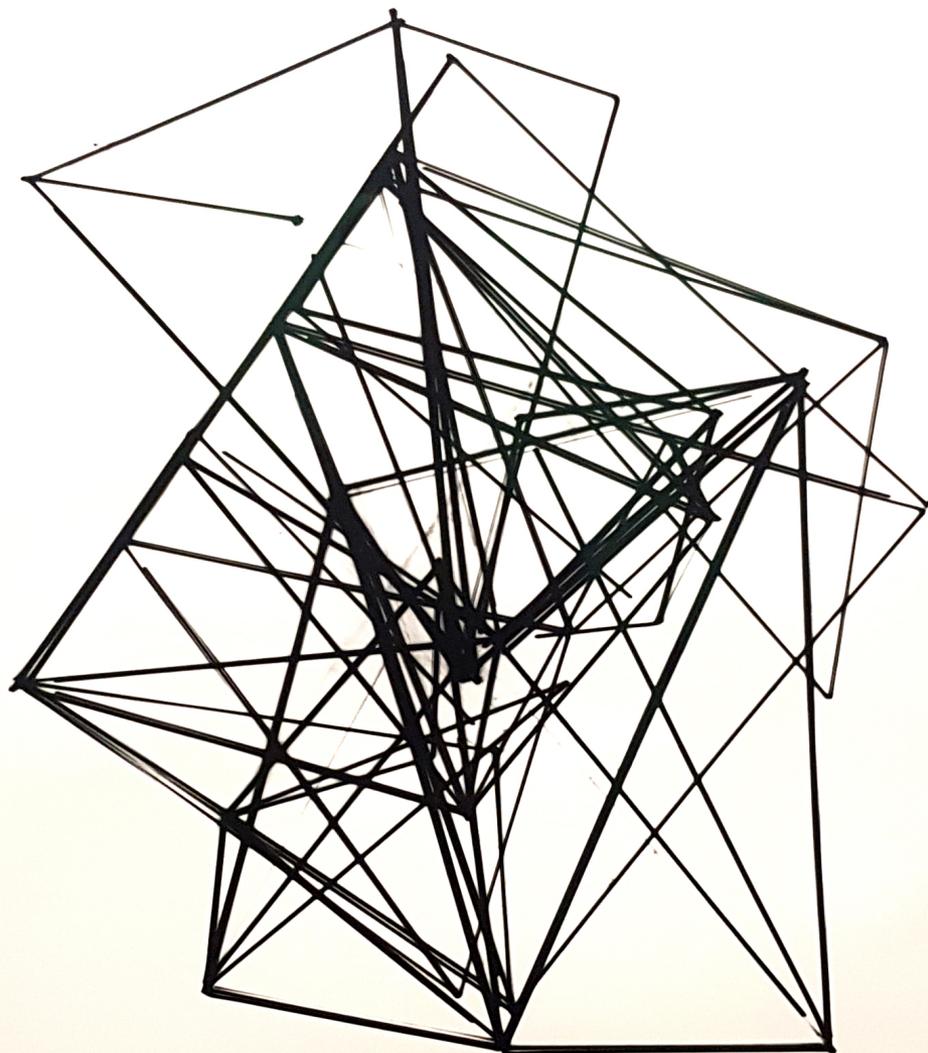
£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)

£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)

£1700 +VAT

NEW
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Marcus Lyall



Untitled 4 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)

51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x 59.5
cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)

Fibre-based photographic paper

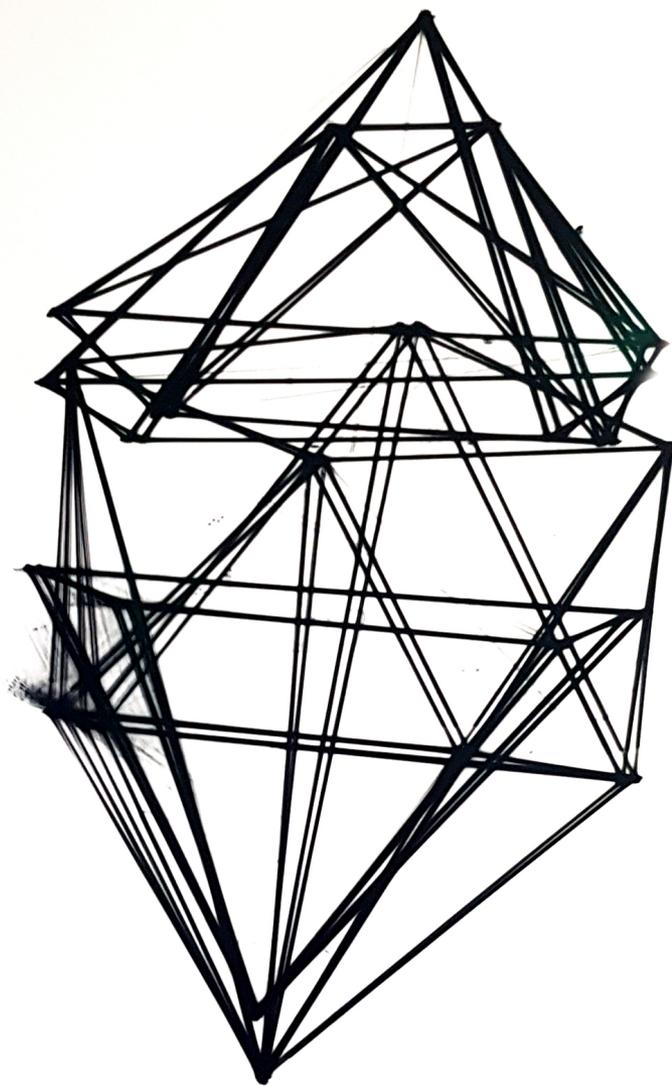
£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)

£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)

£1700 +VAT

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Untitled 5 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)

51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x 59.5
cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)

Fibre-based photographic paper

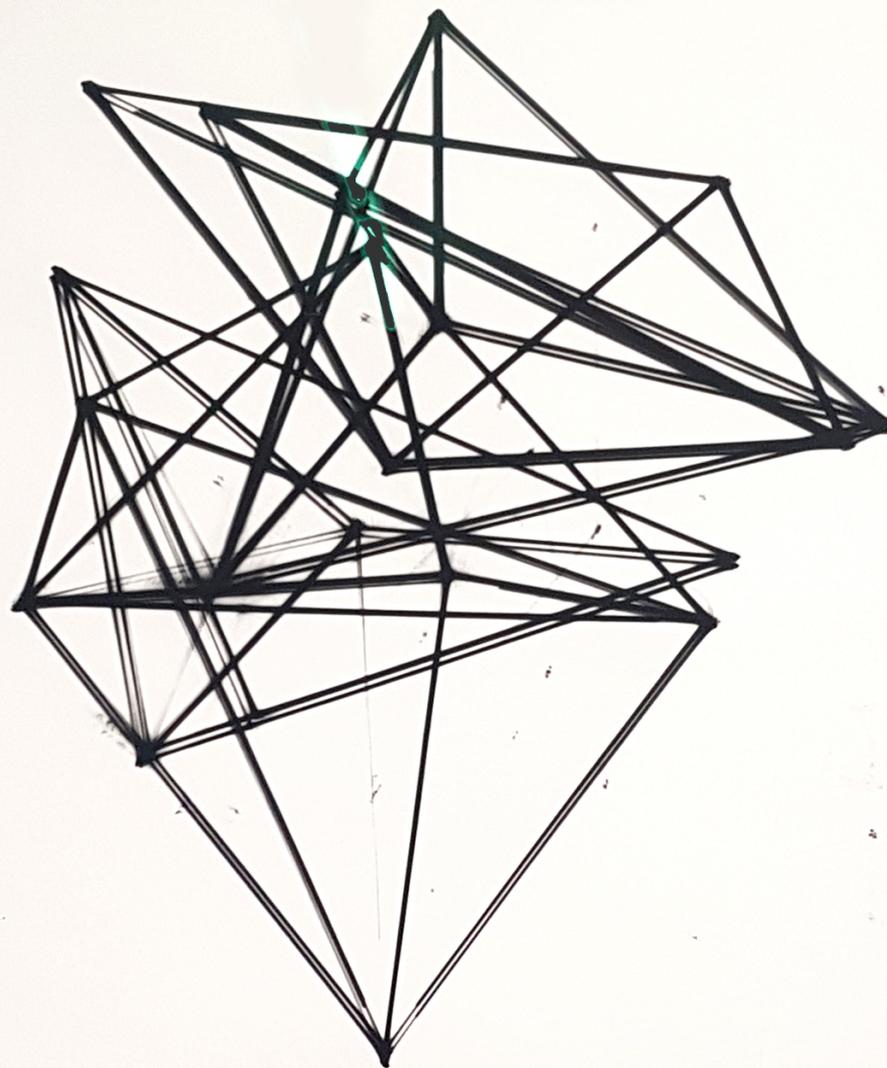
£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)

£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)

£1700 +VAT

NEW
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Marcus Lyall



Untitled 6 Laser Photograms 1-8 (2019)

51cm x 61cm 20" x 24" unframed ((70 x 59.5
cms 27.5" x 23.5" Framed)

Fibre-based photographic paper

£1,500 Unframed + VAT (ten available)

£1,700 Framed + VAT (eight available)

£1700 +VAT

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Artist's Notes:

The work in this show uses a technique called 'vector synthesis', developed in the infancy of computer graphics. Electrical signals, like sound waves, are used to steer the path of an electron beam, fast enough to turn a dot into a series of lines. The shapes are created using a computer program that works in a similar way to a synthesizer, but instead of turning knobs, they are controlled by biodata recordings.

In Room 1, all the pieces are based on my own biodata, seen as animations of oscilloscopes and as prints.

Alpha Beta Delta Gamma uses four streams of data, captured at an EEG recording session at UCL's Institute of Neurology. It shows the electrical activity of my brain as I went through various activities.

The Traces We Leave uses heart rate, movement and voice data from a series of improvised performances, reacting to a musical soundtrack.

The laser photograms were created by taking a laser into a darkroom and pointing it at sheets of photographic paper as the beam was steered by the software. The paper was exposed in short bursts, capturing snapshots of the forms as they evolved.

In Room 2, *Study for 'The Summoning'* has a sensor on the plinth in front of the screen. This detects your hand movements and uses them to manipulate the form on the screen. Your anonymous data will be recorded and may be used to create future artworks.

With support from:

Prof James Kilner, Institute of Neurology, UCL	(EEG recording)
ER Productions	(Laser consultancy)
Glyn Owen	(Fabrication)
The Bright Room	(Darkroom and processing)