

# **ANGELIC ALGORITHMS**

a journey towards villedieu

Anina Rubin

Villedieu is a town in the Normandy region, France, in which the scholar Alexandre de Villa Dei was born in the 15th century. He was, amongst a few others, one of the first ones to mark the Latinized version – *Algoritmi* – of the Persian scientist's name *Al-Khwarizmi* (8th century) who had drafted many studies about algebra and the Hindu-Arabic numeral systems.

In his book *Carmen de Algorismo* Alexandre explained on how to calculate with the new Hindu-Arabic numeral system. In order for the information to be easily learnt by heart, he composed the writings as a poem.

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In the 1960s the town was renamed to Villedieu-les-poêles („godcity-the-pans“) because of the brassware and church bells productions. Due to the constant hammering of metal, many inhabitants of that town could have turned deaf (French „sourd“) hence arose the habit of calling the Villedieu citizens *les sourdins*.

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Is the use of algorithms artificial or is it a discovery of a Darwin-style unfoldment?

Does an algorithm reveal or create a truth?

Does it forge an illusion or cast a shadow, a distraction?

How does a trace look like if time or space were both human sensory illusions?

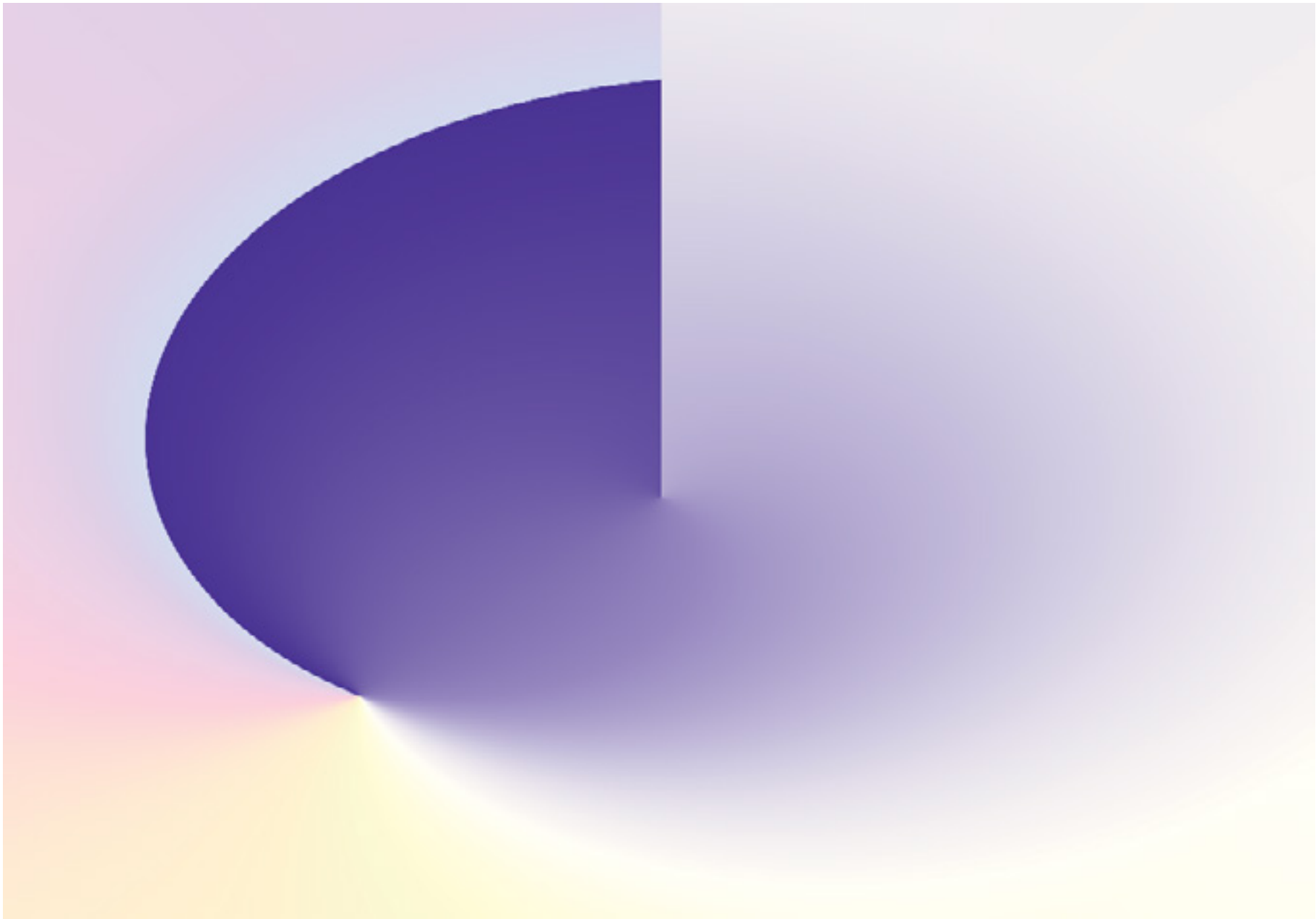
Can an algorithm exist without the notion of time?

Is the growth of versatility of algorithms a potential to discover realms that have been hidden only because of a lack of extent or blunting of the human senses?

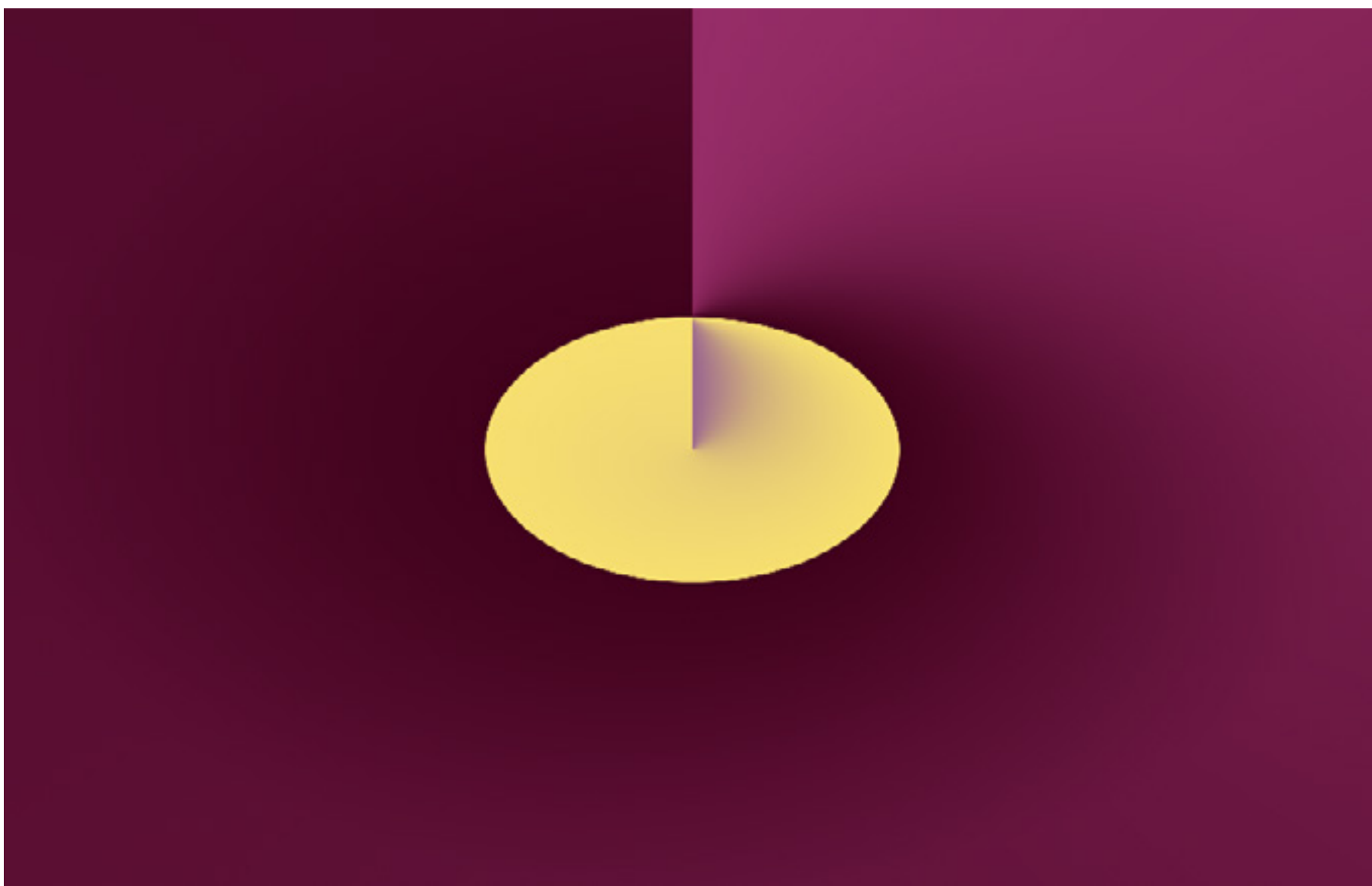
Approaches and thoughts about these questions are shared in this portfolio.

**PART 1**

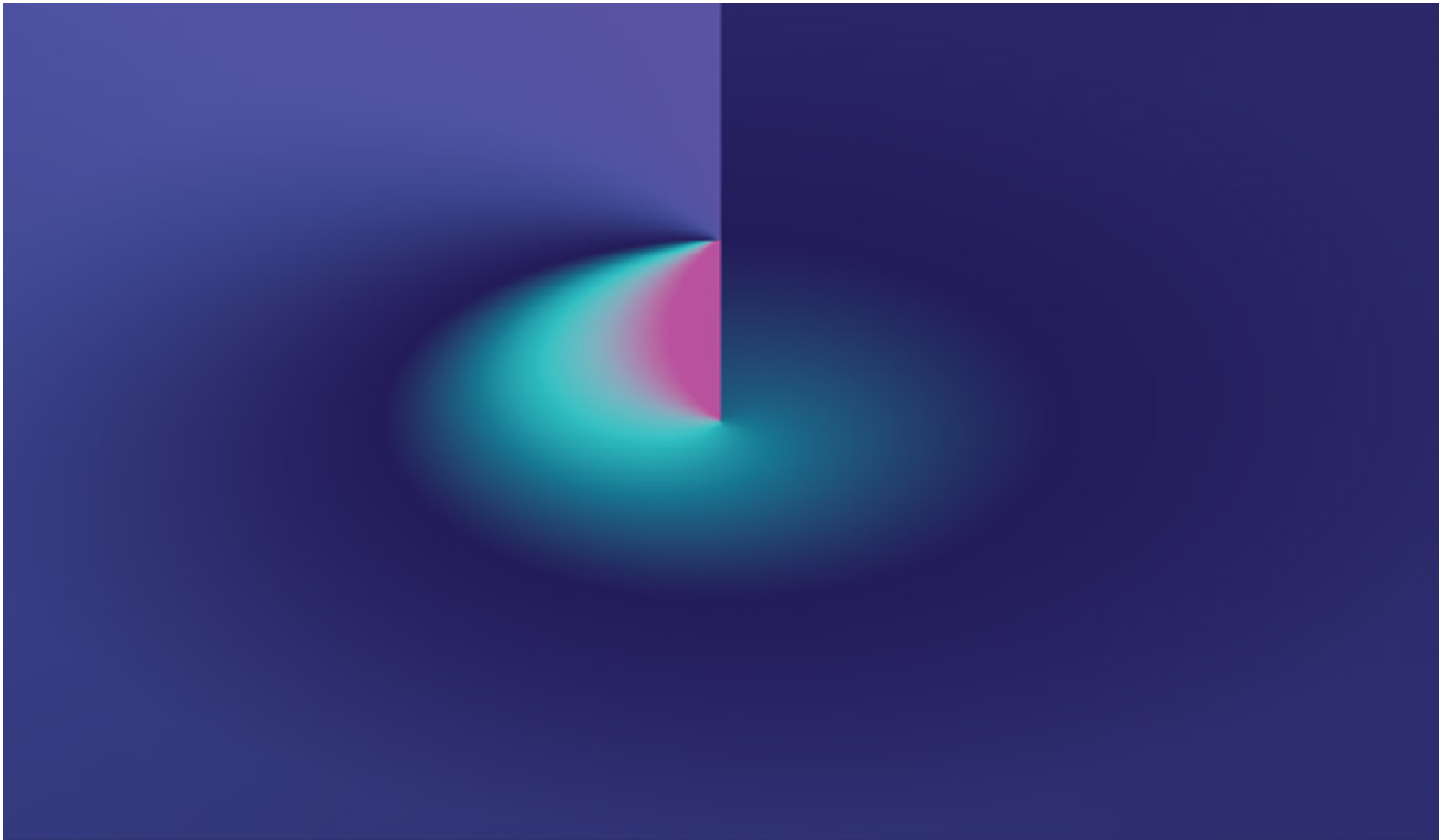
*gates and untitleds*



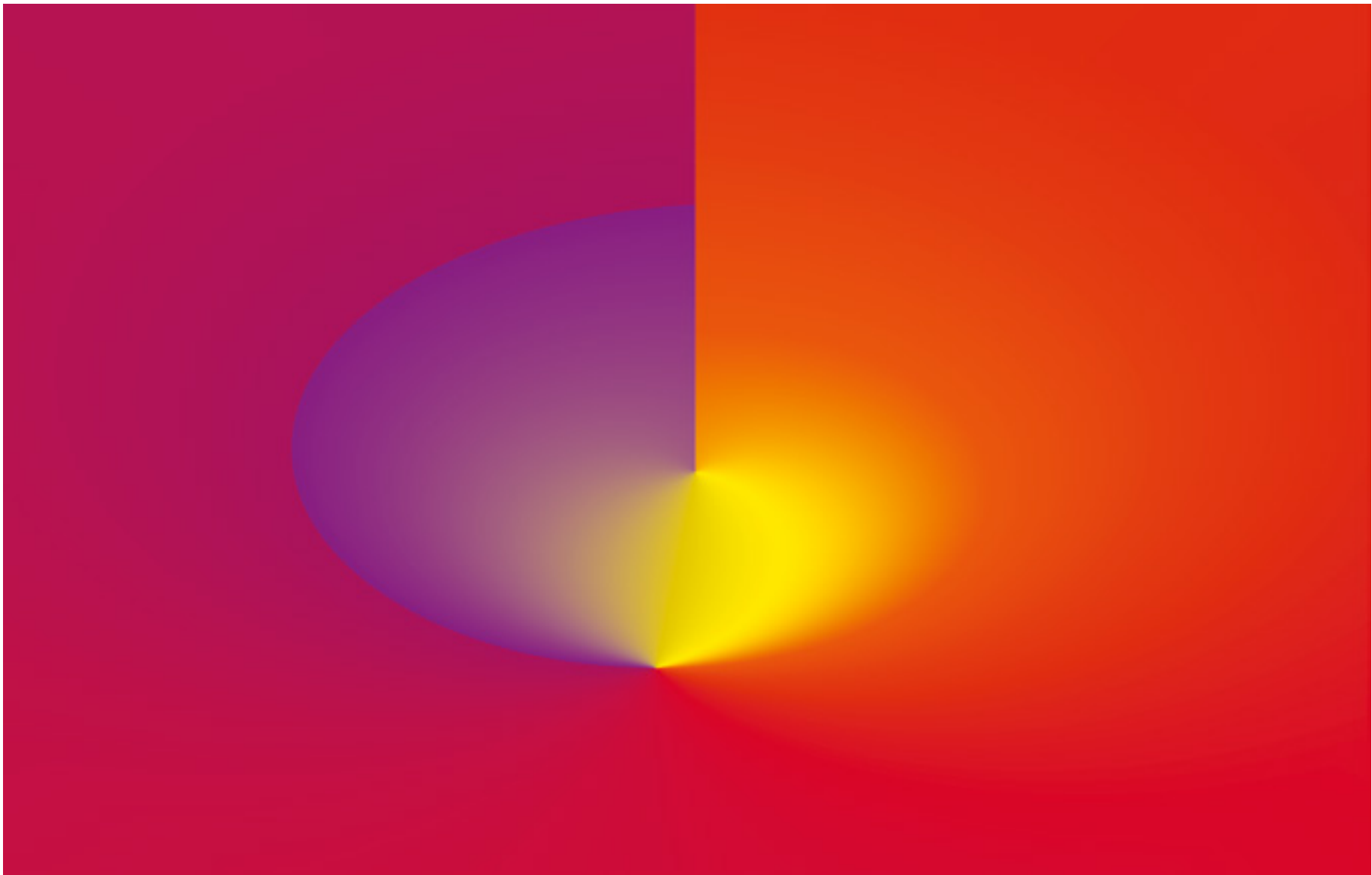
gate01, 140 x 100 cm, c-print, 2016



untitled11 , 125 x 80 cm, c-print, 2018



gate22, 110 x 60 cm, c-print, 2018



gate23, 80 x 53 cm, c-print, 2017

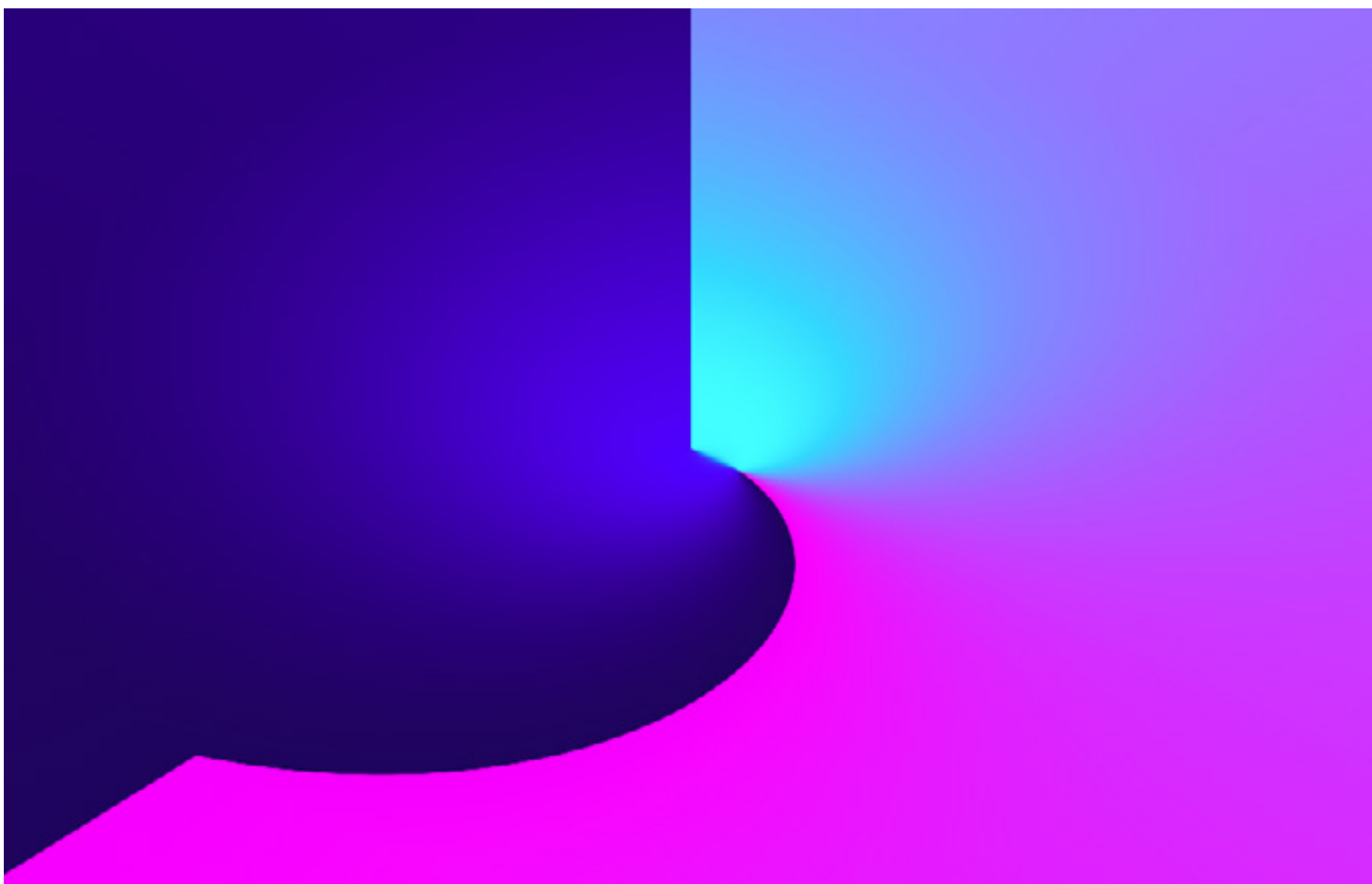


detail, gate27



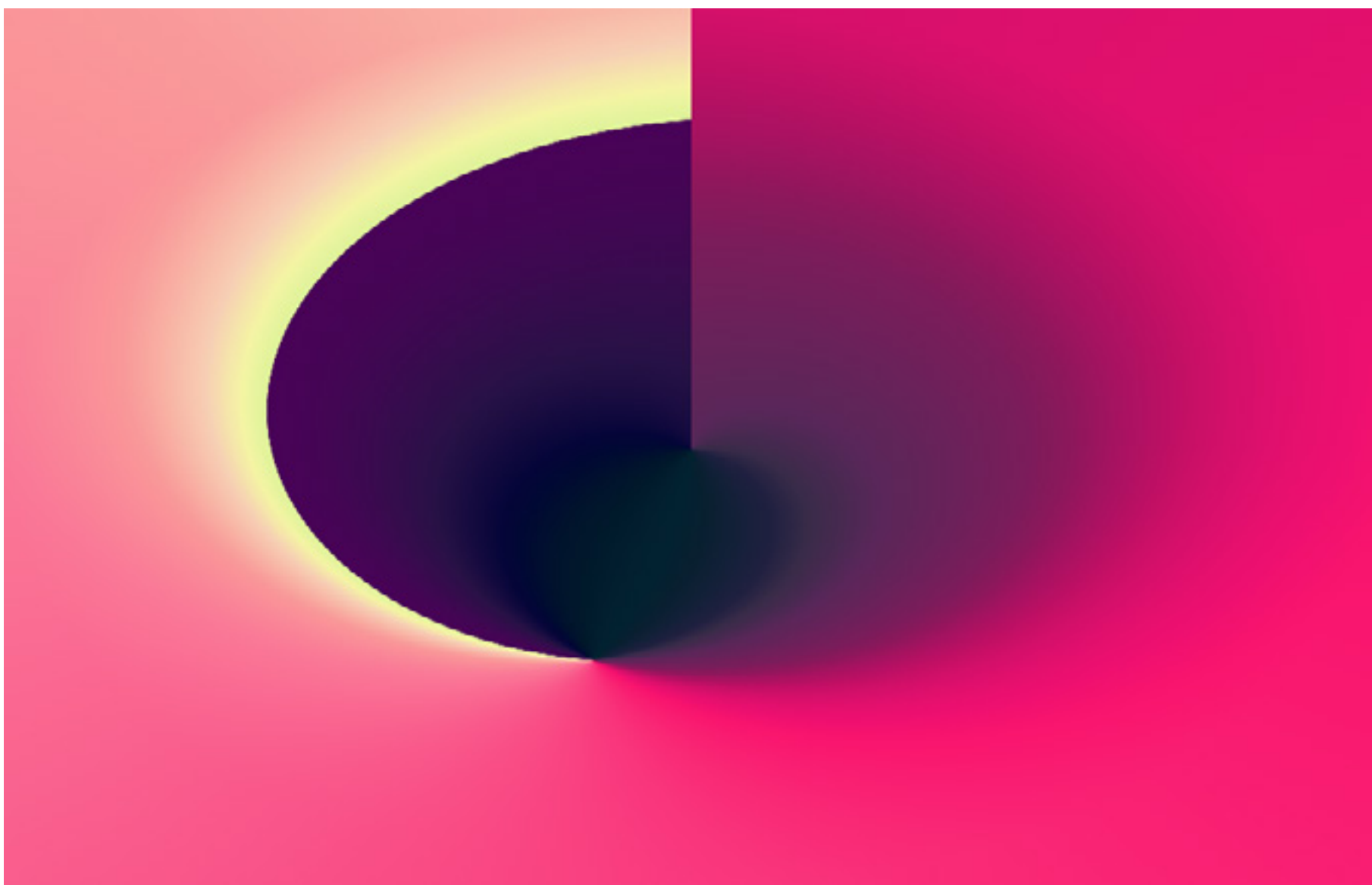


gate27, 80 x 53 cm, c-print, 2017



untitled44 , 110 x 83 cm, c-print, 2016

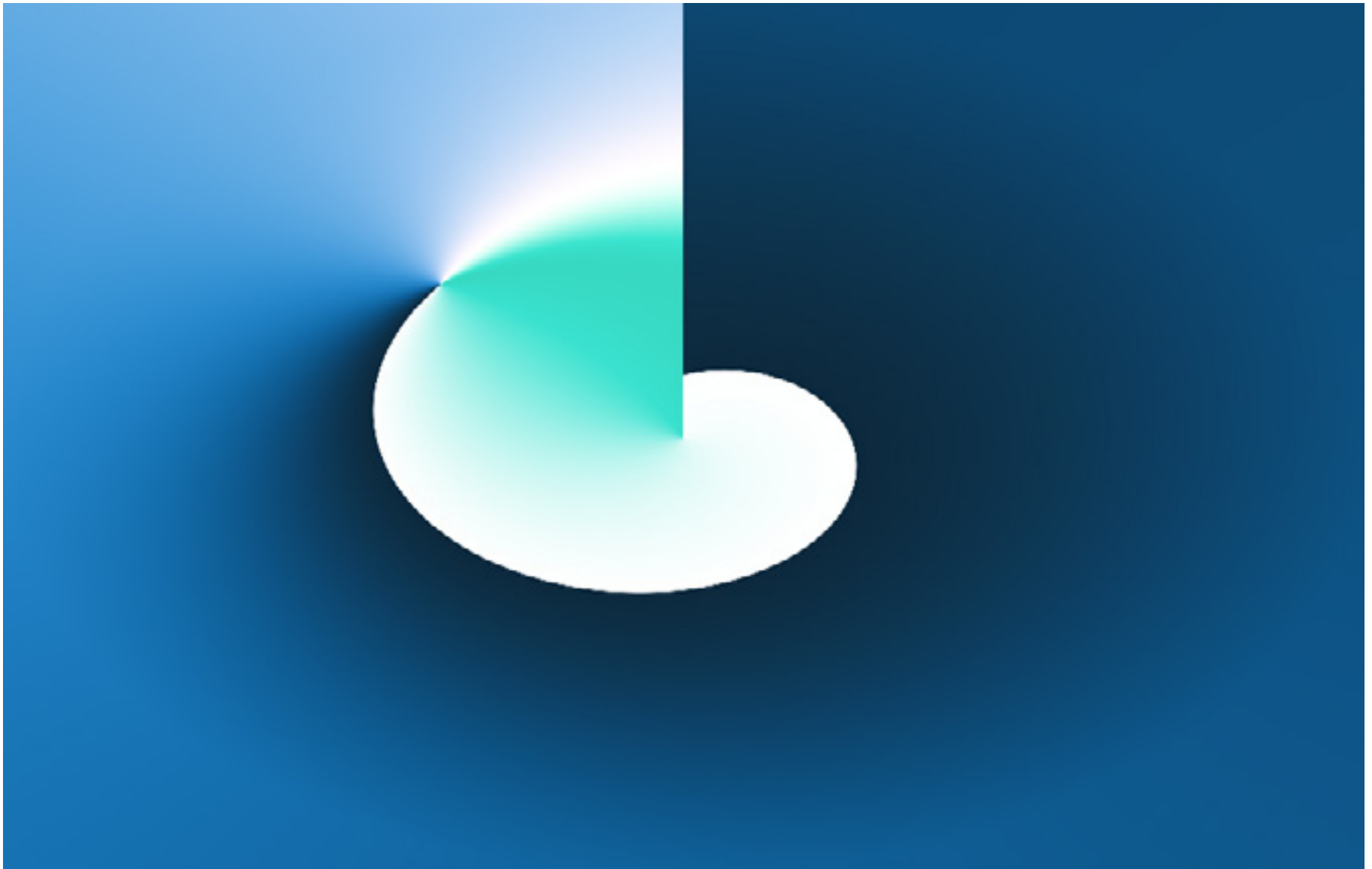
“who can see that all the windows  
aren't windows only mirrors”



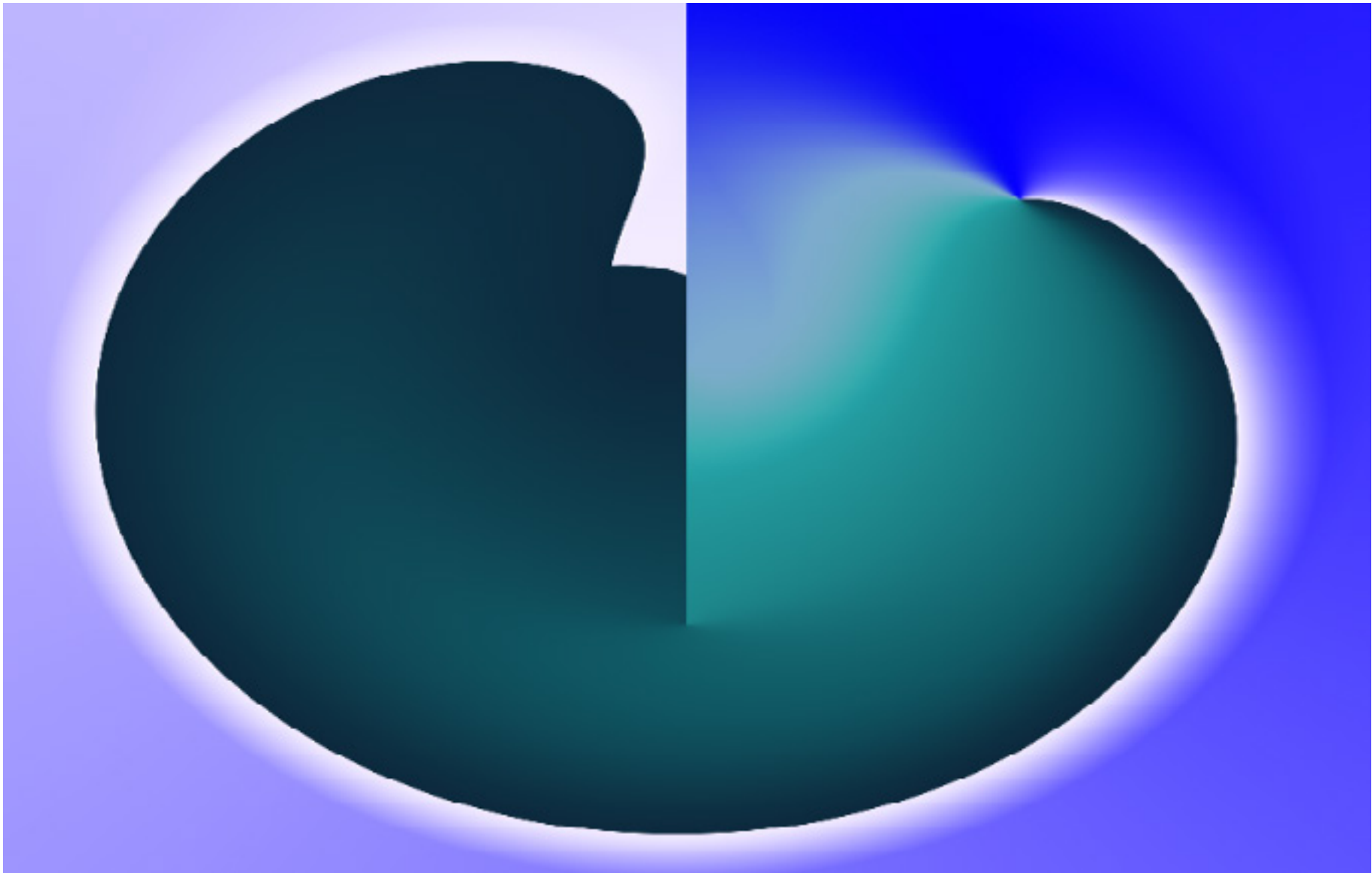
gate53 , 125 x 80 cm, c-print, 2018



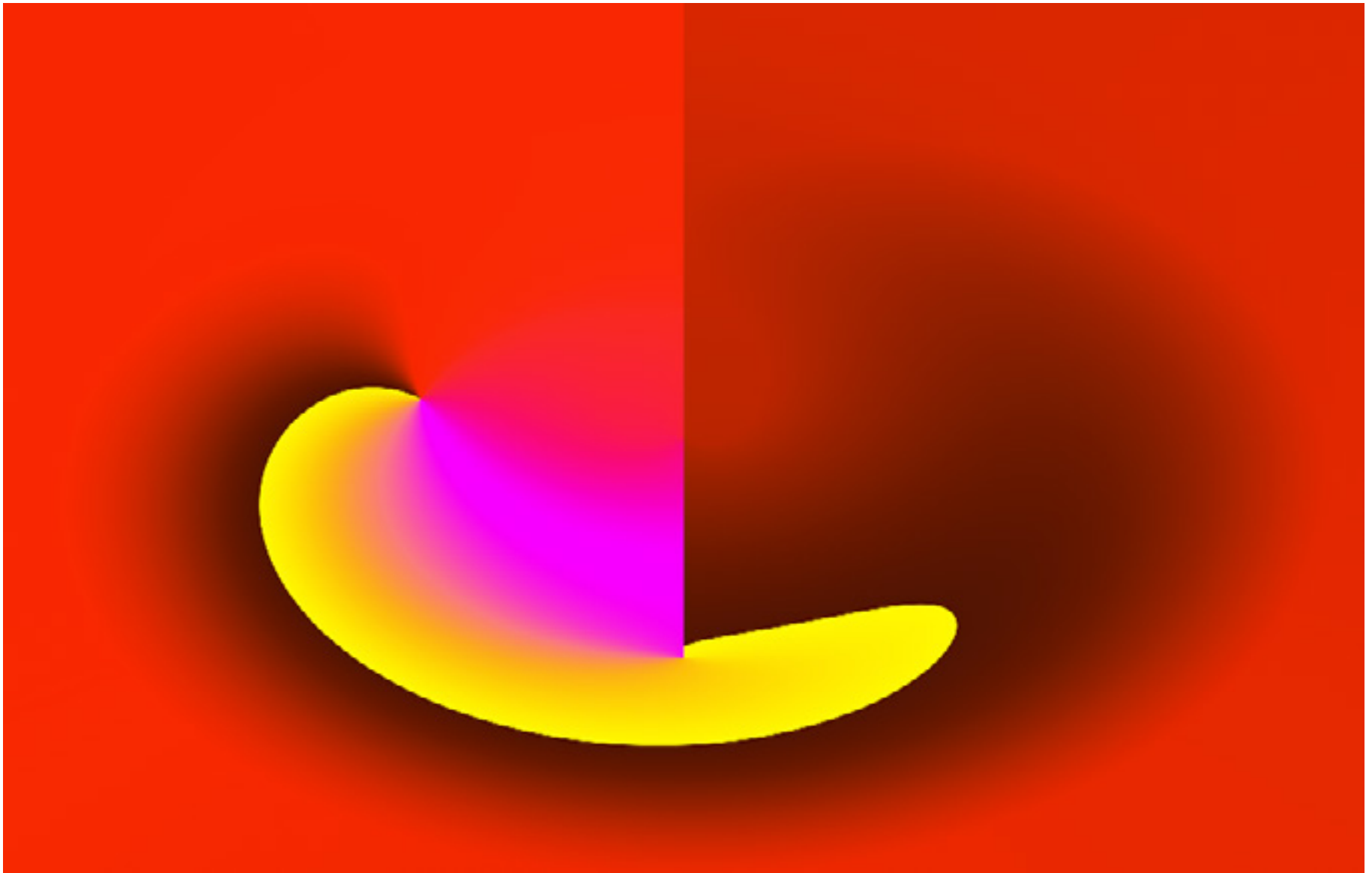
detail, gate53



gate66, 125 x 80 cm, c-print, 2017



untitled68, 125 x 80 cm, c-print, 2018



untitled77, 125 x 80 cm, c-print, 2018



**PART 2**

*n.b.*

aleph, lamed in the phoenician language (read right to left):

**𐤀𐤋** <sounds like> el , al (singular)

the canaanites used it to refer to their pagan gods

aleph, lamed in the hebrew language (read right to left):

**אל** <sounds like> el (singular)

- used to refer to divinity ("god")
- used to indicate movement or action towards a place, a person, or thing

**לא** <sounds like> lo

translates as "no"

.

**תהו ובהו** <sounds like> tohu va-bohu

appears first in the writings of genesis 1:2  
tohu and bohu have many different interpretations  
e.g. void, emptiness, formless, waste, confusion,  
chaos, with meaninglessness, vanity

**χάος** <sounds like> kaos

translates with void, gap, emptiness

*your turn: a personal riddle*

fill in the empty rectangles on the right side with a 0 or a 1 depending on how you want to translate the information given on the left side

yes	
no	
silence	
love	
chaos	
pain	
maybe	
does your way of thinking makes sense?	
is dualistic thinking natural?	

hint: we define our main five senses with sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch in the ancient egyptian culture "thought" was defined as a main sense as well

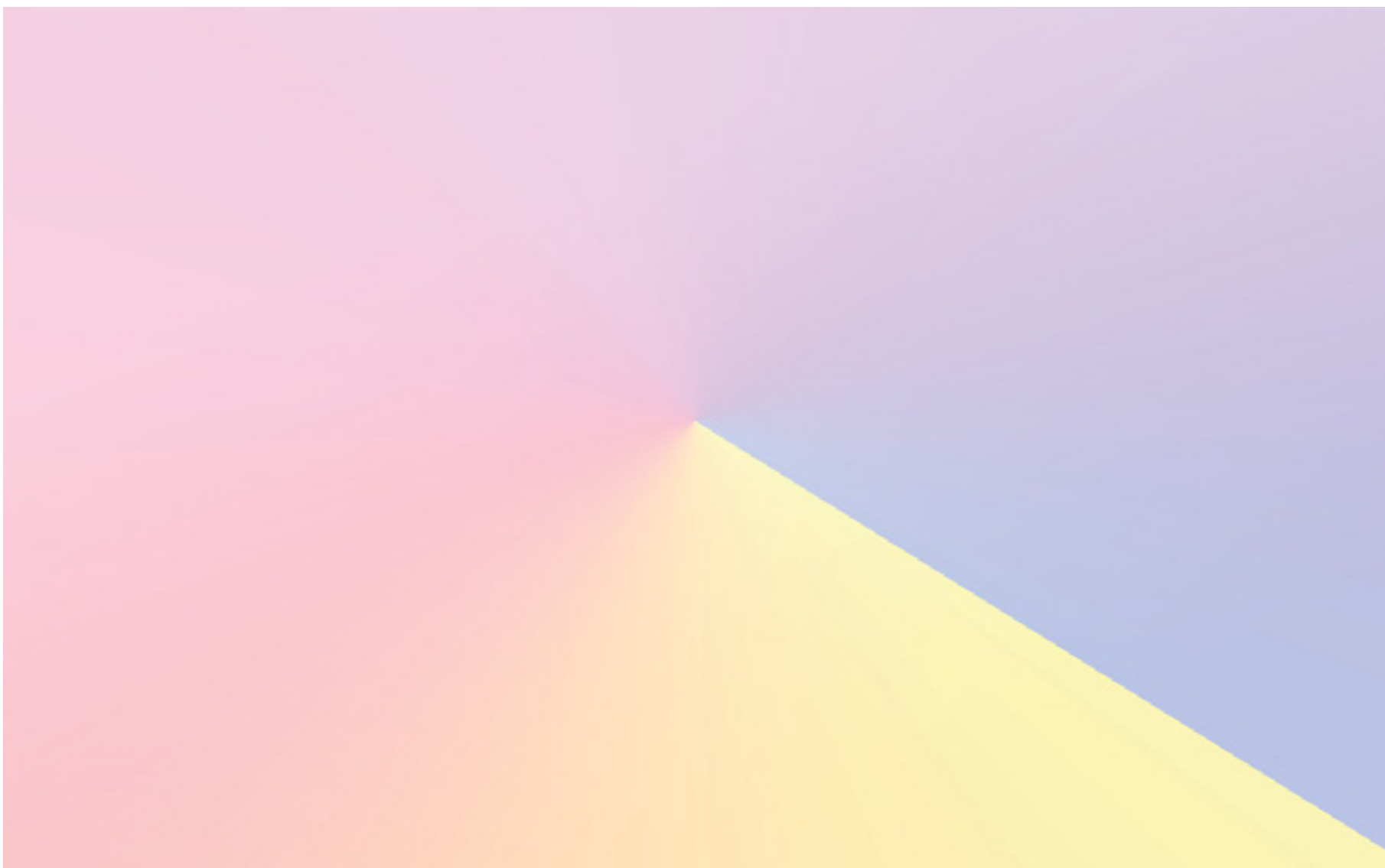
**PART 3**

*unfolding spaces*

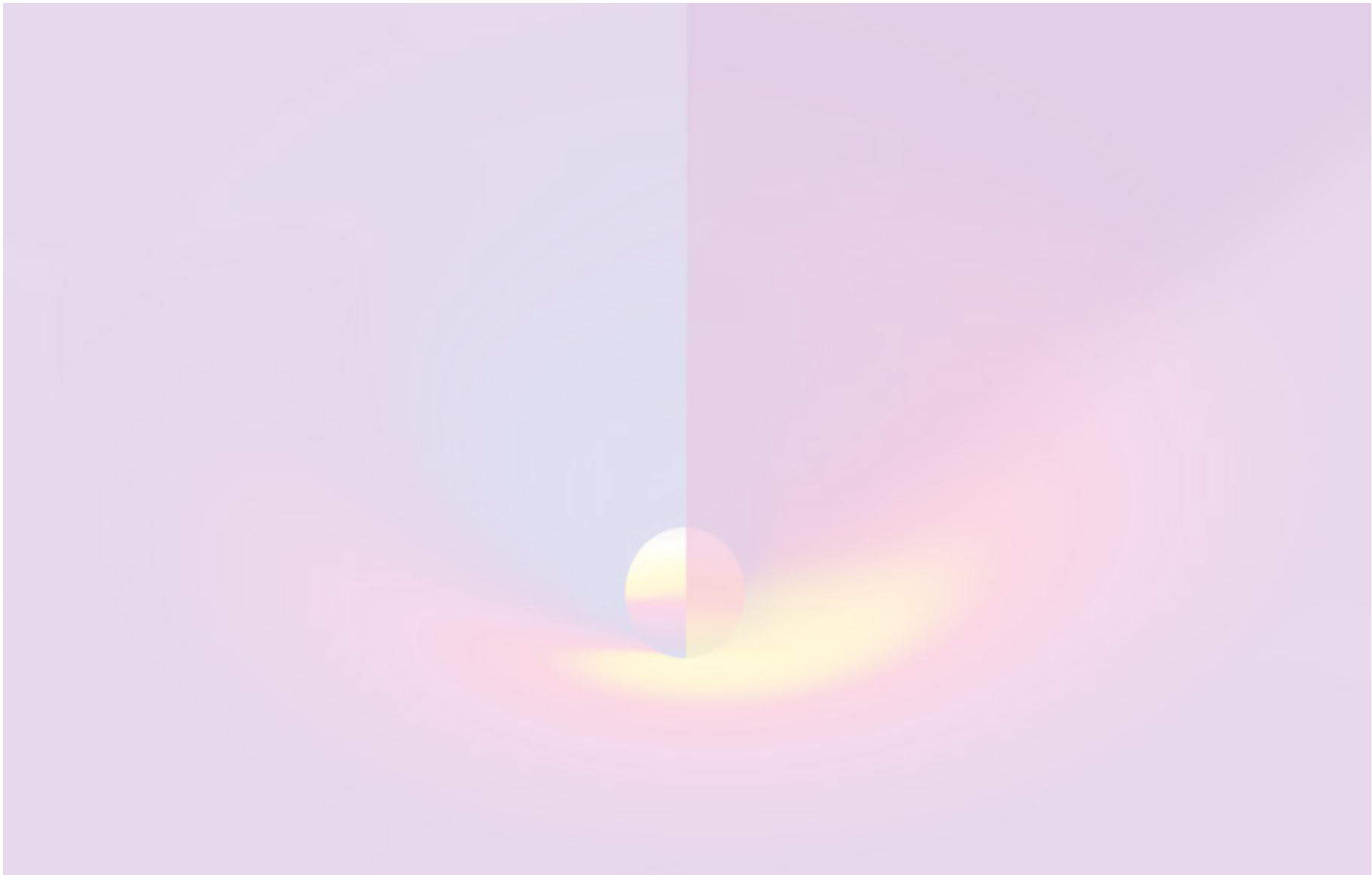


the golden hole, 149 x 80 cm, c-print, 2016 (private collection)



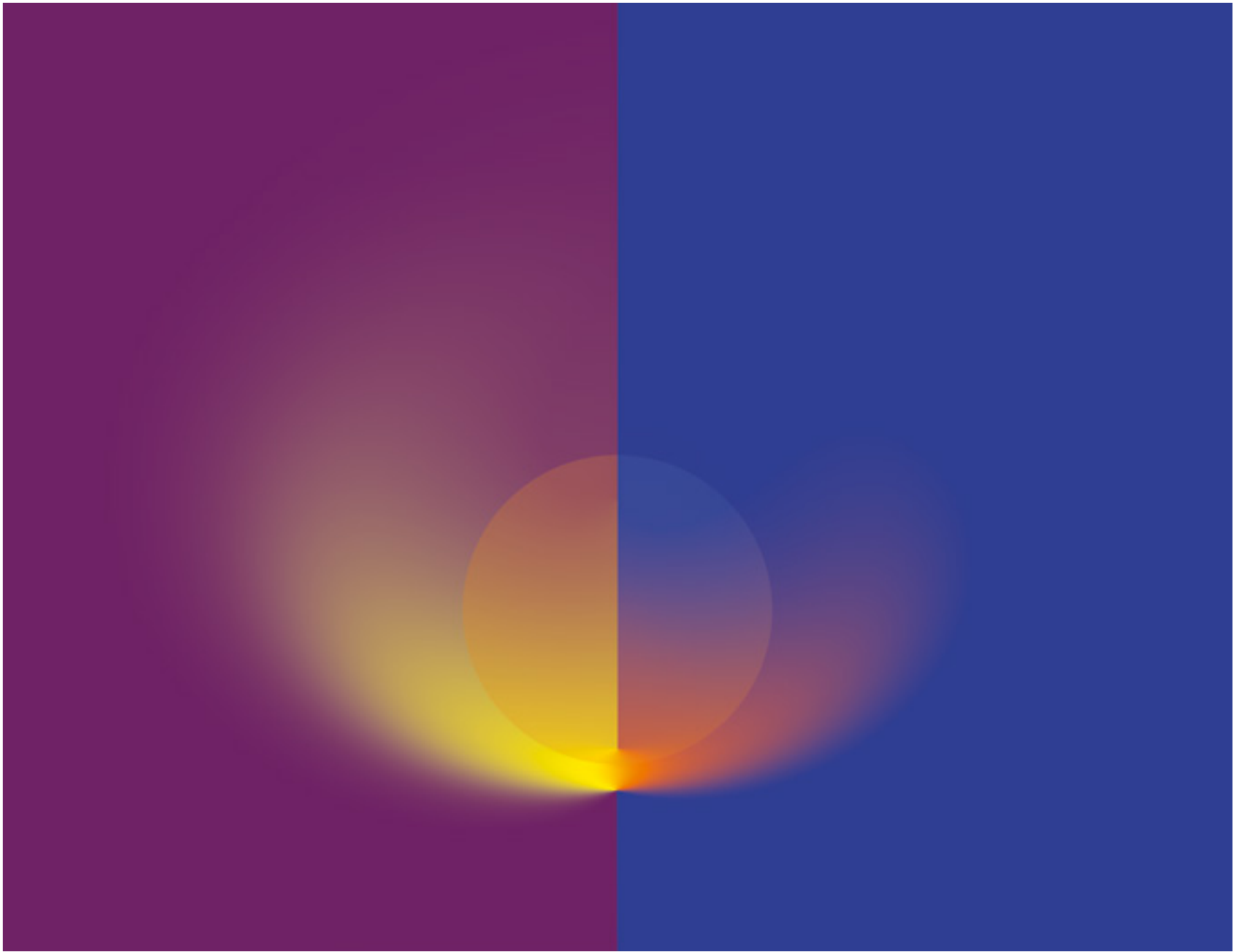


mr01, 148 x 92 cm, c-print, 2017

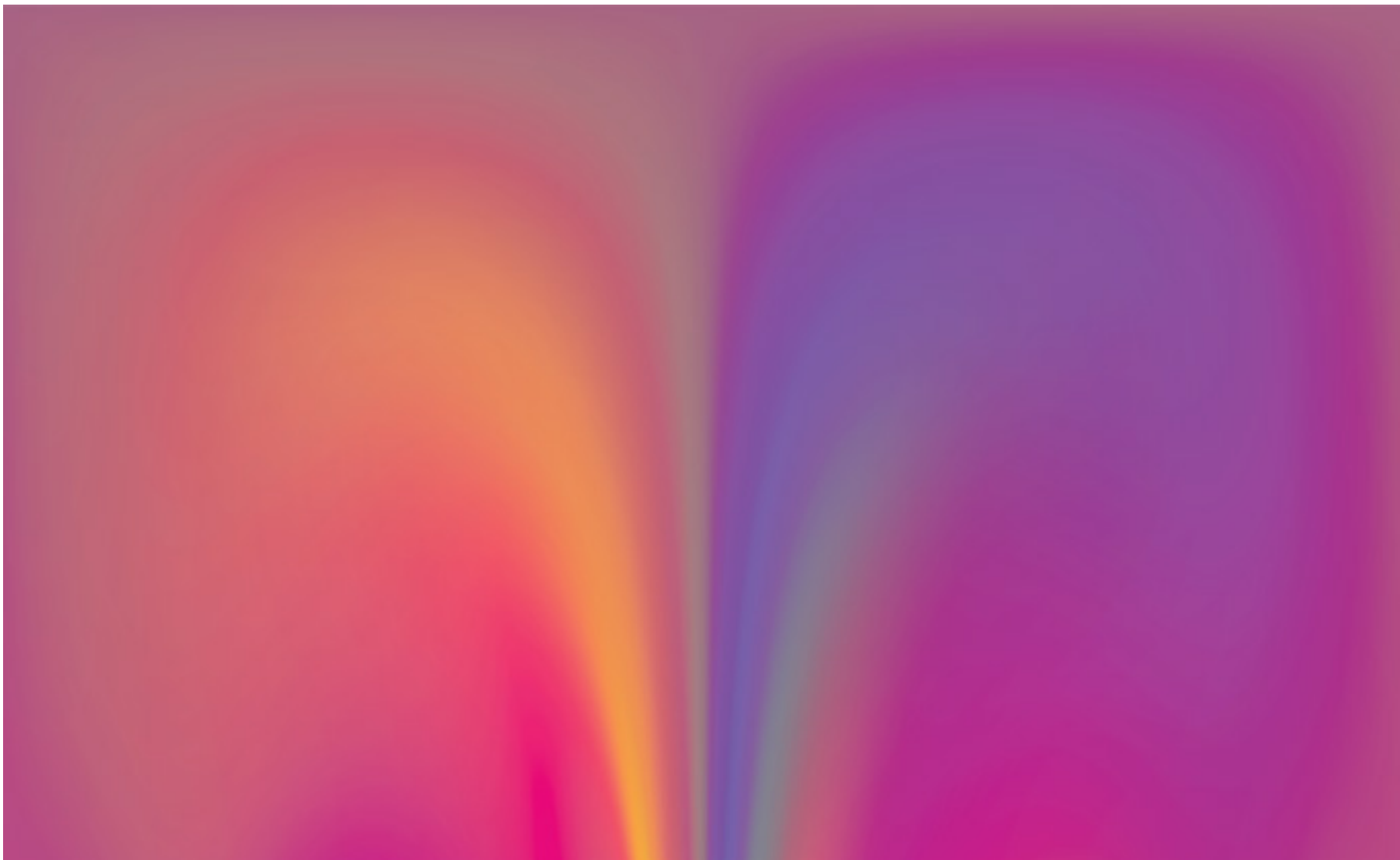


fatamorgana04, 134 x 85 cm, c-print, 2017





fatamorgana36, 144 x 111 cm, c-print, 2017



a-sh-r-a, 90 x 55cm, 2017

*Die sitzende und thronende  
Muttergöttin lebt im Sakralgebilde  
des Thrones. Der König kommt  
zur Macht, indem er den "Thron  
besteigt" und so seinen Platz auf  
dem Schoße der Großen Göttin,  
der Erde, als ihr Sohn einnimmt.*

Die Große Mutter / Erich Neumann

detail, three thrones



three thrones, 92 x 56 cm, c-print, 2017

“who can see that all the mirrors  
aren't mirrors only windows”

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