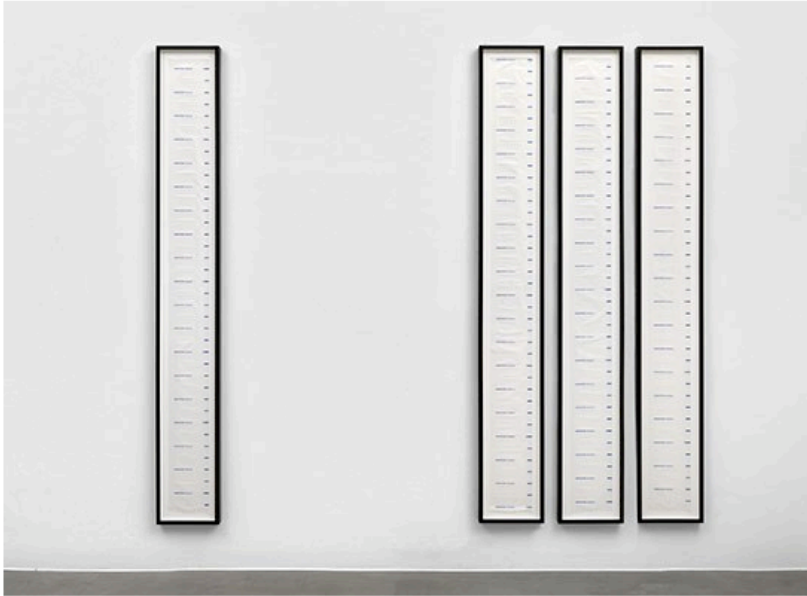


ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

Hugh Scott-Douglas: "New Work by Hugh Scott-Douglas at Simon Lee Gallery"

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Works from the "Active Surplus" series.

Last night Hugh Scott-Douglas—the young British-born, Brooklyn-based artist who has swiftly gained traction on the auction market and earned the interest of international collectors—opened his first solo show in London, at the Simon Lee Gallery in Mayfair.

In "Consumables," Scott-Douglas pursues his exploration of the power and value of photographic imagery when transposed, transformed, or reframed. Though his work is often associated with the process-oriented vocabulary of conceptual abstraction, Scott-Douglas is undeniably engaged with contemporary

photographic practice and the push-pull between analogue and digital.

His new "Active Surplus" series, for example, features the once commonplace plastic sleeves used to protect negative film after it had been processed, calling attention to their aesthetic value even when they're left empty and rendered obsolete.

Another series in the exhibition borrows images from the Global Reports section of *The Economist* magazine; using acrylic gel to lift the pigment from the page, Scott-Douglas turns the original picture into a photographic positive, which he then enlarges and prints in large format with UV curable ink. Shown as a diptych, the color version next to a monochrome iteration, the images create eerie pairs, devoid of context, entirely removed from the current affairs to which they once related.

"With 'Consumables' I am interested in continuing my investigation into material and its relationship to networks of production, consumption, and distribution, as well as material relative to the body, artistic agency, and authorship," says Scott-Douglas. "Regarding the works in the exhibition, I really see them all in conversation with one another and consider the whole thing as a sort of constellation, each point in the constellation signaling potential threads between the bodies of work that can be imagined by the viewer."