

ATOMIC  
MIR|ЯORS

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EXPLORATION OF AN IMAGINED UNIVERSE

JAY TYRRELL

A T O M I C  
M I R | R O S

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One of the great joys in being involved in making art is the fellow artists you meet and share with along the way. I would like to notice two who have enriched my experience.

### Bob Cornelis

Friend. Artist. Counterpoint.

### Doug Ethridge

Friend. Artist.

His challenge “*show me something I have never seen before*” inspired me.





# ATOMIC MIR|ЯORS

What is your imagined universe? A place you have dreamed but cannot travel to? *Atomic Mirrors* is an exploration of a universe I have imagined and realized photographically.

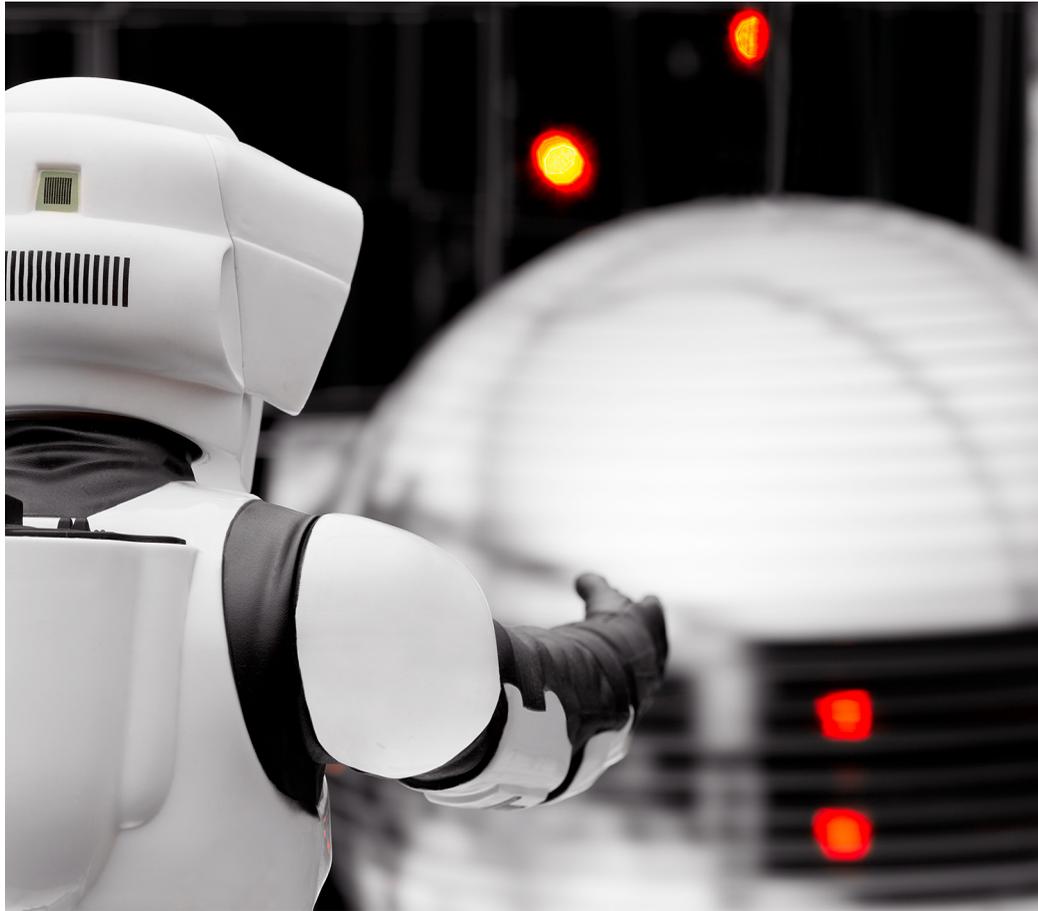
Inner space still remains largely the realm of imagination. What would the inside of a molecule of glucose look like if you were a micro-naut exploring that landscape? Atoms of carbon might appear as orange fire, hydrogen blazing yellow, and oxygen a vivid green. Atoms of radioactive elements might look as cold as deep space, almost without color, their surfaces reflecting energy back into the universe. Would these atoms I have imagined mirror themselves in replication inside a more complex structure? *Atomic Mirrors* is my imagined universe of atoms combining, colliding and expanding. It suggests how they might be visualized to an explorer in this cosmos, who traces an evolutionary path and witnesses an elemental cycle of creation and decay.

Growing up I was a sci-fi/science geek and had planned to be a scientist, studying molecular chemistry. Textbooks of that era illustrated atoms as balls, and the periodic table as a grid. These visual memories certainly help shape the universe I created, my atoms formed by pool toys and the periodic table represented by mirror facets. For the first time as a camera based artist, *Atomic Mirrors* has freed me to create the way I imagine a painter can. I have often wished for the creative freedom I dreamed a painter must have with a blank canvas., their imagination and skill the only limit to their creativity. Physical objects within the frame and limits of the camera were all that constrained my vision, now released, with my journey into still life. It was a transformative experience, changing how I envision and engage my practice of art making. *Atomic Mirrors* seeks to expand the idea of universe and explore the energy and beauty of an imagined atomic landscape.

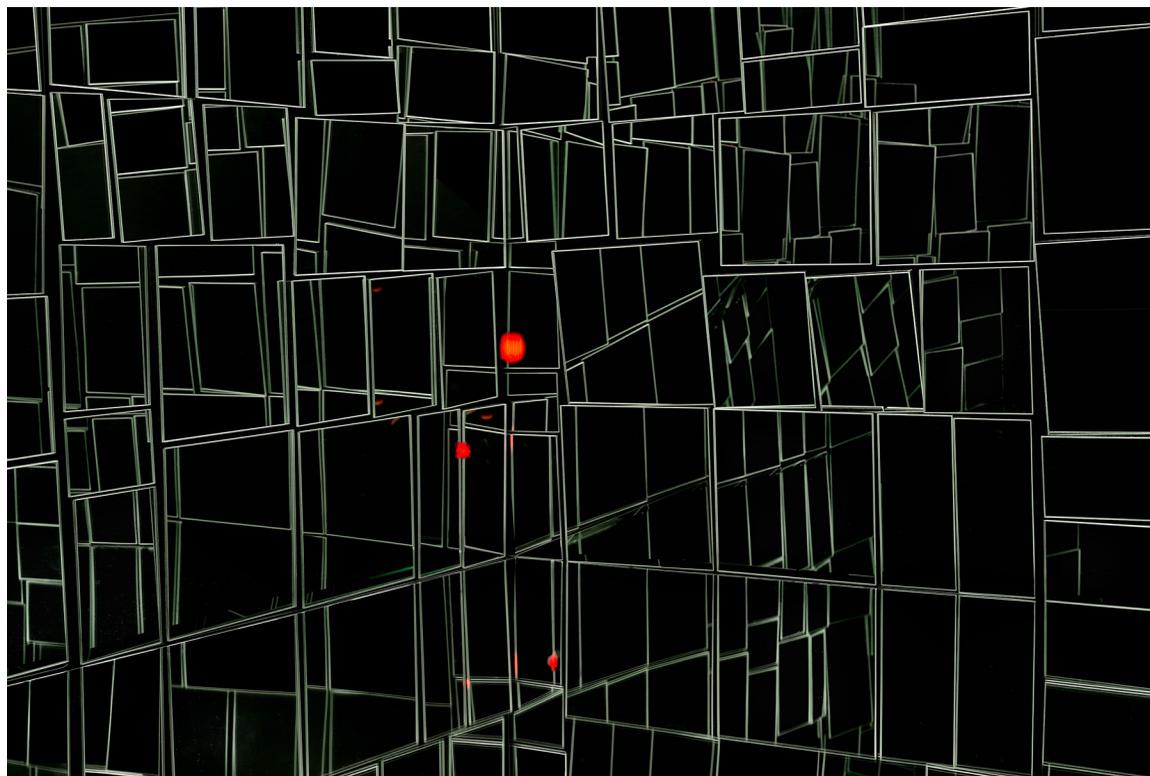
- Jay Tyrrell  
[www.jaytyrrell.com](http://www.jaytyrrell.com)  
2015

*“You unlock this door with the key of imagination. Beyond it is another dimension. A dimension of sound. A dimension of sight. A dimension of mind. You’re moving into a land of both style and substance, of things and ideas.”*

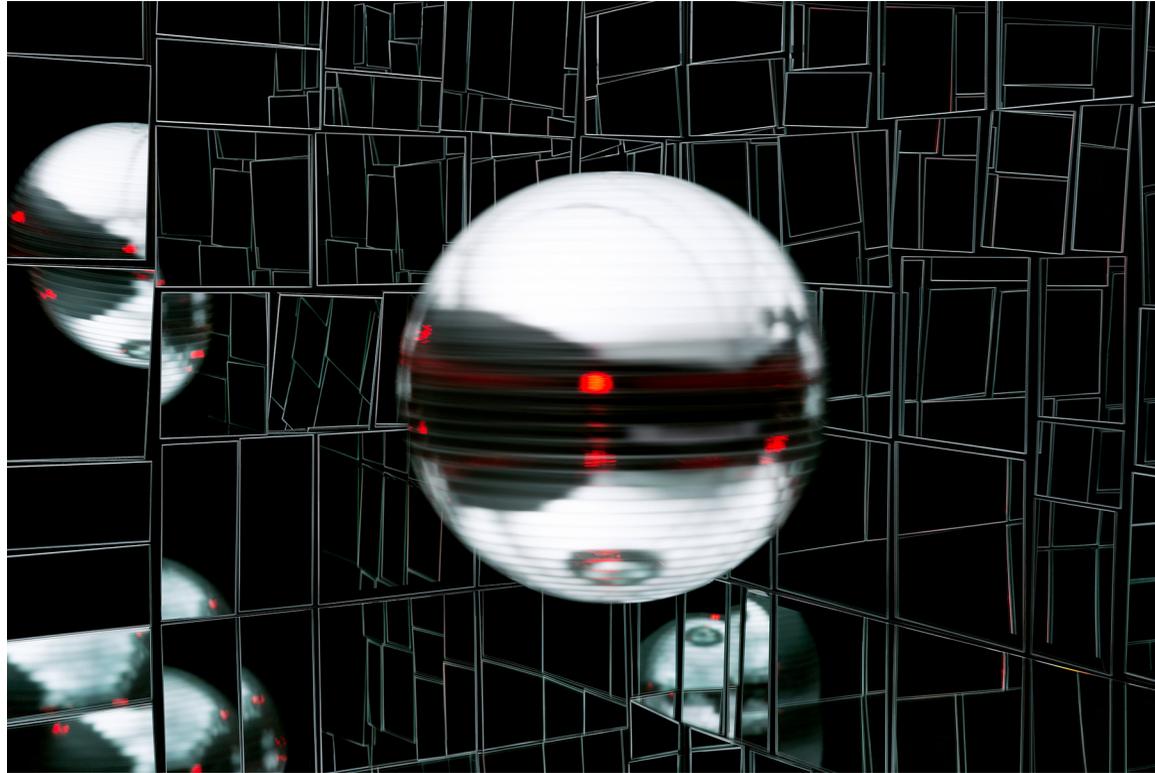
*- Rod Serling 1961 Introduction to his TV series The Twilight Zone*









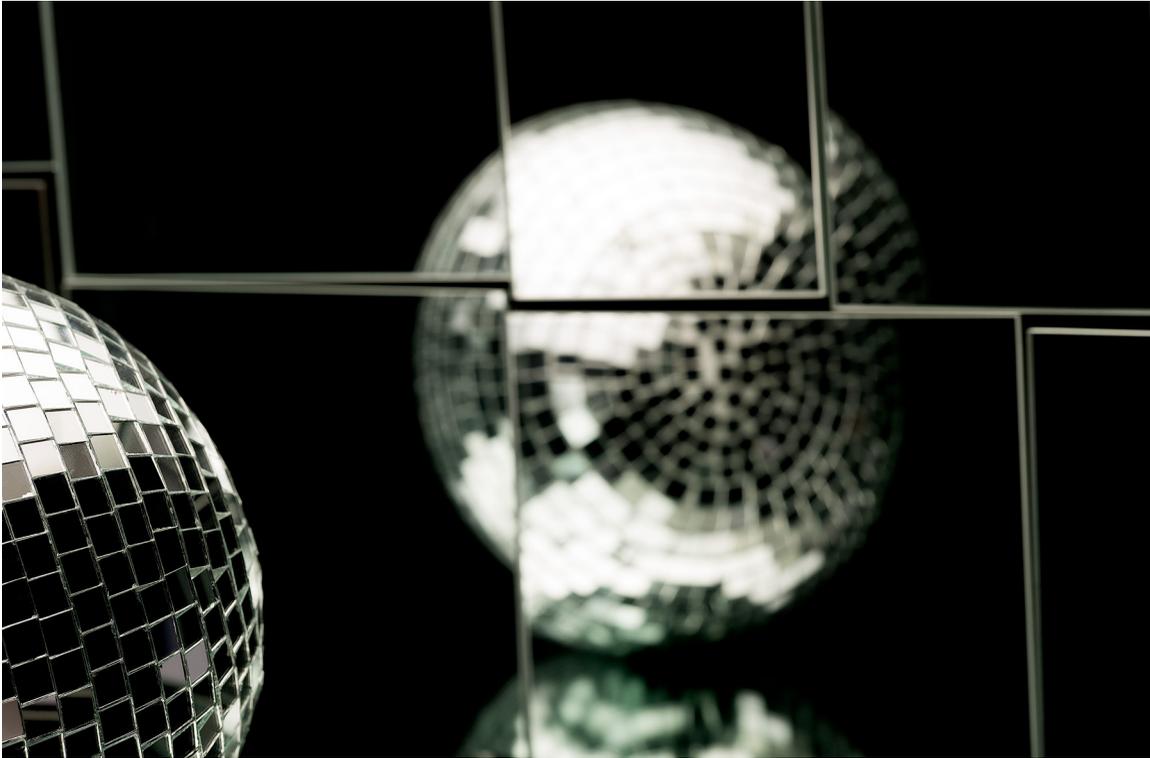


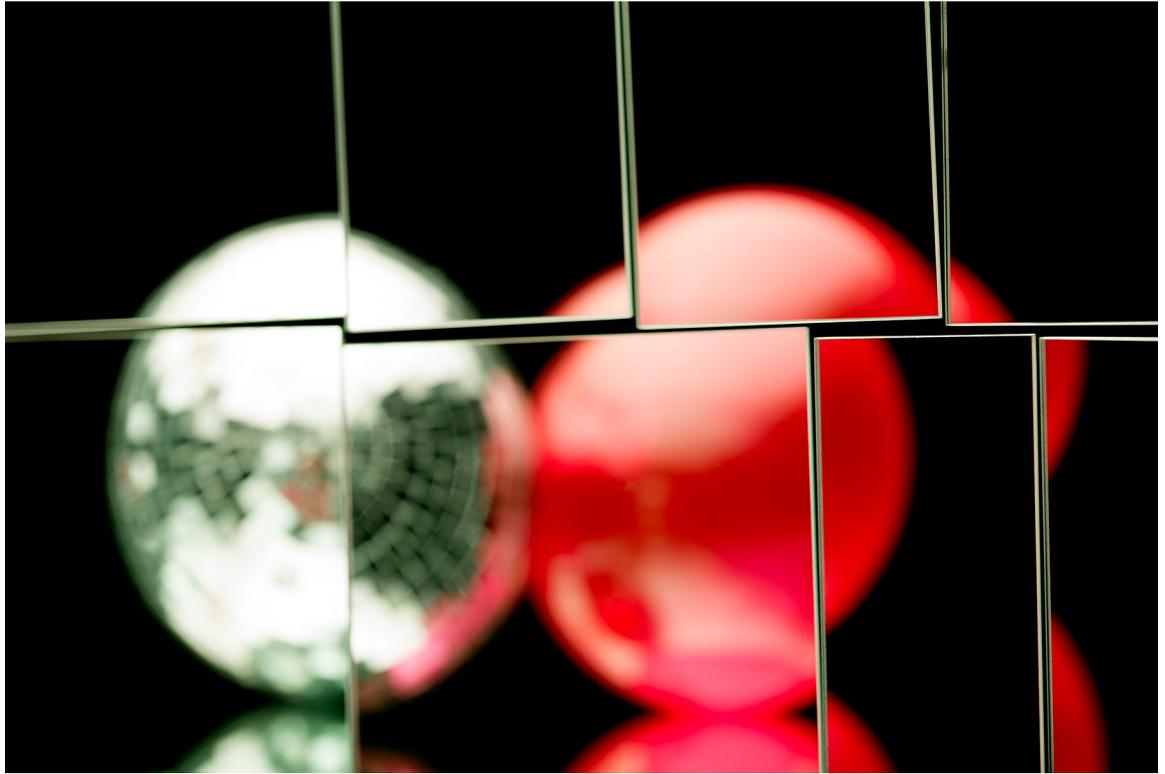




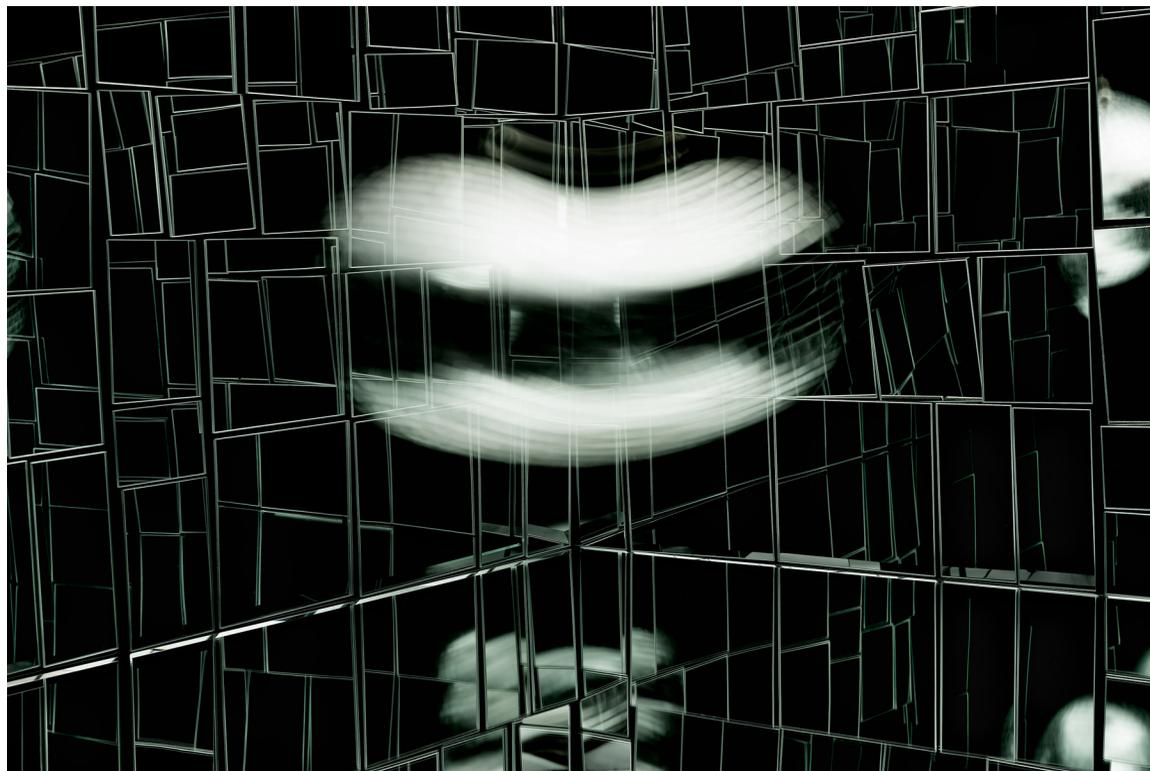




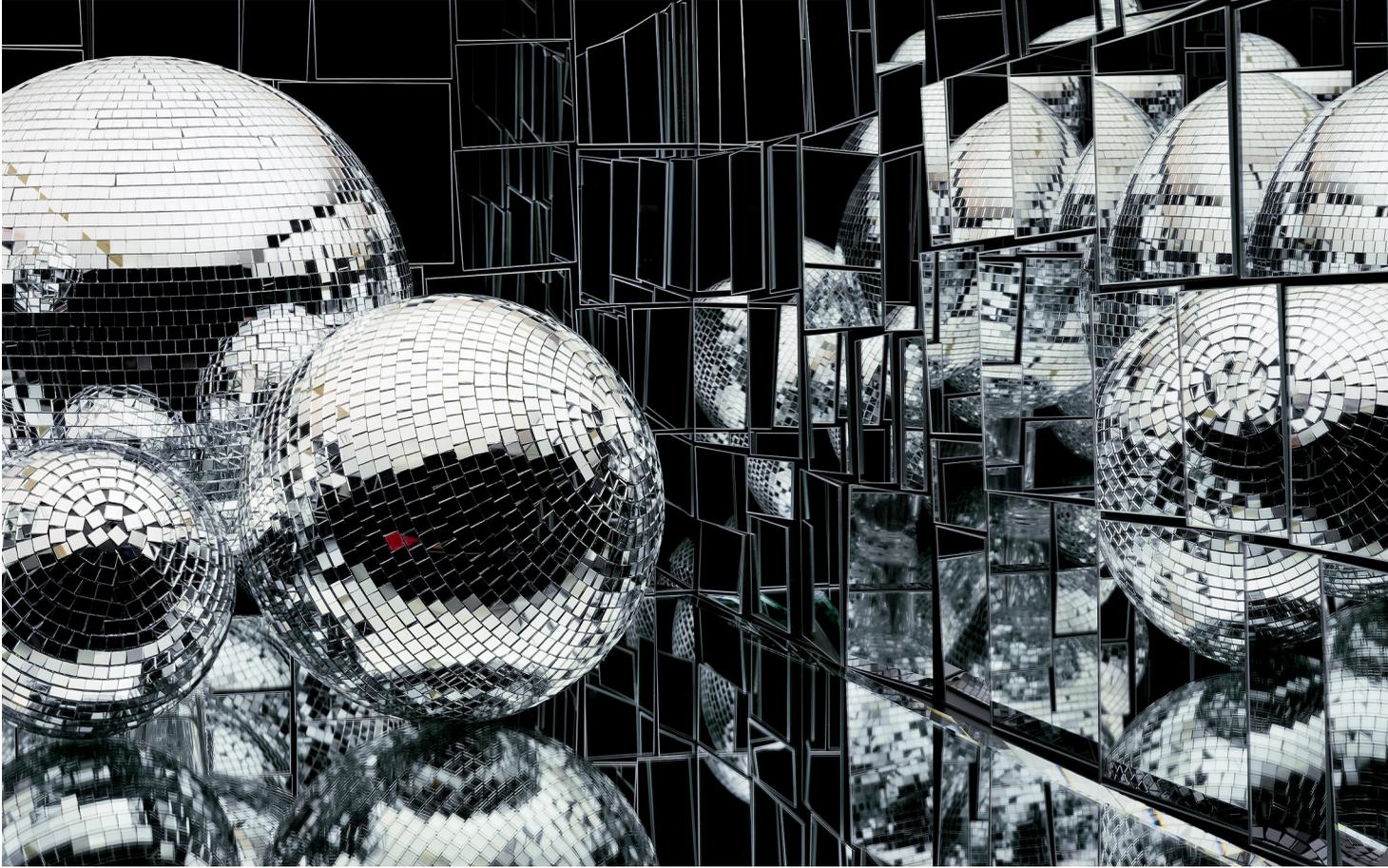








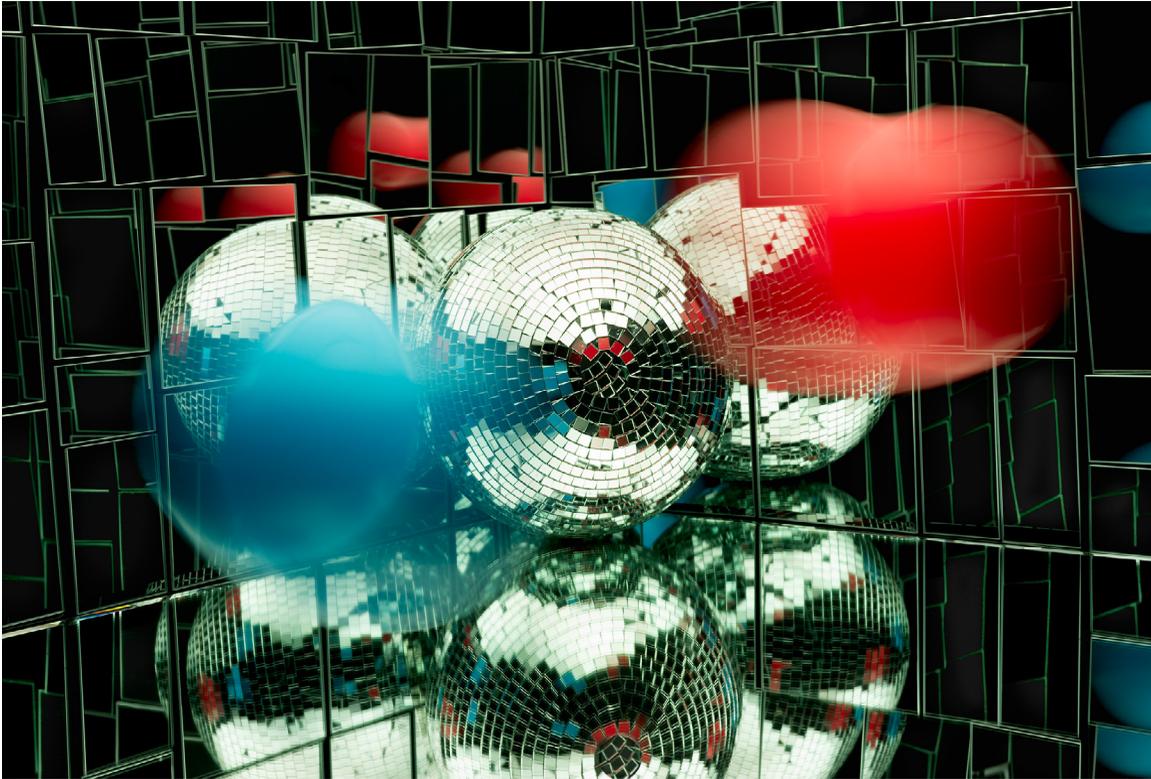












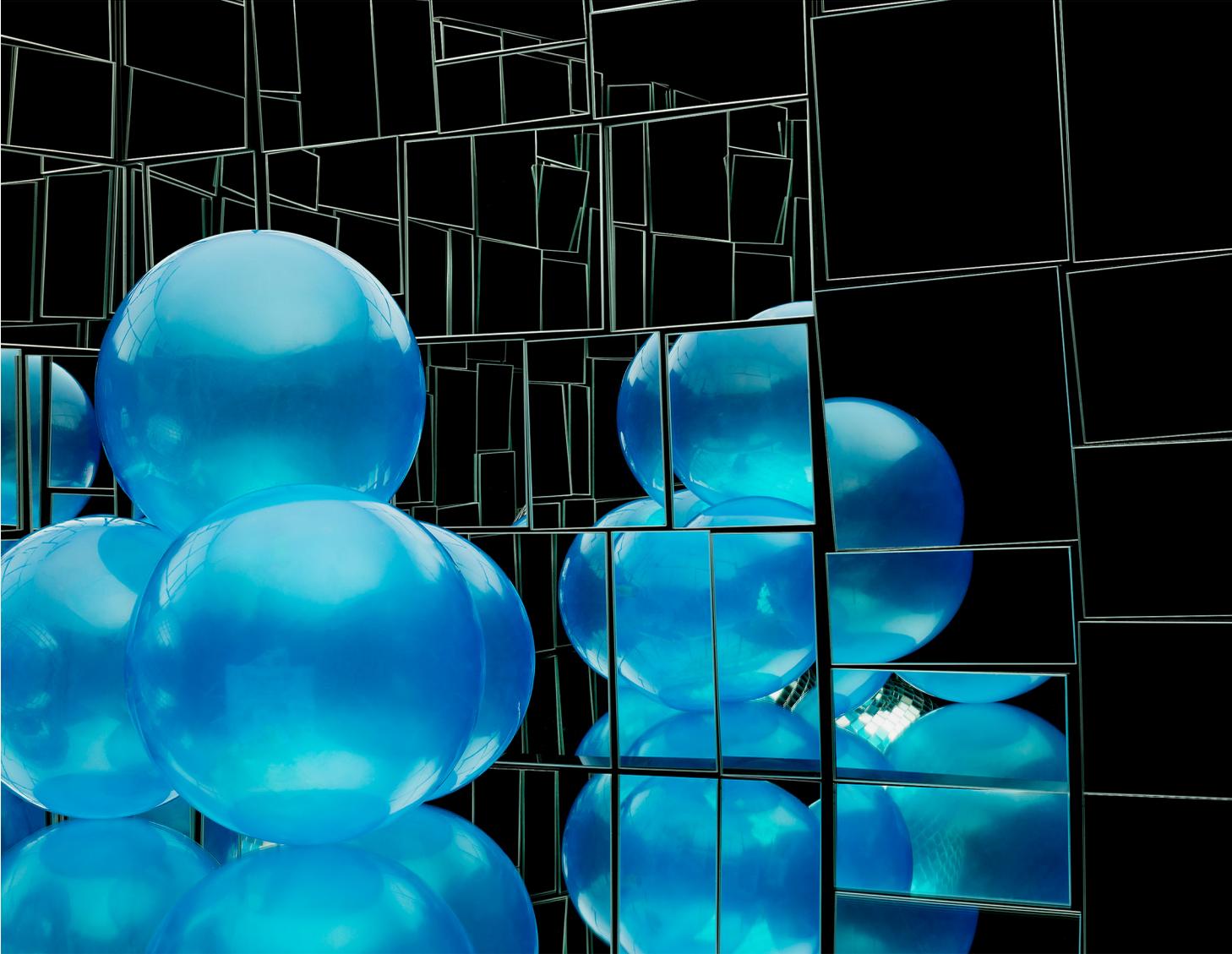


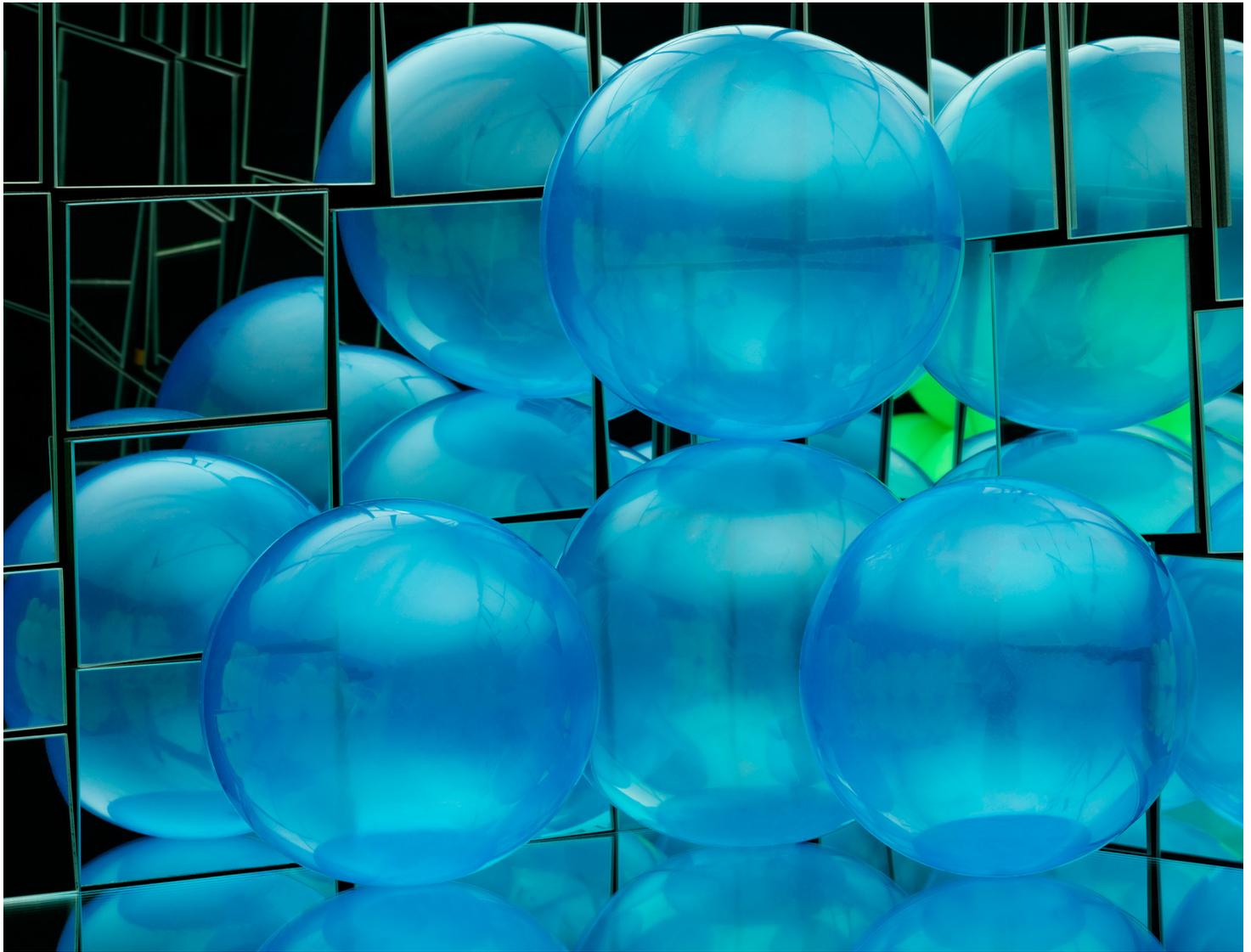


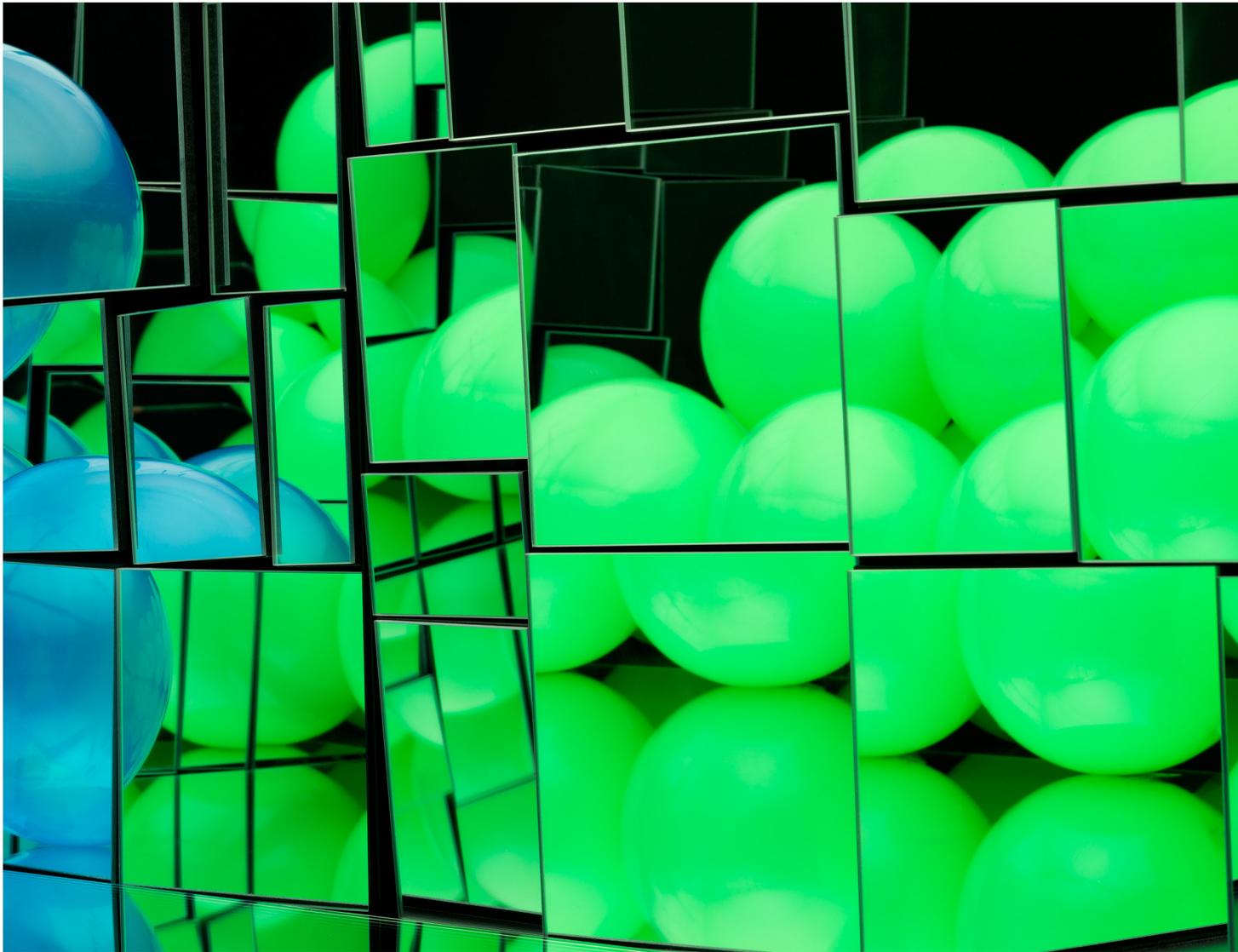




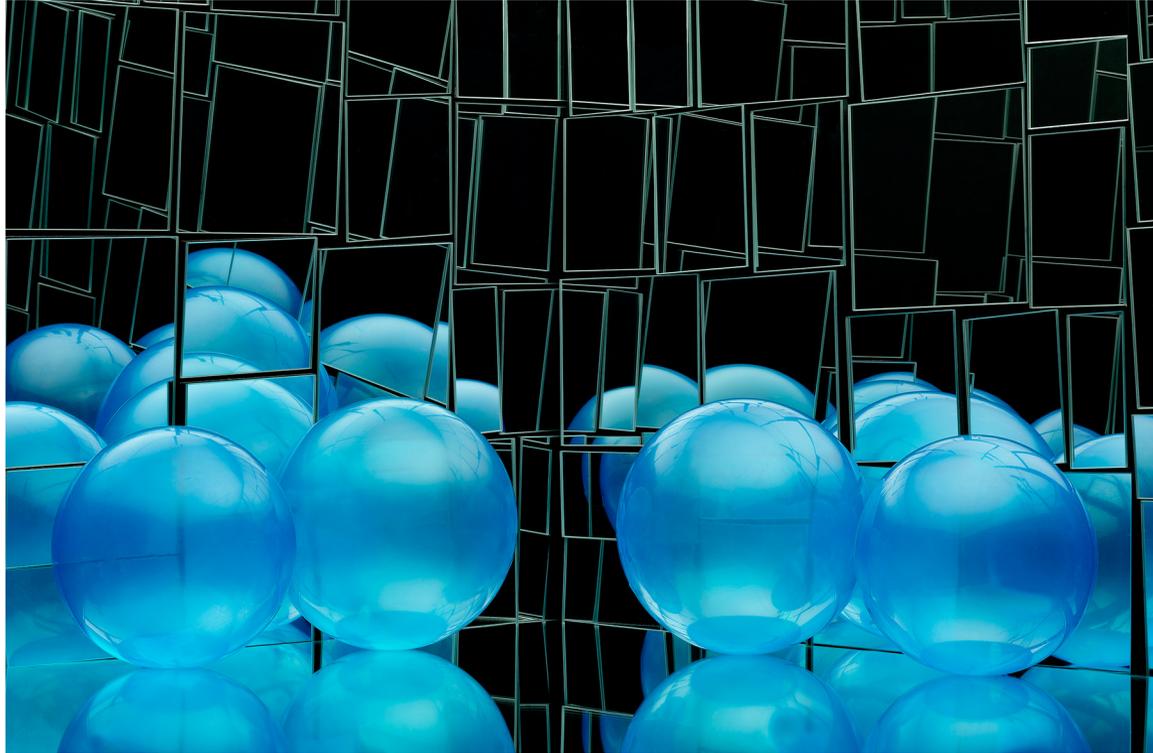




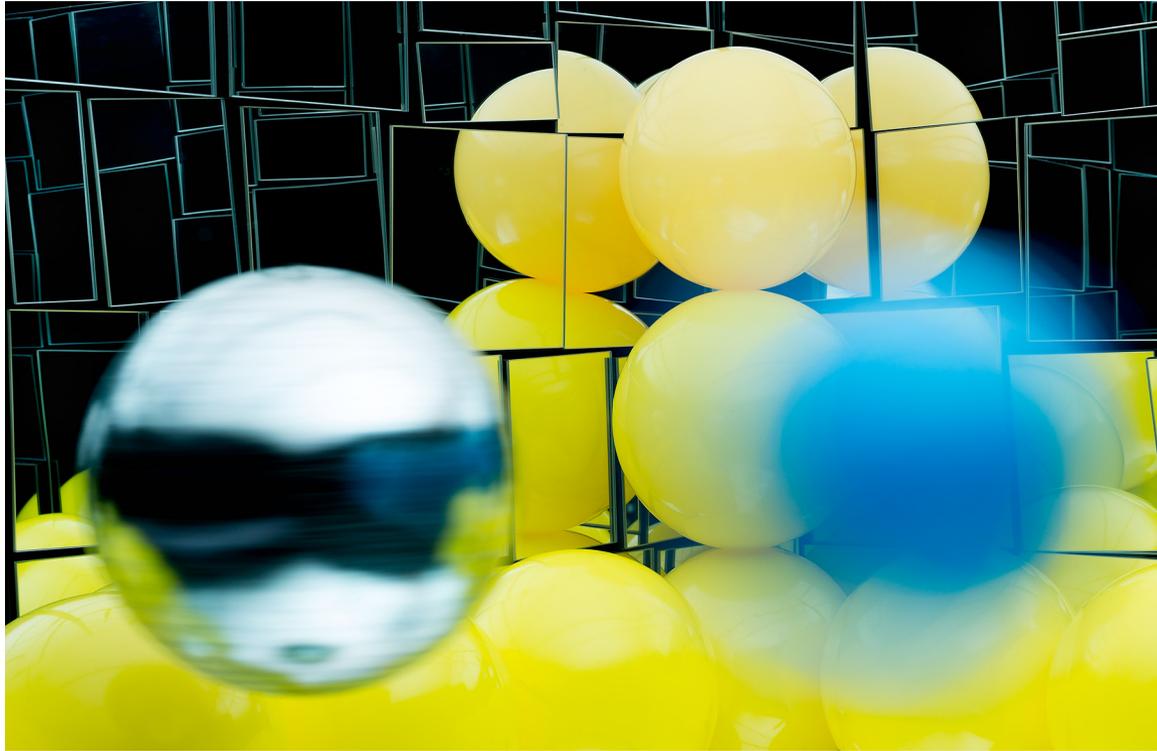












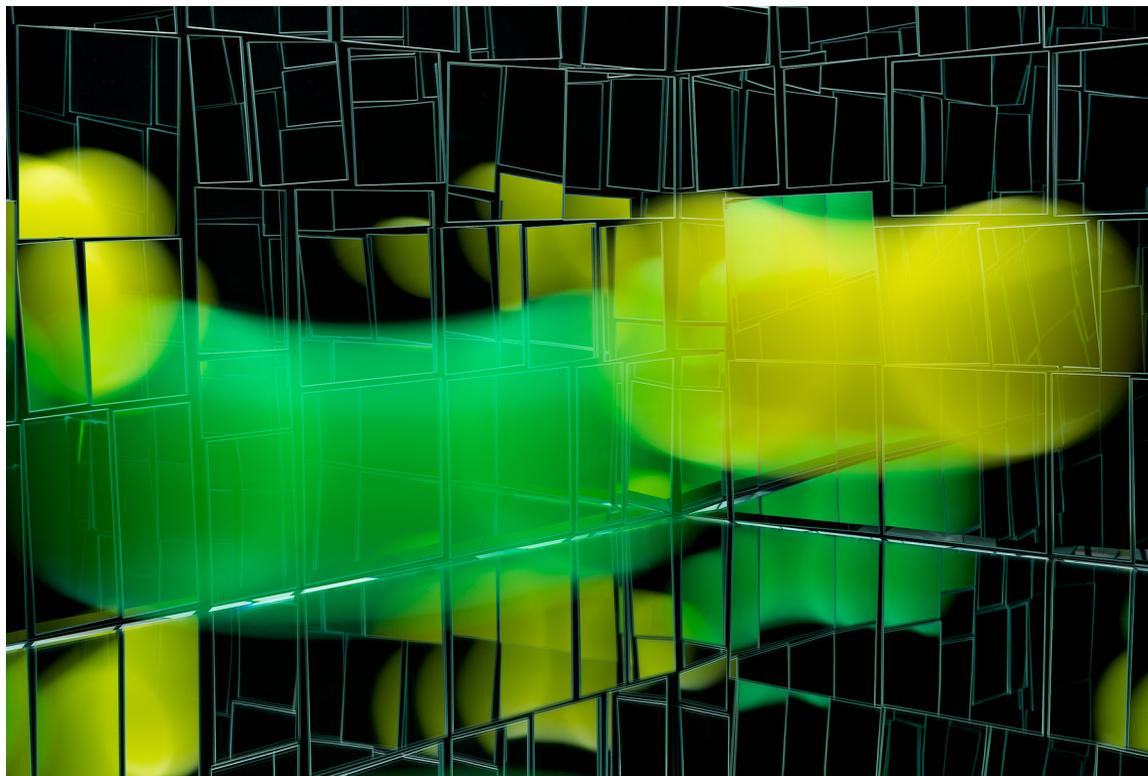


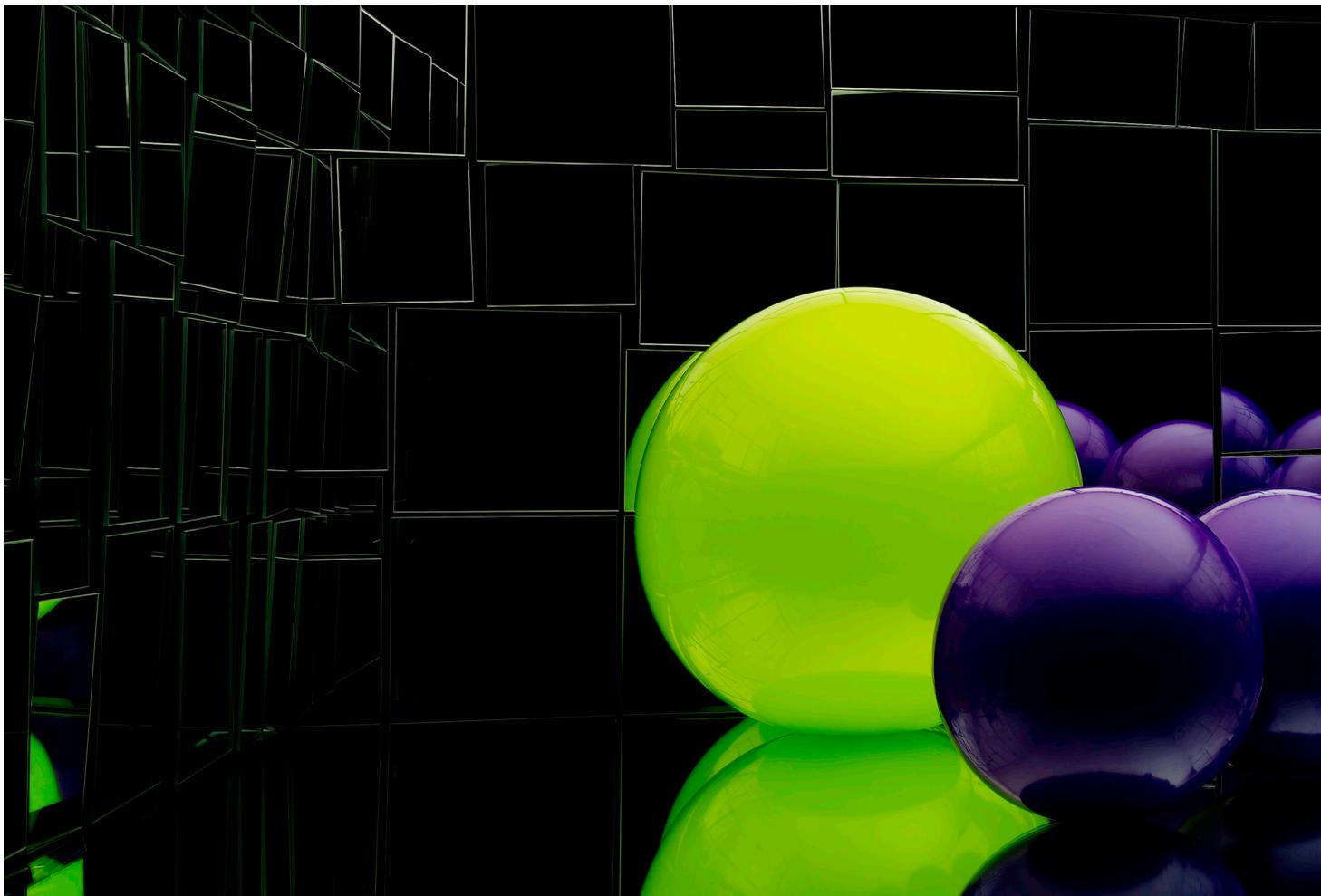


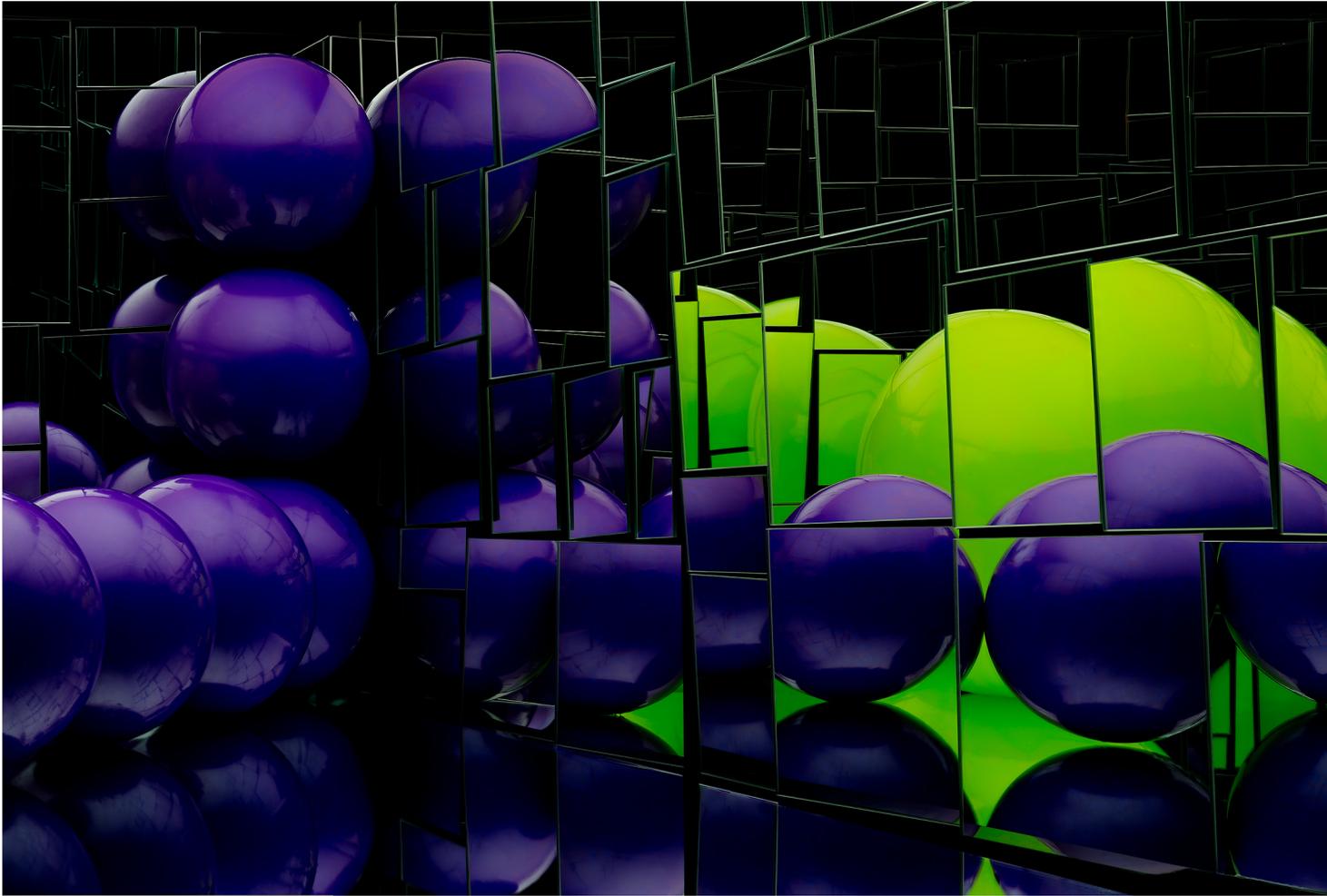


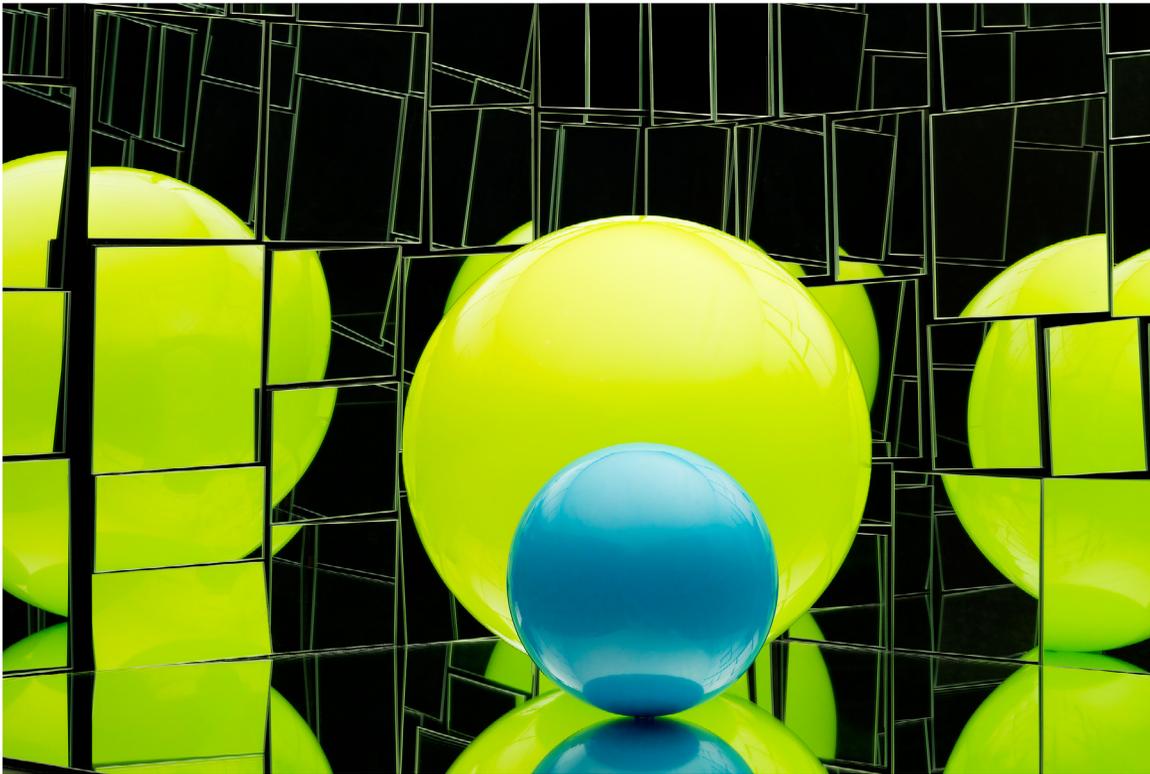


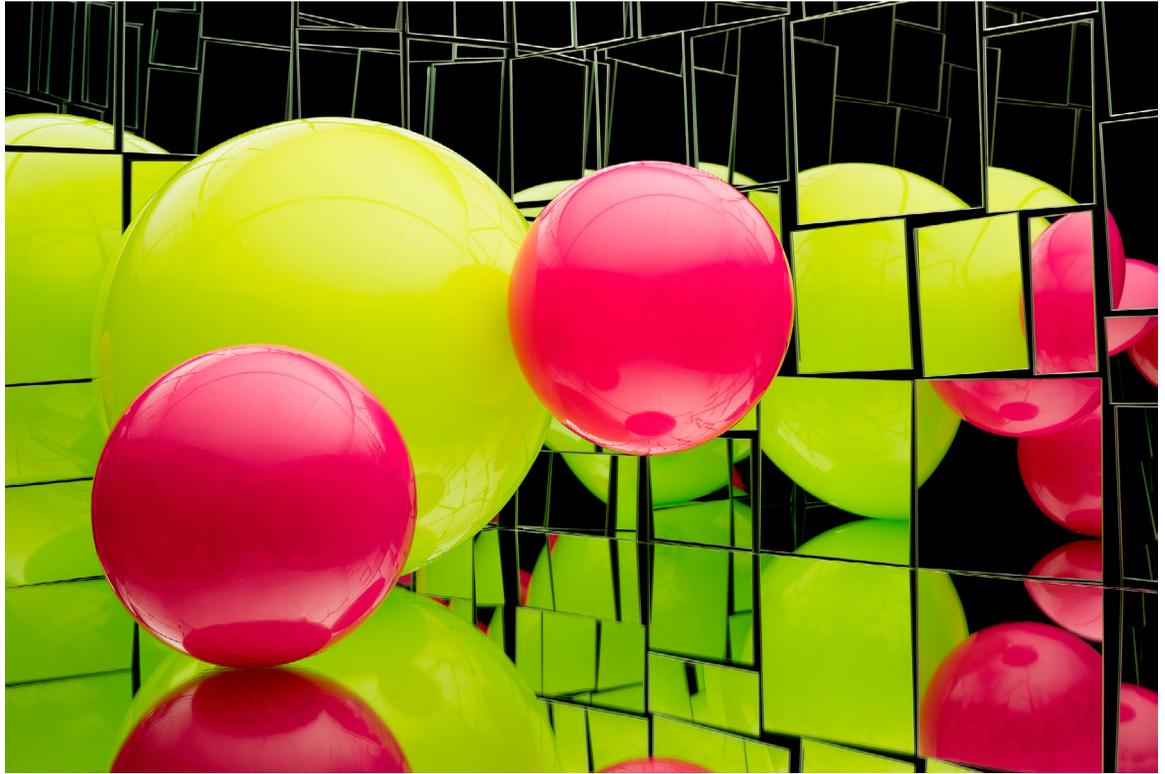




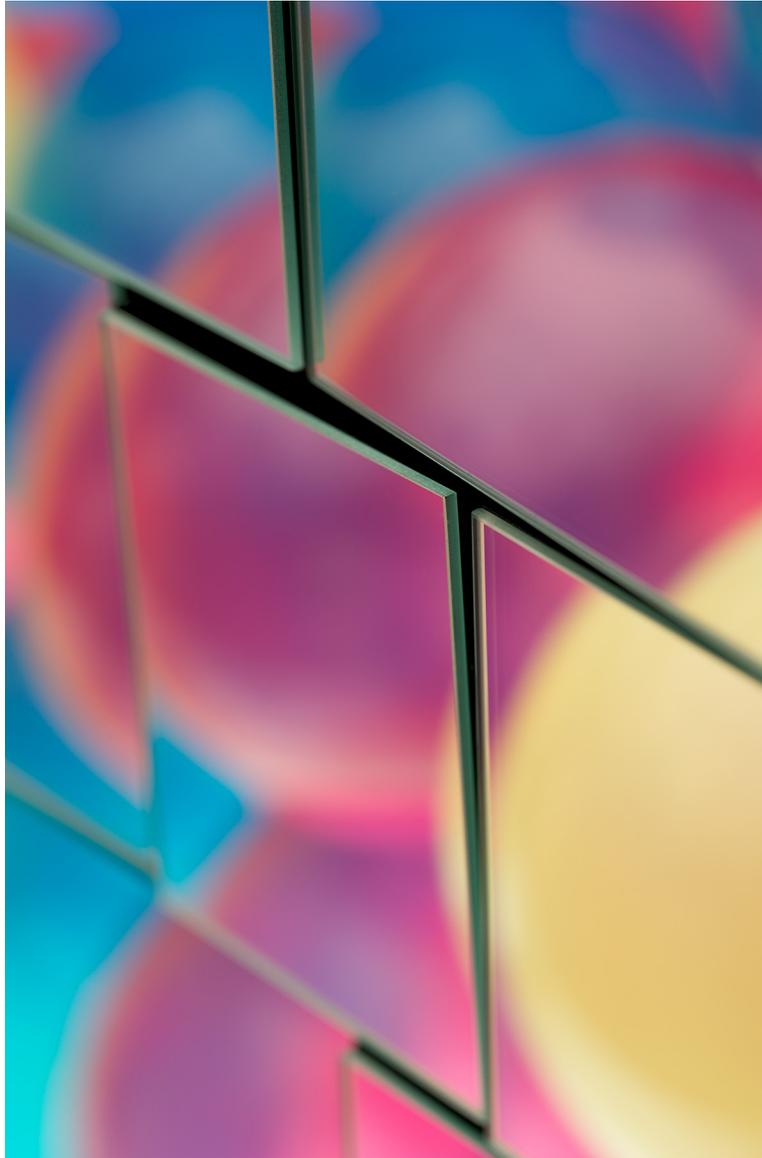


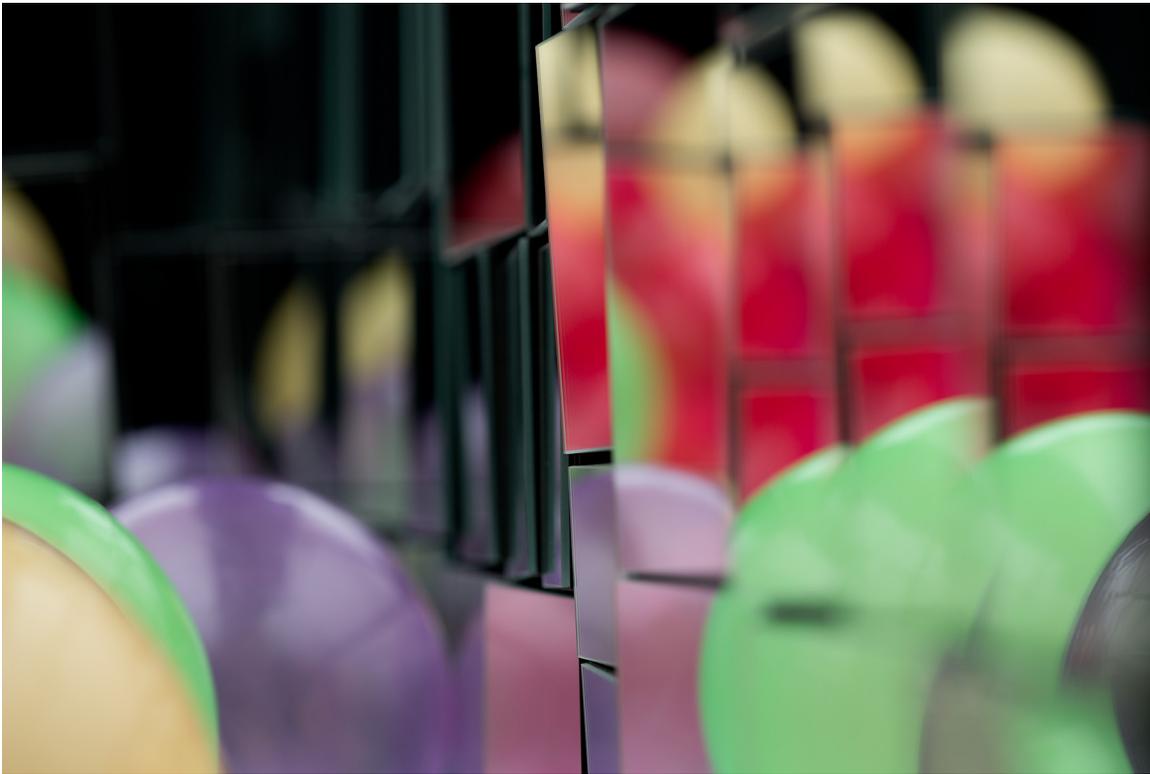








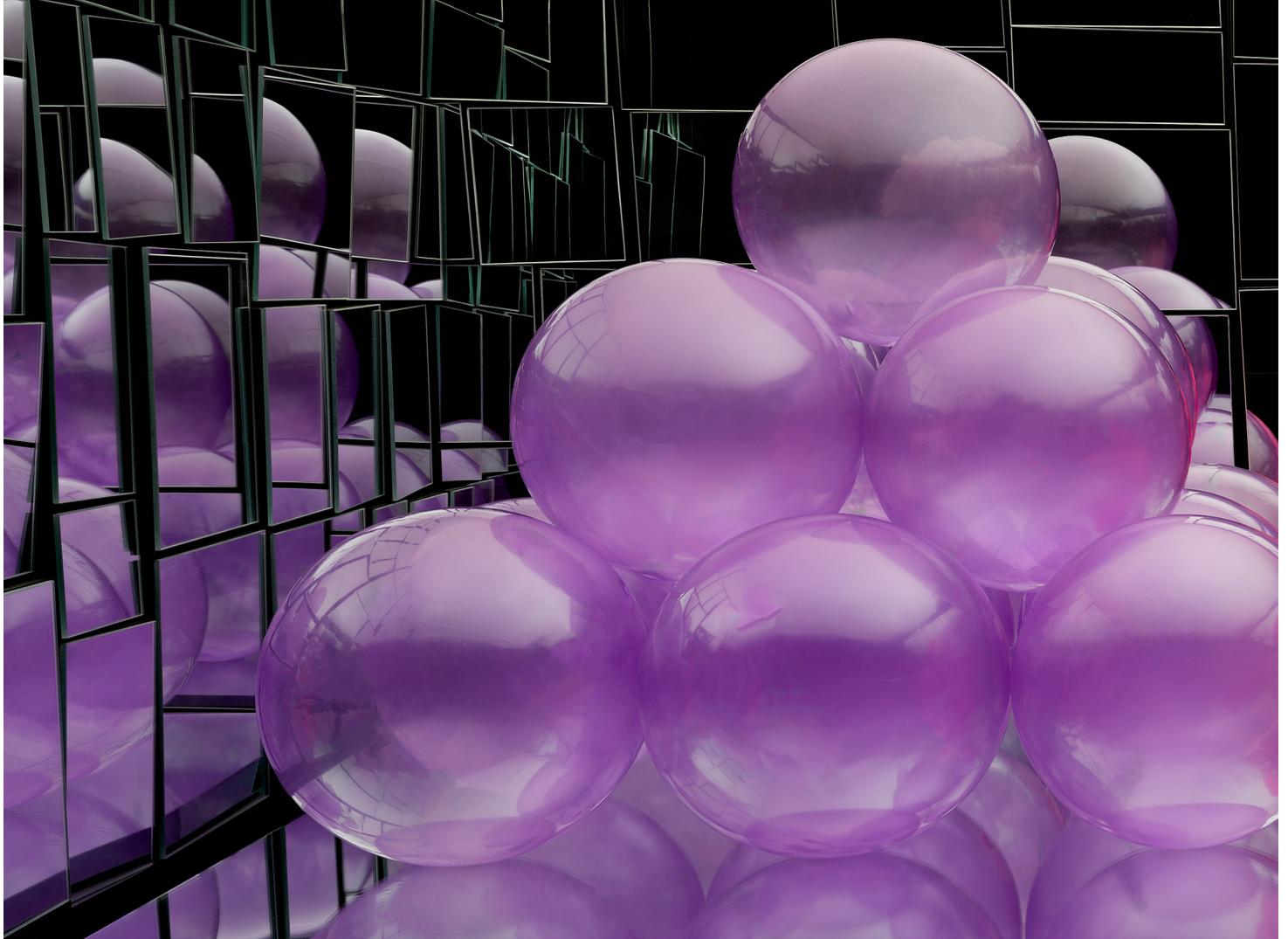








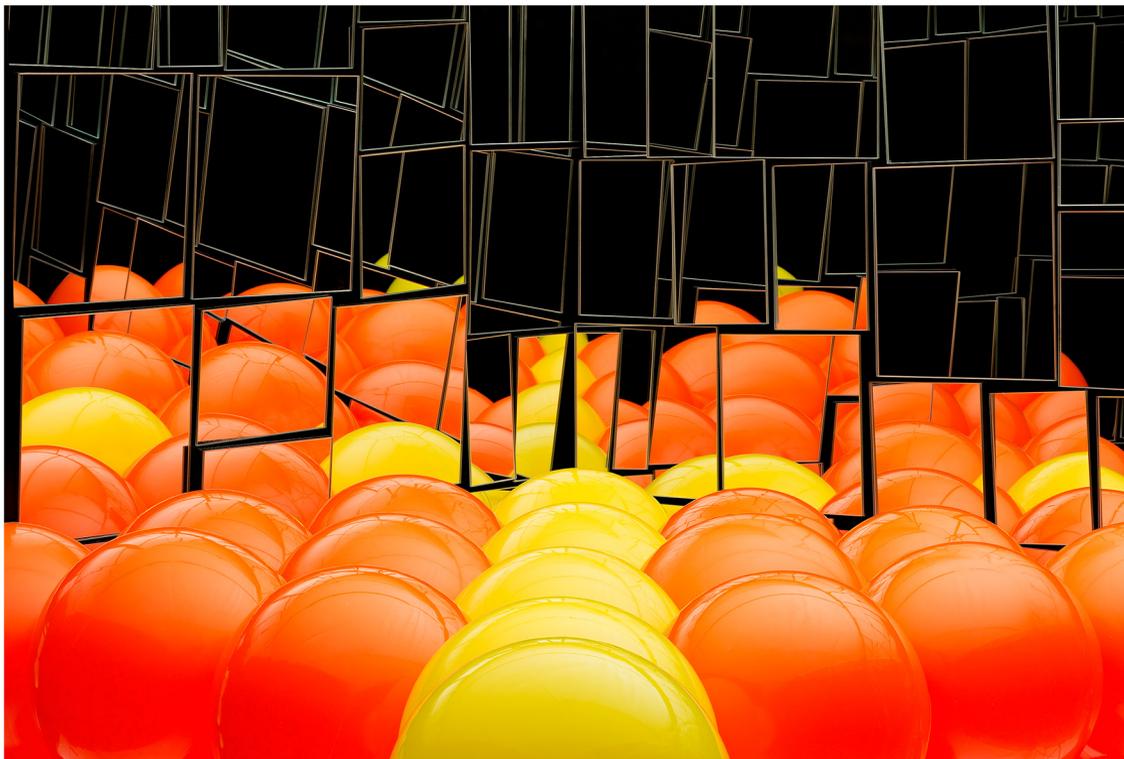


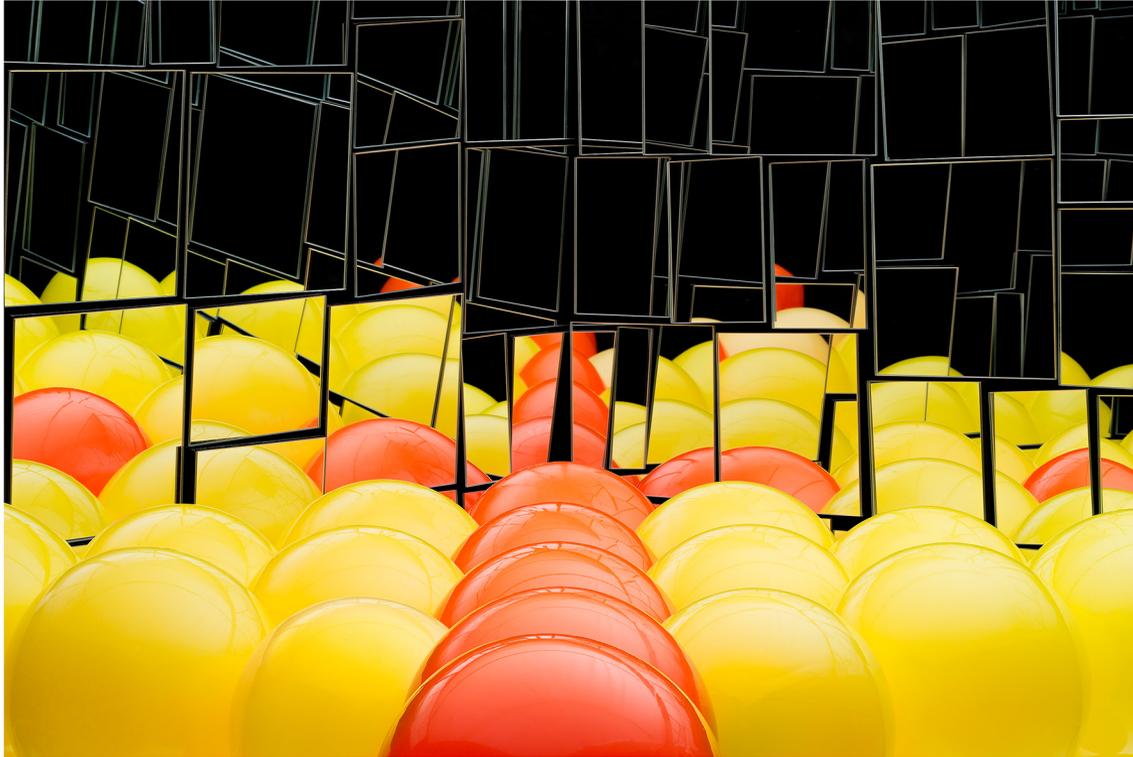








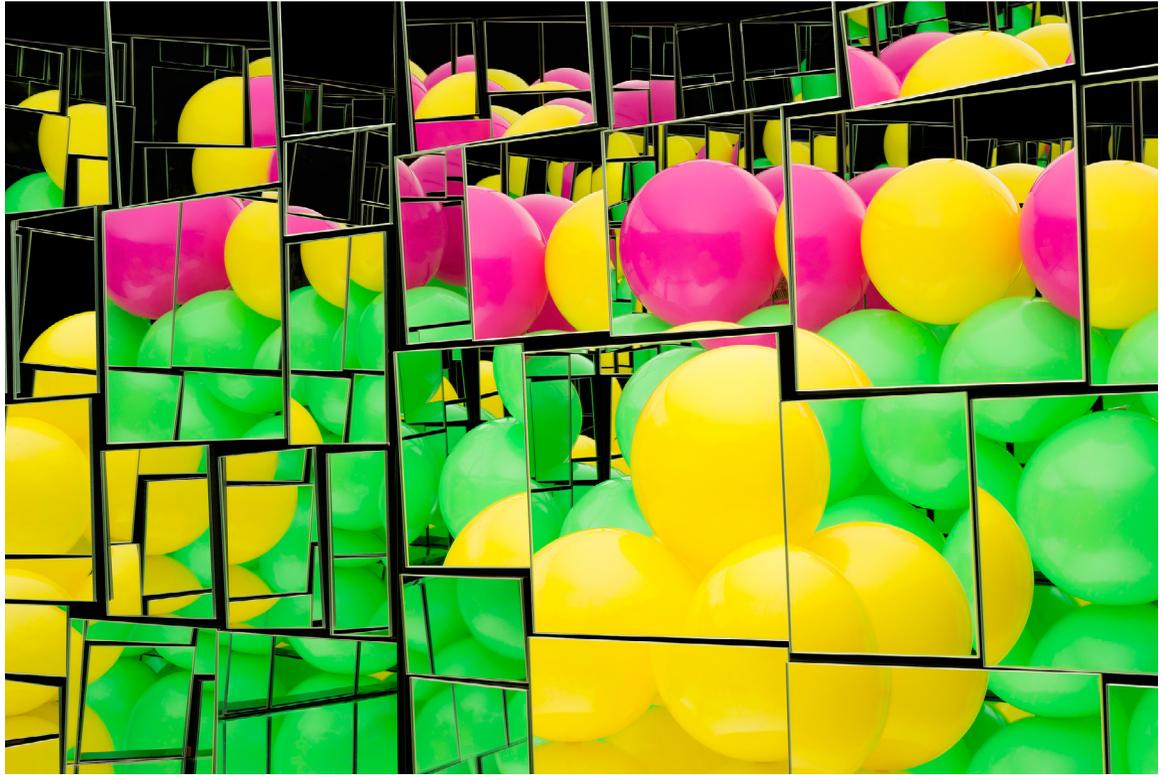




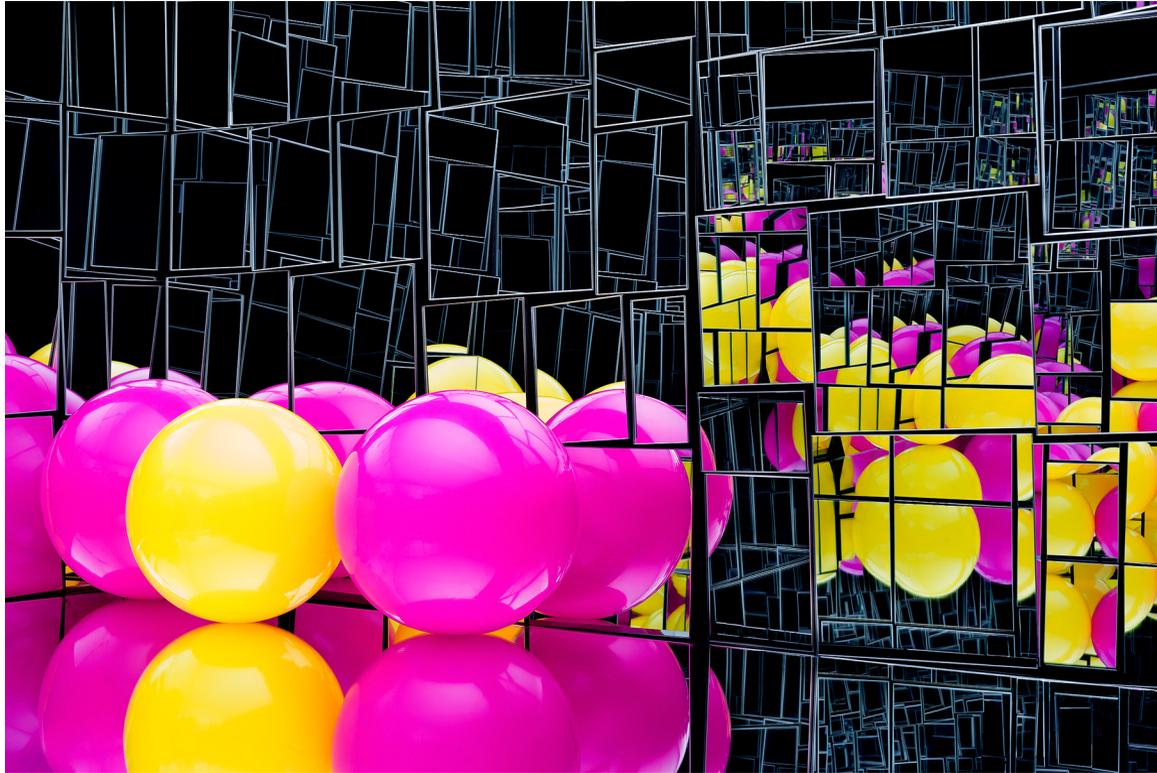




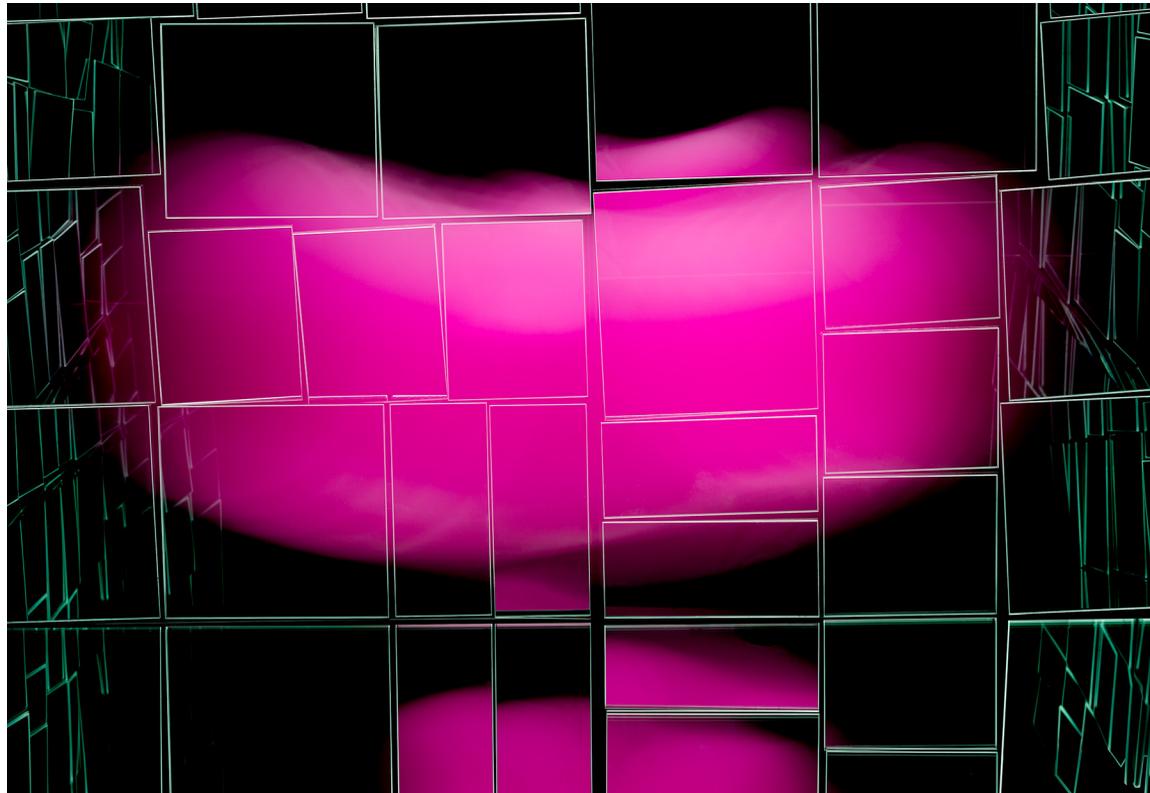


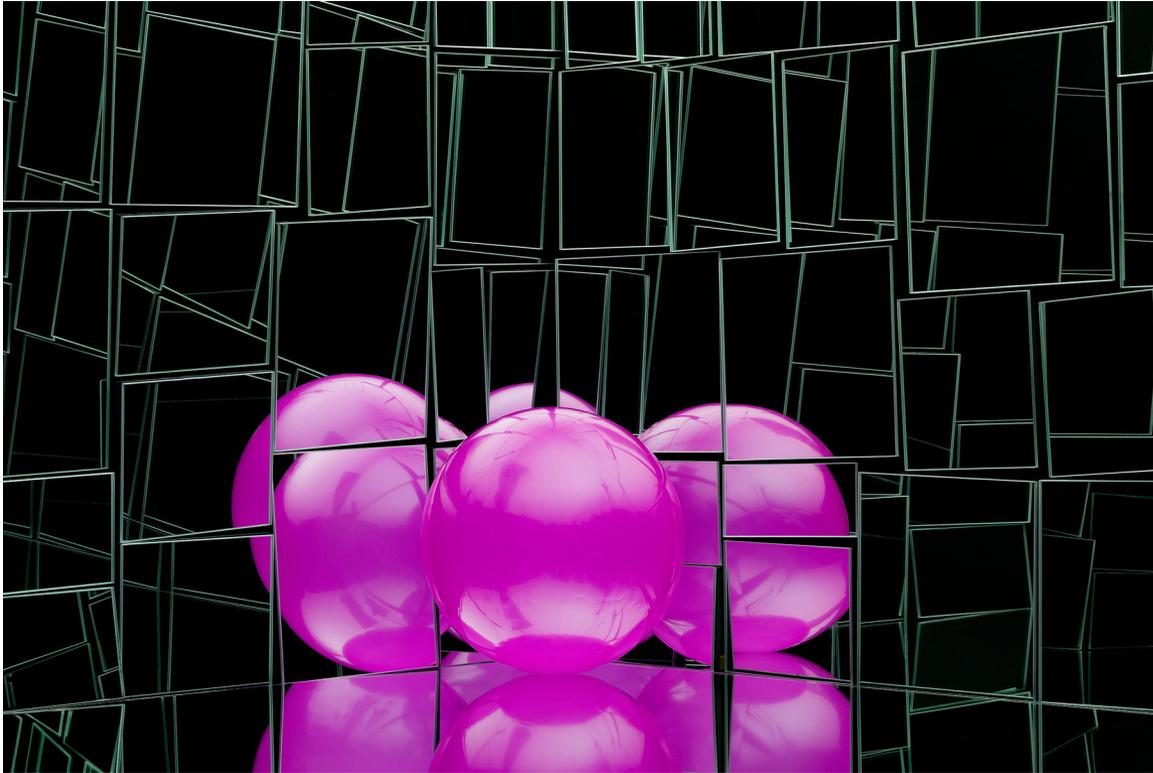


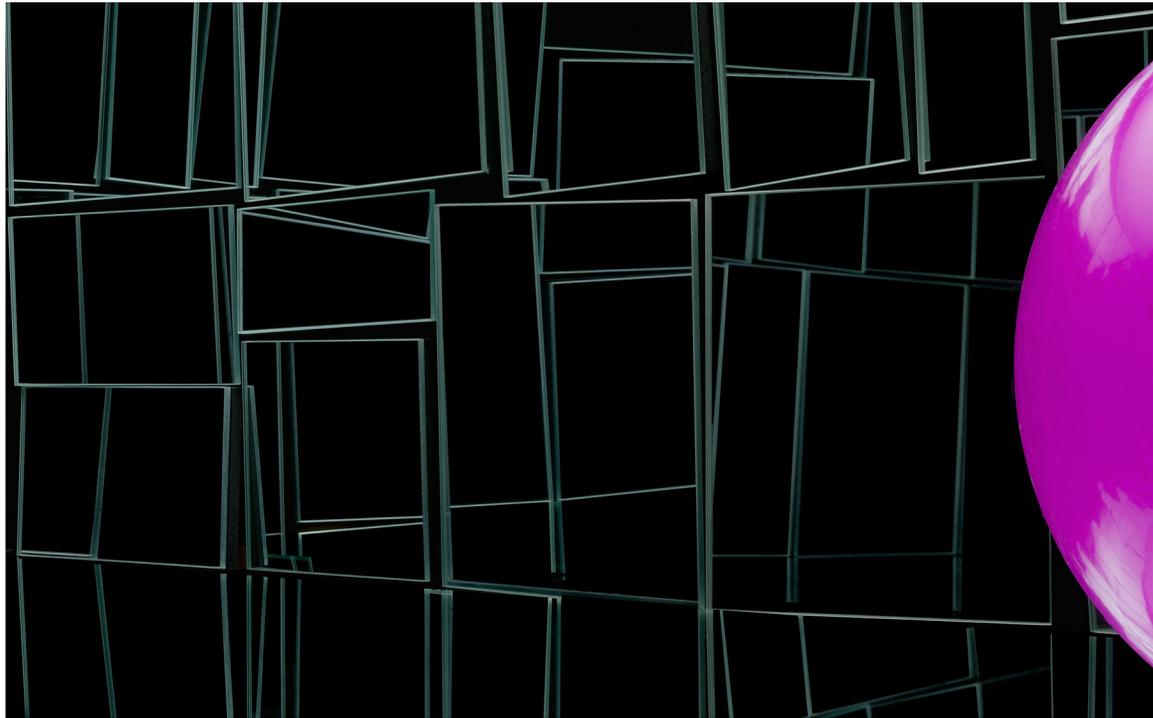




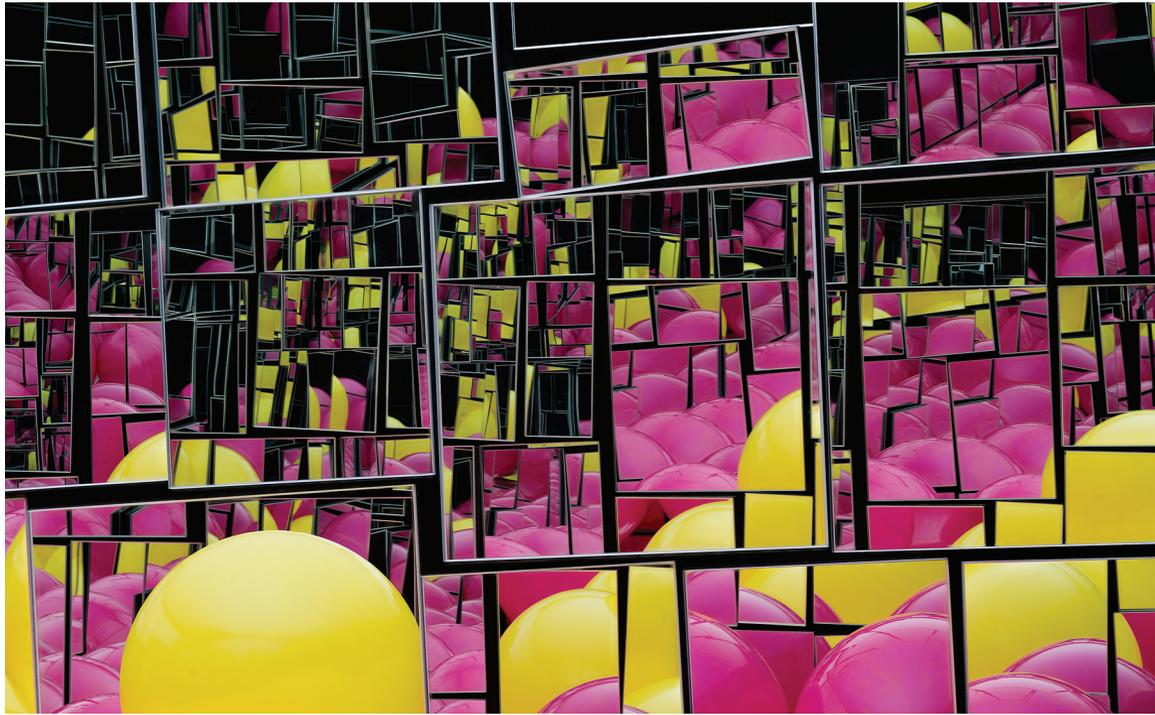




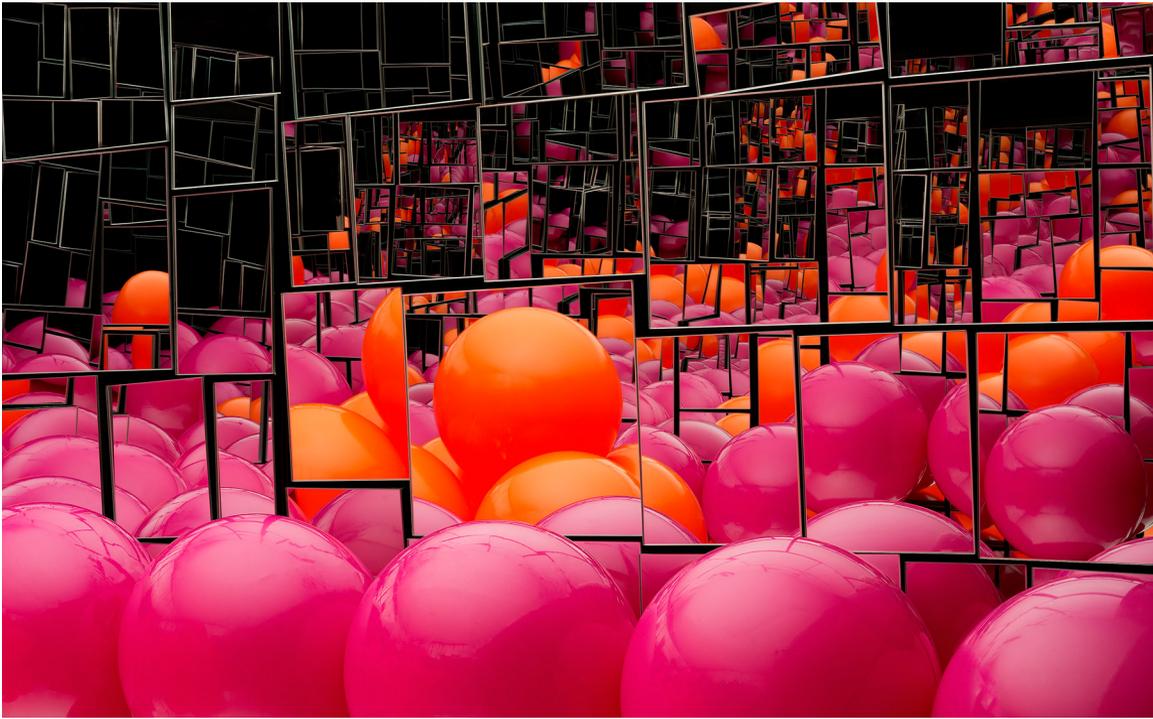








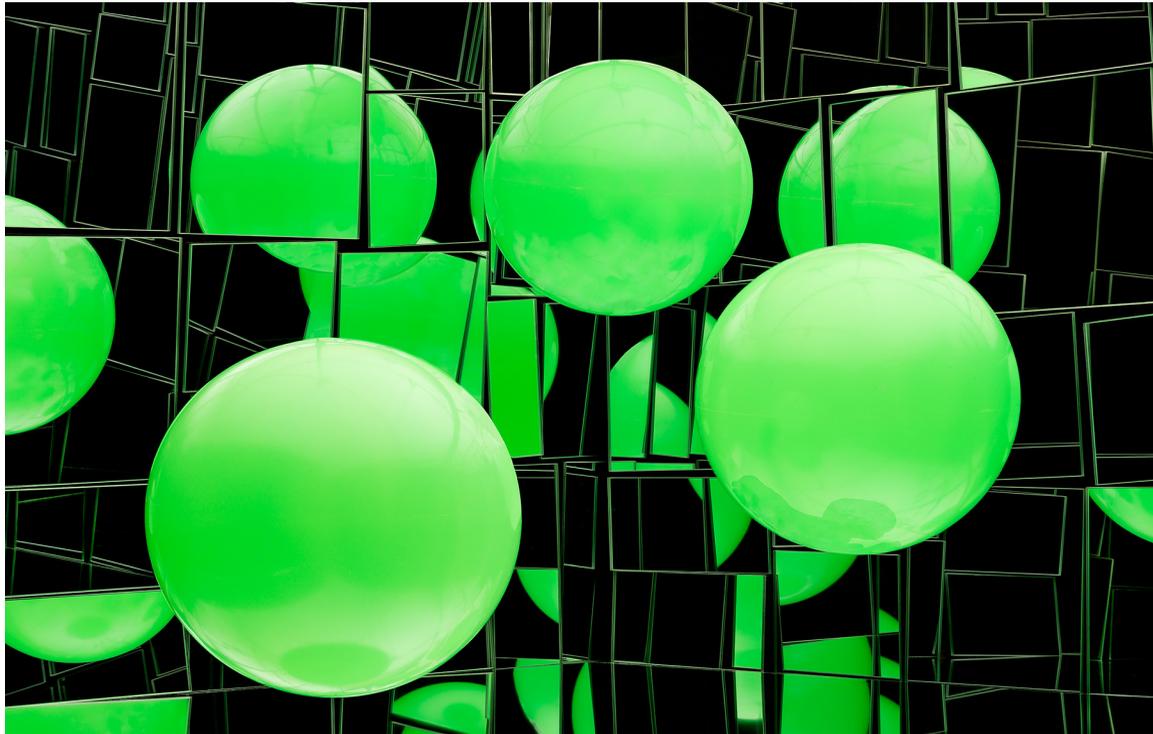


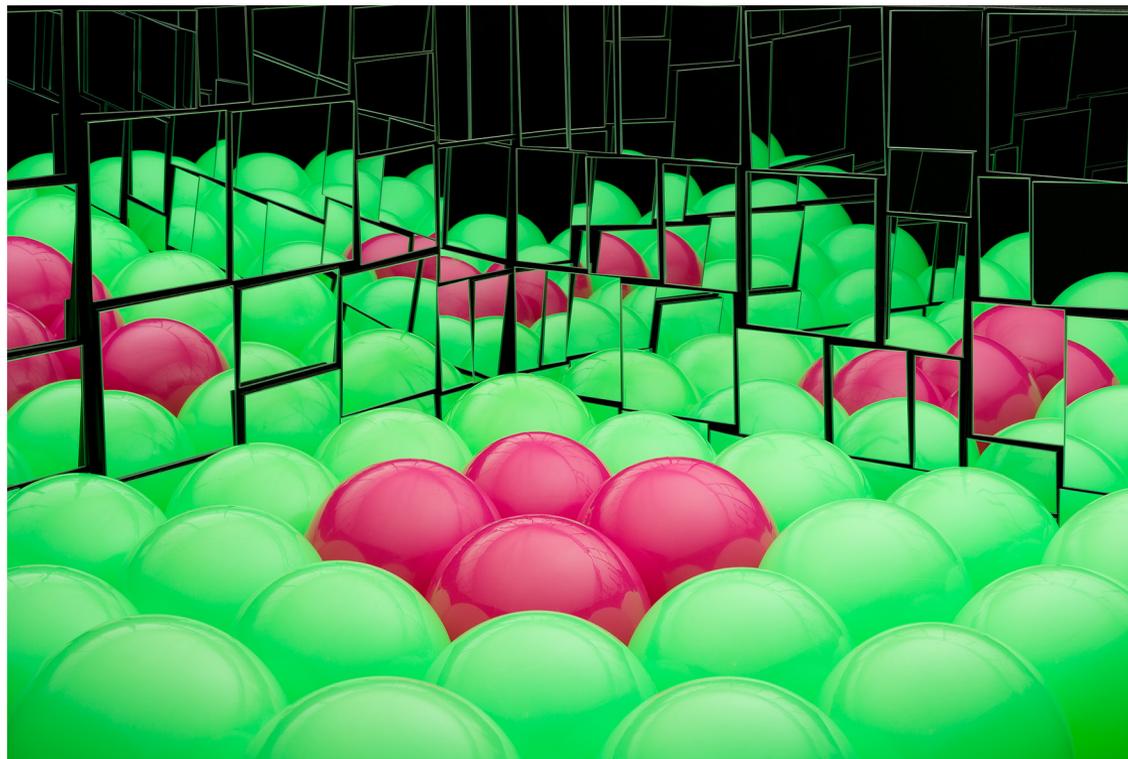


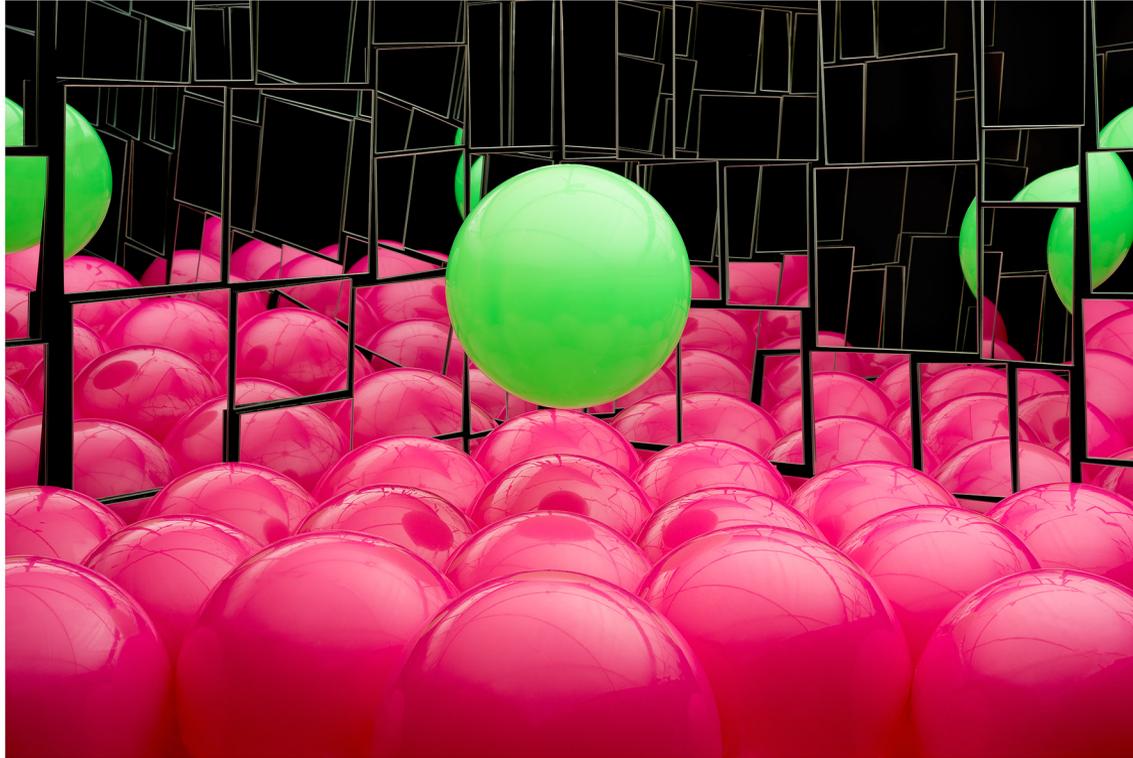








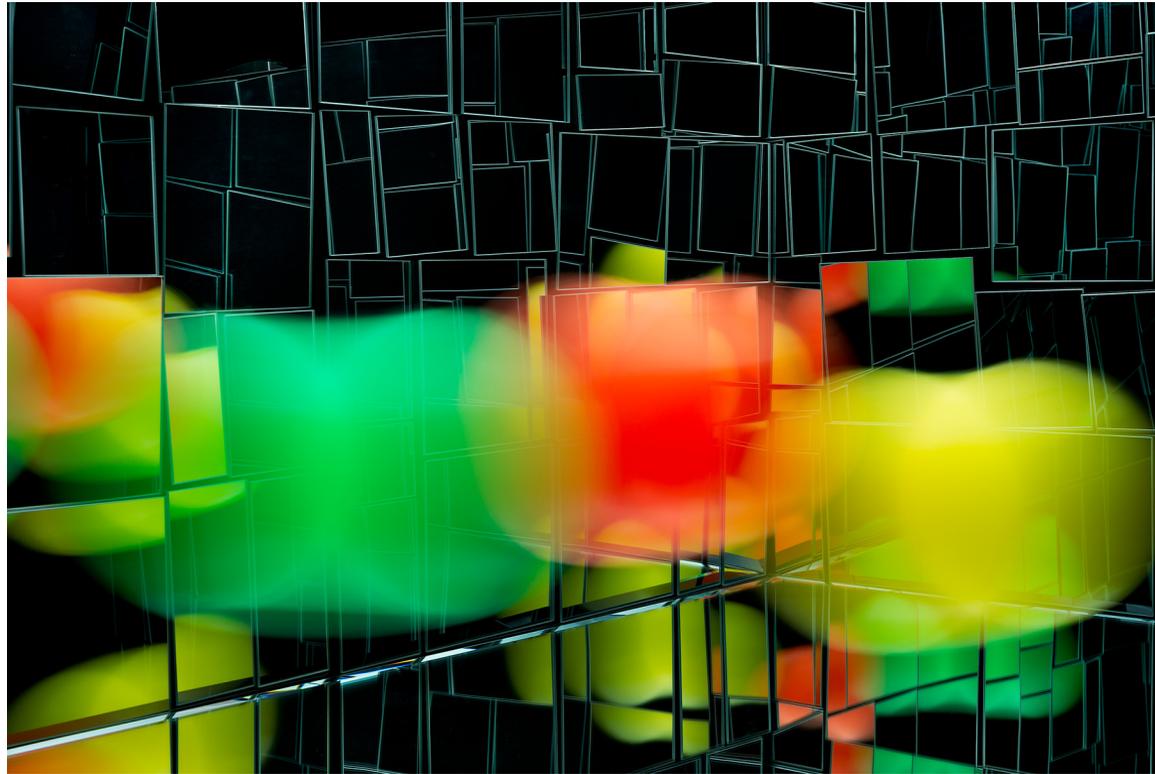




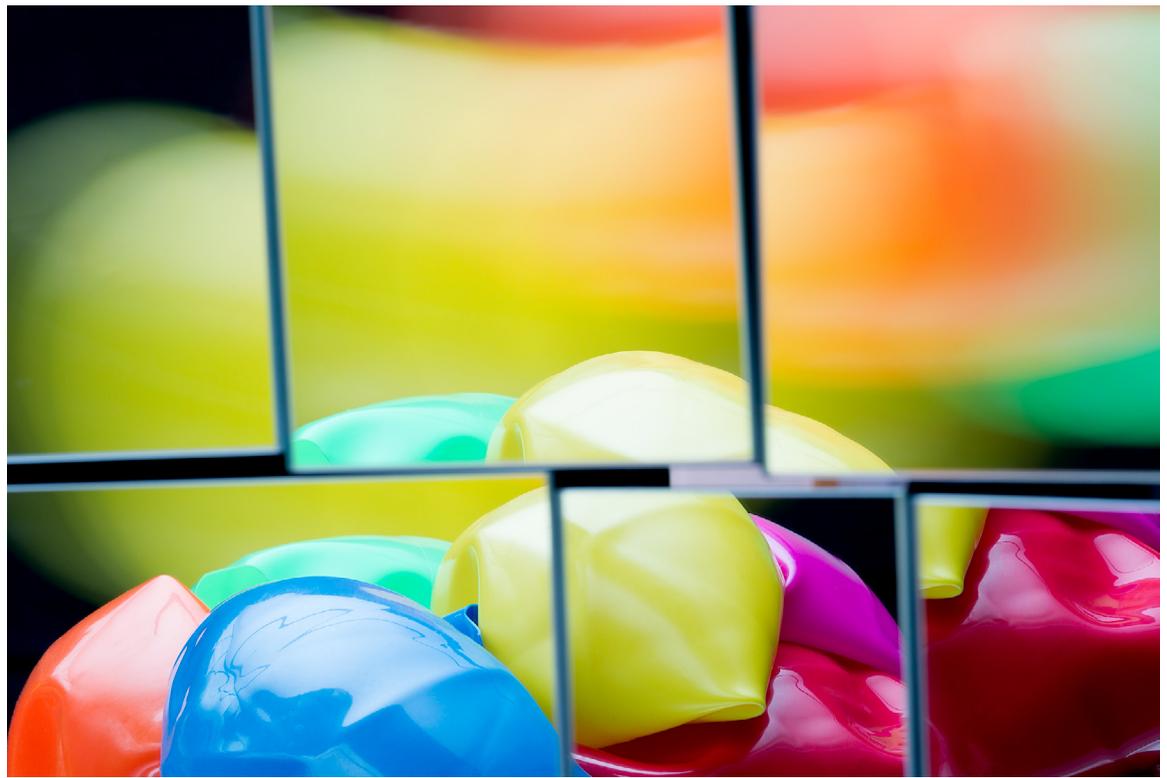






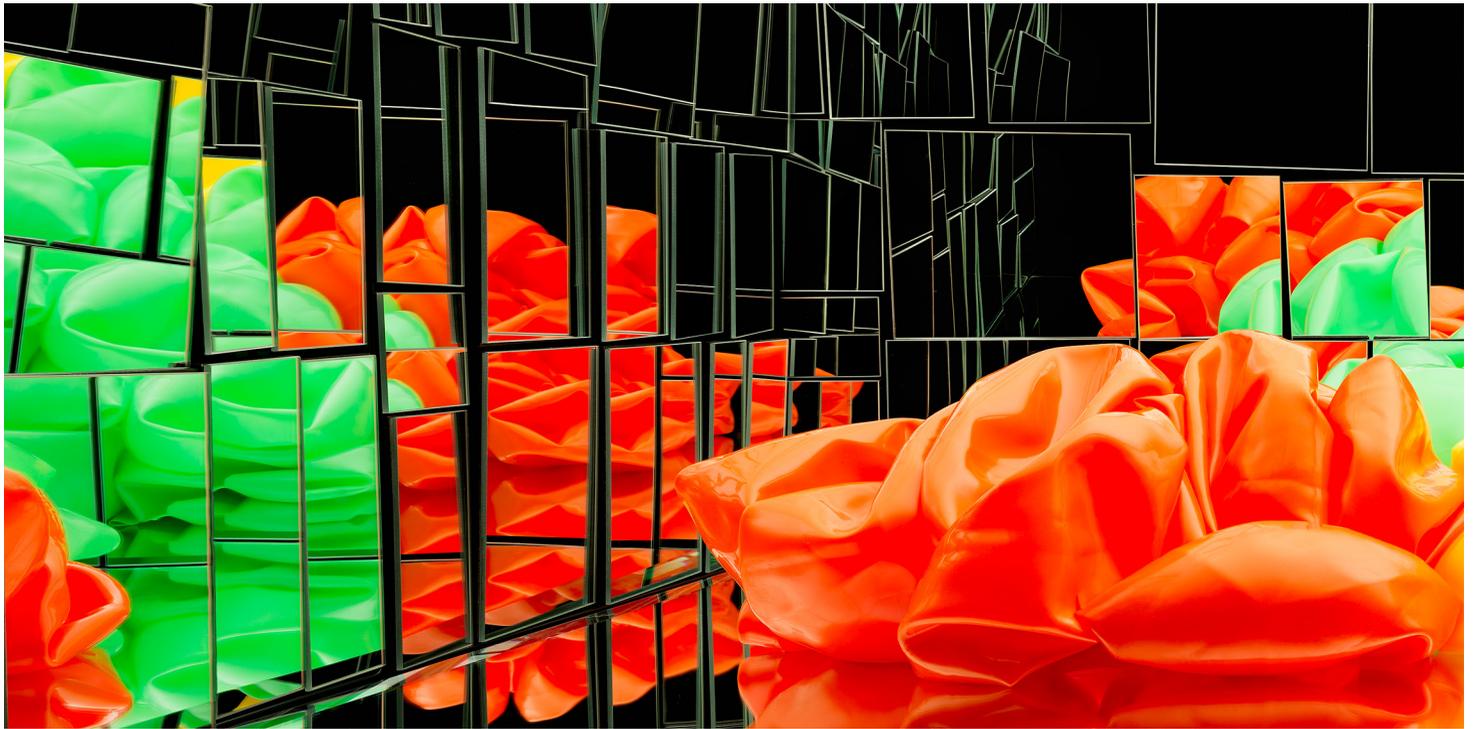


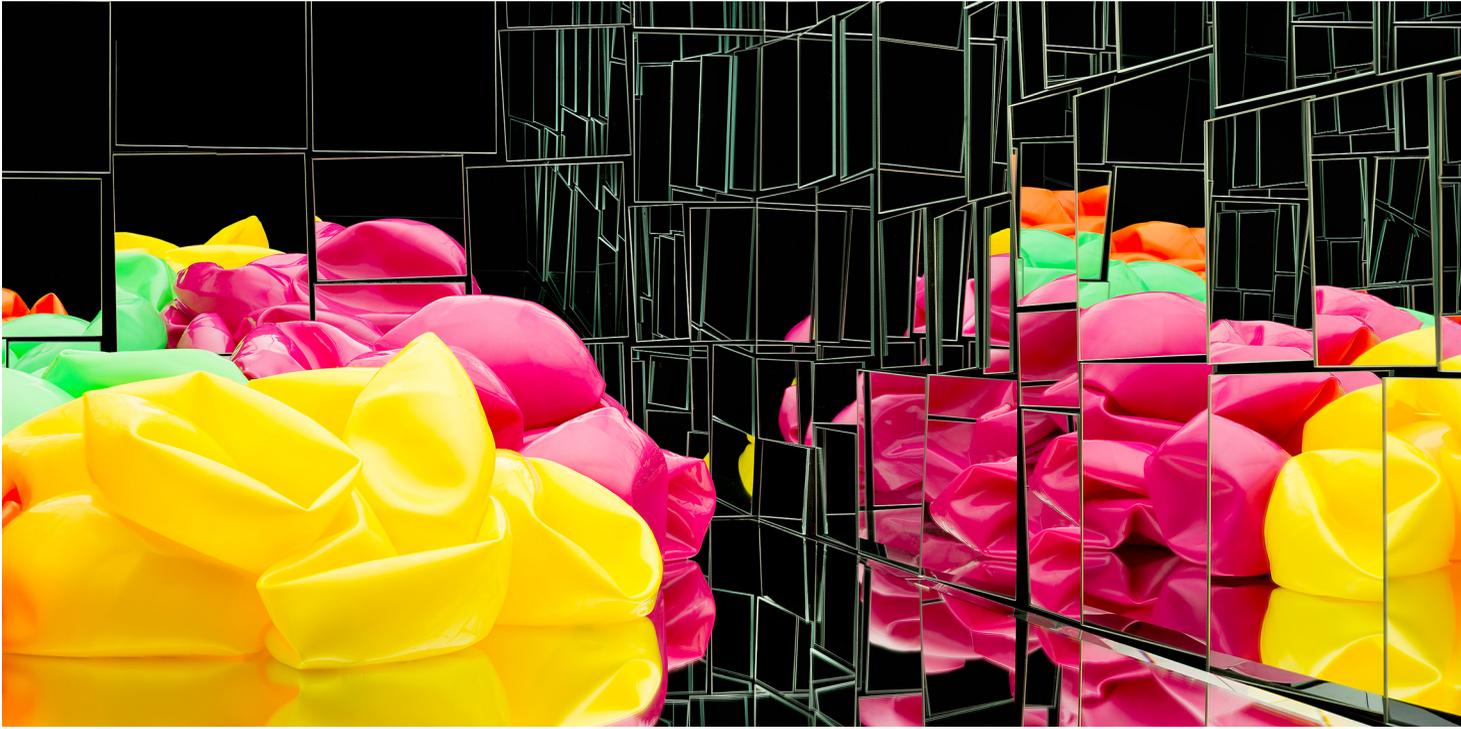














## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the months of the creation of this universe, many contributed and put up with my questions, learning and obsessions. I'm indebted to them all and a mere thank you on this page seems paltry indeed.

### Color Folio

How many ways can you say thank you for digital support, exacting prints, and helping me make this book possible?

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Her support and friendship never wavers.

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Her logo designs always hit the note I want.

### Dan Leto

His help on lighting was crucial.

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Her critical ideas and help in editing helped frame my narrative.





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