



**Hypnos  
(Artwork)**

**Topic: Art**

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**Abstract**

An ongoing interest in temporality has led me to explore the concept of oblivion or forgetfulness. In Greek mythology Lethe was one of the five rivers of the underworld. Also known as the river of unmindfulness, the Lethe flowed around the cave of Hypnos and through the underworld, where all those who drank from it experienced forgetfulness. In my most recent work, I have moved from underwater to above water to depict the expanse of the sea in relationship to land or horizon, and human or bird. The underlying theme is that of instances of being in a state of precarious limbo. I refer to my human and avian subjects as *The Oblivion Seekers* and they are frequently depicted between freedom (flight) and safety (land) with the turbulent sea the uncertain suspension that they must navigate between the two. They occupy a kind of liminal space. It is this in-between space of protracted temporality that I am interested in revealing.

*Hypnos* consists of 6,500 photographs taken at 2 second intervals to create a Moving Image. The compiled photographs are then over-painted to create the shift in light and texture. I use light to convey a sense of duration of time or perhaps timelessness. For example, in some instances in *Hypnos*, the time of day is unidentifiable ... fluctuating between sunlight and moonlight ... stars in the sky and sun on the waves. Spatial references are also manipulated ... with sky becoming sea ... and sea becoming sky. Some events occur over and over, however seemingly at a different time of day or night, thus causing the viewer to question their relationship to linear or non-linear time. *The Oblivion Seekers* are searching for a space where time is suspended, where they can hover in limbo, and temporarily push memory and knowing into oblivion. *Hypnos* depicts one of those places.

30 minutes continuous looping.

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**Key words:** Temporality, Technology and Art, Non-Linear Time, Moving Image.

**Main References:**

[1] Timothy Barker, "*Time and the Digital*", University Press of New England, New Hampshire, 2012.

[2] David Rodowick, "Giles Deleuze's Time Machine", Duke University Press, North Carolina, 1997.

[3] Christine Ross, "*The Past is the Present; It's the Future Too - The Temporal Turn in Contemporary Art*", Bloomsbury Academic, New York, 2013.

Stills from the moving image work:





