



JON NASH
RUMMAGES AROUND
GOOGLE'S GLITCHES WITH
AN INFRA-RED POWER GLOVE

Jon Nash is an artist driven by the internet age. Claiming to be influenced by the way images trade online – “strange cultish You-Tube trends like un-boxing and new or imagined technologies, such as Street View and Tom Cruise’s *Minority Report* glove-wall-computer thing” – he operates from a DIY hub in his Whitechapel Studio. Here, he has rigged a multi-screen display, which in itself is pretty sci-fi. “The vocabulary of digital mediums available to us have grown drastically,” he says. “The most interesting artists today are selling websites as art works and painting with Photoshop. For me, it’s all about the possibilities that arise through new ways of mediating and transmitting art production.”

For his solo show at the newly opened French Riviera gallery, Nash explored Google Street View as if he

were actually travelling, spending hours on end not knowing exactly what he’s looking for. Using open source software to construct an infrared glove from a Wiimote hack, Nash trawled for inconsistencies, glitches and moments of visual dissonance amongst the standard satellite imagery.

The *Hudson River Series* is the result of one such journey that witnessed him travel virtually along a road in between the Adirondack Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean, when suddenly the landscape blurred and bled. The resultant set of photographs documents this digital anomaly in large-scale watercolour-esque landscapes. Google will probably rectify the “problem”, but in the meantime Nash has collated a series entirely formed through computer data malfunction “where a software



corruption shares aesthetic equivalence with the Hudson River School of Romantic painting”. Having graduated from LCC only one year ago, Nash has plenty of time to fully inhabit the process he’s invented and push it further across multiple mediums, entering the larger conversation amongst the tech-fetishist, digi-aesthetic and net-pop-inspired artists of his generation.

Text SUSANNA DAVIES-CROOK

July 8 – 31, French Riviera,
 309 Bethnal Green Road, London E2
frenchriviera1988.com;
jonnash.co.uk

Above: Various images from
HUDSON RIVER SERIES,
JON NASH, 2011