

*PORTFOLIO
HUGO PETIGNY*

HUGO PETIGNY - Curriculum Vitae

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Formation

2021-2023 : Le Fresnoy Studio National des Arts contemporains

Graduated with honours - Tourcoing - France
Artist referent : Edith Dekyndt, Julien Previoux

2019 - 2021 : DIPLÔME NATIONAL SUPÉRIEUR D'EXPRESSION PLASTIQUE

ESA Ecole supérieur d'art de Tourcoing-Dunkerque - France

2016 - 2019 : LICENCE ARTS-PLASTIQUES

Lille University - France

2011- 2013 : BAC PHOTOGRAPHIE

Lycée des métiers de l'image, Le Havre, France

2009- 2011 : BEP ELECTROTECHNIQUE

Lycée Jeanne d'arc, Le Havre, France

Group show

Fresh Air Residency - Stiftung Berliner Leben

One year residency in Berlin - In progress - 2025

Die Noordelingen 2nd edition

La plus petite galerie du monde (Ou presque)
Roubaix (Artist and curator)- *May-June 2024*

Multiplex

Rencontre des écoles d'arts du Nord Pas de Calais
Dunkerque - *8 November 2023*

Panorama 25 - Le Fresnoy Studio National des Arts contemporains

Tourcoing - Curator Chris Dercon - *1st october 2023 - 1st january 2024*

Die Noordelingen

La plus petite galerie du monde (Ou presque)
Roubaix - *13 May 2023 - 13 June 2023*

Panorama 24 - De l'autre côté

Le Fresnoy Studio National des Arts contemporains
Tourcoing - Curator Marie Lavandier - *1st October - December 2022*

DÉ-RÉALITÉ - DES RÉALITÉS

Galerie Commune, Tourcoing - *8 - 22 April 2021*

CO-EXISTENCE.S

Galerie Commune - Tourcoing - *12 - 25 March 2020*

Publications

[2024 - Conference at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Brussels - Artist wanted - on the theme «Penser durablement la production artistique»](#)

[2023 - La voix du Nord - Hugo Pétigny, étudiant au Fresnoy, a l'énergie comme source de création](#)

[2023 - Fisheye - Panorama 25 : les artistes du Fresnoy réinventent l'espace muséal](#)

[2022 - art-icle.fr -Hugo Pétigny, jeune artiste passionné de lumière, à l'École du Fresnoy](#)

[2022 - Arthebdomedia - Panorama 24 : le monde sous un autre angle](#)

[2022 - Libération – Au Fresnoy, l'image dans tous ses éclats](#)

[2022 - PRIST Ecole superieur d'art de Tourcoing- Dunkerque -Interview Hugo Pétigny - Énergie transmise et lumière](#)

BIO

My artistic practice revolves around the concept of the transformation of energies. I create technical installations that make visible and tangible the changes of energy. I explore these transformations in various contexts: energy production and power infrastructures, the human and non-human body, as well as within my own work. These changes can take many forms — for instance, transforming light into electricity and then into economy, or human strength into time and then into light. This approach allows me to address social questions related to the use of energy — particularly electricity —, to offer audiences experiences of energy transfer and different temporalities, and to question our relationship with technology.

Coming from a family where my father was an electrician, I naturally gravitated toward a similar career. I began studying electrotechnics in Le Havre (France) before my interest in electricity evolved into a fascination with light and photography. I enrolled in a photography school and then worked for several years as a photographer. Feeling that something was missing in my life, I decided to return to university in Lille (France), where I discovered contemporary art. I then completed a master's degree at the Fine Arts School of Tourcoing–Dunkerque before undertaking a postgraduate program at Le Fresnoy — the National Studio of Contemporary Arts (France).

PORTFOLIO

SOLAR WORLD

Video, solar panel, raspberri pi, sound, drawings, text - 2025

Solar World is a video installation whose playback speed is modulated in real time by a solar panel.

The work reflects on the relationship between the control of electricity and the control of time, by confronting two ways of using electrical energy in nature:

- that of the electric fish *Gnathonemus petersii*, which emits impulses with irregular rhythms,
- and that of the human photovoltaic industry, which produces regular and linear rhythms.

As a whole, the piece explores the future of the electrical sector and the possibility of harmony between technology and the human being.

Link trailer : <https://vimeo.com/1123943511?share=copy> (30s)

Link mindmap research : <https://kumu.io/Petignyhugo/solar-world#solar-world>





From left to right : A solar panel is connected to a Raspberry Pi which modulates the video playback speed.

Resilience, a story around 12,800 watts

Photography on glass, aluminium, mirror, solar modules. 1,80m * 2,50m . 2023

This project is a photographic and photovoltaic installation inspired by Don Quixote. The artist and their partner undertook a bicycle journey to the largest wind farm in France, charging flashlights with the dynamo on their transport. Their goal is to create a photograph in which they will use all the light from these lamps. An audio part tells the story of their journey and its transformation.

The final photograph is installed in a sculpture using organic solar cells without silicon, powering a nighttime lighting.

Link teaser : <https://vimeo.com/showcase/10747029/video/878255053>

Audio part (French with english subtitles) (12min)

Link : <https://youtu.be/Gb2YSUI5j6E>





Photograph printed on a glass plate - one-hour exposure time - Taken at the Fruges wind farm - Nord-Pas-de-Calais. 150 cm x 280 cm



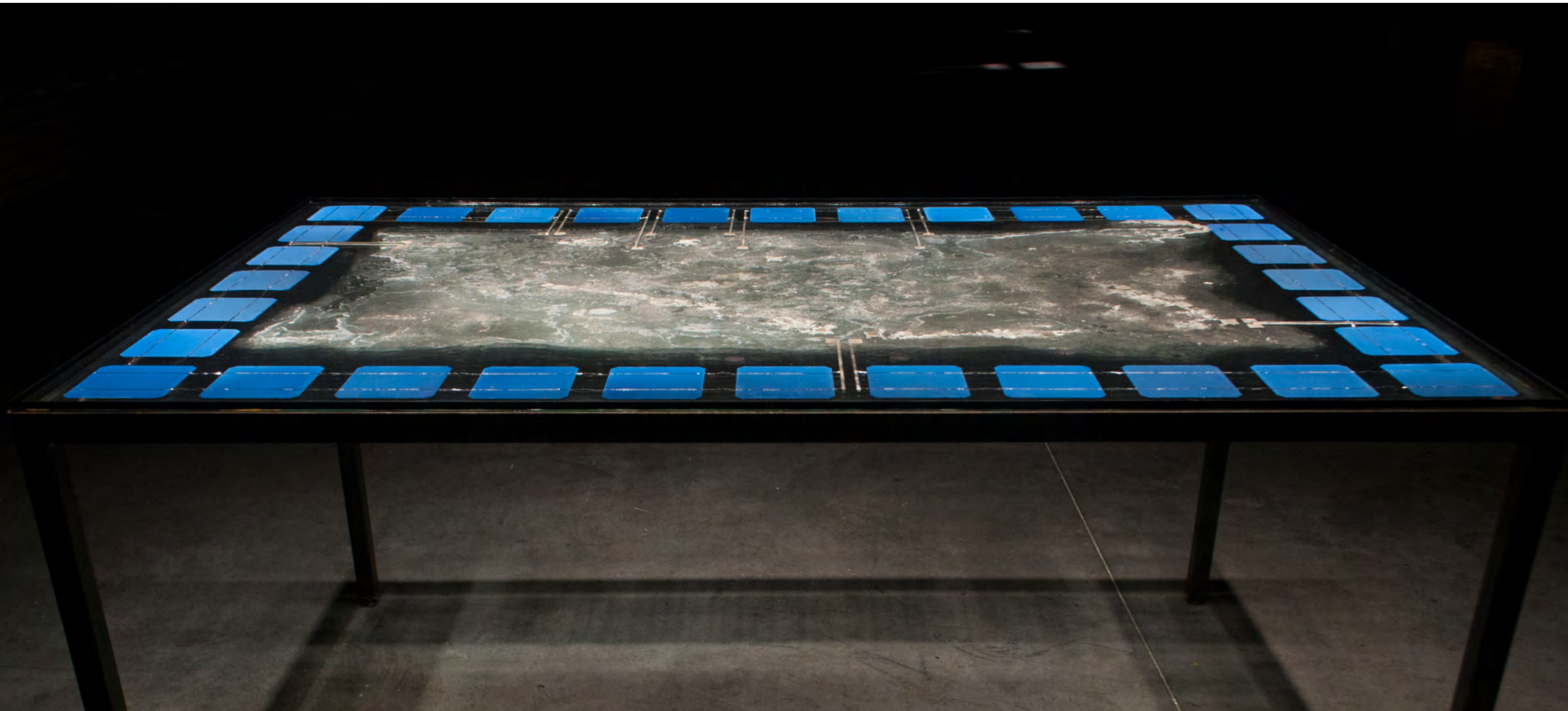
Inkjet printing of the photograph on paper. 150 cm x 280 cm

Silver electrography

Table, glass plate, solar cells, silver nitrate, solar panel, lamps, water. 1,80m * 2,50m 2022

A solar panel, purchased from a company suspected of using enslaved Uyghur labor in its production, powers light bulbs that enable the growth of silver nitrate crystals on a glass table. The piece recalls that silver was extracted for analog photography and continues to be used in photovoltaics. It raises the question of the origin of the energy used in the creation of an artwork and attempts to produce a single, unique final image in order to escape overproduction.

Link teaser : <https://vimeo.com/799806174>







About working time

Print, screen, matte photography, video projection, film. 2024

This piece, supported by the Citizens' Initiative project of the City of Roubaix, is divided into three parts. The first is a photograph presenting the project's research. The second is a video made with Google Earth, tracing a journey from the power plant supplying electricity to the exhibition site. The third features interviews conducted during the opening, in which visitors reflect on artists' working time in France. The piece explores the various forms of energy involved in creating an artwork and how they can be transformed into political discourse.

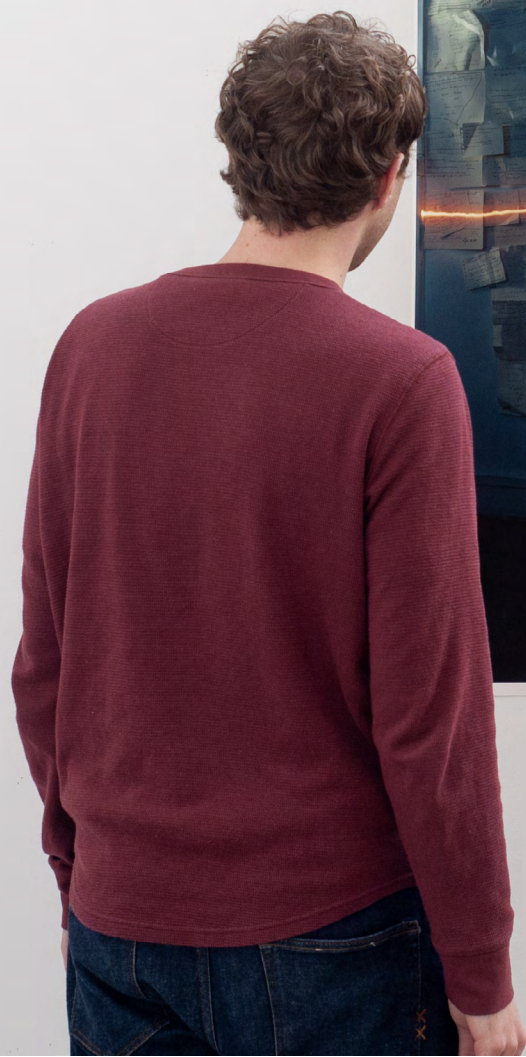
Link trailer : <https://vimeo.com/1103140928?ts=88926&share=copy> (2min15)



Screenshot from the movie «Work in progress»



Inkjet print photograph on matte paper
*«Work in progress» 50*70 cm*





The film is a journey from the power plant supplying electricity to the exhibition site.
Link film 3D (9min25) : <https://hugopetigny.com/index.php/en-passant/>

Experimental photographic work (2021)

All of the following images are photographic experiments created using a scanner.
They are part of my broader research into the transformation of energies within images.

All photographs are printed on glossy paper in 50 x 70cm format.

