

OBSERVED: BETWEEN US

This exhibition was created on-site in a gallery space with three models, using the location as both studio and stage. The works develop through direct interaction between bodies, space, and light, shifting between control and spontaneity.

One body of work explores harsh artificial light and direct flash. Drawing on an older digital aesthetic, these images embrace saturation, immediacy, and playful discovery. The flash both reveals and distorts, turning simple gestures into exaggerated, slightly humorous moments.

In contrast, the black-and-white works are shaped by natural light and reflections within the architectural space. Glass surfaces create layered images where bodies appear partially hidden, as if observed through a transparent barrier. At the same time, the subjects often return the gaze, creating a direct and unsettled exchange with the viewer.

Across both series, the act of looking is unstable and reciprocal. The viewer becomes part of the situation, while the subjects remain aware of being seen - and of looking back.

Jakub Stachowiak (b. 1984, Poland) is a Basel-based photographer and creative designer. His work explores male intimacy, desire, and the dynamics of the gaze. Working with digital cameras and older sensor aesthetics, he builds a visual language that balances tension, playfulness, and staged spontaneity.

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Jakub Stachowiak

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