

HEFT

ZACH LIEBERMAN
WHAT LIGHT MAY BE

CATALOG

SOLO EXHIBITION @ HEFT

OCT 14 - NOV 13

ZACH LIEBERMAN

b. 1977 USA



Zachary Lieberman is an artist, researcher, and educator who creates artwork with code, exploring how computation can be used as a medium for poetry. He's been listed as one of Fast Company's Most Creative People and his projects have won the Golden Nica from Ars Electronica, Interactive Design of the Year from Design Museum London as well as listed in Time Magazine's Best Inventions of the Year. He creates artwork by writing software and is a co-creator of openFrameworks, an open source toolkit for creative coding and helped co-found the School for Poetic Computation, a school examining the lyrical possibilities of code. Lieberman is also a professor at MIT's Media Lab.

His daily sketches are not to be missed on Instagram, a must-follow here:

<https://www.instagram.com/zach.lieberman/>

WHAT LIGHT MAY BE

Zach Lieberman makes photographs of math.

The works begin with observation. Lieberman studies the ways light interacts with different materials, from metal and lenticular lenses to iridescent film. He translates these observations into code, where behaviors can be exaggerated, combined, or pushed beyond what physical materials allow.

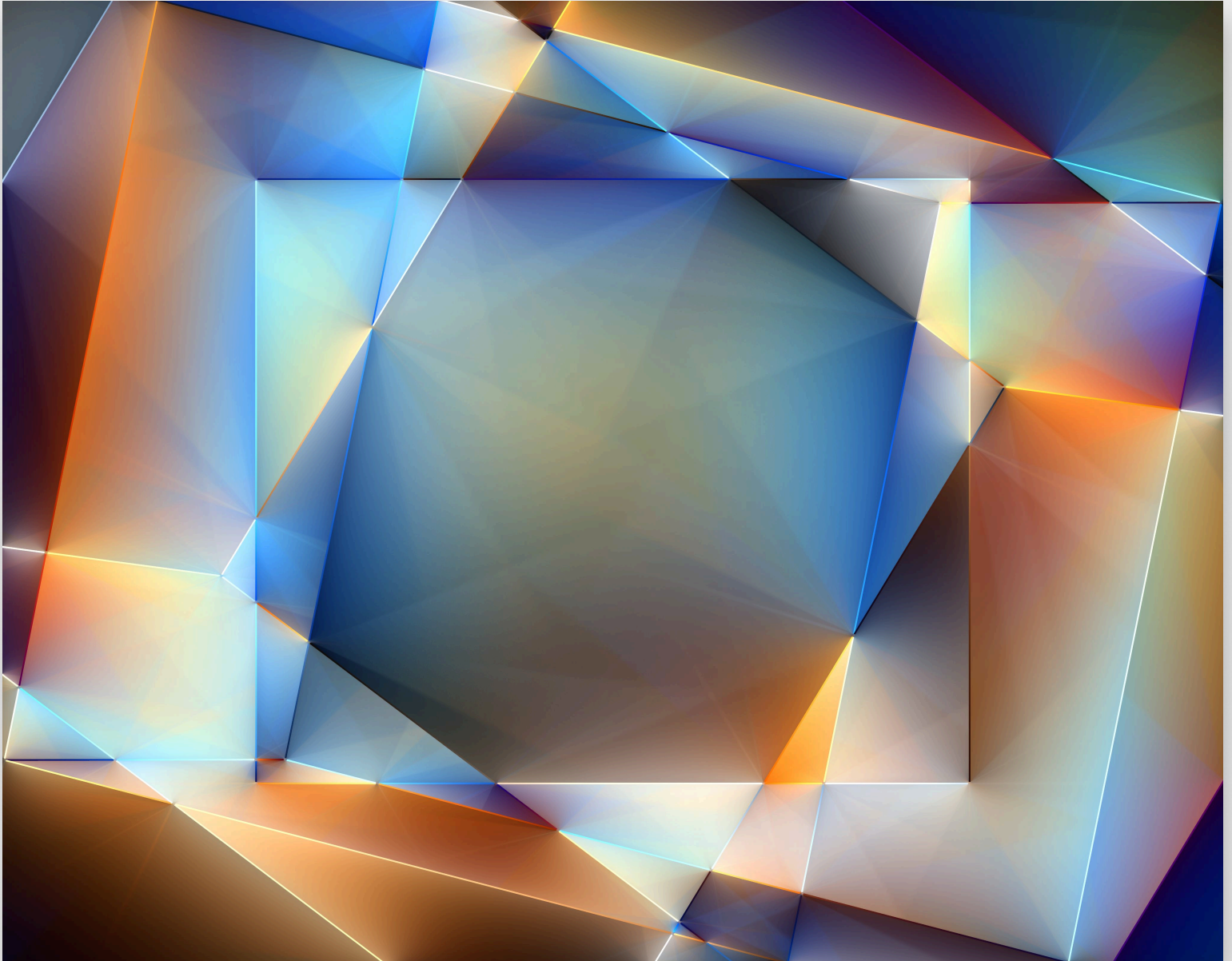
The geometry is simple: lines, grids, boxes, and curves. The complexity comes from how light interacts with these forms. Here, light takes on qualities of a physical material. It appears to have edges, volume and weight, without solid boundaries. It leaks and blends. Light becomes the object itself.

The eye completes the work. Some of what we see comes from the image itself, and some from our own perception: vibrating edges, colors that seem to separate, and forms that linger like afterimages. These effects aren't just part of the image. They happen as we look.

For more than a decade, Lieberman has maintained a practice of making daily sketches in software. Across thousands of experiments, ideas recur, mutate, and branch into new directions. The fifty-six smaller works offer a glimpse into this ongoing process, While nine large prints bring selected experiments to a new scale and a series of animations unfolds them over time.

Abraham Palatnik and Gottfried Jäger offer important historical precedents. In the 1950s, Palatnik used mechanical systems to compose light, color, and movement. In the 1960s, Jäger used photographic rules to make images without depicting the visible world. Like these artists, Lieberman uses systems to shape light, but computation allows him to go further: rewriting the very rules that govern its behavior.

Nothing here was ever lit. A photograph records light from the physical world. These works record light that never existed, behaving in ways real light cannot. Each work is an investigation of what light could be.



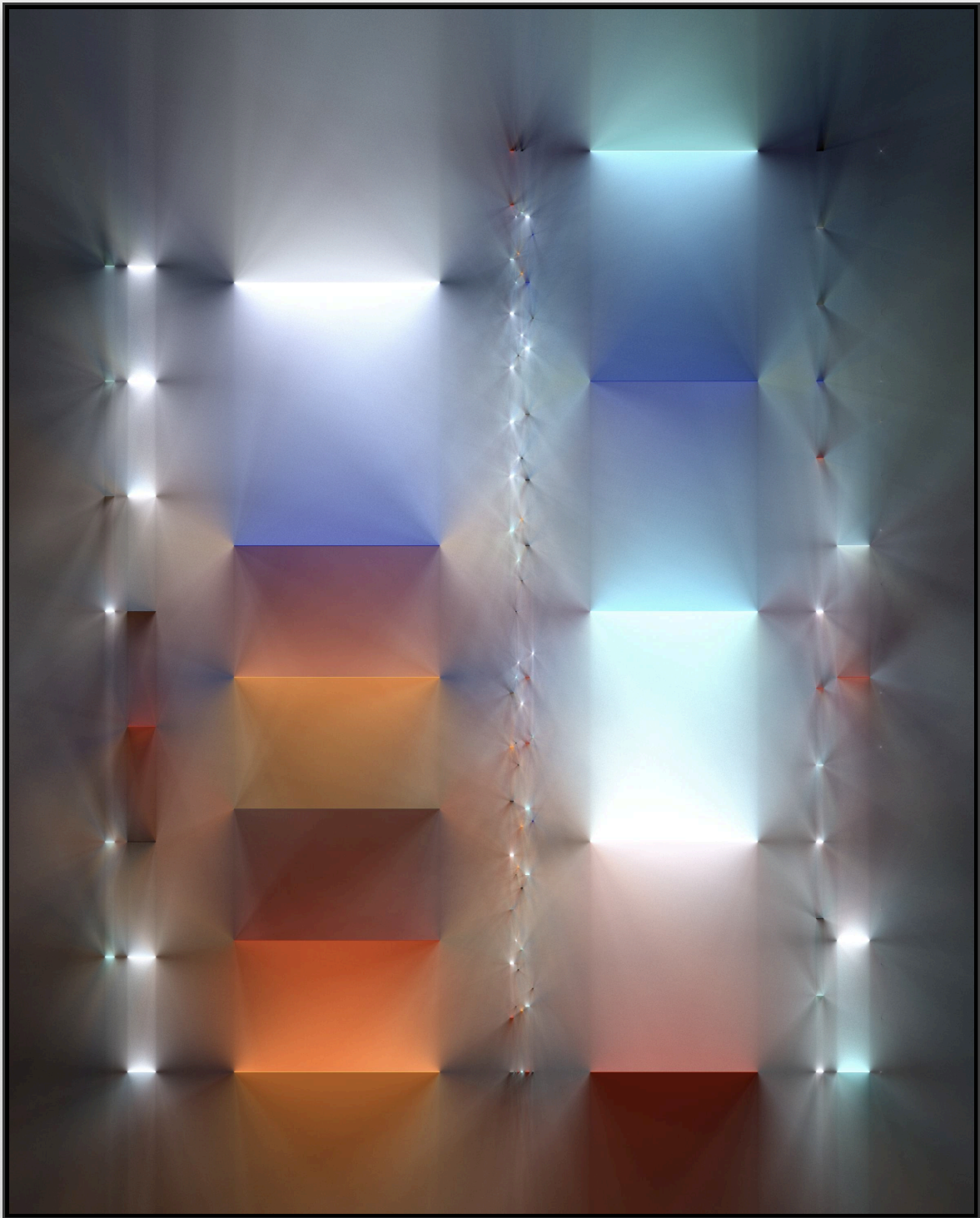
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #1, 2026

\$18,000

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, face mounted to acrylic, dibond back mounted and cleated,
label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 74 x 94 in.

info@heftgallery.com



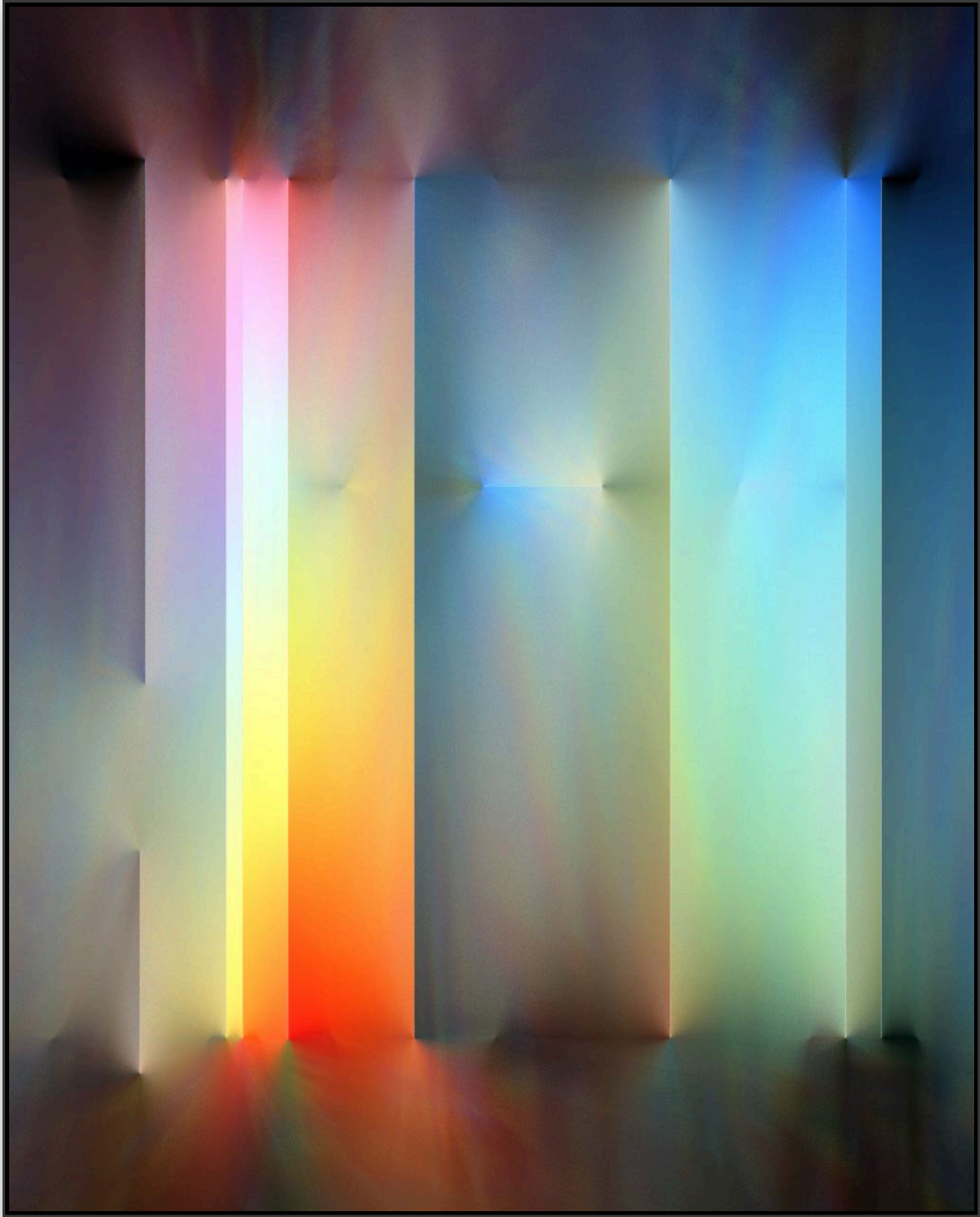
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #2, 2026

\$12,000

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, face mounted to museum acrylic, dibond back mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 72 x 56 in. artwork

info@heftgallery.com



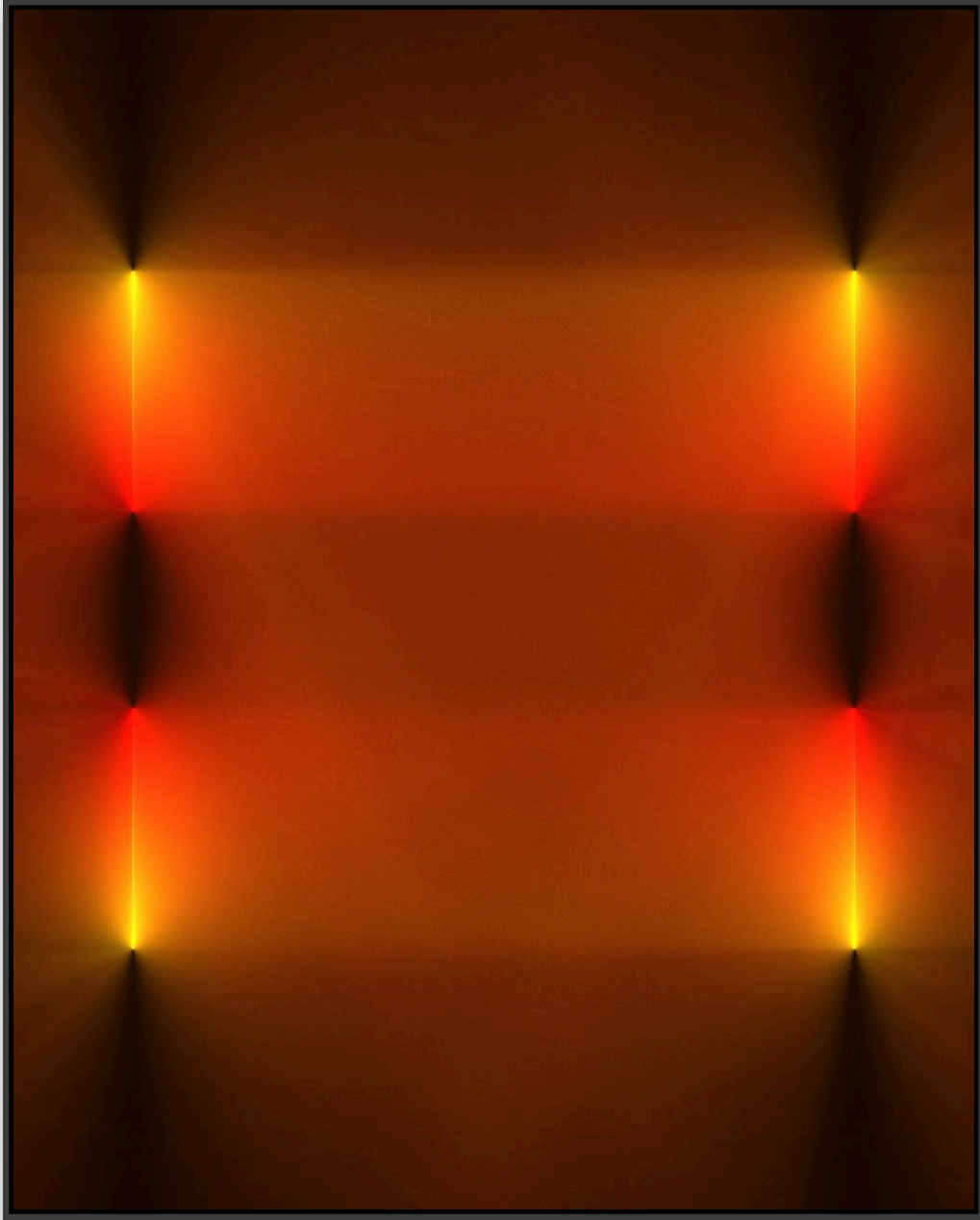
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #3, 2026

\$12,000

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, face mounted to museum acrylic, dibond back mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 72 x 56 in. artwork

info@heftgallery.com



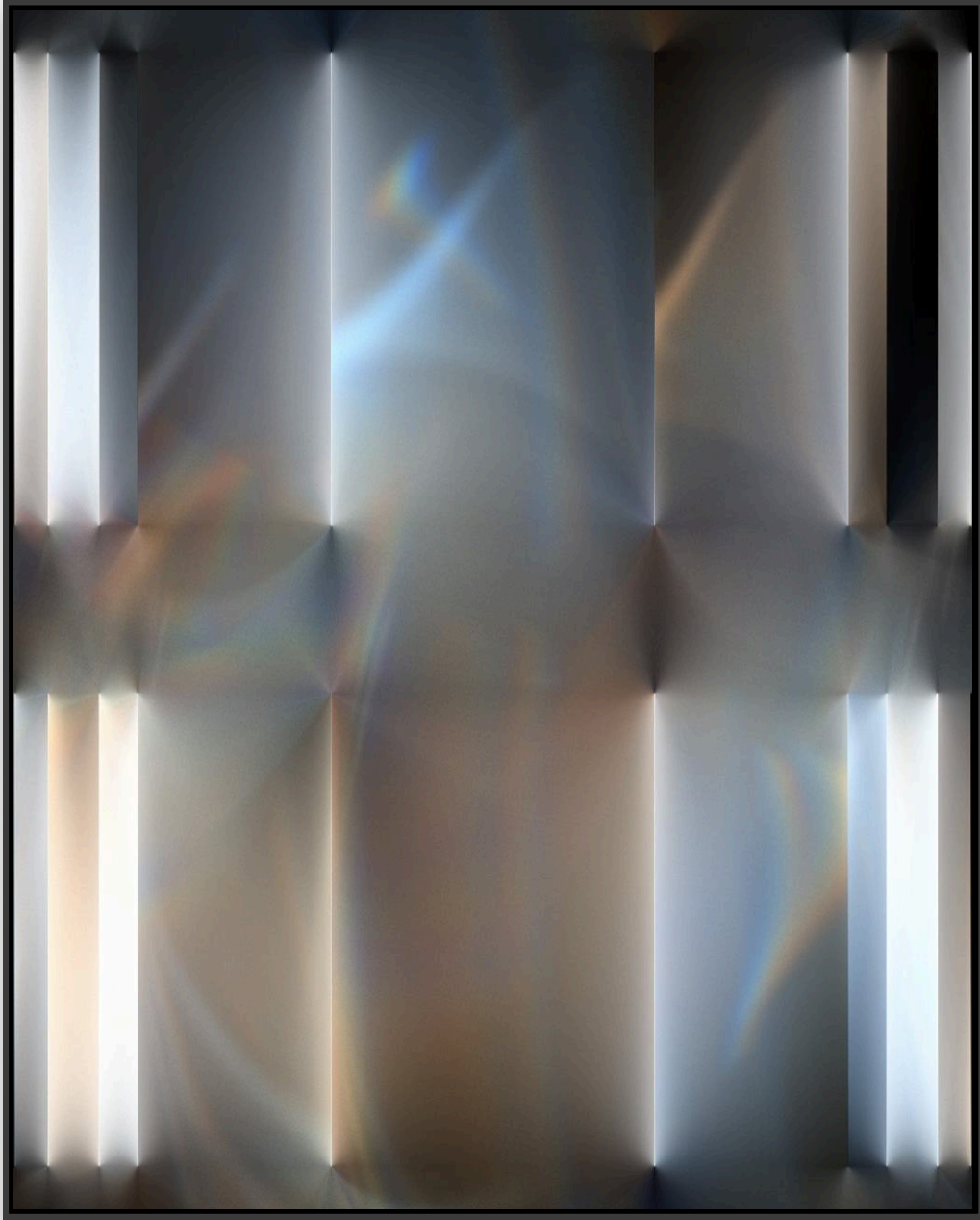
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #4, 2026

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood,
label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

\$6,000

info@heftgallery.com



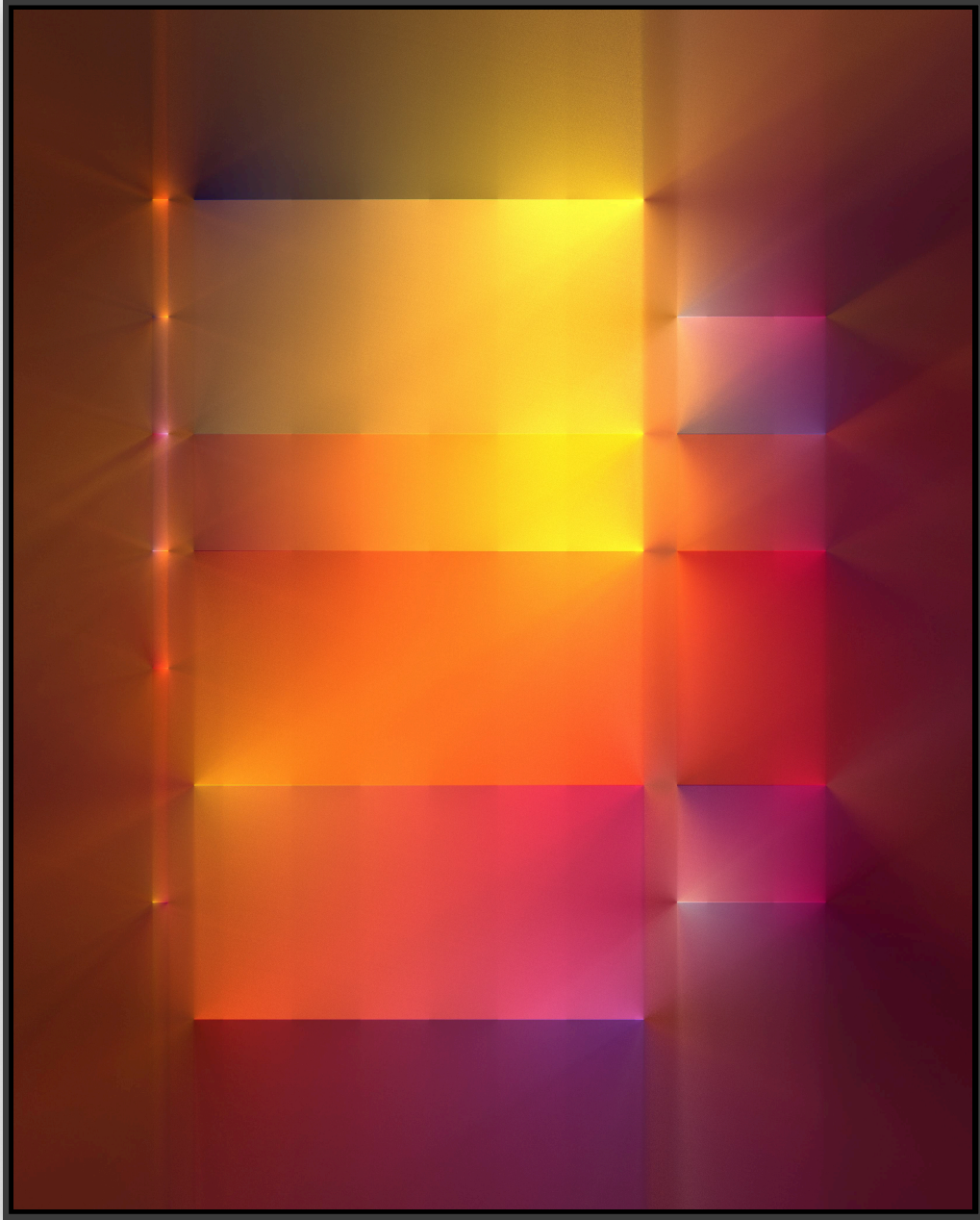
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #5, 2026

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

\$6,000

info@heftgallery.com

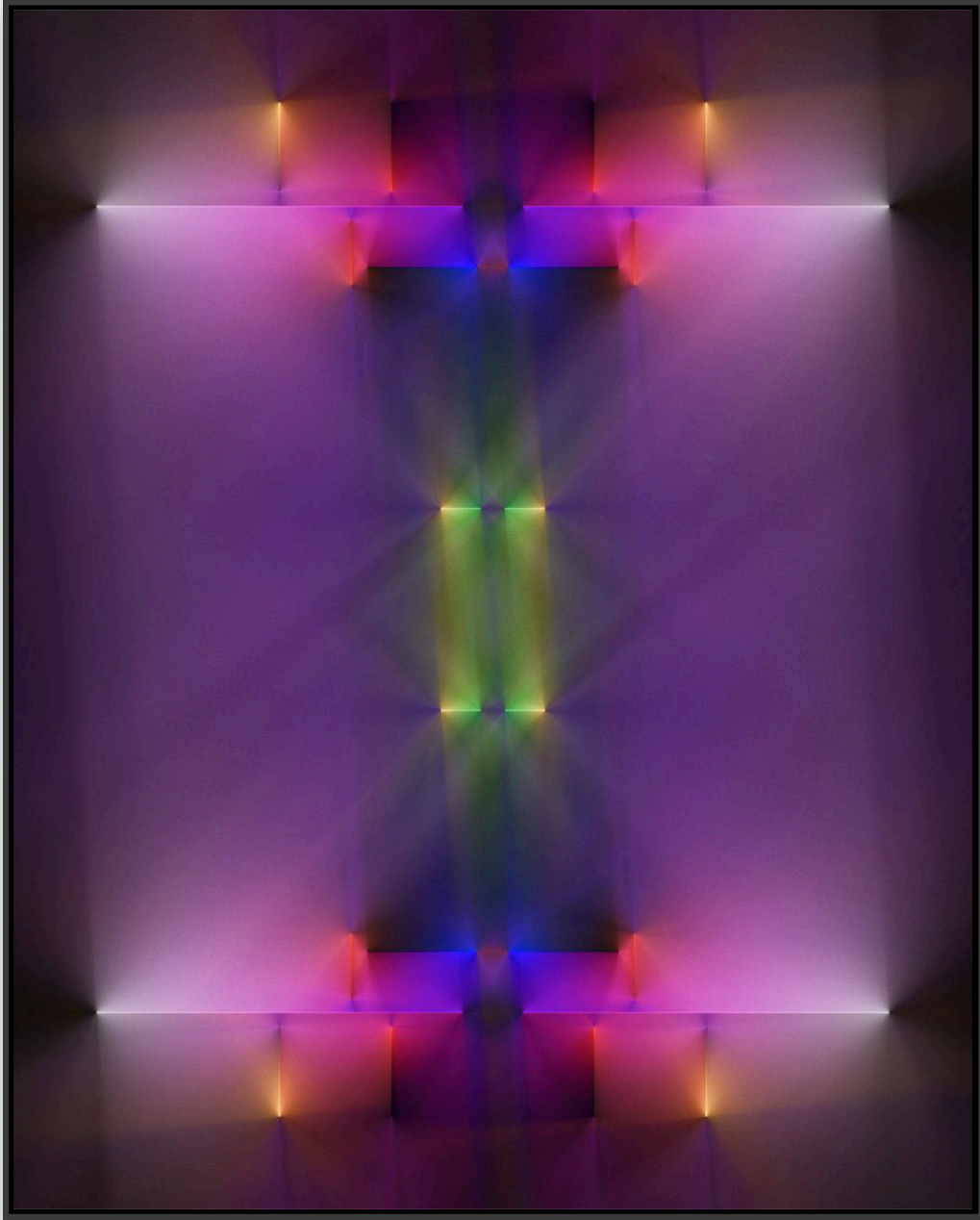


ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #6, 2026

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood,
label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

\$6,000



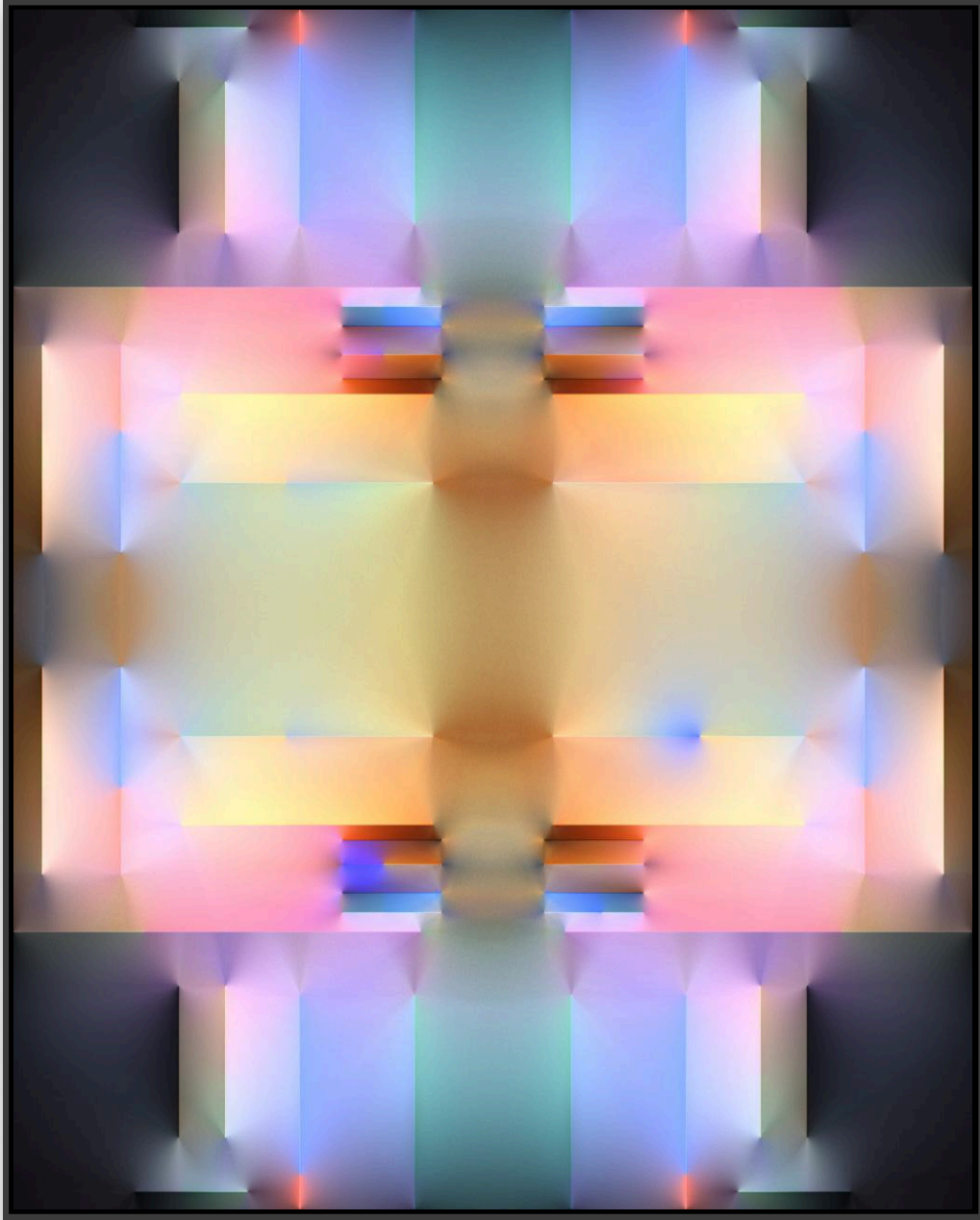
ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #7, 2026

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

\$6,000

info@heftgallery.com

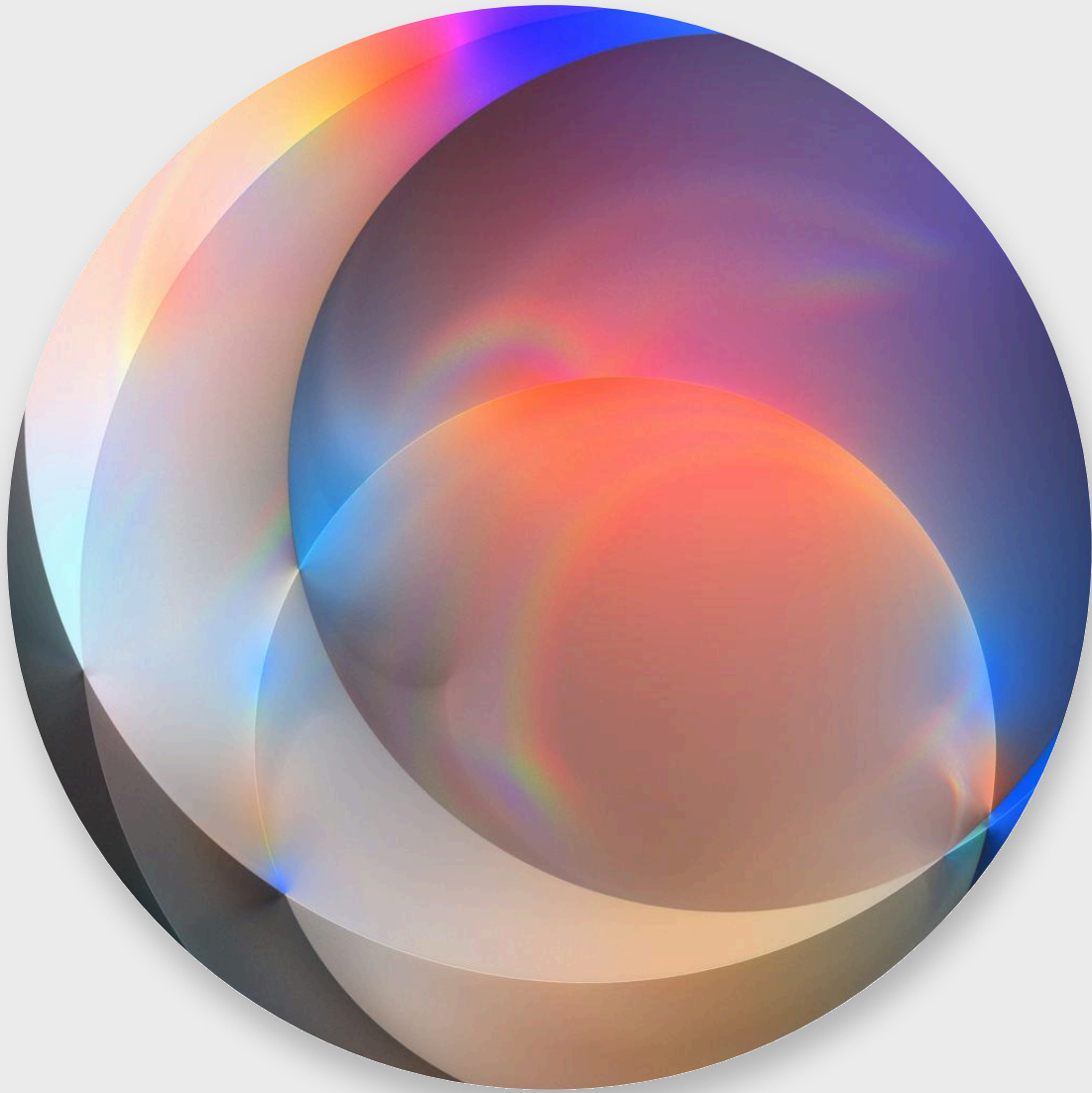


ZACH LIEBERMAN

Lightfields #8, 2026

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

\$6,000



ZACH LIEBERMAN

Dispersion Disk Study #9 (Circle), 2026

\$10,000

Unique print (+AP) Archival pigment print, mounted and float framed in matte black painted hardwood, label signed on verso + Ethereum token. 52 x 42 in. artwork

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HEFT

Heft is a contemporary gallery in New York City partnering with artists who use, and address, the ubiquitous systems of contemporary life. Presenting a fluid roster of artists, the gallery shows a wide spectrum of work – emphasizing inventive uses of traditional materials, memorable experiences, and provocative artworks that are rapidly gaining recognition for advancing the systems art movement.

Featuring projects by pioneers and groundbreaking emerging artists, Heft collaborates closely to elevate their practice. These artists engage urgent cultural questions using the tools of their time – algorithms, systems, artificial intelligence, and other generative processes – to show broader audiences what this medium is and what it can become.

ARTISTS WE'VE PARTNERED WITH

OOO9 / Chris Maestas

Alkan Avcioğlu

Auriea Harvey

Anna Lucia

Aranda\Lasch

ClownVamp

David Seven

Edward Burtynsky

Emily Edelman

Emily Xie

Emi Kusano

Fingacode

Flight4O4

Ganbrood

Gretchen Andrew

Iskra Velitchkova

Jan Robert Leegte

Jason Salavon

Jeres

Katie Morris

Kevin Esherick

LoVid

Luke Shannon

Mike Balzer

Mario Klingemann

Michael Kozlowski

Michael Mandiberg

Margaret Murphy

Michael Neff

Marcel Schwittlick

Marcelo Soria-Rodriguez

Nancy Burson

Nat Sarkissian

p1xelfool

Qubibi

Rafael Rozendaal

Rooke Rainisto

rudxane

Sarp Kerem Yavuz

Shamus Clisset

Thomas Noya

Travess Smalley

Zach Lieberman

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