

ARTFORUM

THE ARTISTS' ARTISTS

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34 Artists Reflect on 2019

To take stock of the past year, *Artforum* asked an international group of artists to select a single exhibition or event that most memorably captured their eye in 2019.



Daniel Lefcourt, *Terraform (Cloud Base)*, 2018, pigment and acrylic polymer resin on canvas, 56 × 80". From the series "Terraform," 2018.

GREG PARMA SMITH

Daniel Lefcourt, "Terraform" (Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York)

Lefcourt's apparently ice-cold, algorithmically rendered paintings paradoxically unearth vital questions about formlessness and uncertainty. A plotter-guided line, dragged by machine across the surface of the canvas, extracted and extruded delicate tonal information about embedded mineral deposits—that is, paint stains. Like the vast landscapes of the Hudson River School, but with the human–God axis replaced by a material–digital one, these works probe the limit of any attempt to appropriate nature's generative and entropic behavior. Funny and sad, the show made me think about painting, information, land, and life on our planet.