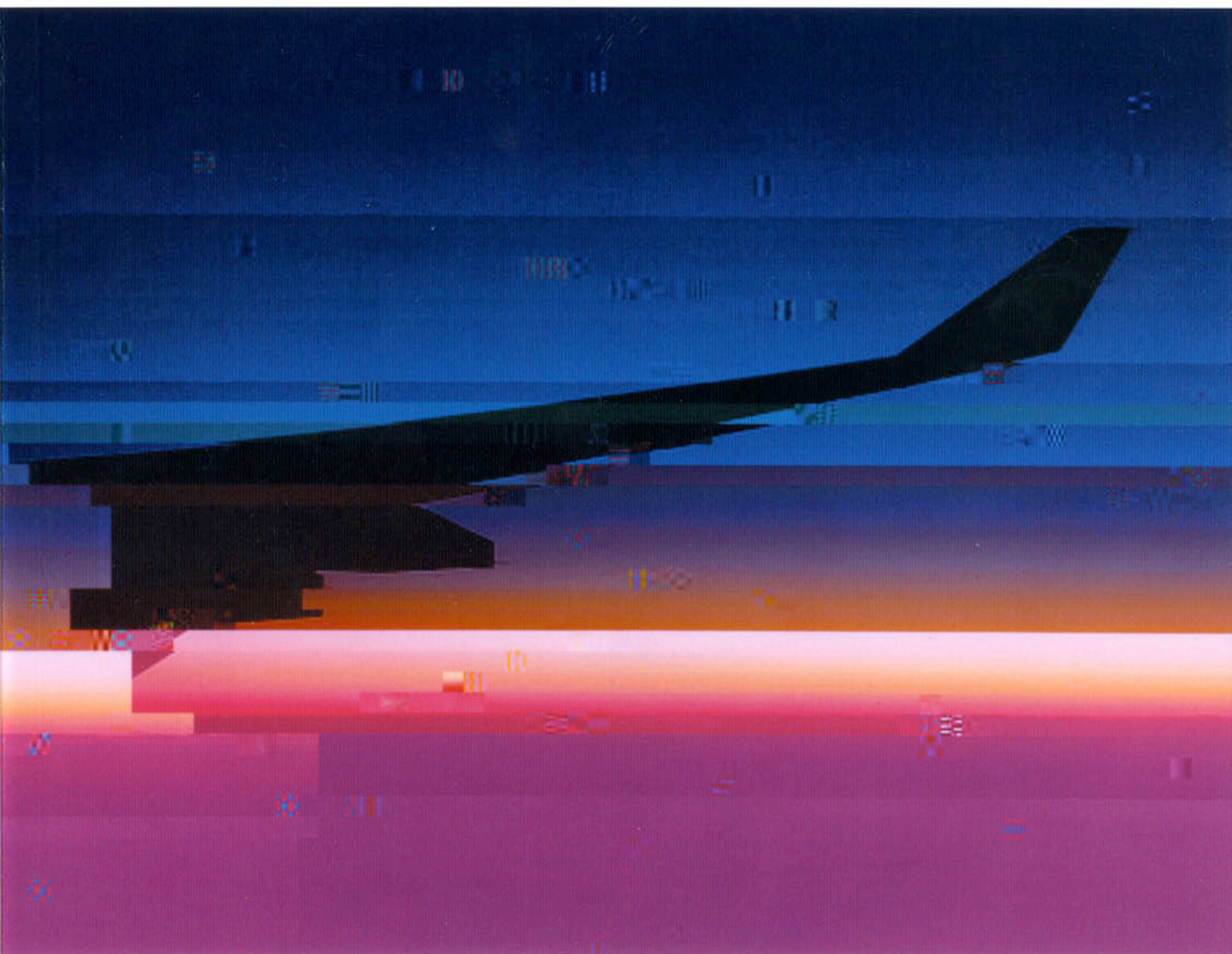


IMAGE TRANSFER

PICTURES IN A REMIX CULTURE

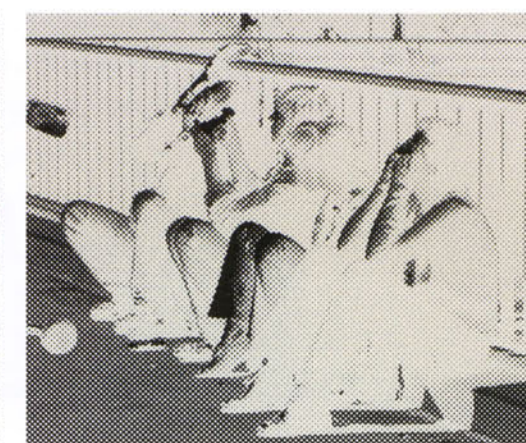
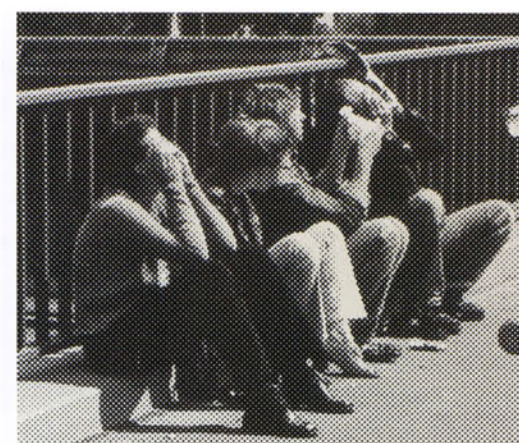
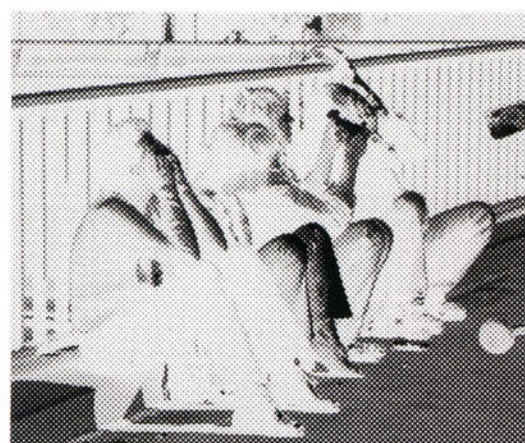
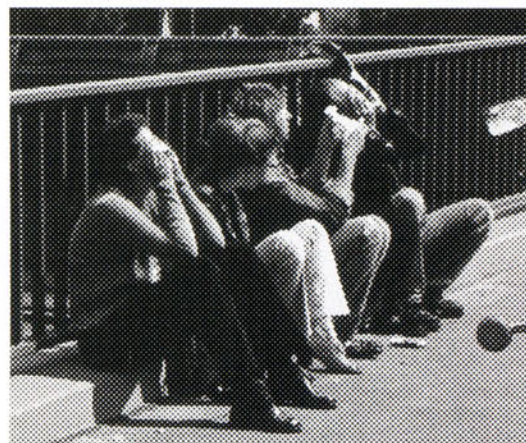


Jordan Kantor
Eclipse. 2009
Five screenprints on clear polycarbonate
and silver Mylar sheets

JORDAN KANTOR

A painter, Jordan Kantor often begins with pictures from books, newspapers, and other printed matter. He then scans and digitally crops and compresses a source image before translating it into a painting. In part, he employs these tactics to isolate an image from its original context with the aim of opening up new readings of it and questioning the image's role as a record of information. Through the steps of the artist's process, an image also changes physically and perceptually as it moves from one format to the other, encouraging us to contemplate more critically what we see and how we see it.

Focusing on these moments of translation, Kantor has created a number of works based on a photograph that he took of people viewing a solar eclipse through a



metallic film to protect their eyes. Viewing an eclipse is an apt metaphor for Kantor's methodology because the source is only seen indirectly through mediating devices. Initially the artist made a drawing of the snapshot using carbon transfer paper. Years later, Kantor used the image again as the basis for an ad. He subsequently employed a

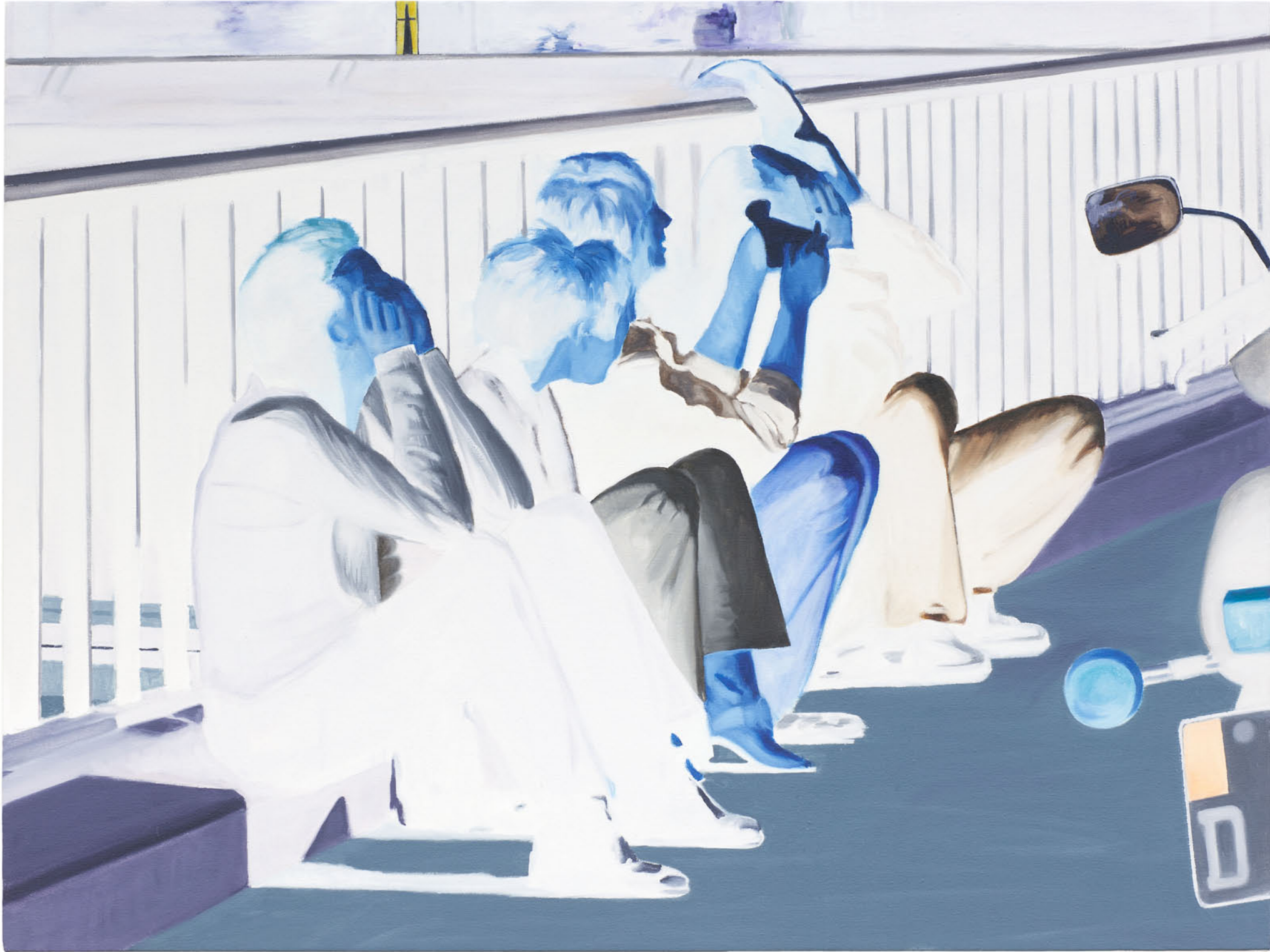


halftone and inverted image of it for a poster, and, finally, created a grisaille painting of it. A subsequent series of prints plays with different facets of photographic reproduction: positives/negatives and flips/flops, and even the belief in a photo as a mirror of reality. Other iterations—including a version in the separated colors of a photographic negative—continue Kantor's attraction to how an image transforms as it is reproduced in various media.

As an exploration of image circulation, the use and reuse of the original eclipse snapshot forms a kind of loop: sampling a single motif, and repeating it, adding slight variations each time. The sample—the casual photo—now exists simultaneously in the unique forms of drawing and painting; the reproducible format of prints; and finally ripples out through the widest channel of popular distribution as ephemera.

Through his paintings and prints, California-based artist Jordan Kantor investigates the impact of photo-reproduction, image circulation, and digital technologies on how we obtain information from images. A frequent contributor to Artforum, he received a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2003 and is a faculty member at the California College of the Arts. Recent solo exhibitions of his work have been at Ratio 3 in San Francisco (2010) and Art|40|Basel in Switzerland (2009). Group exhibitions that have included Kantor's paintings are Kurt at the Seattle Art Museum (2010) and SECA Art Award Exhibition at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2009). His work can be found in the collections of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Harvard Art Museums.

Jordan Kantor
Untitled (eclipse). 2001
Transfer carbon on paper



Jordan Kantor
Eclipse (color inversion), 2009
Oil on canvas



Henry Art Gallery

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