READY FOR YOU WHEN YOU ARE

JENNY HOLZER 1 SEPTEMBER – 21 OCTOBER 2023 HAUSER & WIRTH WEST HOLLYWOOD



COMPELLENCE

2023, Red gold leaf and oil on linen, 80 \times 62 \times 1 $^{1\!/_{\!2}}$ in

Graphic insert page from a Spring 1997 special issue of National Security Agency (NSA) publication Cryptolog: The Journal of Technical Health. The issue centers on advancements and revolutions in technology and information operations that would increasingly shift warfare—specifically information warfare—to the cyber domain, and the ways NSA operational priorities would have to shift in tandem. It presents the virtual realm as a new sphere of warfare beyond physical space, and predicts that advances in artificial intelligence would rapidly create a world in which computers and networks, with broad guidance from humans, would work to make decisions and act on behalf of humans. Declassified and approved for release by the NSA in October 2020, and publicly available via the National Security Archive at George Washington University.

- Original document
- Full report



UPRISING 2023, Dark Labradorite bench 43.2 × 182.9 × 61 cm / 17 × 72 × 24 in

Al-generated text referencing posts by Q, leader of the QAnon conspiracy.

SHADOW AGENDA. SHADOW OPERATIVES. INFORMATION GATEKEEPING. INSURRECTION. COUNTER-REVOLUTION. UPRISING.

Unique bench



WTF

2022, Horizontal four-sided LED sign: RGB diodes, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 141 × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in

'WTF 'is a swinging electronic sign featuring animated tweets posted by Donald Trump during his presidency and posts by Q, leader of the QAnon conspiracy (read more about QAnon below).

Holzer has employed electronic signs since 1982, when her texts were presented in Times Square in New York City. In 2015, Holzer began incorporating robotic elements in LED installations, allowing the signs to jerk, sway, and spin in all directions, veering unexpectedly from contemplative to chaotic. Holzer has noted that "a great function of the signs is their capacity to move, which I love because it's so much like the spoken word. You can emphasize, you can roll and pause, which is the kinetic equivalent to inflection in the voice."

Link to full text



CURSED

2022, Stamped lead and copper with precious metal plating, patinas and pigments, 296 elements, Dimensions variable

Holzer draws from Donald Trump's Twitter account to present tweets posted during his term as US president. The tweets document the former president's candid and often incendiary commentary on topics ranging from personal life and pop culture to international and domestic politics, criticism of the media, impeachment, and alleged election fraud. The tweets are presented in the materials and format of ancient Greco-Roman curse tablets: thin sheets of metal incised with texts that call harm or disruption to their victims. Holzer's curse tablets are made from rusticated sheets of lead, copper, brass, and nickelsilver and stamped with tweet text.

Further reading:

 Jenny Holzer Studio research report on ancient curse tablets

Contextual literature on Trump Twitter:

- Washington Post: Commander in Tweets
- <u>New York Times: New Focus on How a Trump Tweet</u> Incited Far-Right Groups Ahead of Jan. 6
- New York Times: What Was Donald Trump's Twitter?



RUSSIA

2022, Stamped lead and copper with precious metal plating, patinas and pigments, 296 elements, Dimensions variable

Supplemental response, US Department of Justice (DOJ) communications regarding Russian interference in the 2016 US presidential election, March–April 2017. Documents reference accusations that Russian cyber operations stole and disclosed Democratic National Committee (DNC) emails in an effort to influence the election process. Released to the public January 2022 via DOJ Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) library.

- Original Document
- Full Report



GOOD

2023, Vertical four-sided LED sign: RGB diodes, 101 × 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ × 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ in

An AI text generator was prompted to write about experiences human and nonhuman, physical and immaterial. It described rapture from visions, love, spinning, hallucination, dreams, waking next to a beloved, profound inspiration and creation; sensations from untouched landscapes, utopian communities, bees gathering pollen, exotic flowers, exquisite scents, shimmering, explosions of fireworks; incorporeal realms of pure light, immortality, extraterrestrials; and the sounds of machinery in operation. Minute fragmentary details from published writings were included in prompts to stimulate the text generator, enhancing its ability to describe natural and intangible phenomena, and to mimic abstract, complex human thought and emotion. Selections from the text generator's output were sequenced and animated in custom effects and colors, the AI's visions translated into pastel passages of text traversing the four-sided LED column in varying patterns and speeds, sometimes punctuated by abstraction, other times softened by a gauzy haze. The text programming is enhanced by choreographed movement courtesy of a motorized system suspended from the gallery ceiling. As text rises, the entire LED rotates clockwise and counterclockwise, interrupted by periods of stillness, resulting in an unpredictable rhythm that mirrors the unknowability of the AI generator's potential.



BAD

2023, Vertical four-sided LED sign: RGB diodes, 101 × 4 % × 4 % in

AI text generators were prompted to produce short statements and cryptic poems in the rhetorical style of the political alt- and far-right. Using excerpted extremist content for reference, they wrote of secret cabals, corrupt and illegitimate leaders, invasion and coup, deep state plots to eliminate free will, insurrection, information warfare, overbearing federal regulation, fraudulent elections, the deception of climate science, the socialist threat, political correctness, disinformation from the mainstream media, and a coming doomsday or civil war. Selections from the AI-generated content were sequenced and programmed onto the LED column in mostly grayscale effects and occasional bursts of red, with words flashing, spinning, fracturing, and pulsating across the column's faces. The unsettling text is intensified by a motorized system that spins and tilts the LED, alternating between moments of aggressive motion and relative calm, at times kicking out to threaten nearby paintings. With the LED spinning further and further out of plumb, its velocity and rapid changes in direction echo the anxiety that new technologies and our political discourse may be veering out of control.



SOFTER TARGETS

Page from an April 2004 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Counterterrorism Division report titled "The Terrorist Threat to the US Homeland: An FBI Assessment." Though the assessment identifies Al-Qaeda and affiliated groups as the intelligence community's top concern, it also addresses various domestic threats, including right-wing extremists, white supremacists, animal rights groups, eco-terrorists, anti-abortion extremists, and hacktivists. This page is entirely redacted except for the subheader "Shifting to Softer Targets." Original document



APPROVED

Page from an August 2002 memo sent by the US Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel (DOJ OLC) to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) regarding approved interrogation methods for Al-Qaeda members. The heavily redacted memo advises that certain interrogation procedures would not be considered torture—as defined and prohibited by US Code—on the basis that the procedures "would not have the specific intent to inflict severe physical pain or suffering" nor "to cause severe mental pain or suffering." Released to the public by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

- Original document
- Full report



'PEOPLE KILL PEOPLE'

2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP, 6 \times 16 $^{3\!4}_{4}$ \times $^{3\!8}_{8}$ in



CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP, 3 $\frac{1}{4} \times 17$ % × % in





INSURGENCY



ONLY THE ILLUSION' 2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP, 5 × 24 × 3/4 in

QANON PLAQUES

These works are a selection of 2017–20 posts by Q, anonymous leader of the far-right political conspiracy and movement QAnon, who claimed to be a high-level government official with access to classified information in Donald Trump's administration. Beginning in 2017, Q shared messages with followers via online imageboards 4chan and 8chan/8kun that described a deep state run by elite Satanic sex traffickers of children. QAnon adherents believed Trump was fighting the pedophilic cabal and spread misinformation to influence voters in favor of Trump's 2020 reelection bid.

Trump amplified QAnon messaging via social media. By 2019, the FBI had classified QAnon as a domestic terrorist threat, citing a rise in violent incidents motivated by its beliefs. Q's posts reference government corruption, media brainwashing, and a coming revolution in a poetic style interpreted by followers as encrypted code.

Contextual literature on QAnon: • <u>The Atlantic: The Prophecies of Q</u>



THAT BITCH

2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP 8 $\frac{1}{16} \times 24 \times \ \frac{3}{16}$ in

'that bitch' is drawn from a batch of 2018–19 WhatsApp correspondence between Lev Parnas and associates such as Rudy Giuliani and Robert F. Hyde, submitted to the US House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence as evidence in the 2019 Donald Trump impeachment inquiry, during which Trump was investigated for soliciting foreign interference leading up to the 2020 US presidential election. Parnas operated as Giuliani's fixer in Ukraine, attempting to arrange meetings between Giuliani and Ukraine's then-President-elect Volodymyr Zelenskyy and seeking information that would damage Joe Biden's presidential bid. The WhatsApp messages reveal abuses, including surveillance of Marie Yovanovitch, the US Ambassador to Ukraine later ousted by Trump (as shown in that bitch); messages between Parnas and Hyde, who was once a Republican candidate for congress from Connecticut, that detail their monitoring of Yovanovitch's movements in Kyiv and tracking of her phone and computer activity. Parnas also communicated with senior

Ukrainian officials to spread allegations about Joe Biden and about the 2016 US presidential election while promoting a disinformation campaign against Yovanovitch. The correspondence represents Trump's circles of influence. In 2019, Hyde was taken into custody at Trump National Doral Miami after expressing fear for his life and, in 2021, Parnas was found guilty of campaign finance criminal charges, which included funneling Russian money into the 2018 US midterm elections and a Trump super PAC.

General context on the batch of Trump impeachment evidence:

- <u>Slate: Did Trump Goons Stalk Ambassador</u> <u>Marie Yovanovitch?</u>
- <u>Vox: The Stunning New Texts, Documents,</u> and Impeachment Evidence Released by the <u>House, Explained</u>

Ioveshock 3 points 1 hour ago +7 / --Cops don't have "standing" if they are laying on the ground in a pool of their own blood.

A POOL

2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP, 2 \times 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ \times $\frac{1}{4}$ in

'a pool' is a December 19, 2020, post by user "loveshock" on TheDonald.win, a pro-Donald Trump online domain that originated from Reddit message board /r/The_Donald in 2019. During the 2016 US presidential election, Trump and Brad Parscale, Trump's digital media director, actively engaged with the Reddit community, which began in 2015 and became a forum for neo-Nazis. Users migrated to the dedicated TheDonald.win website in 2019 after Reddit quarantined and ultimately banned the community for violent content, which included recruitment of participants for the 2017 Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. This message references anticipated violence against Capitol police; it was posted on a thread responding to Trump's announcement of a "Stop the Steal" rally in Washington, DC, on January 6, 2021, along with comments discussing and coordinating logistics for what would become an attack on the US Capitol building. The post was included as evidence by the US House Select Committee, which investigated the January 6 attack.



HE SUCKED

2022, Milled bronze plaque with patina, Ed. $^{1\!}/_{3}$ + 1 AP, 1 $^{1\!}/_{2}$ × 23 × $^{3\!}/_{8}$ in

'(he sucked!)' is a June 10, 2022, post by Donald Trump on Truth Social in which Trump discredits testimony given by his daughter Ivanka Trump to US House of Representatives investigators—testimony stating she accepted Attorney General William Barr's assessment that there was no significant fraud in the 2020 US presidential election. Following the attack on the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter suspended Donald Trump's accounts, citing content policies prohibiting incitement of violence. The ban inhibited Trump's ability to engage with the millions who followed his frequent posts. Truth Social launched in 2022, in defiance of what Trump characterized as censorship by Big Tech companies. It was marketed as a "big tent" platform without ideological discrimination. Trump has used the platform to post commentary on the US House Select Committee's investigation of the Capitol attack, to spread misinformation about the 2020 US presidential election, and to criticize Democratic officials.

A video of the plaque's making is available on <u>Jenny Holzer</u> <u>Studio Instagram account.</u>



COPY

2023, 24k gold, moon gold and red gold leaf and oil on linen, 102 $^{1\!/}_{4}$ × 79 × 1 $^{1\!/}_{2}$ in

2002–2005 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) documents pertaining to the USA PATRIOT Act (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act), drafted before portions of the law were set to expire in 2005. The USA PATRIOT Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2001 as a response to the September 11 attacks; its intent was to deter and punish terrorism by expanding law enforcement surveillance abilities, improving interagency counterterrorism communications, and increasing penalties for terrorist crimes, among other provisions. This page is from a heavily redacted communication from the Office of General Counsel concluding that an undisclosed matter must be reported to the FBI Office of Professional Responsibility and the Intelligence Oversight Board.

- Original document
- Full report



WORKING COPY

2002–2005 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) documents pertaining to the USA PATRIOT Act (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act), drafted before portions of the law were set to expire in 2005. The USA PATRIOT Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2001 as a response to the September 11 attacks; its intent was to deter and punish terrorism by expanding law enforcement surveillance abilities, improving interagency counterterrorism communications, and increasing penalties for terrorist crimes, among other provisions. This page is from a heavily redacted communication notifying the Office of General Counsel of potential Intelligence Oversight Board violations during federal investigations.

- Original document
- Full report



ACCESS HOLLYWOOD

2021, Caplain gold and moon gold leaf and oil on linen, 80 \times 62 \times 1 $^{1}\!\!\!\!/_{2}$ in

Page from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Report on the Investigation into Russian Interference in the 2016 Presidential Election, released to the public in redacted form by the US Department of Justice (DOJ) in April 2019. The report details the findings of Mueller's nearly two-year investigation and concludes that the Russian government interfered in the 2016 US presidential election in "sweeping and systemic fashion" through various cyber activities. The report establishes that the Russian government believed it would benefit from a Donald Trump victory and worked to secure that outcome, and identifies numerous links between Russia and the Trump campaign despite not establishing criminal conspiracy between them. This page is from a section on the October 2016 WikiLeaks release of emails stolen from Hillary Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta by the Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Federation (GRU).

- Original document
- <u>Full report</u>



SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Page from FBI records related to its Crossfire Hurricane investigation of Donald Trump and associates' collusion with Russian officials and Russian interference in the 2016 US presidential election. This fully redacted page references the FBI's 2017 application for a US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant to conduct surveillance on Carter Page, a petroleum industry consultant and foreign-policy advisor to Trump with connections to Russian operatives. The FBI based its surveillance request on the belief that Page had been collaborating and conspiring with, and had been the subject of targeted recruitment by, the Russian government. Released March 2023 via the FBI Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) vault.

- Original document
- Full report



ACTIVE THREAT

Page from "Exercise Eligible Receiver 97-1 Final Observation Report," US Joint Chiefs of Staff, December 1997, produced following the conclusion of Eligible Receiver 97, a classified 1997 US Department of Defense (DoD) exercise during which a series of mock cyber attacks, hostage seizures, and special operations raids were carried out to demonstrate potential threats to US national security posed by attacks in the cyber domain. The multi-agency exercise identified vulnerabilities in both government and private sector computer defense systems, demonstrating that civilian infrastructure networks could be compromised, DoD networks penetrated, and military command systems degraded using off-the-shelf technology, leading directly to the formation of US Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM). The heavily redacted Final Observation Report was released in 2021 via Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request by the National Security Archive at George Washington University.

- Original document
- Full report



SUBSCRIBER

Page from a set of FBI documents concerning its decadesspanning investigations of the Trump Organization, detailing corruption and power abuses within the organization's real estate operations. This redacted page is from a 1985 FBI memo noting contact information of Trump Organization associates obtained under Title III electronic surveillance authorization. Released March 2019 via the FBI Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) vault.

- Original document
- <u>Full report</u>



OF THE TARGET

Page from FBI records related to its Crossfire Hurricane investigation of Donald Trump and associates' collusion with Russian officials and Russian interference in the 2016 US presidential election. This fully redacted page references the FBI's 2017 application for a US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant to conduct surveillance on Carter Page, a petroleum industry consultant and foreign-policy advisor to Trump with connections to Russian operatives. The FBI based its surveillance request on the belief that Page had been collaborating and conspiring with, and had been the subject of targeted recruitment by, the Russian government. Released March 2023 via the FBI Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) vault.

- Original document
- Full report



ACCELERATED

2023, 24k gold, moon gold and red gold leaf and oil on linen, 102 $^{1\!/}_{4}\times$ 79 \times 1 $^{1\!/}_{2}$ in

Infographic from the final report of the US National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence (NSCAI), submitted to Congress and the executive branch in March 2021. The report analyzes the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) technology globally, presenting recommended strategies for the United States to harness AI tools and promote technological growth while addressing increased cyber vulnerabilities presented by AI's rapid advancement. This page is from a chapter titled "Emerging Threats in the AI Era," summarizing national security threats and societal impacts that could be targeted by adversarial users; it warns that nation-states and non-state actors could use AI-enabled applications to manipulate and control by way of biotechnology development, data harvesting, information operations, cyber attacks, and attacks on AI itself.

- Original document
- Full report



TACKLE HUMANITY'S BIGGEST CHALLENGES

2023, 24k gold, moon gold and red gold leaf and oil on linen, 102 $^{1\!/}_{4}\times$ 79 \times 1 $^{1\!/}_{2}$ in

Infographic from the final report of the US National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence (NSCAI), submitted to Congress and the executive branch in March 2021. The report analyzes the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) technology globally, presenting recommended strategies for the United States to harness AI tools and promote technological growth while addressing increased cyber vulnerabilities presented by AI's rapid advancement. This page is from a chapter titled "Accelerating AI Innovation," which asserts that the US government must eliminate total reliance on the private sector for AI innovation and urgently invest in research and development through national initiatives to promote diversity and competitiveness, and to democratize and expand access to AI resources.

- Original document
- Full report



READY FOR YOU

2023, Leaf and oil on linen, 80 \times 62 \times 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in

Handwritten note on a White House pocket card preserved by the National Archives and submitted to the US House of Representatives Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, released in the Committee's supporting investigation materials and cited in its final December 2022 report. The note—"THEY ARE READY FOR YOU WHEN YOU ARE"—was delivered to President Trump by an aide on January 6, 2021, before Trump departed to deliver a speech from the Ellipse in Washington, DC, during which he encouraged supporters to march on the Capitol as Congress certified the results of the 2020 presidential election.

- Original document
- Full report