

Wolfgang Flad  
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<http://www.wolfgangflad.de/>

Wolfgang Flad (b.1974)

At first glance, *The dark side of the moon* shows us a window to the spatial abyss. A glimpse of distant darkness that awaits us without being able to see it - The mysterious aspect of the hidden side of the moon - A secret revealed through this glimpse of the far side of this celestial object which is only accessible to initiates. The artist's work reflects this exclusive character.

Flad's craftsmanship allows his artworks to achieve a rocky texture, the details of which appear to be taken from an extremely precise geological photographic print. When observing the pictures, the sharpness of the details pushes the viewers to inspect the tinted windows, unable to escape their own reflection.

But what does the dark side of the moon conceal?

The will to discern the truth pushes people to confront their own image and thus to see the multiple details decorating their skin, the crevices, and the irregularities, offering a direct parallel with the hidden face of the moon's porous surface. The gaze is tested by the constant transformation of the nuances of the glass, depending on the spectators' position.

To all appearances, Flad's work offers a pleasant and clear vision of a rocky lunar surface. A paradox with the far side of the moon, which we can never really perceive. However, the artist's ingenuity finally allows us to distinguish his own interpretation of this simulacrum by reflecting his cosmological and spatial aesthetic through earthly materials.