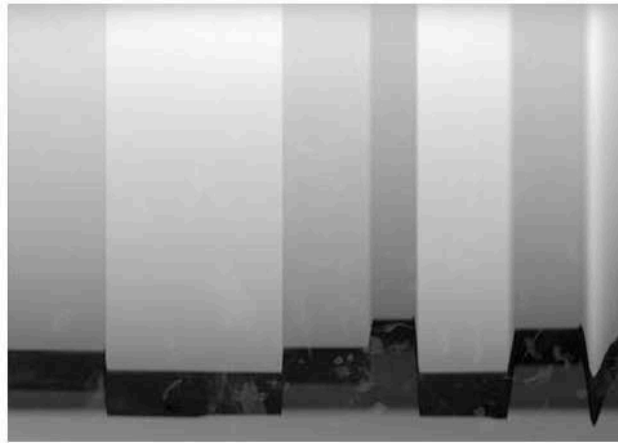


## RHIZOME

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### The Scanner at Saamlung

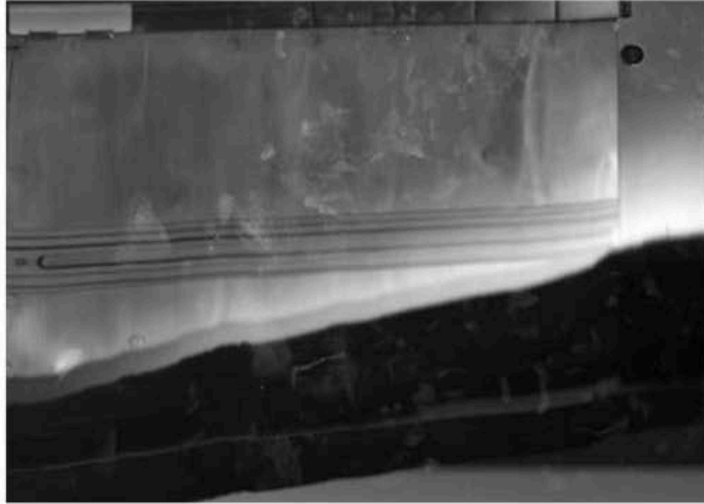
YIN HO | Tue Apr 3rd, 2012 9:29 a.m.



*Untitled (Jo-ey Tang, 2011-2012)*

*Rhizome asked Travess Smalley and Jo-ey Tang, two artists with digitally-based work in the upcoming group exhibition "The Untouchables" at Saamlung in Hong Kong, to answer the same question(s) via email.*

**Surface is a theme of this show: is there a particular way you connect the visual elements of your pieces to something non-visual? Considering each piece has a digital and physical aspect, would you expand on the relationship between the two forms? What do you consider your pieces to be made of (e.g., substance, bit, concept, etc.)?**



*Untitled (Jo-ey Tang, 2011-2012)*

**Jo-ey Tang:** Surface is where the work's limit resides. The subject/object of vision is always that surface that comes between you (the viewer) and I; it is that mental and physical thing that allows the constant movements and obstructions of subjectivity and objectivity.

It's contemporary consciousness that I engage in, not digital per se. Think of digits (fingers) in the digital, as both embedded and disembodied. Proof (the scanner plane), and its distance, enabled by the physical acts of moving the scanner lid towards and away from the machine.

The images are willing the impossibility of an empty image into existence. The trio of images (only two will be shown at the exhibition) are my only and last images with a flatbed scanner.