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Project Information: Supernatural (since 2000)
A project by Katja Stuke

In her work Katja Stuke deals with questions about media and the confrontation with media-images. In her series »Supernatural« she confronts gender in televised athletics by photographing her television screen during broadcasts of the Olympic Games with a focus on female gymnasts who are poised to execute routines on a world stage. By freezing the athletes at points of heightened anticipation and honing in on their facial expressions, the portraits capitalize on the charge of particular moments. At the same time, the pictures offer the opportunity for a studied examination of the athletes' faces, and bring attention to the hairstyles and makeup typically worn by female gymnasts. World-class women's gymnastics is notorious for the extreme pressures it places on children and young women to reach exceptional levels of physical ability and mental toughness. Stuke's photographs equate those pressures with still another layer of expectation on the female gymnast—the existing ideals of youthful feminine grace and beauty that dominate image culture. (MoCP Chicago)

2019 »Schwarzes Licht« Tina Miyake
2019 »Sequence as a Dialogue« Kunsthalle Gießen
2018 »Die Große« Museum Kunstpalast Düsseldorf
2018 »Questioning Photography Now, GCA Chongqing
2018 »The History of No Man« Cosmos Rencontres d'Arles
2017 »Supernatural« Raum 6, Düsseldorf
2016 »ConteS/Xting Sport« [G] nGbK Berlin
2013 »Spectator Sports« [G] Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago
2012 »Zeitgespenster« [G] Museum Morsbroich Leverkusen
2012 »Der Mensch und seine Objekte« [G] Folkwang Museum, Essen
2006 Art Cologne



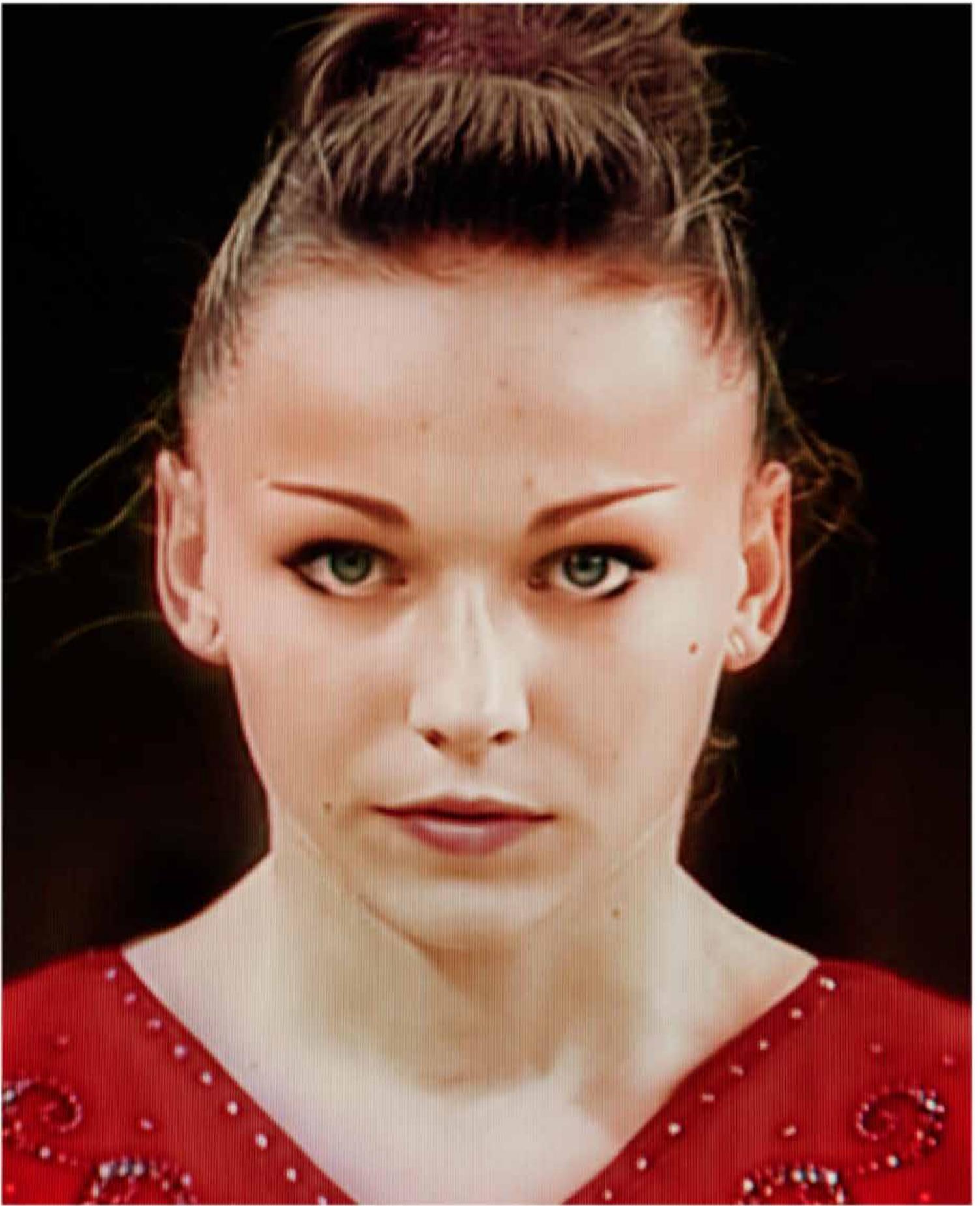


London, 2012

Supernatural, since 2000 Katja Stuke



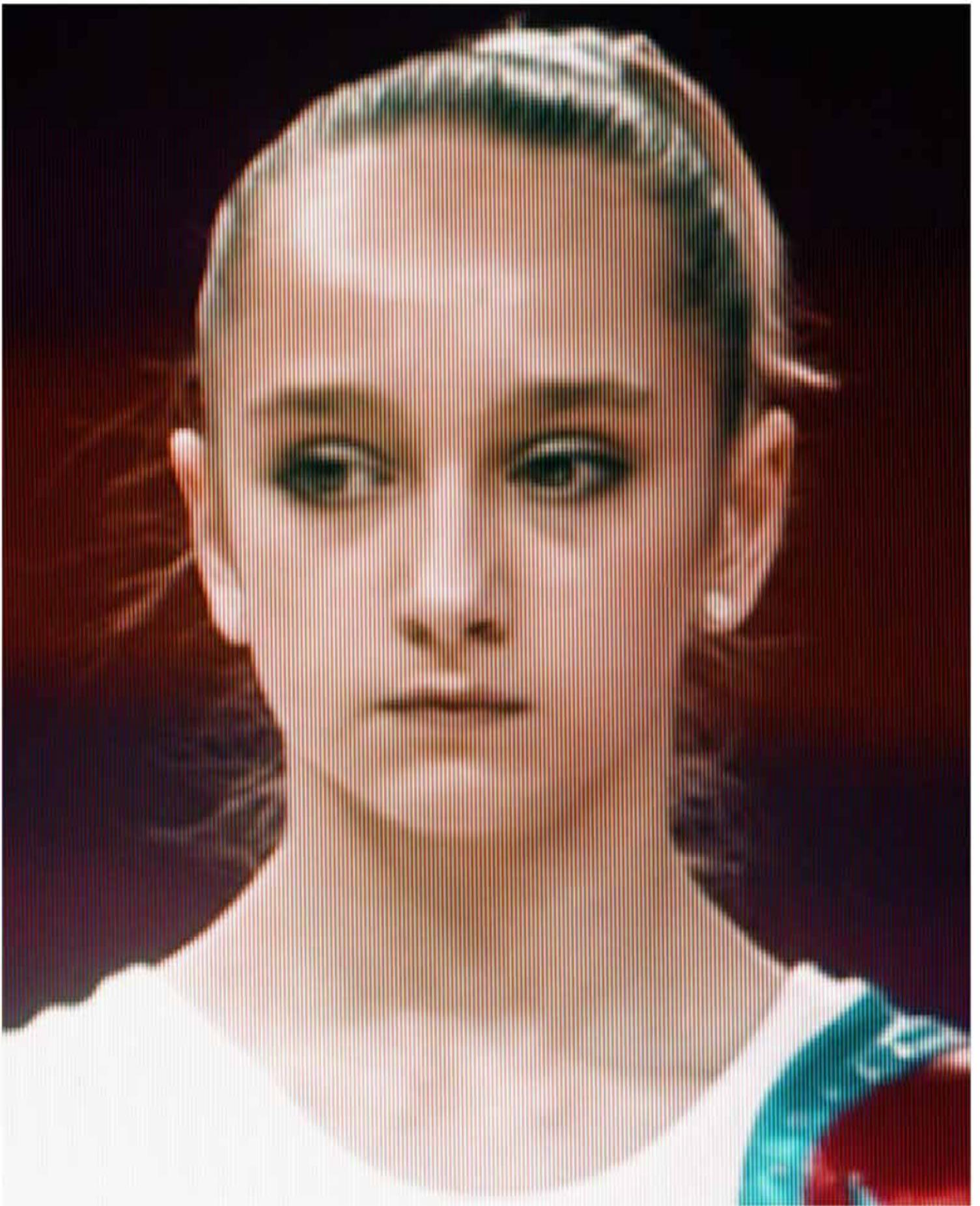
Rio, 2016



London 2012



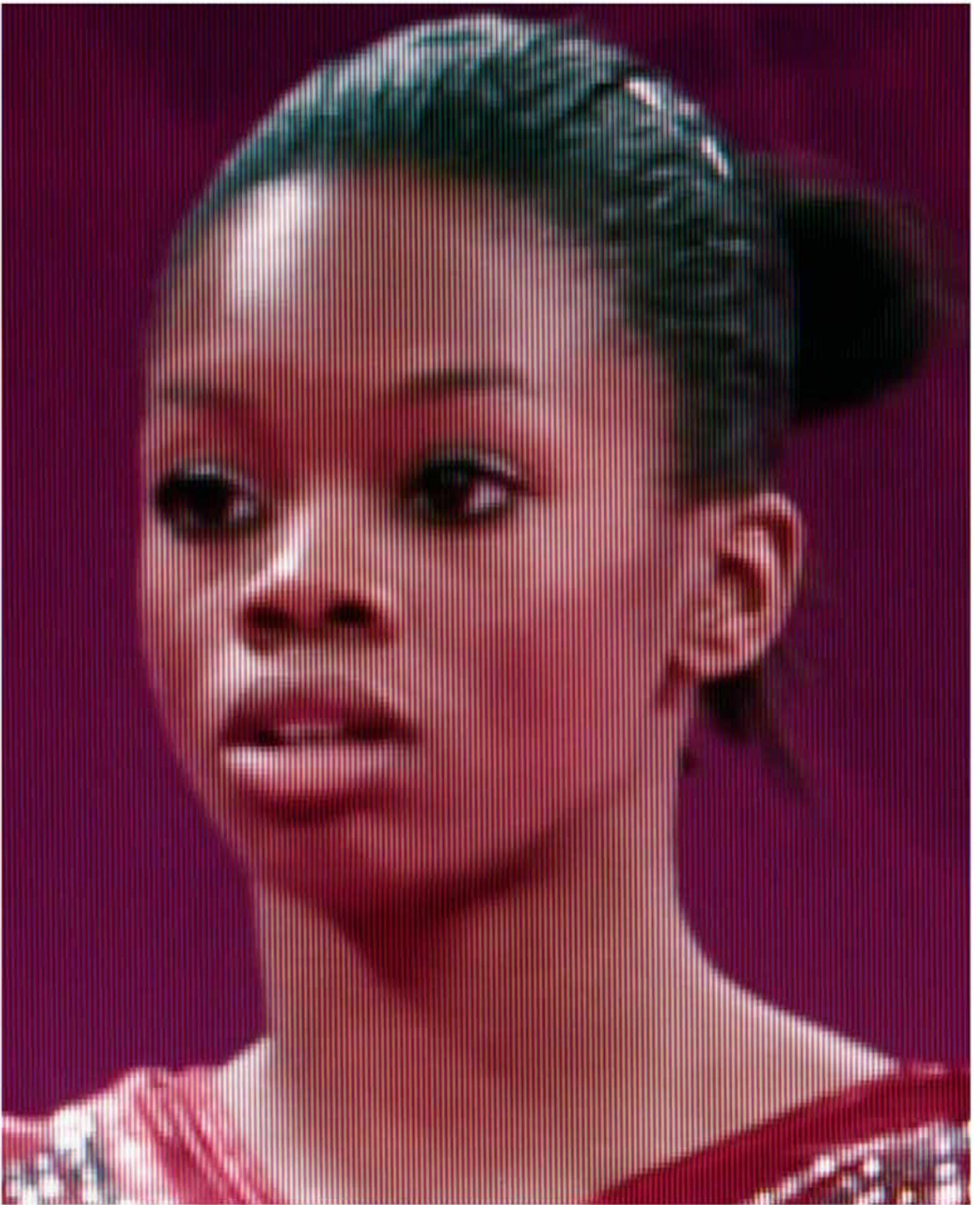
London 2012



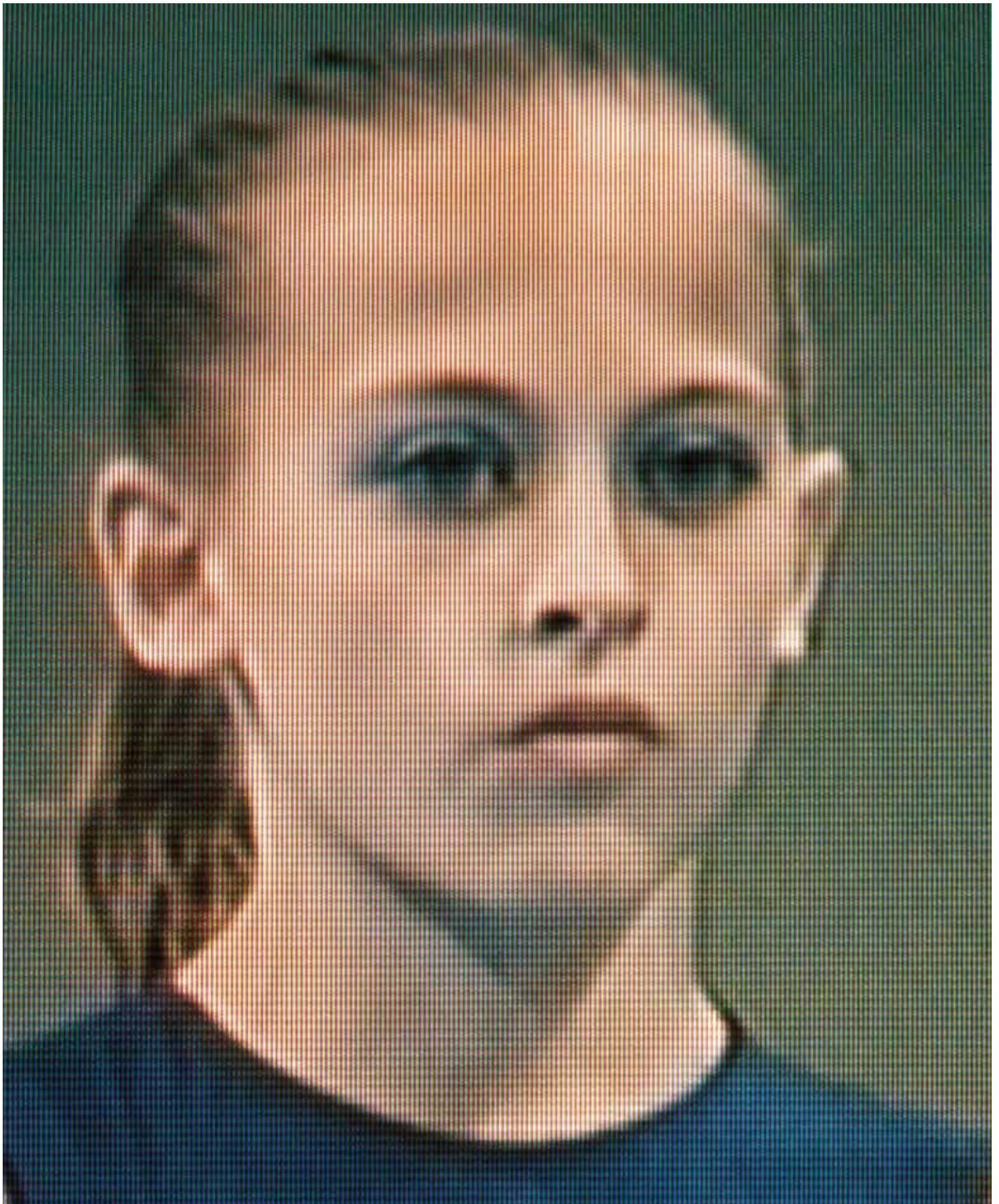
London 2012



London 2012



London 2012



Athens 2004



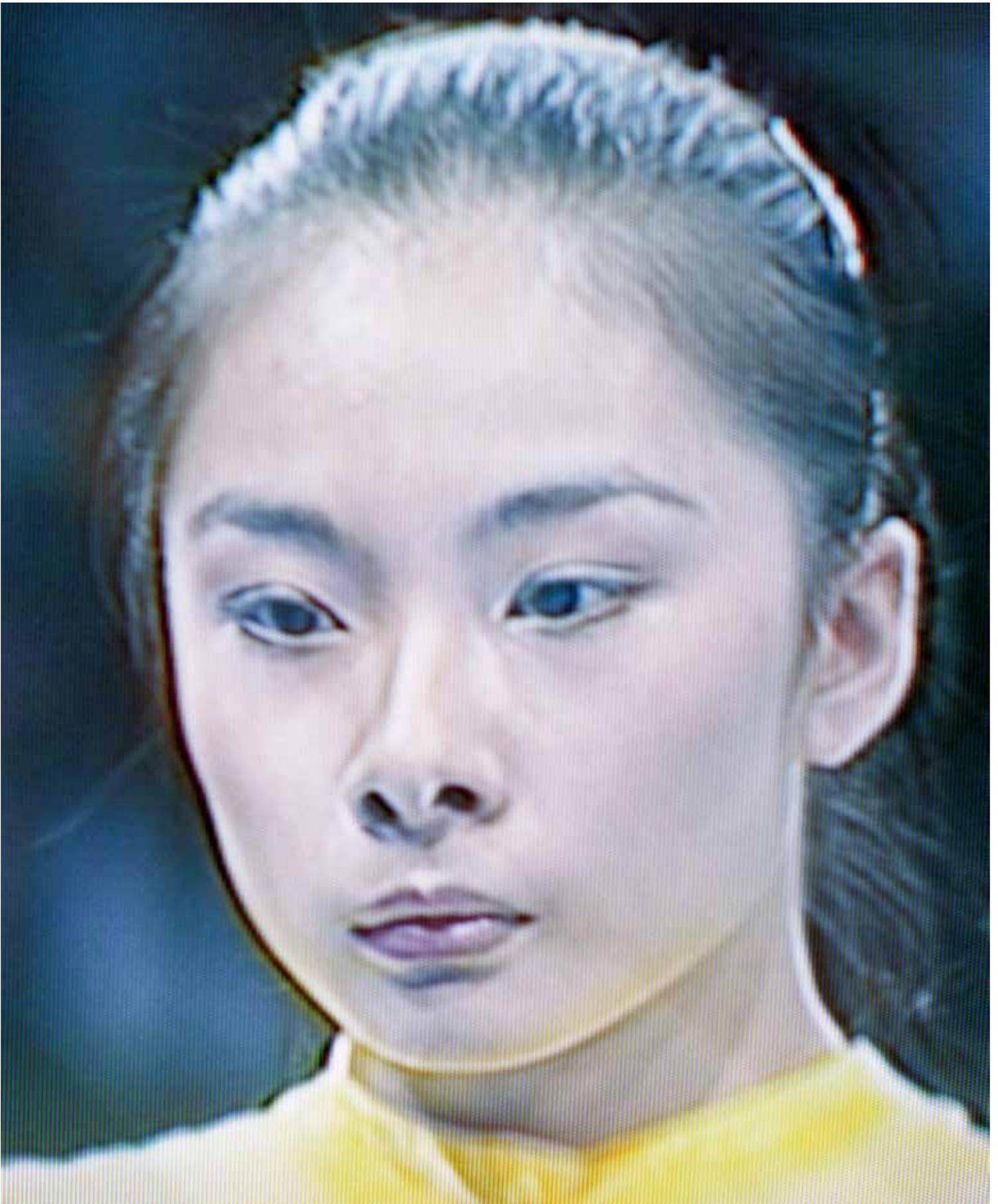
Athens 2004



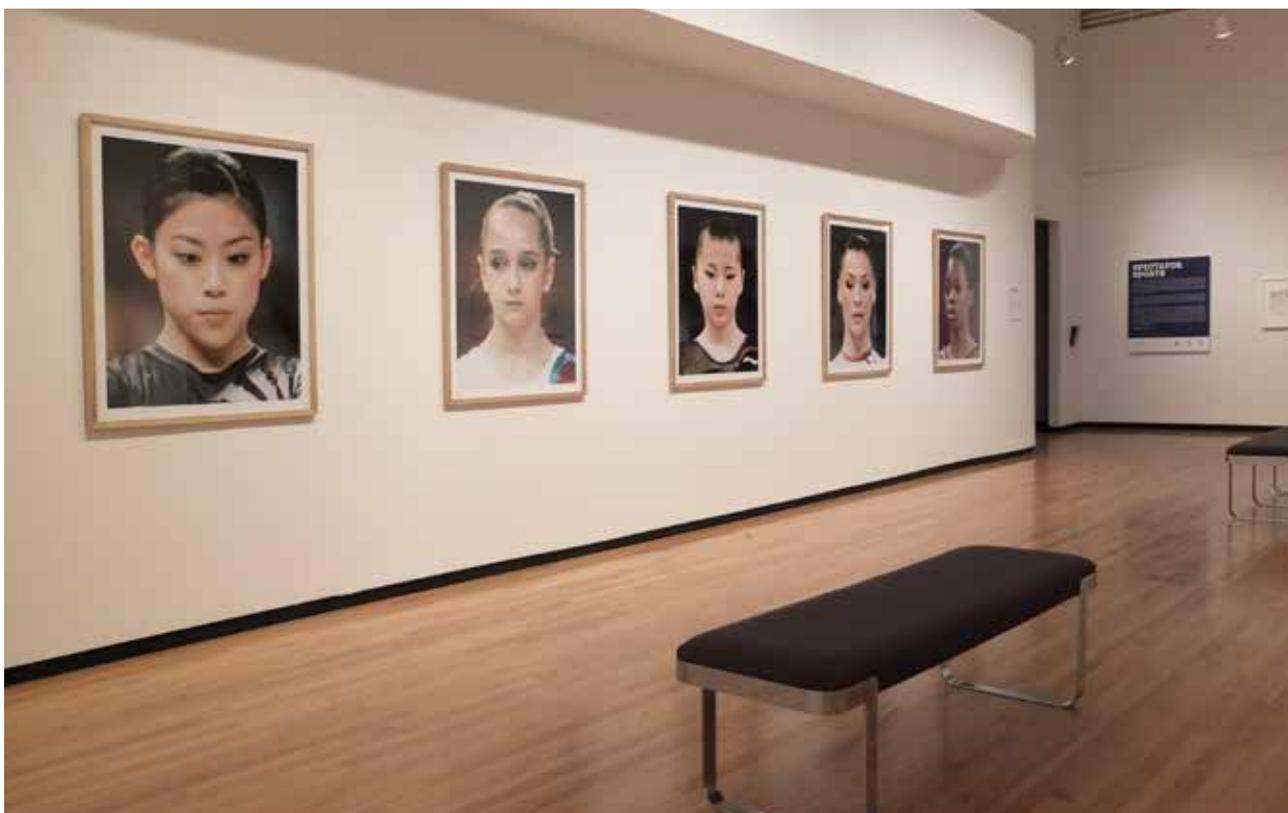
London 2012



Beijing 2008



Sydney 2000



»Spectator Sports«
Museum of Contemporary Photography Chicago, 2013
(all images: 86 x 106 cm, pigment prints, framed)



»Portraits«
SK-Stiftung Kultur, Photographic Collection Cologne, Art Cologne 2006



»Die Grosse« Museum Kunstpalast Düsseldorf 2018



»Sequence as a Dialogue, Katja Stuke & Oliver Sieber« Kunsthalle Gießen 2019



»ConteS/Xting Sport« nGbK Berlin 2016



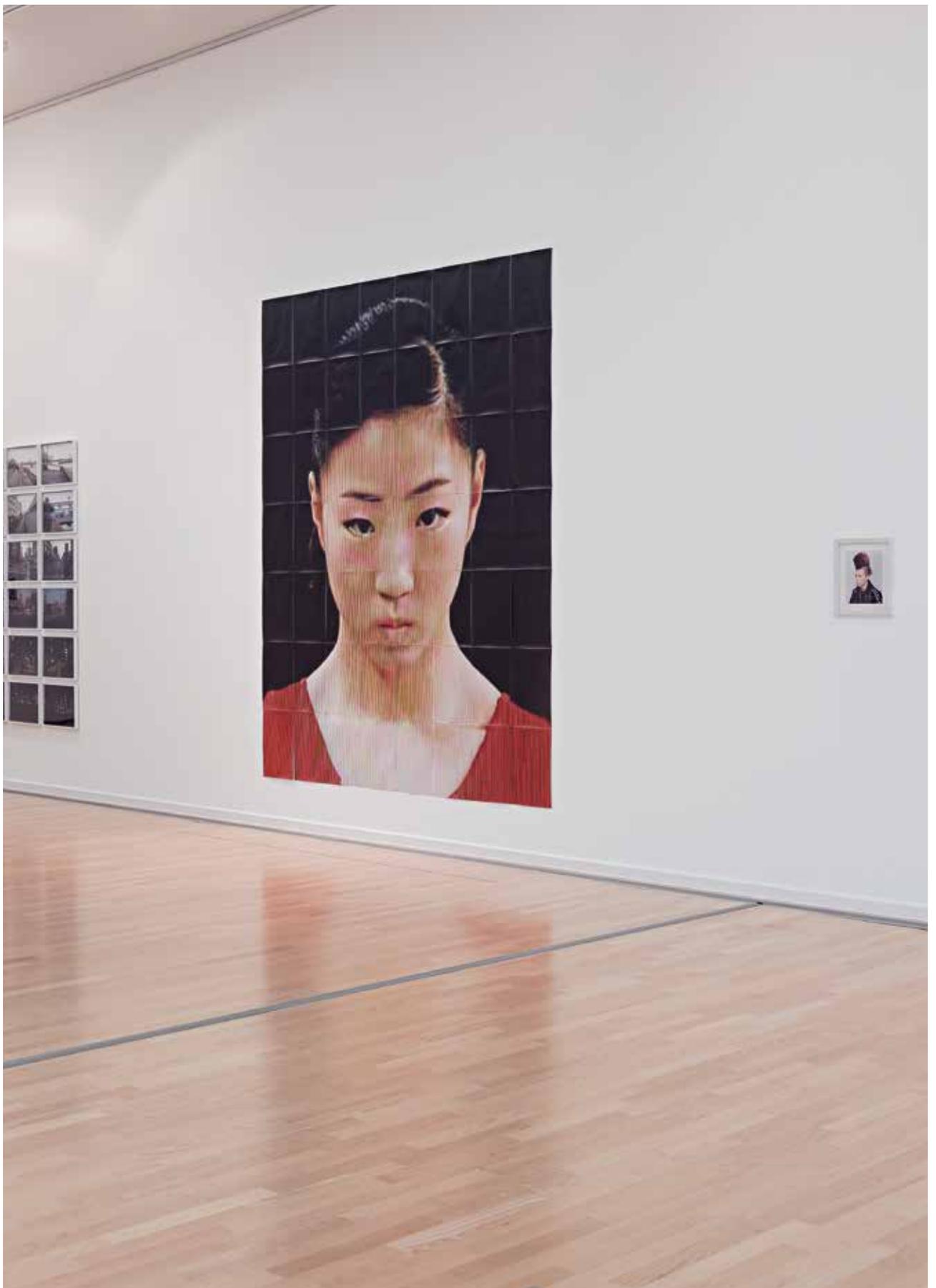
»Supernatural« Raum Sechs, Düsseldorf 2017



»Supernatural« GCA Chongqing 2018
(different form of presentation: ca. 240 x 300 cm, variable, 56 pigment prints each 30 x 40 cm)



»Supernatural« GCA Chongqing 2018



»Supernatural« as part of
»Sequence as a Dialogue« Kusnhalle Gießen

Katja Stuke *1968
lives and works in Düsseldorf

Katja Stuke studied photography in Düsseldorf. Besides her own artistic works she often collaborates with Oliver Sieber, with whom she also curated several exhibitions like the Festival »Internationale Photoszene« in Cologne in 2016 and ANTIFOTO in Düsseldorf since 2010. She was member of several juries like jury Paris Photo/Aperture Foundation »Book of the Year« or several photobook-festivals. With Oliver Sieber she was winner LUMA Rencontres Dummy Book Award 2016 for their project »You and Me«. She received several grants and residencies in Toronto, Rotterdam, Paris (Cité International des Beaux Artes), Osaka and Tokyo.

2019: The Blend Art Exchange, Osaka (with O. Sieber)
2018: residence Cité International des Arts Paris (with O. Sieber)
2018: lecturer Folkwang Universität Essen
2016: Curator [with Oliver Sieber] Festival »Internationale Photoszene« Cologne
2016: winner LUMA Rencontres Dummy Book Award 2016 (O. Sieber)
2016: member of jury Paris Photo / Aperture Foundation »Book of the Year«
2015: residence Cité International des Arts Paris (with O. Sieber)
2014: »You and Me« supported by Museum of Contemporary Photography Chicago, Goethe Institute Chicago, Goethe Institute Sarajevo (with O. Sieber)
2014: grant (Japan), governmental office (MFKJKS NRW)
2014: grant »Nationalfeiertag« by arts foundation »Kunststiftung NRW«
2013: residence Het Wilde Weten Rotterdam
2011: grant Ernst-Poensgen Stiftung (Japan)
2006: ArtEX, grant and residency Osaka
2006: grant and residency Goethe Institut Toronto

Exhibitions (selection):

- 2019 »Sequence as a Dialogue« Kunsthalle Gießen (with Oliver Sieber)
»Rocket to the Moon« [G] Parrotta Contemporary Cologne/Bonn
- 2018 »Questioning Photography Now, GCA Chongqing
»Fotografie neu ordnen« Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe Hamburg (with Oliver Sieber)
»Japanese Lesson« UNSEEN Coop, photography fair special booth (with Oliver Sieber)
»You and Me« Photomonth Krakow [G], with Oliver Sieber
- 2017 »You and Me« Cosmos Croisière, Festival Les Rencontres d'Arles
»Photobook Phenomenon« [G] CCCB Barcelona
- 2016 »ConteS/Xting Sport« [G] nGbK Berlin
»Mit anderen Augen« [G] Kunstmuseum Bonn / Kunsthalle Nürnberg
»Zoom Düsseldorf« [G] MHK Tirana
»You and Me« Kornelimünster, Aachen
»Jo volia ser fotògraf« [G] Fundació Foto Colectania Barcelona
»You and Me« Palazzo da Mosto, Reggio Emilia
- 2015 »You and Me« Museum for Contemporary Photography
»Under Surveillance« [G] Galerie für Fotografie Hannover
»Past is now« [G] Stadtmuseum München
»Fax from the Library« Temple Paris
- 2014 »(Mis)understanding Photography and Manifestos« [G] Folkwang Museum Essen
»Manifeste! Eine andere Geschichte der Fotografie« [G] Fotomuseum Winterthur
»Fax from the Library« Kunsthalle Bremen
- 2013 »Spectator Sports« [G] Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago
- 2012 »Zeitgespenster« [G] Museum Morsbroich Leverkusen
»Der Mensch und seine Objekte« [G] Folkwang Museum, Essen
»Eleven to Liverpool Street« Kunsthaus Essen
- 2011 »Flashmob« [G] Kunsthaus Essen
»Our House« Museum für Photographie, Braunschweig, curator: Florian Ebner
- 2010 »O.i.F.« Florence Loewy, Paris
- 2004 Pingyao Photo Festival
»Explaining Frau Böhm« Nachtfoyer Kunsthalle Düsseldorf