

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

Andréa Picard "TORONTO – Nightlife by Cyprien Gaillard at TIFF 2016,"  
*FranceCanadaCulture.org*, September, 2016



Image and artwork: Copyright Cyprien Gaillard. Courtesy of the artist and Sprüth Magers.

An immersive, psychedelic work whose sculptural properties are enhanced by 3D, *Nightlife* is the latest film from Berlin-based French contemporary artist Cyprien Gaillard, whose work in sculpture, film, and photography often focuses on architecture, evolution, and entropy. Plunging us into the nocturnal landscapes of three cities — Cleveland, Los Angeles, and Berlin — *Nightlife* unfolds like a dance/trance film devoid of people as it sets the swaying of lush trees to the rhythms of a dub soundtrack created from a nine-second sample of Alton Ellis' rocksteady classic "Black Man's Pride." Opening with a close-up of a vandalized replica of Rodin's *The Thinker*, which was partially blown up by the Weather Underground in Cleveland in 1970, and coming full circle in the same city on the sole remaining oak tree from the four planted in honour of Jesse Owens' triumph at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Gaillard's film creates a kind of

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

hallucinatory rebellion of urban botany, forging mysterious yet suggestive links of resistance and resolve across time and space. With hypnotic allure, *Nightlife* reconfigures two time-based mediums — music and film — into sculpture to create a palpable illusion of space.



Image and artwork: Copyright Cyprien Gaillard. Courtesy of the artist and Sprüth Magers.

***Nightlife* will be shown for free at TIFF Bell Lightbox on Friday, September 9. Time TBC.**  
Produced with the support of Cine Project.