

LISSON GALLERY

Press Release

Cory Arcangel

Totally Fucked

12 November – 19 December 2020
22 Cork Street, London

Totally Fucked (2003) is the focus of Lisson Gallery's second show at 22 Cork Street. This historic work by Cory Arcangel is an infinite loop where the famed figure, Super Mario, is stuck on a block in a sea of blue pixels. This rarely-seen artwork is a video generated by a Nintendo Entertainment System playing a Super Mario Bros. cartridge which has been hacked by Arcangel.

Viewable from the street (and open physically from 2 December), as well as downloadable as a ROM file from the artist's website & Github account, *Totally Fucked* is a commentary on our obsession with technology and the absurdity of our expectation of it to enhance our lives. Like many of Arcangel's works, the game is modified so that the character is destined to fail – the resulting animation emits a sense of persistent, infinite frustration, representing our universal experience of dealing with modern technology, as well as being a fitting, wry expression of this past year.

From 12 November to 1 December, Arcangel's *Totally Fucked* will be presented concurrently on Lisson Gallery's website as a .NES ROM - a virtual copy of the physical cartridge - running live in the browser via the javascript Nintendo emulator JSNES.

Further information on *Totally Fucked* is available via coryarcangel.com.

About Lisson Gallery

Lisson Gallery is one of the most influential and longest-running international contemporary art galleries in the world. Established in 1967 by Nicholas Logsdail, it pioneered the early careers of important Minimal and Conceptual artists, such as Art & Language, Carl Andre, Daniel Buren, Donald Judd, John Latham, Sol LeWitt, Richard Long and Robert Ryman among many others. In its second decade the gallery introduced significant British artists, including Tony Cragg, Richard Deacon, Anish Kapoor, Shirazeh Houshiary and Julian Opie. It is also responsible for raising the international profile of a number of prominent Asian artists such as Liu Xiaodong, Lee Ufan, Rashid Rana, Ai Weiwei, and Tatsuo Miyajima, as well as a younger generation of artists led by Cory Arcangel, Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg, Ryan Gander and Haroon Mirza. Today Lisson Gallery supports and develops more than 60 international artists across two exhibition spaces in London and two in New York.

For press enquiries, please contact

Victoria Mitchell, Senior Media & Communications Manager
+44 (0)207 724 2739, victoria@lissongallery.com
i: [@lisson_gallery](https://www.instagram.com/lisson_gallery)
t: [@Lisson_Gallery](https://www.twitter.com/Lisson_Gallery)
fb: [LissonGallery](https://www.facebook.com/LissonGallery)
www.lissongallery.com

LONDON | NEW YORK | SHANGHAI

27 Bell Street, London NW1 5BY | 67 Lisson Street, London NW1 5DA | +44 (0)20 7724 2739



Cory Arcangel
Totally Fucked, 2003
Handmade hacked Super Mario Bros. cartridge, Nintendo NES video game system, artist software
Dimensions variable
ARCA030001-2

[Please click on the link to view the exhibition](#)

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Message from Cory Arcangel:

Hello Internet~~~~~

I'm happy 2 announce, that on the occasion of *Totally Fucked*, 2003, showing at Lisson Gallery (22 Cort Street) - in the window! - I have after 17 years, FINALLY uploaded the ROM 2 the net. For those new to this work, this is a modified Super Mario Bros cart which shows Mario stuck on a cube, fidgeting from side to side - forever! What took me so long? Well,...I lost the source code, ROM, and nearly everything associated with the final version of the project shortly after making it in 2003. In my defence, I just wasn't very organised in those days - I was 25 Anyway, sometime many years later, I found one physical copy of the actual finished version. In 2013 - as I was long out of the 6502 game - I gave this chip 2 Todd Bailey / Andrew Reitano of Narrat I've who sucked the data off of the ROM, and glued together the .NES emulator file (which you can download below), and a few physical copies - one of which is at Lisson. Thx again guys! So without further ado:

[Totally Fucked .NES ROM](#) (I suggest using Open EMU to view this file)

[Totally Fucked .Git archive](#)

Thx all 4 being patient w me!

