

ARTFORUM

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8 NICOLAS CECCALDI (LE CONSORTIUM, DIJON; CURATED BY STÉPHANIE MOISDON)

Knowing the artist's paintings are usually made under the influence of dark metal and goth aesthetics, Ceccaldi's show's title, "Ode to Joy," sounded perfectly ironic. Invited to sit alone with headphones in the middle of a large room, visitors could hear a soundtrack reinterpreting themes by Beethoven, Pergolesi, or Graveworm while viewing the twenty-four works aligned on the walls. Satanic inverted crosses, *V for Vendetta* masks, and avant-gardesque gestural representations at times gave way to authentic snail shells, a vivid Burgundian specialty, all encircled in kitschy baroque frames. The faiths of the Western world—in terms of religion, politics, and culture—were brilliantly delivered, backward and upside down.

On view through January 7, 2018.



Nicolas Ceccaldi, *Euphoria Noctis*, 2017, snail shells and acrylic on canvas, plastic frame, 23 5/8 × 15 3/4 × 4 3/4".