

REGEN PROJECTS

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Los Angeles Times

Dispatch from the field



Installation view of Gillian Wearing's "Wearing Gillian," 2018, HD film for projection with sound. (Christopher Knight / Los Angeles Times)

*Times art critic **Christopher Knight** submitted a mini-dispatch after a recent visit to Regen Projects.*

Concerned about AI? You should be. Identity is fundamental to human experience, and slipping in knowledge fabricated by machines or software explodes assumptions, compounding the confusion around it. At Regen Projects, British artist Gillian Wearing's five-minute HD film projection is a welcome corrective. It's from 2018, the year human intellect rated by a Stanford reading and comprehension test was beaten by Chinese language-processing technology made by Alibaba. For "Wearing Gillian," the artist hired, costumed and directed more than two dozen actors of various ethnicities, ages and genders to portray her. The quick-cut mix makes your head spin, but the effect is reassuring: Whatever promises AI might make, Wearing's art insists that identity is never an answer but always a question. She keeps the inquiry alive.