Virtual Spaces
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In a recent series of prints, tentatively titled *Virtual Spaces*, I have appropriated digital video stills from gay male pornography and silk screened over the figures. The shapes playfully reference the pixel, the simple building block of digital color representation, and use selective colors from the background imagery to blend figure with space.

The men become static. Their frozen positions stand as fixtures of the space in which they find themselves. They become simply another pixel among others that compile each image. Transforming the mundane into queer, the people in my images walk the line between subject and object.

While these two bit designs mask the figures, they also serve to call attention to the relationships between these men, highlighting tension and desire. Sexuality and the digital age inform these images that divide environment and figure.

I am interested in the male figure as a source of scripted desire and concealed shame. To download or send a digital image, it must be transcribed into binary, and re-formed upon each viewing. This code precedes the image; it limits it; it determines it. Like digital technology, queer desire must travel down previously prescribed paths. It must find a way to fit into spaces that were not designed for it. And yet, the most subtle gaze or action (or pixel) can alter the entire frame.