

# MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY

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## PRESS RELEASE

**Thomas Demand**

January 24 – April 4, 2015

Opening: Saturday, January 24, 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Matthew Marks is pleased to announce an exhibition of new photographs by **Thomas Demand** in his galleries at 1062 North Orange Grove and 7818 Santa Monica Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Demand is best known for his photographs of full-scale paper and cardboard reconstructions based on images taken from the news media or from sights that capture his attention. For this exhibition he has produced several large-scale photographs, all shown here for the first time.

*Backyard* depicts the home of Boston Marathon bomber Tamerlan Tsarnaev as it appeared in a news photo. Demand has left out Tsarnaev's wife, choosing to depict only the small litter-strewn yard and the concrete walkway leading to her vinyl-sided house. In the background, a cherry tree in full bloom interrupts the otherwise mundane setting. In the related *Bloom*, a thirteen-foot-long photograph of cherry blossoms, Demand focuses on the background of the previous image, further complicating the relationship between the depicted image and its source.

Inspired by recent news events, *Patio* shows the nondescript balcony of fugitive Whitey Bulger's hideout in Santa Monica, furnished with a few potted plants and a white plastic chair. Another work, *Sidegate*, depicts an entrance to the Cerritos, California, home of the incendiary filmmaker Nakoula Basseley Nakoula. Instead of working from found images, Demand based both of these photographs entirely on his own site-based research.

For another work, *Atelier*, Demand has reconstructed a portion of Henri Matisse's studio at the Hotel Régina in Nice, where the late artist made his famous cut-outs. The artist himself is absent, although the scraps of colored paper strewn on the floor indicate his recent activity.

Also included in this exhibition is a new series of photographs of architectural models at the firm SANAA. These works expand on Demand's *Model Studies* series, begun in 2011, which presents details of architect John Lautner's models. Unlike the meticulous paper constructions Demand creates in his own studio, the SANAA photographs reveal the architects' crumpled paper and tape creations, further abstracted by the tight angle of Demand's camera.

Thomas Demand has had one-person exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art in New York (2005), the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin (2009), and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo (2012). He represented Germany at the 2004 São Paulo Biennial. He curated the critically acclaimed exhibition *La Carte d'Après Nature*, which premiered at the National Museum of Monaco and traveled to Matthew Marks Gallery in 2011. His one-person exhibition *Pacific Sun* is currently on view at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art through April 12.

**Thomas Demand** will be on view at 1062 North Orange Grove and 7818 Santa Monica Boulevard from January 24 to April 4, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

For additional information, please contact Jacqueline Tran at (212) 243-0200 or [jacqueline@matthewmarks.com](mailto:jacqueline@matthewmarks.com).