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## PRESS RELEASE

exhibition: Jan Dibbets: *Representations of Reality*  
dates: 5 January - 18 February 2017

Peter Freeman, Inc. is pleased to present *Jan Dibbets: Representations of Reality*, the artist's second solo exhibition with the gallery in New York, featuring recent works from his important *Colorstudies* series (ongoing since 1976), many of which have never before been shown outside of Europe.

The Amsterdam-based artist—a pioneering figure of conceptual art since the 1960s—was among the first artists to challenge the camera as a documentary tool. He continues to navigate a relationship between the conceptual and the pictorial through that medium, creating images that are abstractions of reality.

The recent *Colorstudies* (made between 2010 and 2014) come from negatives shot in the 1970s of closely-cropped details of car hoods, but have now been printed on a very large scale that was not achievable at the time the negatives were taken. Dibbets left the found industrial color of the cars, reproduced with the equally industrial color of film chemistry, unaltered when he made the first prints in the 70s; but in this new series he has often manipulated the color, creating almost painterly monochrome works that underscore the questions of representation and reality that are at the core of Dibbets's work.

As art historian Erik Verhagen discusses in a new text about this series, Dibbets has always investigated a transition between two realities: that of the photographed subject to that of its representation, or its photographic reality. In their articulation of that, the *Colorstudies* hold a particularly important place in Dibbets's oeuvre: through them the artist has succeeded in depicting color in the literal world, without referencing an immediately apparent subject.

Jan Dibbets was born in 1941 in Weert, Netherlands; he lives and works in Amsterdam. Early in his career Dibbets was included in some of the most seminal exhibitions of conceptual art, including *When Attitudes Become Form* (Kunsthalle Bern, Bern; Museum Haus Lange, Krefeld; and Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, curated by Harald Szeeman, 1969); *557, 087* (Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, and Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, curated by Lucy Lippard, 1969), and *Earth Art* (Andrew Dickinson White Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, curated by Willoughby Sharp, 1969). In 1972 he represented The Netherlands in the Venice Biennale. Since then he has been honored with solo exhibitions at many major international museums including the Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris (1976), Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (1980), Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (1982, 1986, and 2016), Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh (1986), Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (1987), Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (1987), and Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit (1987), among many others. Important recent solo exhibitions include: *Horizons* (Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, 2010; exhibition travelled), *3 x Jan Dibbets* (Cultuurcentrum Mechelen, Belgium, 2011), and *Jan Dibbets: Another Photography* (Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, 2014). In 2016, Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, presented an exhibition curated by Dibbets: *A History of Another Photography: PANDORA'S BOX*.

A reception for the artist will be held Thursday 5 January from 6 to 8 pm.

For reproduction requests, interviews with the artist and general inquiries, please contact the gallery at 212-966-5154 or [info@peterfreemaninc.com](mailto:info@peterfreemaninc.com).