

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LUX: The Radiant Sea

July 14 – August 19, 2016

Opening reception: Thursday, July 14, 6-8pm

Summer hours: Monday – Friday, 10-6pm



Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to present *LUX: The Radiant Sea*, a group exhibition that investigates the role of light as the central subject of the photographic image. The third in a series of group exhibitions exploring ideas of self-reflexivity in photography, *Lux* follows two earlier shows, *The Thing Itself* and *A Room of One's Own*. The exhibition includes the work of Olivo Barbieri, Mary Ellen Bartley, Christopher Bucklow, Linda Connor, Tim Davis, Mitch Epstein, Roe Ethridge, Lee Friedlander, Bryan Graf, Jitka Hanzlová, CJ Heyliger, Kenneth Josephson, Rinko Kawauchi, Laura Letinsky, Ray Metzker, Orit Raff, Mark Steinmetz, Yosuka Takeda, Wolfgang Tillmans and James Welling.

Occupying a space between matter and energy, light may be thought of as both material and phenomenon. Essential both to sight and to the medium of photography, it has often served as the preoccupation of artists who comment on its various forms in both subtle and direct ways, examining its scientific properties along with its potential for metaphor. Light bears the dual nature of being both a particle and wave. In their images, Roe Ethridge, James Welling, Yosuke Takeda and Rinko Kawauchi examine the relationship of the color spectrum to the refraction of light waves passing through the camera's lens. While most visible light derives from the sun, the star itself is too brilliant to photograph directly. C.J. Heyliger and Matthew Jensen have sought to capture its image obliquely by photographing its reflection while Tokohiro Sato intermittently flashes a handheld mirror at the sun as he moves slowly through the landscape, creating a path of light that reveals his presence but not his image. Linda Connor created a view of a solar eclipse by printing a 19th century glass plate from the Lick Observatory onto "printing out" paper which is developed in direct sunlight rather than a darkroom, thus using the energy of the sun to make visible its own portrait. Christopher Bucklow's camera-less photograms utilize thousands of pinhole photographs of the sun to form a radiant portrait of a human subject.

Turning from the sun to its nocturnal counterpart, Olivo Barbieri, Bryan Graf and Jitka Hanzlová contemplate the moon as an alternate, and more mysterious, form of illumination. Lee Friedlander, Kenneth Josephson and Lynn Saville have photographed the light bulb as the meta of light while Tim Davis conflates a neon sign in the shape of a light bulb with the reflection of a sunset in a storefront window. Mitch Epstein's epic study of cumulus clouds suggests the transcendental nature of light while Mark Steinmetz portrays an adolescent girl standing transfixed in a shaft of light, as if anointed by the divine, her handheld camera pregnant with possibilities.

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