



Crown Point Press

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DARREN ALMOND: The Light of Time September 12 – November 30, 2018

Crown Point Press announces *The Light of Time*, an exhibition featuring etchings by British artist Darren Almond. Also on view are prints by John Cage, Sherrie Levine, Tom Marioni and Steve Reich, artists invited by Almond to "join the conversation."

In 2018 Darren Almond, in his second residency at Crown Point Press, has created a photogravure portfolio titled *Amalfi Sketchbook*, and two sets of dramatic color aquatints. One set, *Refractive Index*, shows bright spheres against deep black fields, and the other, titled *Foci*, contains four images each showing a colorful streak against dense black. In the exhibition, the new work is joined by etchings Almond made in 2010 at Crown Point: a portfolio of black and white photogravures titled *Civil Dawn* and four photogravures in color titled *Full Moon*.

A new video showing Darren Almond working in the Crown Point studio this past spring accompanies the exhibition, which extends until the end of November. At that time, the artist plans to travel to San Francisco to be present for a closing reception.

Almond works in a variety of media (film, installation, sculpture and painting), but his themes remain the same: the exploration of the passage of time and the perception of memory. In the late 1990s he became widely known for his *Full Moon* series which is rich in lyrical atmosphere, with strong light and deep shadows.

In 2014 Almond traveled to the Amalfi coast. He recalls the experience: "After an encounter with the work of the German romantic painter Carl Blechen . . ., I was drawn to Blechen's approach to the depiction of light and how he was able to render the intensity of the Mediterranean sunlight. He applied a darkened tone to the otherwise bright sky of his sketches, and this enabled him to leave the raw untouched paper in thin slivers of backlight around his subjects."

Amalfi Sketchbook, Almond's new portfolio, contains four delicate photogravures of scenes that might have been noted in the 1830s by Blechen. Almond created a filter for his camera by placing a black glass between the film and the lens in order to "depict this landscape of light through the directness of the sun."

Foci and *Refractive Index*, the second and third groups of Darren Almond's new etchings, were inspired by Lucretius, a Roman poet and philosopher from the first century BC. Lucretius argued that collisions between atoms are necessary for the existence of nature. Such collisions are generated by a small force, called a "swerve." Scientists have recently pointed out that the "swerve" Lucretius described is what is now known as a gravitational wave. The "light of time" expression that Almond chose for the title of this exhibition, he explains, "is a measure of perception." We are questioning "why we have chosen to measure with light, and how we have scaled ourselves within a universal time frame."

Darren Almond was born in Wigan, England in 1971. He received his BFA in 1993 from the Winchester School of Art, Winchester, England. Almond received the Artist Innovation Prize from the Institute of Contemporary Art, London in 1996. His work was included in the famous 1997 exhibition, *Sensation: Young British Artists* from the Saatchi Collection, Royal Academy of Arts. Since that time, he has been the subject of numerous international exhibitions including Herzilya Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel; Kunsthalle, Zurich; Art Tower Mito, Japan; Tate Britain, London and most recently at Casa Della Fotografia, Naples and Galerie Xippos, Geneva. He is represented by Matthew Marks, Los Angeles and New York, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, and White Cube, London. He lives and works in London.