



PRESS RELEASE / FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICHAEL FLOMEN: Wild Nights
Exhibition until August 29th, 2014.

Boîte Noire Gallery
Pacific Design Center, 8687 Melrose Avenue, Space B222, West Hollywood, CA 90069

Boîte Noire Gallery is pleased to present the solo exhibition of Michael Flomen's photography. A pioneer in his field, Flomen makes some of the largest photograms in the world today. These large scale photographs will be presented for the first time in Los Angeles during the gallery's inaugural exhibition, Wild Nights.

Michael Flomen is an artist who has been experimenting with photography since the late 1960s. For two decades, Flomen worked in the "decisive moment" style of street photography practiced by Cartier-Bresson and Gary Winogrand, among others. By the early 1990s, he started using large format cameras to photograph the landscape, especially rural snow fields and urban snow depositories of his native Montreal. In 1999, Flomen began using camera-less techniques as a means of making pictures, "collaborating" with nature in creating photograms directly outdoors in the countryside.

"I make photographs of things we do not see but know are there."

Working in all four seasons, Flomen exposes black and white photographic paper and large format film to various light sources, including the moon, fireflies, or a handheld flash. Natural elements such as snow, rain, water, wind, and other phenomena are the materials used for, and recorded in, his picture-making. Included in this exhibition are three large scale color photographs that Flomen made by tracking the light pattern of fireflies in the grass at his family farm in Vermont.

In addition to these works, the exhibition will also feature two films. *Gaze* (2013) is a short black and white video in which the artist tests the poetic limits of the medium and continues to reflect on our elemental relationship with nature. *Gaze* will be showing at the Festival International d'art Video in Casablanca, Morocco in April 2014. *Under the Cover of Darkness* (2008), shot in infrared and produced by André Cornellier, is a documentary film that reveals Flomen's artistic process and premiered at the International Festival of Films on Art in Montreal (2009).

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Michael Flomen was born in Montreal in 1952, and currently lives and works in Montreal. He has been exhibiting his works regularly since 1972 in the United States, Canada and Europe. Flomen's work can be found in numerous private and public collections, including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Santa Barbara Museum, George Eastman House, Whitney Museum of American Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the National Gallery of Canada.

Boîte Noire Gallery is a contemporary art gallery showcasing international artists in Los Angeles founded by Gregory Bernard. For further information and images please contact the gallery at boitenoiregallery@gmail.com or +1.323.217.2237.



Micheal Flomen, Black Mountain, 2012, Unique photogram, Silver Gelatin Toned Print, 48" x 96"

VISITOR INFORMATION

Boîte Noire Gallery is located in the Pacific Design Center in West Hollywood. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. Private viewings are available by appointment. Parking is available in the PDC parking lot, accessed at 8687 Melrose Avenue. Metered street parking is also available on Melrose Ave. After entering the Blue Building from the garage, at arrival, please check in at the blue kiosk on the first floor. Then take a left up the walking ramp next to the kiosk and take the escalators to the second floor, where the gallery is located at Space B222. If walking in from the street after 6 pm, guests must use the San Vicente Boulevard entrance, at San Vicente between Santa Monica and Melrose (opposite the MOCA).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please join the conversation with Boîte Noire Gallery on Twitter (@_BoiteNoire), Facebook (@Boîte Noire Gallery), Instagram (@boite_noire_gallery) via the hashtags #Flomen.