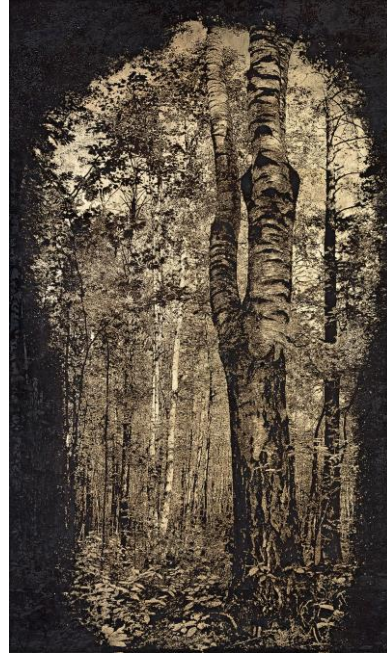


YOSSI MILO GALLERY



For Immediate Release:

Matthew Brandt

Carbon, Birch, Silver, Rooms

October 29 – December 23, 2021

Artist's Reception: Friday, October 29, 6-8pm

Yossi Milo Gallery is pleased to present *Carbon, Birch, Silver, Rooms*, an exhibition of new works by Matthew Brandt. The show will open with an artist's reception on Friday, October 29, and will be on view through Thursday, December 23. This is the artist's fourth exhibition with the gallery and is an arrangement of four distinct bodies of work.

The works in *Carbon, Birch, Silver, Rooms* continue Brandt's experimental processes inspired by the natural world, and further articulate complexities within landscape picture-making traditions. As described by the artist, "Light is a strange thing to hold, and this exhibition has something to do with this undertaking." Featured are black carbon prints, laser-engraved birch plywood pieces, gelatin silver prints doused in liquid silver, and a selection of reclaimed chandeliers from various rooms. Together, these works address the interrelationship of light and dark, and their influence on the subject, material, and observer.

In his series, *Birch*, Matthew Brandt continues his characteristic process of facilitating dialogue between subject and material, allowing the subject to participate in the creation of the work itself. The series features photographs of birch trees around St. Petersburg, Russia, where Brandt's interest in the cultural and national importance of the revered trees was sparked. Each image is precisely laser-engraved into a piece of 71" x 41" birch plywood. Brandt then scorches the wood, further darkening its surface, and applies gold leaf, creating a luminous opening into the image and inviting the viewer to experience the texture of the trees themselves through a photograph.

In contrast to the roughness of the birchwood, the gallery will also present new 71" x 41" pieces from Brandt's *Silver* series. Each black-and-white photograph of forests is produced as a gelatin

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silver print, onto which the artist liberally applies liquid silver to reference and accentuate the material by which the photograph was made. The smooth, reflective surface of the *Silver* works, reminiscent of an antique mirror, not only illustrates the material used, but ties in the viewer and their surroundings as subjects of the work.

For his **Carbon** series, Brandt collects the burned materials from sites devastated by the California wildfires and uses them to explore the historic practice of carbon printing. The charred materials, mostly wood, act as the pigment, while blackout fabric is used instead of paper. The result is a dark yet detailed representation of the area in which the material was collected. Black on black, the image reveals itself through a subtle tonality and glossy sheen. The final outcome acts like a memory: a window into a world where the subject of the work once existed.

The repurposed chandeliers in Brandt's **Rooms** series represent a "photographic record of the room [they] once occupied." The artist, while purchasing each used chandelier from the seller, is entrusted to take a panoramic photograph of the room the light fixture was installed in. At his studio, Brandt deconstructs each chandelier and heat-fuses one facet of the photograph into each glass pendant. Once reassembled, the chandelier depicts a recreation of its former owner's home in 360-degrees. Entitled according to where the chandelier originated -- *Barbara's Living Room* or *Lance's Study* -- the individual glass parts become a photographic lens into the room and carry records of their past.

A solo exhibition by Matthew Brandt is currently on view at the Erarta Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia, through December 5, 2021. His work has been exhibited at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Newark Museum of Art, Newark, NJ; Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Virginia Beach, VA; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville Paris, France; and the Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR, among others. His work is in the collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Art Gallery of South Wales, Sydney, Australia, among other institutions. Brandt was born in Los Angeles in 1982 and earned his MFA in 2008 from the University of California, Los Angeles.

For more information, please contact Alissa Schoenfeld at 212.414.0370 or alissa@yossimilo.com, or visit the gallery's website at www.yossimilo.com

Left Image: *Lance's Study*, 2021. 55 1/2" x 21" x 21" (141 x 53 x 53 cm). Photographic Glass Chandelier Pieces with Painted Metal Armature

Right Image: *BirchSP06A*, 2021. 71" x 41" x 3/4" (180.5 x 104 x 2 cm). Pyrograph on Birch Plywood with Gold Leaf