

FFOTO

Sanaz Mazinani: Light Times

Light Times explores a technical history of photography in an effort to analyse visual language, perception, and the contemporary consumption of images. The studies depart from a set of unique light exposures on photosensitive paper which become the material subjects of each investigation. Throughout the exhibition, the camera-less photographs reappear across different media - unmade, reconstituted and recontextualized as sculpture, scent, sound, or technical print. These physical iterations come together to construct a consideration of the discipline's material capacity to register and document while drawing attention to new realities that form when the recorded information is aestheticised.

Mazinani's source material is intentionally pre-image, inviting the viewer to focus on the photographic information in the form of simple abstractions made by the artist in the darkroom with light and photographic paper. Her manipulations, and those made in collaboration with technical experts, mimic the strategies of contemporary media circulation: redaction, decontextualisation, and repetition - processes with roots in photography. The works are process driven and utilise a range of methodologies and photographic tools from early photographic history to today. Further investigations offer poetic reflections on loss, time, event, and memory, core to the conceptual dimensions of photography.

Light Times looks at the transformation of the three dimensional into the photographic plane, while emphasizing visual shifts that occur when information is translated through the use of different media. The studies assemble a map of photographic language by framing representations of the physical world, registering a singular perspective, and recording the ephemeral. Through these processes a relationship to reality is created and constructed by the photographer.

Sanaz Mazinani collaborated with Mani Mazinani on 'Shift', a sound composition that will play from a vinyl record on a turntable in the gallery forming the sound component for this exhibition, the Shift LP will be released on Aerophone Recordings in late February. This sound piece addresses the shifts that take place in sight, memory and perception over time and space. Mazinani also worked with perfumer Ayala Moriel to create ILLUME, a unique environmental fragrance. ILLUME is a poetic response to the experience of the photographic moment and the function of time's erasure of that original experience. Furthermore, the artist would like to acknowledge the work and creative labour of the other technicians and artists who used their craft to make a selection of the other pieces in this exhibition, namely Mary Hogan, Mike Robinson, Bob Carnie, Naomi Dodds, Taimaz Moslemian, Horst Herget, and Jacob Horwood.