

DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY

Biography for: Matthew Pillsbury

MATTHEW PILLSBURY

Mathew Pillsbury, American, was born in Neuilly, France in 1973. He studied at Ecole Alsacienne, Paris graduating with an honour Baccalaureate in History and Economics in 1991; at Yale University graduating cum laude with distinction (BFA, 1995); and at the School of Visual Arts, New York, with Chairmans Honours (MFA, 2004).

Inspired by Hiroshi Sugimotos photographs of movie theatre screens, he makes long exposure black and white photographs of people watching television and working at their computers. The resulting images show flowing white screens and rooms dramatically lit by a single source. In addition, each long exposure captures the evanescent record of the human activity in the room. This technique deprives us of the individual likeness of his subjects, with a different kind of photographic portrait emerging from the presentation of the personal objects in the room, rendered in minute detail through the use of an 8 x 10 camera. Each image in these series is an open-ended reflection of our complex and evolving relationships to technology, culture and to each other.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I make long exposure black and white photographs using a large format camera and available light. From it's inception photography's ability to capture time in a single image, usually a fraction of a second, has been used to reveal our world to us in ways that we cant perceive. Muybridge's studies of motion challenged us as viewers and showed us the proper mechanic of a horse's gallop. In using longer exposures, from a few minutes to over an hour, my photographs engage us to look at our world with a renewed sense of discovery and reveal visual truths in the everyday.

Starting with Screen Lives I became interested in the increasing role televisions, computers and cell phones were playing in our lives. The resulting images show glowing white screens and rooms dramatically lit by a single source. In addition, each long exposure captures the evanescent record of the human activity in the room. This common experience was transformed -- the spaces and experience though familiar are revealed to us in surprising ways. The photographs also allow viewers to address a conundrum that technology has interjected into our lives; at the same time that we have been given the possibility of instant global communication, we find ourselves increasingly isolated from each other physically.

More recently, I have ventured into the public sphere. New York City sets the stage for my examination of how we interact both with each other and with a metropolis that envelopes us in a never-ending pulse of life, light and art. I am interested in the ways in which people relate to and learn from their past -- how we are in dialogue with our surroundings. Inspired by a commission I did for The New York Times Magazine inside New York City's museums, I began photographing not only museums and the way people flow in and around historical artifacts, but the way in which they interact with old and new aspects of the city as well. In my own exploration of New York City over the years since I moved here, I've become attached to some of its iconic places and structures, such as the Brooklyn Bridge, but I've also taken keen interest in the new additions, such as Jane's Carousel and the High Line, that push the city to evolve while still reflecting its past. The extreme multiculturalism of New York City creates a heightened energy like few other cities and its incredibly varied architecture mirrors that, creating a striking backdrop as people weave through my photos, leaving traces of their own personal stories behind.

Awards

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PDN Magazines Top 30 Photographers of 2005
2007, Fondation HSBC pour la Photographie

Collections

Permanent Collections

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
The Library of Congress, Washington DC
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
Musee du Louvre, Paris, France
The Carol and Arthur Goldberg Foundation, New York, New York
CIBC Collection, New York, New York
Citibank Collection, New York, New York
Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio
Sir Elton John Photography Collection, Atlanta, Georgia
Fondation HSBC pour la Photographie, Paris, France
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson Collection, New York, New York
The Glenbow Art Museum, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Grover Collection, Hartford, Connecticut
Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York
Hallmark Photographic Collection, Kansas City, Missouri
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia
Hood Museum of Art, Hanover, New Hampshire
International Center of Photography, New York, New York
JGS / Stein Collection, New York, New York
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
The Natural History Museum, London, England
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri
Pfizer, New York, New York
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California
The Tate Modern, London, England
The Victoria & Albert Museum, London, England
The Yale University Art Gallery, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Education

2004 School of Visual Arts, New York, New York
Master of Fine Arts

1995 Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art (Cum laude with distinction)

1991 ole Alsacienne, Paris, France
Baccalaureate in History and Economics (with honors)

Exhibitions

Edmonton, Alberta, 10332-124 Street T5N 1R2
Vancouver, British Columbia, 1566 W 6th Avenue V6J 1R2
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ph. (604)736-8900 736-8931 fax
member of the Art Dealers Association of Canada

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2014 New Work, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York
2012 City Stages, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York
City Stages, Jackson Fine Art, Atlanta, Georgia
2011 Matthew Pillsbury, Galerie Hiltawsky, Berlin, Germany
2009 An American in the City of Light, FIAF Gallery, New York, New York
Elapsed, Wouter Van Leeuwen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Matthew Pillsbury, , Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Matthew Pillsbury, Douglas Udell Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Screen Lives, Alcatel Exhibition, Paris, France
2008 Matthew Pillsbury, , Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Elapsed, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York
Matthew Pillsbury, Jackson Fine Art, Atlanta, Georgia
2007 London, Michael Hoppen Gallery, London, England
Time Frame, Phillips de Pury Gallery, New York, New York
Time Frame, La Galerie Baudoin Lebon, Paris, France
Time Frame, Galerie le Reverbere, Lyon, France
Time Frame, El Teatro Circo Price, Madrid Spain
Matthew Pillsbury: Screen Lives, M+B Gallery, Los Angeles, California

2006 Matthew Pillsbury, Galerie Negulesco, Munich, Germany
Time Frame, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York

2005 Screen Lives, Galleria Valentina Moncada, Rome, Italy
Screen Lives, Douglas Udell Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Hours, Jackson Fine Art, Atlanta, Georgia

2004 Screen Lives, Michael Hoppen, London, England
Screen Lives, Douglas Udell Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Screen Lives, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2013 Bonnis Best, Bonni Benrubi Gallery, New York, New York
The Drinking Show, Sasha Wolf Gallery, New York, New York
Perchance To Dream, Andrea Meislin Gallery, New York, New York
Art After Dark, Asheville Art Museum, Asheville, North Carolina

2012 Cabinet of Curiosities, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO
The Games: Inspiring Images, Lens On Twelve, London, England
Myths and Realities, School of Visual Arts, New York, New York
Occupy Wall Street, South Street Seaport / Museum of the City of New York, New York, New York
Mona Lisa Smile, Galleria Photology, Milan, Italy
The Photographers 2012, Chris Beetles Gallery, London, England
Home, Sasha Wolf Gallery, New York, New York

2011 The Interior World, Danziger Gallery, New York, New York
Winter Show, Douglas Udell Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

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2010 The Museum of Unnatural History, ClampArt, New York, New York
Versus, Hous Projects, New York, New York

2008 Photographic Figures, Museum of Fine Art, Boston, Massachusetts
Through the Looking Glass, Glenbow Museum of Art, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Keeping Time: Cycle and Duration in Contemporary Photography,
The Photographic Resource Center, Boston, Massachusetts
Interiors, Fifty-One Fine Art Photography, Antwerp, Belgium
Isn't It Romantic, KMR Arts, Washington, Connecticut

2007 Evolution, Photo Biennale, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China
A New Reality: Black and White Photography in Contemporary Art from the Arthur and Ann Goldstein
Collection, Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

2007 Mystery: Photography and Video, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York, New York
Degrees of Separation - A Portrait Show, PEER Gallery, New York, New York
The Sir Elton John Photography Collection, Pinchuk Art Center, Kiev, Ukraine
Photographies Contemporaines: les Laurts de la Fondation
HSBC pour la Photographie, Les Recontres d'Arles, Arles, France
Participating in Exposure, Douglas Udell Gallery, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Ingenuity - Photography and Engineering 1846-2006,
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal
The City Through the Lens, Miller-Block Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts
Making and Finding, The Foundation To-Life, Mount Kisco, New York
The Hearst Tower Art Portfolio, The Hearst Building Gallery, New York, New York
Ingenuity - Photography and Engineering 1846-2006, BOZAR Center for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium
Die Liebe zum Licht, Museum Bochum, Bochum, Germany

2006 20/30 Vision: An Anniversary Celebration, Bonni

Publications

MONOGRAPHS SOLO

City Stages; Matthew Pillsbury, October 2013, Aperture Foundation
Time Frame; Matthew Pillsbury, 2007, Actes Sud
Monographs and Catalogs - shared

The Photographers 2012, 2012, Chris Beetles Gallery
Myths and Realities, 2012, School of Visual Arts
Betrayal Portrayal, 2012, Santa Monica Museum of Art
The Games: Inspiring Images, 2012, Lens On Twelve
Visionaire Sixty: Religion, 2011, Visionaire
Future Images, 2009, Molta Cultura
Ingenuity, 2007, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

Publications (selected)

The Blur of Life, The New York Times, August 30, 2013
Druids Take Manhattan Look by Matthew Pillsbury,

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The New York Times Magazine, July 5, 2013
Portfolio New York Fantome, Liberation / Next, November 2012
The Arts & Theatre Art Review, The Atlanta Journal Constitution,
November 2nd, 2012
The Culture Pop Chart City Stages, Time Magazine, October 1st, 2012
EYEMAZING Gallery City Stages, EYEMAZING, Summer 2012
2011 portfolio by , New York Magazine, December 12th 2011
What goes around- Look by , The New York Times Magazine, November 27th 2011
Photography : Matthew Pillsbury Exhibition Review, The New York Sun,
April 21, 2008
Une Nuit au Poste, Liberation, March 12, 2008
Glow: Photographs by Matthew Pillsbury; LA Weekly, February, 14, 2007
Fuzzy Photos Make Strong Images; Exhibition review by Sharon Mitoz:
WIRED News, January 30, 2007
Matthew Pillsbury at Bonni Benrubi, Review by Edward Leffingwell, Art in America, October 2006
About Town; Matthew Pillsbury, exhibition review by Vince Aletti,
The New Yorker, May 22, 2006
Il dinosaura va al museo nelle foto darte di Pillsbury La Repubblica, Roma, Italia, 10 febbraio, 2006
PDNs 30 emerging photographers to watch Photo District News, March 2005
20 Year Anniversary exhibition Catalog, Hood Museum of Art, 2005
Exhibition Review; Art Papers May 2005
Matthew Pillsbury: Screen Lives Interview by Kev Rice & Dave Smith; Next Level, Edition 02, Volume
03
Eyemazing, Winter 2004
Matthew Pillsbury;Exhibition Review. The Edmonton Journal, Edmonton,
Alberta, Canada, November 14th, 2004

After Hours- A portfolio by , The New York Times Magazine, October 24th, 2004
Show World: Matthew Pillsbury; Review by Vince Aletti, The Village Voice; July 7-13, 2004
Art Exhibition review, The New York Sun; Tuesday, July 6th, 2004
Wired Magazine, May 2004