

PRESS RELEASE

Chloe SELLS : *The Place of the dry, dry*
27 February - 25 April 2020

Chloe Sells produced these recent works in the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, in the Kalahari Desert of Botswana:

"Driving into the searing heat of the white desert, I watched for the lone palm trees that line the banks of the unfaithful rivers, marking the beginning of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans. I turned onto a well-worn track that led to an expansive savannah. Carved out of the spiny grasses were two nearly invisible lines that faded as I drove until becoming dust. Just then, a shoreline presented itself. The water was opalescent with the reflection of the setting sun and thousands of birds filled the sky. The breeze reached me swollen with their calls.

The Makgadikgadi Salt Pans are in the Kalahari Desert of Botswana. Seen from space they look like white blemishes on the surface of the earth, birthmarks of time. I first came for the flamingos, but I returned for something else. I stood on the edge of the Pans asking myself whether to portray beauty for the sake of beauty. Dave Hickey says that, "The utility of beauty as a legitimate recourse resides in its ability to locate us as physical creatures in a live, ethical relationship with other human beings in the physical world."

When full the Pans look like the sea, but within days the water can evaporate leaving cracked earth like the skin on an elephant's back. Disorientation seizes you as every direction reveals an identical view. There are Kalahari lions somewhere in the distance – or perhaps close to hand, golden in the golden grasses.

Each time I visited the Pans a kaleidoscopic panorama unfolded around me, which I interpreted through days of taking photographs and later through months in the darkroom. The meditative approach of addressing the same landscape repeatedly allowed me to confront the finite within me while witnessing the infinite without.

With the complete removal of light, the silence of the darkroom is penetrating. As a result of bending the rules of photographic alchemy, image and imagination become entangled. The printing process is both considered and spontaneous. Despite the small space the work is physical. Repetition allows backwards and forwards movement through the flow of time and memory. Color reinterprets emotion. Imposed textures retrace geographic contours. Crooked edges are a result of cutting 50 metre rolls of paper in the dark and are left on the final images as a reminder that the view of the world through our eyes is not rectangular. Some images are drawn on with a combination of ink, paint and marker. In each telling there is play between the immutable and the supple and every picture is unique."

The artist book SWAMP (pub. Gost books, 2016) presents the entire body of this work.

Artist biography

Chloe Sells was born in Aspen, Colorado (1976) and began photographing in 1993. She attended the Rhode Island School of Design and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in photography. She completed her Masters in Fine Art from Central St. Martins London. Her work has been exhibited internationally in multiple solo and group exhibitions. She has published two acclaimed books, SWAMP (2016) and Flamingo (2017), both published by GOST Books. She currently lives between her darkroom in London and her home in Maun, Botswana.

Chloe photographs with a Contax 645 and Linhof 4x5. She still uses film and prints all of her work in the darkroom, by hand. Each of her works is a unique analogue C-type print, using conventional negatives overlaid with abstract colour, light, texture and patterns in the darkroom. In some instances, after printing, she draws into the surface of her photographs with paint, ink and marker.

SELECTED WORKS BY CHLOE SELLS



Chloe SELLS
The Form, 2017
C-type print collage
168 x 106 cm
Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
The Nare, 2017
C-type print collage
90 x 176 cm

Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
The Whisperers, 2016
C-type print
93,5 x 113 cm

Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
Shadow At Morning, 2017
C-type print
93,5 x 113 cm

Unique

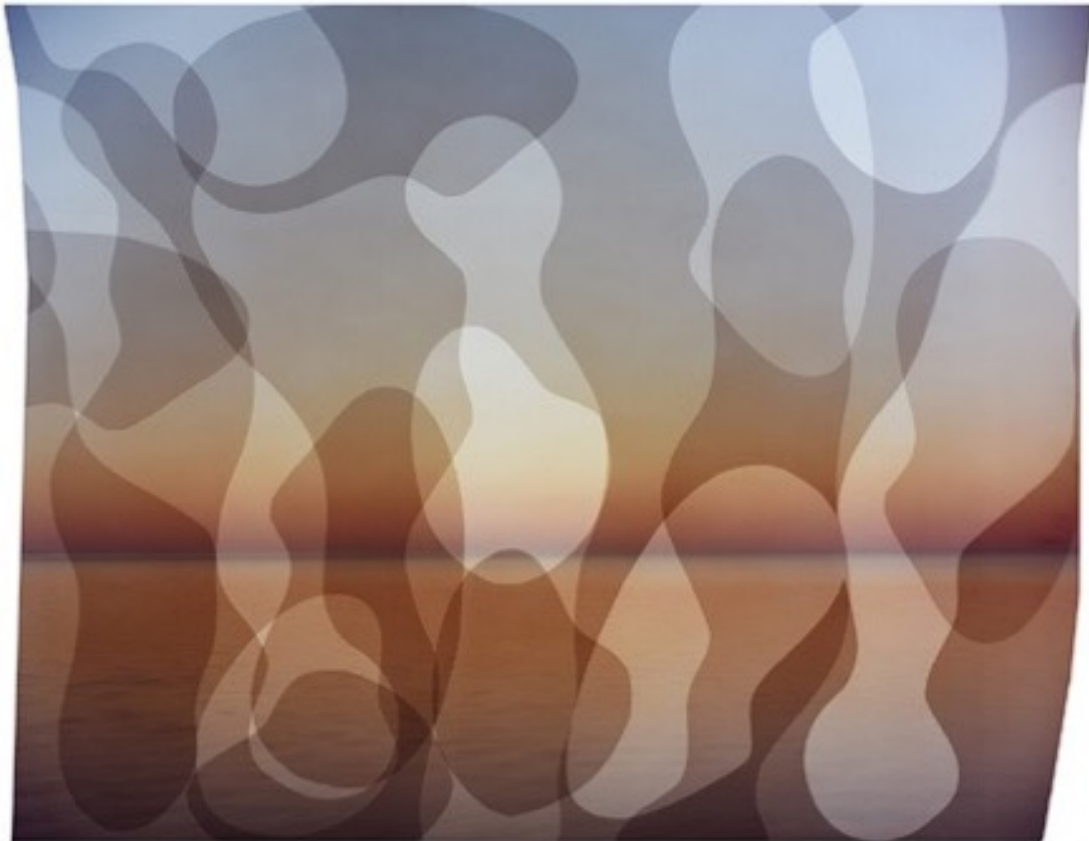
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
The Turning away, 2017
C-type print
93,5 x 113 cm

Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
A Heap Of Broken Images, 2016
C-type print
93,5 x 116 cm

Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
Morals of Vision, 2019
C-Type print with acrylic
40 x 32 cm

Unique

(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda

CHLOE SELLS
SELECTED SMALL FORMAT HAND PAINTED CHROMOGENIC PRINTS
4x5in / 10x12 cm



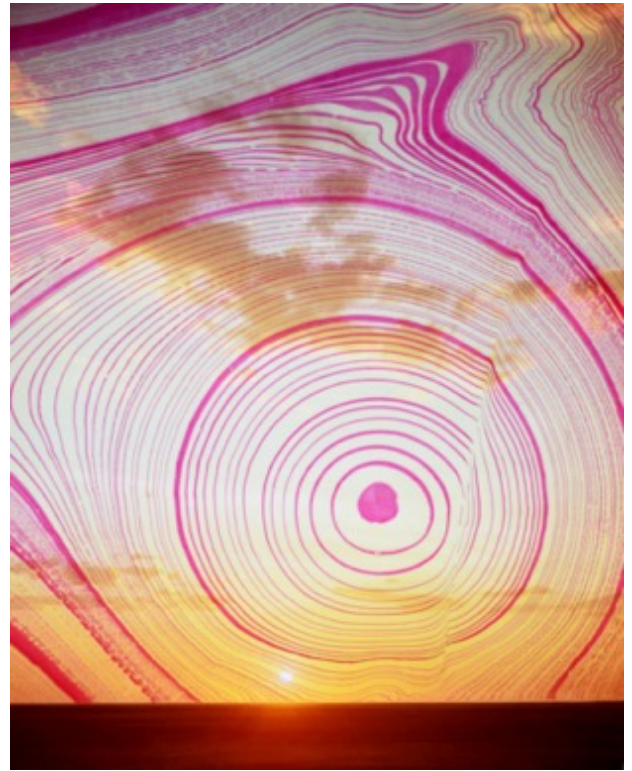
Chloe SELLS
Feel the sun, 2019
C-Type print with ink
10 x 12 cm
Unique
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
Peacocks, 2019
C-Type print with acrylic paint
10 x 12 cm
Unique
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
Fall at my door, 2019
C-Type print with ink
10 x 12 cm
Unique
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



CHLOE SELLS
Rage against the coming of the light
C-Type print with acrylic paint
10 x 12 cm
Unique
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda



Chloe SELLS
How soon is now, 2019
C-Type print with ink
10 x 12 cm
Unique
(c) Chloe Sells / Galerie Miranda

Resumé

CHLOE SELLS

American, born in 1976

Lives and works between London and Botswana

EDUCATION

2011

MFA, Central St. Martins, London, United Kingdom

2000

Photography, Rhode Island School of Design, United States

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2019

Paysage, Mémoire Colour (group show), Galerie Miranda, Paris, France

Women in Colour (group show), Galerie Miranda, Paris, France

2017

The Form That Strength Has Left (solo show) NextLevel Galerie, Paris, France

2016

Measuring Infinity (solo show), Michael Hoppen Gallery, London, United Kingdom

London (group show), Michael Hoppen Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Under the Sun (solo show), Julie Saul Gallery, New York, United States

2014

LandMark (group show), Julie Saul Gallery, New York, United States

2013

Skop (group show), Landscape Collective, Karussell, Zurich, Switzerland

Senescence (solo show), Michael Hoppen Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Incognito (group show), Santa Monica Museum of Art, Los Angeles, United States

2012

Journey To The Center of My Mind (group show), HM157, Los Angeles, United States

Incognito (group show), Santa Monica Museum of Art, Los Angeles

2011

Next To Nothing, (group show), The Heath, London, United Kingdom

Closer Than Known (solo show), MA Fine Art Show, Central St. Martins, London, United Kingdom

Incognito, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Los Angeles, United States 2010

Painting The Roses Red (solo show), The Craft Center, Maun, Botswana
Be Quiet (solo show), The Toy Factory, Los Angeles, United States
India, A Castle (solo show), The Omnibus Gallery, Aspen, United States

2009

Outside In The Night, Liv Aspen Art, Aspen, United States

Art Works, Crane Kalman Gallery, Brighton, United Kingdom

The Art of Photography Today, Camera Obscura Gallery, Denver, United States
Beyond and Back, Genessee House, Los Angeles, United States

PUBLICATIONS

2017

Flamingo by Chloe Sells, monograph, GOST publishing

2016

Swamp by Chloe Sells, monograph, GOST publishing

AWARDS

2016

Shortlisted for the book *Swamp* - Prix du Livre d'Auteur, Les Rencontres de la Photographie d'Arles, France

Galerie Miranda : À propos

Galerie Miranda was founded in 2018 by Miranda Salt, French-Australian who has lived and worked in the 10th arrondissement since her arrival in France in 1995. Specialised in fine art photography, the gallery presents international artists and works celebrated in their own country but little known in France and Europe. Inaugurated on International Women's Day 2018, the gallery's inaugural cycle of exhibitions featured solo presentations by prominent women artists Jo Ann Callis, Nancy Wilson-Pajic, Marina Berio and Ellen Carey. Amongst the other artists represented, or with works available, by the gallery are Merry Alpern, John Chiara, Sally Gall, Charles Jones, Gerard Dalla Santa, Noé Sendas, Terri Weifenbach. The gallery participates in fairs and private salons, including Paris Photo, Photo London, Private Choice, and the Villa Benkemoun.

Galerie Miranda is also a bookshop with a curated selection of publications on photography in French and English: monographs, artist publications, critical texts, biographies and catalogues. Galerie Miranda is situated in Paris' vibrant 10th arrondissement at 21 rue du Château d'Eau, close to the Place de la République and 100 metres from the former site, on rue Léon Jouhaux, of Louis Daguerre's wonderful Diorama and laboratory, destroyed by fire in 1839.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Galerie Miranda

21 rue du Château d'Eau 75010 Paris

Metro République exit #5 Blvd Magenta

Opening hours: Tuesday- Saturday 12.00 – 19.00 or by appointment

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