LEHMANN MAUPIN

Alex Prager March 12-May 16, 2015 407 Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street Central, Hong Kong

#alexprager

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 12, 6-8PM



Alex Prager, *Untitled*, 2014, archival pigment print, 59 x 88.5 inches (149.9 x 224.8 cm). Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York and Hong Kong.

Hong Kong, February 5—**Lehmann Maupin** will present **Alex Prager**'s debut exhibition in Hong Kong from March 12 through May 16, 2015. Continuing her exploration of the psychological experiences of crowds and the individuals within them, Prager will exhibit five new, large-scale photographs as well as video work. **The artist will be present for an opening reception on Thursday, March 12, from 6-8PM**.

Celebrated for her meticulously constructed, theatrical, and richly cinematic images, Prager, a Los Angeles-based artist, is inspired by a wide range of influences, from popular culture, to street photography, to the cinematic history of Hollywood. The artist is also interested in the ways in which audiences perceive and experience the pervasive cultural power of Hollywood films. These references infuse Prager's works with a narrative quality, leading the viewer to speculate on the "before and after" of the moment and characters depicted in her images.

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Prager's distinctive style and dialogue with Hollywood found full expression in her *Face in the Crowd* series, which debuted at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. in 2013 and was subsequently shown at Lehmann Maupin in New York in 2014. Prager managed large-scale sets, hundreds of extras, and a full production team to create precisely composed images of crowds. This series also includes a short film starring the American actress Elizabeth Banks. These works convey a sense of timelessness, extraordinary idiosyncratic detail, and the sometimes contradictory emotions that immersion in a crowd can produce, such as fear, camaraderie, isolation, claustrophobia, and a feeling of belonging to something larger than one's self.

In her Hong Kong exhibition, Prager further refines her examination of the psychological dynamics of crowds, focusing on feelings of isolation exaggerated by the extreme vantage points employed in these images. By creating contorted points of view, especially in the works where the viewer looks up from below at the subjects in the photographs, Prager captures moments of stillness and isolation impossible to view in reality.

Following her debut exhibition in Hong Kong, Prager will exhibit new works at the Goss Michael Foundation and at SOLUNA: International Music & Arts Festival, both in Dallas, Texas, in May 2015. Additionally, one of Prager's new photographs will be shown in Lehmann Maupin's booth (1C08) at Art Basel Hong Kong 2015.

About the Artist

Alex Prager (b. 1979) is a Los Angeles-based photographer and filmmaker. She has had a number of solo museum exhibitions including at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (2014); Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (2013); SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia (2013); and the FOAM Photography Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (2012). Prager was also prominently featured in *New Photography 2010* at New York's Museum of Modern Art. Prager has been recognized with the FOAM Paul Huf Award (2012), among other honors. Her editorial work has been featured in prominent publications including *Garage, Vogue* and *W*, and her film series "Touch of Evil," commissioned by *The New York Times Magazine*, won a 2012 Emmy Award. Prager's work is represented in the collections of major museums including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Sweden.

About Lehmann Maupin

Founded in 1996 by partners Rachel Lehmann and David Maupin, Lehmann Maupin has fostered the careers of a diverse group of internationally renowned artists, both emerging and established, working in multiple disciplines and across varied media. With three locations – two in New York and one in Hong Kong – the gallery represents artists from the United States, Europe, Asia, South America, Africa, and the Middle East. Known for championing artists who create groundbreaking and challenging forms of visual expression, Lehmann Maupin presents work highlighting personal investigations and individual narratives through conceptual approaches that often address such issues as gender, class, religion, history, politics, and globalism.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions

Anya Gallaccio, through February 15, 2015, New York, Chrystie Street Horizon, through March 7, 2015, Hong Kong, Pedder Building Group show, February 28-April 12, 2015, New York, Chrystie Street and **New location: 536 West 22nd Street**

Mary Corse, April 23-June 13, 2015, New York, New location: 536 West 22nd Street

For more information on other Lehmann Maupin artists, please contact Graham Newhall at +1 212 2 255 2923 or visit <u>lehmannmaupin.com</u>.