

SPRING 2011 SUMMARY

2011 has been an exciting year for the gallery. New shows, new art fairs new artists and new members of staff. Photography continues to make the news and it is wonderful to see that despite the grey news and uncertainty, photographs are still the choice of many collectors and enthusiasts. The range of material still available to collect makes a strong argument for any collector wishing to investigate the world through photographs.

We exhibited in Hong Kong again this year for the third time and this exciting event has now been bought by the Basel Art Fair which will assist hugely in the fairs ability help us promote our artists across SE Asia. We also took a stand at Masterpiece in London, London's answer to Masstricht (TEFAF). This huge and imposing event was well attended and we met many new clients who were delighted to see photography being exhibited.

Alex Prager's stellar rise continues with many requests from museums around the world for her work. She is currently working on a new series and new film which we hope to show in 2012. One of our new artists – Alejandro Chaskielberg – was awarded the Sony Iris d'Or award in March this year – he was selected from over 50,000 other photographers to be announced as overall winner - a wonderful achievement and we currently have his series High Tide on the walls at Michael Hoppen Contemporary. We hope you will find time to come in and see this extraordinary body of work.

Below we list our program for the rest of 2011 and we look forward to welcoming you to the gallery over the coming months.

ART FAIRS 2011**12 OCT – 16 OCT****PAD****BERKLEY SQUARE, LONDON**

The Michael Hoppen Gallery will present a selection of truly unique photographs at PAD 2011.

The term 'unique' is often overused. Does it simply mean that the moment it captures is unique? Or rather that it is unique because the photographer was the only one there to record the moment? Our definition moves away from this traditional use of the word and places it on unfamiliar ground.

In this instance, a unique photograph is a physical object that has been produced by a camera and darkroom and is then used as a canvas. The artist has applied paint, and in some cases, ink and objects to the surface and created a



© **Sigmar Polke** *Untitled* (from the series Paris), 1971. Silver gelatin print on Agfa paper, hand coloured with watercolour and ink.

unique tableau with the photograph meshed into the final object in a way that alters the photograph's objective; to be reproduced at will and in an unlimited or limited edition.

Both Sigmar Polke and Gerhard Richter have used photographs in this way. Peter Beard and Nobuyoshi Araki, two other artists who often paint and collage their photographs will also be included in this select show of works. Both artists enjoy the process of concealing the original image behind layers of paint and collage in a style that they have made their own. Miroslav Tichy, another artist made photographs which he then painted and drew onto and will also be shown.

In some cases, the photographic 'canvas' has not been created by the artist but has been chosen as he or she would choose a colour or type of paint-brush to make a picture. This further removes the photograph's opportunity to position itself into the foreground and in Richter's case, the photograph appears flat and one dimensional behind the myriad of paint colours dragged across the image which creates depth over the photograph.

Other artists also to be included are Nobuyoshi Araki, Francis Bacon and Guy Bourdin.



© **Guy Bourdin** *Pentax Calendar*, 1980. Fujiflex crystal archive print.

10 NOV – 13 NOV
PARIS PHOTO
GRAND PALAIS, PARIS

In November, The Michael Hoppen Gallery will be exhibiting at Paris Photo at the new location of the Grand Palais, Paris. Paris Photo will be celebrating its 15th anniversary and the change in exhibition space is a major step ahead for the renowned international event.

We will be showing new work by photographer Sohei Nishino, whose new diorama map Rio, 2011 can be seen here, this will be the first time the work has been exhibited and is a spectacular feat and a great addition to Nishino's oeuvre. Those of you who made it to Sohei's exhibition in February will be keen to see this new piece. The depth and detail of Sohei's work is quite extraordinary and his new piece illustrates his intricate practice. In contrast, there will be a selection of exclusive Guy Bourdin images on display from his Pentax Calendar 1980s series. These images have never been exhibited before.

SHOWS 2011
8 SEPT – 1 OCT
ALEXANDER CHASKIELBERG
HIGH TIDE

Michael Hoppen Contemporary is delighted to announce High Tide, an exhibition of new work by Argentinean photographer Alejandro Chaskielberg, overall winner of this year's Sony World Photo Awards.



© Alejandro Chaskielberg *The Paraguayans* 2010. Digital C-type print on Kodak Endura paper.

HIGH TIDE is a series of colour photographs taken in the remote Paraná River Delta, Argentina, where Chaskielberg lived and worked from 2007 - 2010. His subjects are local residents of this isolated community who rely on the river for food, work, travel and communication with the wider world. His portraits are ethereal, dreamlike images that convey the everyday life of those photographed - lumberjacks shifting heavy timber, an aged hunter sitting by an

open fire in contemplation, lovers walking under the stars. Working at night under a full moon, Chaskielberg documents the relationship between the inhabitants of the delta and their environment in startling technicolour, using techniques that push the boundaries of the medium to transform our natural perception of light, colour and space, whilst still referencing the aesthetic of nineteenth century photographic portraiture.

Chaskielberg requires his subjects to pose still for up to 10 minutes in order to distinguish the image from the thick darkness, relying on the natural light from the moon and supplementing this with a variety of artificial lighting tools - torches, flashes and lanterns, creating imaginary scenarios with real people and situations.

This will be the first solo exhibition by the artist in Europe. We will be celebrating his success at the Sony World Photo Awards as well as the release of *La Creciente*, a monograph of Chaskielberg's photographs newly published by Nazraeli Press.

7 OCT – 12 NOV
JERUSALEM
JOHN DAVIES, CHARLES JONES
& COLIN JONES



© Colin Jones *Liverpool Docks* 1963. Silver Gelatin Print, Printed Later.

Through the eyes of three analytical photographers, this exhibition celebrates British life in the twentieth century. The pictures seem to capture the simplicity of a bygone era; however, in doing so they also challenge the changes taking place today, forcing us to interrogate our individual responsibilities towards the country we live in.

The recession of recent years has hit Britain hard; with the riots of this summer being just one example of our social cohesion wearing away. In this increasingly uncertain world, in which the individual is so often governed by forces out of the remit of his or her control we are reminded of life's basic essentials: food on the table, a roof over our heads and a job that provides an income to support oneself or a family.

Once again, a new world order, a New Jerusalem, has been promised by politicians and economists. But the journey will be a long one. Globalization forces a need for shared responsibility, and yet the rate of change within both the microcosm of individual countries and the larger global community leaves little time for reflection. For further information and to view the images go to our website – www.michaelhoppengallery.com

02 DEC – EARLY JAN 2012
BORIS SAVELEV



© **Boris Savelev** *Cafe Ion, Moscow, 2009*. Multi-layered pigment print on gesso coated aluminium.

Michael Hoppen Gallery is delighted to be hosting a major new exhibition of Boris Savelev's work across two floors. Regarded by many as Russia's most important living photographer, he is an artist at the peak of his career who has finally found a printing process that fully realizes his photographic vision. The show is composed of colour prints made by Savelev, Adam Lowe and Rafa Rachewsky at Factum Arte in Madrid. Using a custom-made flatbed printer the images are printed on gesso coated aluminum panels, allowing for a degree of painterly control within what is a mechanical medium. Finished with beeswax the polished surfaces have the luminescence of renaissance painting.

In Savelev's haunting images, mundane moments are interpreted through the abstract prism of his lens. The familiar is rendered other worldly. He pays heed to his Constructivist heritage, from Malevic to Rodchenko, and their generation's experimentation with light and form. Punctuated by silhouettes, faces, and fleeting shadows each photograph is a snatched fragment of narrative. Born in Chernovitz in 1947 he moved to Moscow in 1966. Although he has spent much time in Europe his pictures retain a peculiarly Russian sensibility.

OTHER ARTISTS' SHOWS YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN SEEING...



© **Tiina Itkonen** *La Scuola Grande di San Rocco, Venice, 2011*. C-type print.

- ◆ **Tiina Itkonen**
Venice in Peril: Photographers' responses to a city under threat from climate change
On now until 30 September
Officina d'Arte Spirituale, Venice

Followed by a charity auction at
Phillips de Pury, London
26 October – 3 November 2011
www.veniceinperil.com
- ◆ **Nikolay Bakharev**
in Ostalgia: Art and the breakup of the Soviet bloc
The New Museum, New York
On now until 25 September 2011
www.newmuseum.org
- ◆ **Scarlett Hooff Graafland**
Soft Horizons – Solo mid-career retrospective
Huis Marseille, Amsterdam
11 September – 20 November 2011
www.huismarseille.nl
- ◆ **Guy Bourdin**
in Postmodernism: Style and Subversion 1970–1990
V&A Museum, London
24 September 2011 – 15 January 2012
- ◆ **Guy Bourdin**
in Beauty Culture: photography's role in capturing and defining notions of modern female beauty
Anenberg Space for Photography, LA
On now until 27 November 2011
www.annenberg.spaceforphotography.org
- ◆ **Jeff Bark and Alex Prager**
in No fashion, Please: Photography between Gender and Lifestyle
Kunsthalle Vienna
10 November 2011 – 22 January 2012
www.kunsthallewien.at