

BLIZZARD

Photographs

Christophe Jacrot

12 November 2014 – 10 January 2015

Galerie de l'Europe

55 rue de Seine – Paris (France)

MEDIA KIT



Boxes (Port of Le Havre)



"I try to capture images that are grounded in reality, yet stir the imagination. Snow allows me to make that connection."
Christophe Jacrot

PRESS RELEASE

After his series on Manhattan during a blackout (*New York in Black*), Christophe Jacrot returns to the subject of "bad weather" that he has explored for the past seven years. *Blizzard* takes us on a journey through the snow in Europe and the United States, with images shot, as always, from real life without staging or manipulation. As he reveals the transformative power of snowflakes, Jacrot invites us to rediscover familiar landscapes, as he reappropriates and reinvents our clichés, ranging from New York streets so often seen in films to the cliffs of Normandy that we had imagined as confined to their picture postcard image.

Urban stage

In this new series, Christophe Jacrot continues his fascination with major urban centres, bringing us images of New York, Chicago, Bucharest and Le Havre, among others. They showcase his expansive wide shots with a strong cinematic feel that have become his trademark, in which a lone figure confronts extreme weather conditions. The sense of drama in these images stems from our identification with these fragile silhouettes, which seem lost in a setting that, while familiar, reveals nature suddenly reclaiming its rights.

Towards a purity of form

The most striking feature of this new series is that the streets become increasingly desolate. In the ghostly *Boxes* (cover photo), *The Bostonian* (page 2) and *The Palace* (page 7), there's not a living soul in sight. These images reveal even more meticulously controlled compositions that mark a shift towards a purity of form, a pared-down aesthetic that has led Jacrot to the cliffs of Normandy. Here, nature's presence is not only felt in the snowflakes, it is everywhere. Nature is revealed in its rawest state, far from the neon lights of the city. The emotional impact no longer comes from the cinematic sense of drama but from a pure contemplation of the elements.



Under the Light (New York)



"There is a lot of talk nowadays about global warming. Last year, there was very little snowfall in Europe... Sometimes I feel like I am working for the archaeologists of the future." Christophe Jacrot



"My photographs should be instantly accessible to viewers, without the necessity of imposing any particular interpretation."
Christophe Jacrot



The Plane (Bucarest)

Exhibited in Paris, New York, Hong Kong, Brussels, Istanbul, London, Tokyo and Shanghai, among other cities, Christophe Jacrot's photographs have attracted keen interest from international collectors and an ever-widening public, as demonstrated by their popularity on the internet and social media.

The Galerie de l'Europe has, for the past six years, presented each new series by Christophe Jacrot: *Paris in the Rain* (2008), *Hong Kong in the Rain* (2009), *Winter in Town* (2010), *Wet Places* (2011), *Let It Snow* (2012), *New York in Black* (2013) and *Blizzard* (2014).

BIOGRAPHY

Christophe Jacrot directed a number of award-winning short films and a feature film (*Prison à domicile*, 2000) before devoting himself exclusively to photography, a passion he has pursued since his teenage years;

He embarked on a project on the subject of "bad weather", with a first series set in Paris that was published in a book entitled *Paris sous la pluie* (La Martinière, 2007). He continued this project in a host of cities that he photographed in the rain or snow, including New York, Hong Kong, Chicago, Macao, Tokyo, Lisbon and London.

In the wake of Hurricane Sandy in October 2012, he photographed Manhattan during a black-out, capturing the city immersed in darkness in the series *New York in Black*.

Bypassing mainstream trends, Jacrot's approach is deliberately pictorial and emotional. "Beauty and narrative are currently out of favour with the art world. I choose to explore them through 'unfavourable' weather", he explains. His work has won him wide acclaim.



Seagull
(Étretat)

*"In my opinion, there are two ways of photographing the world: capturing its horror (there's no lack of material!) or sublimating it. I have chosen the second."*Christophe Jacrot

Recent solo exhibitions

Paris

Galerie de l'Europe
Nov 2013-Jan 2014

Singapore

Artistry
17 Sept-Oct 2013

Brussels

Young Gallery
Jan-April 2013

Shanghai

Kunstlicht Gallery
March-April 2013

Paris

Galerie de l'Europe
Nov-Dec 2012

New York

Axelle Fine Arts
April-May 2012

Paris

Galerie de l'Europe
Dec 2011-Jan 2012

Istanbul

Galerie Soda
Oct-Nov 2011

New York

Axelle Fine Arts
April 2011

Tokyo

Artemiss Contemporary &
Yellow Cube Gallery
June 2011

The Palace (Bucharest)



The photographs in the *Blizzard* series are presented in large format, between 70 x 105 cm and 80 x 120 cm, depending on the image, in limited editions of 12 or 16 Lambda prints. The exhibition is accompanied by a 32-page catalogue.

Galerie de l'Europe

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