



GEMINI G.E.L. ^{AT} JONI MOISANT WEYL



LA Exuberance 4, 2016

Hand-drawn 3-color blend lithograph
29 7/8 x 29 7/8 (75.9 x 75.9 cm) Edition of 36
TD15-1645

For Immediate Release

Tacita Dean: *LA Exuberance*

February 2 – March 18, 2017

Gemini G.E.L. at Joni Moisant Weyl is pleased to present fifteen new prints by **Tacita Dean**. The exhibition of Dean's work will be on view from February 2nd through March 18th, celebrating the first collaboration of this acclaimed artist with the Gemini workshop. Dean was the Artist in Residence at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles from October 2014 through June 2015, and it was then that she began working with Gemini G.E.L. to develop her first lithographic project, *LA Exuberance*.

Very soon after arriving in Los Angeles, the artist became attracted to the peculiarity of Californian clouds: "What surprised me most about Los Angeles was the one thing I had imagined there would be little of, and that was clouds. These clouds differed from their European counterparts because they were nearly never gray but extremely variable and white; they appeared unconnected to rain, as in Europe, but instead to the imperceptible activity of the winds high above the earth's surface." (Marian Goodman Gallery)

She began an ambitious project, called *...my English breath in foreign clouds*, rendering fifty clouds with various means – chalk on blackboards, chalk spray on slates and overpainted postcards and photographs. Excited by the possibility of working with Gemini G.E.L., she decided to attempt lithography, a medium she had observed for many years but never tried, despite being familiar with printmaking and having worked previously with large-scale photogravure.



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The artist wanted to make the lithographs using drawing rather than photography to originate the images. Initially using cooked toner from old photocopying machines on Mylar and then black chalk spray, she had to learn to make positive marks in order to create a negative effect. Printmaking by its very nature necessitates this, and what began was an extensive engagement working with a medium that behaved in the complete opposite way to what the artist had been used to. The challenge was to find a way to conjure the ephemerality and internal light of Los Angeles clouds with opaque inks. What appears in the final fifteen lithographs to be so apparently easy belies nearly two years of concentrated experiment by the artist and the printers. Despite looking beguilingly photographic, each image is a drawing, built up of between one and three different layers of cloud imagery, printed with blends for the sky of up to six different colors for each run.

Tacita Dean was born in Canterbury, England in 1965. She studied in painting departments both at Falmouth School of Art in Cornwall and for postgraduate at the Slade School of Fine Art in London. Despite being best known for her 16mm films, Dean has always made drawings, which are very central to her practice. She also uses a variety of other mediums, including photography, sound, found objects and printmaking as well as writing often about her own and other artists' work.

Highly regarded, Dean has been the recipient of several prizes including the Hugo Boss Prize (2006) and the Kurt Schwitters Prize (2009). She participated in the Venice Biennale (2003, 2005, and 2013) and dOCUMENTA 13 (2012). Recent solo exhibitions include Fundación Botín, Santander (2013); Instituto Moreira Salles, Rio de Janeiro (2013); New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (2012); MUMOK, Vienna (2011); and Tate Modern Turbine Hall (2011).

For inquires, please contact Chris Santa Maria, Director, at gemini@joniweyl.com

For further information please contact the gallery at: 212-249-3324 or visit www.joniweyl.com