

GEMINI G.E.L. AT JONI MOISANT WEYL

"All the things I am attracted to are just about to disappear"

Tacita Dean, 2011







 $LA\ Magic\ Hour\ 1,\ 6,\ 15\ \ (2021)$ Hand-drawn 3-color blend lithographs Each 29 7/8 x 29 7/8" (75.9 x 75.9 cm) Editions of 42

For Immediate Release

Tacita Dean: LA Magic Hour

February 4 – March 26, 2022

Gemini G.E.L. at Joni Moisant Weyl is pleased to present *LA Magic Hour*, a series of fifteen new prints by **Tacita Dean**. The exhibition of Dean's work, on view beginning February 4, 2022, marks the third collaboration of this acclaimed artist with the Los Angeles-based Gemini G.E.L. workshop.

LA Magic Hour complements Dean's previous lithographic project, LA Exuberance (2016) (also on view), which depicted white clouds contrasted with the bright cerulean blues of a typical Los Angeles sky. This time, the artist has focused on the sunsets of Los Angeles, for which the city is famous. Dean began by working from the many spray chalk drawings she created for LA Exuberance, narrowing the selection down to fifteen. The images were then inverted and rotated to find the desired compositions. Dean took many photographs of colorful west coast sunsets, which were then matched by master printer Jill Lerner through a complex technique of layering transparent and semi-opaque colors. The fifteen lithographs appear effortlessly luminous, capturing the atmospheric space through a balance of blended and contrasting swaths of vivid colors.



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When seen as a whole, the series captures the variety of tones and colors as the sun goes down, taking us through the pale oranges and yellow tinged blues that begin a sunset, all the way to the electric magenta of its last breath. This is not the first time that Dean has taken up the subject of a sunset. The most poignant example is her film *The Green Ray* (2001), when she traveled to a beach in Madagascar to film the last rays of the setting sun in an attempt to capture an optical phenomenon wherein a briefly visible green spot can be seen for a few seconds atop the setting sun. To sit and watch a sunset is an iconic and universally experienced moment that encapsulates the passage of time, whether captured on reels of celluloid film or as still images vis-à-vis lithography.

These cloudscapes depict the eternal mutability of the sky and the earth's motion, separated from any specific horizon line. Dean has been fascinated by natural phenomena throughout her career, and images of trees, oceans, clouds, and landscapes are pervasive. Dean's instinctive ability to focus on an everyday natural phenomenon, such as a sunset, retains the wonder of recognizing the elusive complexity of a cloud in its ephemeral state. Each lithograph in *LA Magic Hour* represents a singular, unique moment in time and in the imagination of the artist, a beautiful synthesis of her fascination and studies in the colors and formations of clouds.

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