

LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

November 20th

'Hurricane Waves'

By

Clifford Ross



Hurricane LXIII, Edition 1/3, 185.5 x 325 cm (framed)

Dubai, UAE: Leila Heller Gallery is pleased to announce American multimedia artist Clifford Ross's solo show, titled 'Hurricane Waves', opening on 20th November 2023.

Clifford Ross's singular goal has been to create work that relates to the sublime in nature. Using both realistic and abstract means to achieve his goals, he often develops radically new approaches to existing media. This exhibition is a collection of dramatic photographs depicting the power of the ocean manifesting through its ever-changing forms during storms. These astonishing images are a testament to Ross's commitment to the expressive powers of realism as well as to the most advanced possibilities of technology.

Ross began his well-known *Hurricane Waves* in 1996, entering the surf during extreme weather, often up to his neck, while tethered to an assistant on land. The result was a series of stunningly dramatic black and white photographs that are among Ross's best-known works. His photographic techniques expanded over time, using digital methods, inkjet printing, and ultimately developing his unique method of printing on wood.

In 2002, Ross invented and patented his revolutionary R1 camera to photograph Mount Sopris in Colorado, which allowed him to produce some of the highest resolution large-scale landscape photographs in the world – his *Mountain* series. More recently, he has developed new techniques for generating computer-based videos, including *Harmonium Mountain I*, with an original score by Philip Glass, and his *Digital Waves*.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in New York City in 1952, Ross graduated from Yale University in 1974, where he received a B.A. in Art and Art History. He began his career as a painter and sculptor, and in 1994 became deeply involved with photography and other media.

The artist's collaborations include work with Pan Gongkai, renowned ink painter and President of the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, Chinese composer and musician, Wu Tong, and work with architects Mack Scogin and Merrill Elam on the Austin Federal Courthouse where he created The Austin Wall, a 3.5-ton, 28' x 28' stained-glass wall. The building and Ross' Wall were recognized with an Honor Award for Federal Design from the U.S. General Services Administration in 2014.

MASS MoCA presented *Landscape: Seen & Imagined*, a major mid-career retrospective in 2015. In conjunction with the exhibition, MIT Press published two companion books, *Hurricane Waves* and *Seen & Imagined: The World of Clifford Ross*, including essays by David Anfam, Quentin Bajac, Phong Bui, Jay Clarke, Arthur Danto, Jack Flam, Nicholas Negroponte, Jock Reynolds, Orville Schell, and Joe Thompson.

Ross' works have been exhibited in museums around the world, and are in many collections including the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Since its establishment over four decades ago in New York, Leila Heller Gallery has gained worldwide recognition as a pioneer in promoting a creative dialogue and exchange between Western artists and Middle Eastern, Central and Southeast Asian artists. It has garnered a reputation for identifying and cultivating the careers of artists leaving a lasting impact on contemporary art and culture. Currently representing a diverse roster of Western, Central Asian, Southeast Asian and Middle Eastern artists, the gallery is also active in the American, European, and Middle Eastern secondary art markets. In November 2015, Leila Heller Gallery opened its first international location in Dubai's Alserkal Avenue. At 16,000 square feet, the state of the art gallery features three exhibition spaces, making it the largest gallery in the UAE. Showcasing leading regional and international artists, many of whom will be presenting their work in the Middle East.

In addition to presenting a dynamic exhibition schedule, Leila Heller Gallery actively organizes shows with world renowned curators, hosts educational panels and film screenings, and produces catalogues and books with scholarly essays. Each year the gallery participates in major international art fairs and stages off-site projects as a platform for exploring new conversations within a wider context of galleries, artists and institutions. Gallery artists have consistently participated in international museum exhibitions and biennials, and are included in leading institutional collections worldwide.