

Michael Lundgren: Geomancy

January 5 - February 23, 2019

Opening Reception: Saturday January 5, 6-8 pm

In Conversation: Thursday, February 21, 6-8 pm with Eric Paddock,
Curator of Photography, Denver Art Museum

EUQINOM Gallery is pleased to announce our first solo exhibition of the work of Michael Lundgren. On view from January 5 - February 23, 2019, *Geomancy*, will feature photographs taken in the American Southwest and Mexico in the last few years.

A metaphysical term, geomancy references the relationship between matter and the spiritual realm through a connection of divination and interpretation. The ability of photography to both resemble, and transform the natural world, reveals itself as a central inquiry in this body of work. Whereas landscape photography has long been devoted to expansive vistas and grandiosity, Lundgren focuses on the unseen and the unaccountable—objects and spaces that seem outside the field of time yet reference the history of an occupied landscape. The photographs imbue monumentality and wonder: are we looking at a pristine object from nature or a human artifact? Was this place made or was it already here?



Lundgren's multi-layered artistic process employs manipulation within the camera, the darkroom and the computer. The resulting images illuminate the sculptural and symbolic resonance of these found objects through the two dimensional nature of the photograph. They are confrontational in their strange, stark beauty, creating an intellectual counterpoint to our idea of nature as humanity's benefactor or Eden—a reminder that nature is indifferent to us, but we cannot afford to be indifferent to nature.

Michael Lundgren, *Remains Found in Drifting Sand*, 2017

"While our experience of nature can be redeeming, it can also be quite terrifying. In my images there is an obsession with nature's indifference. Our cultural identity is separated from the natural world, yet laws of physics do not discriminate between "the environment" and "the man made." By rendering human and natural artifacts as equally symbolic and richly storied, they become icons capable of reflecting these complexities back at us. This has become my current and fundamental challenge as an artist. . . Photographing the elusive, I hope to bring the viewer into a place where their conceptions of the world are interrupted." - Michael Lundgren

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