



Mats Gustafsson x Darren Almond, *Dark Light*
Unique Indian ink drawing by Darren Almond on sleeve
Two vinyls each hand foiled with gold and silver leaf
Artwork: Darren Almond
Music: Mats Gustafsson
Series of 50 + 10 APs, each unique

Light, 15'06"
Dark, 14'59"

Galerie Max Hetzler is pleased to announce a collaborative limited edition record comprising a unique artwork by Darren Almond and music by free jazz musician Mats Gustafsson, produced on the occasion of Almond's exhibition, *Dark Light* on view at Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris.

Exploring the notions of dark and light, this collaborative album features two vinyls — one black and one clear — each with an artwork by Almond on one side, and music by Gustafsson on the other. In his improvised and experimental composition, Gustafsson who sees music as colour, density and form responds to these works through an innovative use of the saxophone as a conduit for breath. In *Light*, breath, usually silent and invisible, becomes an audible materialisation of air and life. In *Dark*, the layered sounds are pushed to their extreme and pared back to their essence, reflecting the subtleties of nightfall, the shades that are obscured and become one before revealing themselves again over time.

Handfoiled onto each of the records are abstracted numerical digits in gold and silver, pure conductors of light. When played, the clear record reveals the numbers orbiting on the reverse, occasionally catching the light as it spins, while the black record obscures the presence of the image. Playing on synesthesia, the spinning numbers respond to the sound.

Almond comments "there aren't many soloists on the planet that have the range and capabilities of Mats Gustafsson when it comes to describing landscape. Born in Lapland you can feel the Far North in his improvisations. When I was introduced to him and his music by Max Hetzler, I was taken aback by his deep rooted connection to the landscape. It's embedded deep inside him and ranges from the great thaw to the vast expanses of the night sky. I'm privileged to have him

respond to this exhibition in Paris at Galerie Max Hetzler. Dark/Light by definition is unquantifiable just like Gustafsson's response. Limitless, singular, and awesome in its detailing. When sound becomes land, land becomes light and light becomes human."

Darren Almond's solo exhibition "Dark Light" is on view at Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris until 4 June 2021.

—

Darren Almond (*1971, Wigan, United Kingdom) lives and works in London. In 2005, he was nominated for the Turner Prize, and in 1996 he was awarded the Art & Innovation Prize by the Institute of Contemporary Art, London. Almond's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at international institutions including Jesus College, Cambridge (2019); Villa Pignatelli-Casa della Fotografia, Naples (2018); Mudam, Luxembourg (2017); Museum Sinclair Haus, Bad Homburg (2016); SCAI the Bathhouse, Tokyo (2016); Kunsthaus Graz, Graz (2015); Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire, Chaumont-sur-Loire (2012); Villa Merkel, Esslingen (2011); and FRAC Haute Normandie, Sotteville-lès-Rouen (2011), among others. Almond's works are in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago; Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris; Fondation Beyeler, Basel; Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Paris; FRAC Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand; FRAC Haute Normandie, Sotteville-lès-Rouen; Kramlich Collection, San Francisco; Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, Montréal; Museum Folkwang, Essen; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Gallery, London; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary, Vienna; and Queensland Art Collection, Brisbane, among others.

Mats Gustafsson (*1964, Umeå, Sweden) lives and works in Nickelsdorf, Austria. He is a saxophone player, improviser and composer. He has performed both as a solo artist and in international tours and projects with a.o. Sonic Youth, Merzbow, Jim O'Rourke, Barry Guy, Otomo Yoshihide, Yoshimi, Peter Brötzmann, Neneh Cherry, Christian Marclay, Albert Oehlen, Ken Vandermark and in working groups FIRE!, THE END, LUFT, ANGUISH and Gush. Gustafsson has performed in over 2000 concerts and over 250 record productions in Europe, Australia, Africa, North & South America and Asia. He has also collaborated with contemporary dance, theatre, art, poetry as well as projects with noise, electronica, contemporary rock and free jazz.

Further exhibitions:

29 April - 12 June 2021

Raymond Hains

Bleibtreustraße 45, 10623 Berlin

28 April – 14 August 2021

Albert Oehlen

unverständliche braune Bilder

Goethestraße 2/3, 10623 Berlin

Bleibtreustraße 15/16, 10623 Berlin

4 May – 16 June 2021

Carroll Dunham | Albert Oehlen

41 Dover Street, London W1S 4NS

June - August 2021

Ai Weiwei

Marbre, Porcelaine, Lego

57, rue du Temple, Paris 75004

Press contact:

Natalia Fuller

natalia@maxhetzler.com

London: +44 (0) 77 96 45 81 77

www.maxhetzler.com

www.instagram.com/galeriemaxhetzler

www.facebook.com/galeriemaxhetzler

www.twitter.com/hetzlergallery