

Solo Show Preview

Carine Magescas: 'The Surge'

by Tanya Mirza

A French transplant living in the United States, Carine Magescas' vision is endowed with a placeless, timeless sensibility: she creates images of the familiar that speak to the universal, allowing viewers to collectively find quiet sanctuary in her dreamlike seascapes. Through delicate overexposure and a minimalist approach, Carine captures a luminous haven of subdued serenity, summoning a surge of introspective awakening within her audience. As such, her oeuvre limns a metaphysical experience, beyond the form and function of space and time.

Carine photographed her collection off-season, with access to some of the most iconic American beaches in Montauk and on the Northern coast of California. Fascination with the human story, particularly in its immensity and meekness, paradoxically comes alive when human presence is at its scarcest – the banal suddenly becomes reverie. This can be seen in Carine's "Out of Time" in which a lack of subject matter arouses a sharp separation from the friction of daily life and its infinite inhabitants. Our surfers rendering shadowed silhouettes lined with silver thus achieve a holistic, Yin Yang state of being – higher in awareness, each vertical figure emerges toward the universal. Recurring throughout Carine's photographs, one piece in particular emanates this carefully constructed theme.

Off-season means quiet, though by no means static – the vast expanses of shoreline and beach in Carine's images, rid of all seasonal furor, bring forth a spontaneous sense of internal armistice and alignment with the now. In and of themselves, photographs are testaments to the ephemeral; one must sit and converse with the shot to fully understand and endure a single captured moment. The images in 'The Surge' series dissolve into the viewer's consciousness like a tablet in a glass of water: the blues, the powdery sand, the contemplative skies existing far from visceral anxieties of daily life.

'The Surge' series is a true sight to be seen and felt through its reflective nature and visual aesthetic; after experiencing Carine Magescas' exceptional artistry, you will inherently be led toward a path of self-actualization through the pondering of existence and its beauty – the beauty that lies subtly, in all moments of contemplation.