

# MASSIMODECARLO

JIM HODGES

LOVE POWER

Massimo De Carlo in Hong Kong is pleased to present *LOVE POWER*, a new solo exhibition by Jim Hodges, the second with the gallery, and the first presentation of Jim Hodges' work in Asia.

The exhibition presents five new works that use some of the artist's signature materials such as glass, 24 karat gold leaf, acrylic on linen, and linked-together metal chains forming spider webs: that are icons within Hodges's career which spans over thirty years. The subtle allusions to natural landscapes (such as the sky, the reflections of water, the outline of trees and flower petals) are translated into abstraction. The meticulousness of the materials urges the viewer to intimately interact with the work up-close. In fact, many works focus on our perception of time and gravitate towards scenes of transformation.

Jim Hodges is well-known for orchestrating movement between works in relationship with the space and between each other. The often-marginalized corner is here used as a focal point, and the works cannot be seen altogether at the same time, but each one links to the next. Vibrations, and echoes appear in different intensities. Using poetic gestures, seemingly simple materials are used to transmit emotions and draw attention to the passing of time and ultimately to mortality. For example, 24 karat gold is a material that changes its luminosity with the time of day, and despite its fragile thinness can endure outdoor weather and will not decay. There are gestures that affirm and gestures that deny. The three paintings on linen form a loose trilogy, progressing with subliminal symbolic colors from black, to black and gold, to gold and white.

The exhibition also brings together several important innovations. For the first time, two contrasting metals are present in one of the largest spider web works to date: 9 black brass webs simultaneously conceal and reveal 8 gold webs underneath (the first spider web piece was made in 1989). This is also the first time that gold leaf has been overlaid on a black field painting. In 2009, smaller works from this series using paper were part of the retrospective at the Centre Pompidou, Paris (which traveled to Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice and Camden Art Centre, London). The gold leaf paintings originate from an intuitive drawing practice that is then traced. The sharp and perfect symmetry in *All Days as One* represents a sort of constant or promise. However, the automatic mark making in the black acrylic painting *Door of was* is more mercurial. *From the door of was (through)* provides an in between. This thread of a dual nature evokes ideas of truth and denial, love and loss, identity and hope. These new works by Jim Hodges were conceived over a two year period, and realized specifically for the audience in Hong Kong.

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## JIM HODGES

Jim Hodges was born in Spokane, Washington, USA in 1957. He lives and works in New York. A new monograph will be published by Phaidon in 2021. Recent solo exhibitions include: Jim Hodges, Pizzuti Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio (2019); Unearthed, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco (2019); tracing the contours of our days, Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, CO (2017); I dreamed a world and called it Love, Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY (2016); With Liberty and Justice for All, The Moody Rooftop, The Contemporary Austin, Austin, Texas, USA (2016); With Liberty and Justice For All (A Work in Progress), Aspen Art Museum, Colorado, USA (2015/2014); Jim Hodges: Give More Than You Take, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, USA (2014) and at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, USA (2014- 2015). Jim Hodges's work is included in prestigious public collections such as: Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA; The Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas, USA; The Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA; The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C., USA; Musée National, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California, USA; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA; The Whitney Museum, New York, USA.

### **Hard Facts:**

Massimo De Carlo, Hong Kong  
3rd Floor Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central, Hong Kong  
From September 10th until October 29th, 2020  
Open Monday to Saturday, 10:30am – 7:00pm

### **Information:**

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