Maryam Eisler

Imagining Tina:
A Dialogue With Edward Weston

PRIVATE VIEW
Wednesday 6th February 6 - 8.30pm

7th February - 2nd March 2019
Tuesday-Saturday, 11am - 6pm

Tristan Hoare is delighted to present Maryam Eisler's second solo exhibition, *Imagining Tina: A Dialogue With Edward Weston.*

For this series, Maryam reimagines the passionate love affair between the great American photographer Edward Weston and fellow photographer, muse, lover, and activist Tina Modotti. Eisler attempts to relive Edward and Tina's revolutionary and bohemian "Mexico" years, all the while imagining Tina through Edward's intimate gaze. Eisler's camera seeks the sensuous whilst painting contours with shadow and light.

The series was shot on Wildcat Hill in Carmel, California, where Edward Weston lived from 1938 until his death in 1958. The "Little Grey Home in the West" is now home to Edward's grandson, fine-art photographer, Kim Weston and his wife, Gina.

The exhibition consists of 19 sensual monochrome Platinum prints. Each one produced by the master Platinum printer, Martin Axon, whose craft has been used by many of the big names in the industry, among them Robert Maplethorpe, Host P. Horst, Annie Leibowitz and Patrick Demarchelier. The process involves printing on natural deckled edge *Arches Platine* paper, especially commissioned by Martin at the Arches paper mill in France.

"Whilst visiting the home of Edward Weston near Carmel in California, I stood in Edward's original dark room, surrounded by his objects, all maintained as he had left them. These objects found in their original soulful setting triggered my own journey of creative fantasy. And, so I began to re-imagine Edward and Tina's tumultuous affair, transported by time, space and place. It is the passion in their relationship and the role of Tina as muse, but also as a temptress, a collaborator and an instigator which has intrigued me for years.

Photographing at Weston's home, I realised without conscious intent that I was, for the first time, honing in on the body, with an emphasis on purity of form, whilst attempting to extract an essence of the Sublime Feminine through shadow and light, the recurrent theme in my oeuvre. I was intent to present a closer and more intimate view of Woman; to give a visual interpretation of how I imagined Edward looking at Tina, at the height of their passion, all the while travelling a fine line between lust and trust, between the untouchable and the intimate."

Maryam Eisler

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Maryam Eisler is an Iranian-born, London-based photographer and editor. She holds a BA in Political Science from Wellesley College and an MBA from Columbia University.

Maryam co-chairs Tate's MENAAC Acquisitions Committee and is a trustee of the Whitechapel Gallery, an Ambassador for Unseen Photo Fair, sits on the advisory board of Photo London, and is a nominator for the Prix Pictet photography prize. Maryam is also a contributing Editor to LUX Magazine (Conde Nast) and has made a number of photographic and editorial contributions to Vanity Fair on Art, LUX, Vogue Arabia, Harper's Bazaar Art and Harpers Bazaar Interiors . Her latest book, Voices East London (Thames and Hudson) and for which she is both author and photographer, was published in November 2017.

Maryam's photographic work is represented by London-based gallery, Tristan Hoare and NY-based gallery Harper's Books.

Maryam has additionally shown at Photo London, at Unseen in Amsterdam and at The Dallas Art Fair.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Tristan Hoare was based in Notting Hill at Lichfield Studios from 2009 to 2014. In September 2016, Tristan Hoare opened its new premises at Six Fitzroy Square, a Grade I listed building, designed by the architect Robert Adam. Tristan Hoare represents both emerging and established contemporary artists.

PRESS ENQUIRIES

Blanche Parris – Gallery Manager

blanche@tristanhoare.co.uk

 +44 (0) 207 383 4484

www.tristanhoare.co.uk

@tristanhoare