



Over the Influence presents

Liz Nielsen

I Like to Imagine You're in a Place Like This

Exhibition dates: 20 November to 24 December 2021



Liz Nielsen, *Staring at the Moon*, 202, Analog chromogenic photogram, on Fujiflex, 125.1 x 188 cm (49 1/4 x 74 in), 136.5 x 199.4 cm framed (53 3/4 x 78 1/2 in framed), Unique, Courtesy of the Artist and Over the Influence. Photo credit the Artist.

Over the Influence Los Angeles is pleased to present *I like to Imagine You're in a Place Like This*, Liz Nielsen's first solo exhibition at the gallery. Comprised of 20 unique pieces, Liz's work is ethereal in nature and made with light. The exhibition is on view from 20 November to 24 December 2021.

I like to Imagine You're in a Place Like This features new large-scale photogram paintings saturated in rich liquid color. The first gallery features abstracted shapes from landforms that are recontextualized and made into new landscapes existing in their own space and dimension. In another, still-lives of floating stones, water towers, and a chandelier called the 'Pendulum Matrix' hover, gravity-less, on white backgrounds hung on black walls which further accentuate their glow. And in the project space, smaller transparent works are attached perpendicularly to the wall like stained-glass signs, spot lit, spilling their imagery onto their holding surfaces with rippling, mirrored vibrancy.

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Visually lyrical and engaging, the works invite viewers to enter into airy worlds and leave the weight of reality behind. The artist does not use a camera, film, or an enlarger. Instead, Nielsen makes drawings and builds her own “negatives”, layer by layer, placing transparent and opaque objects directly on top of light-sensitive materials. She exposes them to a variety of light sources, and then processes them with traditional color chemicals, allowing the light to fall upon the work in a systematic order. The result is an otherworldly effect that seemingly appears to sit on top of the paper and inside of it at the same time.

The works in *I Like to Imagine You're in a Place Like This* envelope viewers in gentle pastel hues that create a dreamy and calm visual experience. Nielsen's early studies in philosophy, and her continued interest in quantum physics, are apparent in the experience of the artworks. The Landscapes are inter-dimensional in nature, simultaneously existing in more than one time and place. Forms are fluid, languidly taking shape in this grouping, dancing with the swaying curves of the colors and light play. The Still Life pieces, meanwhile, radiate their own iridescent glow as they float, appearing as if “captured” in the center of the frames; stoic beings that allude to the cosmic alignments of the celestial spheres.

Liz is recognized as an experimental artist whose analog color photogram continue to push the boundaries of photography and art making. The juicy edges of the colors are slightly blurry, being as they actually are a composite of many exposures on top of and next to one another. The light waves are one of the fastest measurements “we” know, and they are always in movement until the moment they are collapsed into particles and recorded onto Nielsen's surfaces. Though each composition is meticulously planned, working with the medium of light in complete darkness amplifies all the vast and varied characteristics of unpredictability which are then captured on the work's surfaces, revealed only when developed. Drawn though Nielsen is to photography as a way of capturing cognitive sight, these works strike many viewers as closer in form to paintings.

As the process itself requires, the works are quite literally bathed in light, instilling them with a connection to consciousness and the higher self. *I Like to Imagine You're in a Place Like This*, surrounded with love and gratitude, and wrapped in light.

Location

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