

GAGOSIAN

October 17, 2017



BRICE MARDEN

EXTENDED!
Through Friday, December 22, 2017

20 Grosvenor Hill
London WC1K 3QD

I kept putting the same color on—the same color, the same color—but every time I put it on it was different. Each time it was this whole new light/color experience. It was not a revelation, but a whole wonderful new experience... To me, it involves harnessing some of the powers of the earth. Harnessing and communicating.
—Brice Marden

Gagosian is pleased to present Brice Marden's new paintings, his first exhibition in London since the Serpentine Gallery in 2000.

A singular painter who has extended and refined the traditions of lyrical abstraction, Marden is a master of color and touch, from the subtle, shimmering monochromes of his earlier career to the calligraphic compositions that characterize the last three decades. Recently, Marden has turned his attention to the qualities of monochrome again, turning his gaze to the expansive possibilities of *terre verte* (green earth), an iron silicate/clay pigment. *Terre verte* came into use during the Renaissance, its greenish hue and innate transparency serving as a base to balance flesh tones; Marden first used it in connection with the *Grove Group* paintings of the 1970s (exhibited at Gagosian New York in 1991).

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Since resuming his engagement with *terre verte* Marden has begun layering oil paint of this single color, focusing his conditions in order to heighten them, so to speak. Thus *terre verte* is both medium *and* subject for Marden as he explores its chromatic nuances while reflecting on the material exigencies of painting itself. For a series of ten new, identically sized paintings measuring eight by six feet, he has employed ten different brands of *terre verte* oil paint—from his favored Williamsburg to Holbein and Sennelier, among others—each a variation on the indefinable hue. The slow-drying paint is thinned and applied gradually to the canvas in many successive veils, building a surface of transparent yet intense color. The contingent residue of these layers forms a visible record of the painting process at the lower edge of each canvas.

With the new paintings, Marden will also exhibit *Eastern Moss* (2012–15), a smaller nine-panel work that prompted his renewed fascination with the complexities of natural color and human scale.

On Saturday, September 30, 11AM–12PM, Marden will appear in conversation with Gary Hume and Tim Marlow at The Royal Academy of Arts, London. Buy your tickets [here](#).

Brice Marden was born in 1938 in Bronxville, NY and currently lives and works in New York. He studied at Boston University School of Fine Arts and Yale University School of Art and Architecture. Major institutional exhibitions include “Brice Marden: Cold Mountain,” Dia Center for the Arts, New York (1991, traveled to Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; the Menil Collection, Houston; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; and Städtisches Kunstmuseum, Bonn, Germany); “Brice Marden, Work of the 1990s: Paintings, Drawings, and Prints,” Dallas Museum of Art, TX (1999, traveled to Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Miami Art Museum, FL; and Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA); and “Brice Marden: A Retrospective of Paintings and Drawings,” Museum of Modern Art, New York (2006, traveled to San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin).

Image: Portrait of Brice Marden. Photo by Eric Piasecki.

For further inquiries please contact the gallery at london@gagosian.com or at +44.207.495.1500. All images are subject to copyright. Gallery approval must be granted prior to reproduction.

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