

## JOHN CHIARA In Camera: American Landscapes

7 avril - 4 juin 2016



John Chiara, *Horseshoe Ramp at Mississippi*, 2015, série Mississippi  
Image sur papier Ilfochrome, 127 x 138.4 cm, photographie unique

[Please scroll down for the English version](#)

NextLevel est heureuse de présenter la première monographie à Paris de l'artiste John Chiara, qui constitue aussi sa première exposition personnelle en Europe.

John Chiara (américain, né en 1971, vit et travaille à San Francisco) repousse les limites du médium photographique par son choix de procédé et la maîtrise de ses possibilités. Son approche se distingue par son incroyable matérialité et rappelle les prémices du médium photographique, lorsque les artistes étaient confrontés à un équipement lourd et peu pratique, demandant de longs temps d'exposition ainsi que de longs délais de développement. Son appareil photographique, qu'il a conçu et construit lui-même, est transporté à l'aide d'une remorque à plateau pour produire des images uniques de grands formats.

La conception de son appareil photographique, proche du daguerréotype, permet à l'artiste de prendre simultanément en photographie et d'effectuer son travail en chambre noire alors même que ses images sont enregistrées directement sur du papier photosensible surdimensionné (pas de pellicule). Ce procédé, que Chiara découvrit lorsqu'il était étudiant en 1999, invite toutes formes d'anomalies dans ses impressions finales et ajoute du mystère et du lyrisme dans ses images.

John Chiara a étudié la photographie à l'Université de l'Utah (Bachelor Photographie 1995) et au California College of the Arts (Master Photographie 2004). Chiara était en Résidence d'artistes à Crown Point Press à San Francisco (2006), à la Gallery Four, Baltimore (2010) et au Marin Headlands Center for the Arts (2010). En 2011, son projet « Bridge » a été commissionné par la Fondation Pilara à San Francisco et a été inclu dans l'exposition de groupe « Here » à Pier 24 Photography. En 2012, Chiara était l'un des 13 artistes internationaux dont le travail était inclu dans l'exposition « Crown Point Press at Fifty » au Musée des Beaux-Arts de San Francisco. Il a également été commissaire de l'exposition « In Conversation – June Schwarcz and John Chiara », au Richmond Art Center. La Fondation Pilara a de nouveau chargé Chiara en 2013 du commissariat de l'exposition de groupe « A Sence of Place » à Pier 24 Photography. Simultanément, le travail de Chiara a été exposé dans l'exposition « TWISTED SISTERS : Reimaging Urban Portraiture », au Musée Bärengasse à Zurich (Suisse) et dans « Staking Claim : A California Invitational » au Museum of Photographic Art de San Diego.

Son travail est aujourd'hui présent dans de nombreuses collections privées et publiques: J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; Pilara Foundation, San Francisco; National Gallery of Art, Washington; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University, Milwaukee; Yale Gallery of Art, Cambridge; Flat Files Collection, Pierogi 2000, Williamsburg, NY; Crown Point Press Archive, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; Crown Point Press Archive, National Gallery of Art, Washington; Harry Ransom Center, Austin; Collection Freese Family; Collection Kerstin Morehead et du Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego.

En 2015, le travail de John Chiara a été présenté dans l'exposition de groupe « Light, Paper, Process: Reinventing Photography » sous le commissariat de Virginia Heckert au J. Paul Getty Museum.

[Lien](#) documentaire

John Chiara - Photographic Process

Experimenting, Spark on PBS, Original air date: May 2006. (Running Time: 7:16) KQED Channel 9

## JOHN CHIARA In Camera: American Landscapes

7 April - 4 June 2016



John Chiara, *Horseshoe Ramp at Mississippi*, 2015, from Mississippi series  
Image on Ilfochrome paper, 50 x 54.5 inches (127 x 138.4 cm), unique photograph

NextLevel is thrilled to present John Chiara's first solo exhibition with the gallery and for the first time in Europe.

San Francisco-based artist John Chiara (born in 1971) pushes the boundaries of the photographic medium through his choice of process and the mastery of its possibilities. His approach is distinguished by its incredible physicality and recalls the early days of the medium when artists dealt with heavy, awkward equipment and endured long exposure and development times. Chiara's giant cameras, which he designed and built himself, are transported to locations on a flatbed trailer to produce one-of-a-kind large-scale prints. The design of the cameras, which is much like daguerreotype box cameras, allows the artist to simultaneously shoot and perform his darkroom work while images are recorded directly onto oversized photosensitive paper (not film). This process, which Chiara first discovered as a student in 1999, invites anomalies in his final prints and adds to the mystery and lyricism of his pictures.

John Chiara received his B.F.A. in Photography from the University of Utah in 1995, and his M.F.A. in Photography from the California College of the Arts in 2004. Chiara was an Artist in Residence at Crown Point Press, San Francisco (2006), Gallery Four, Baltimore (2010) and the Marin Headlands Center for the Arts (2010). In 2011 Chiara's Bridge Project was commissioned by the Pilara Foundation in San Francisco and was included in the Pier 24 Photography group exhibition, HERE. In 2012 Chiara was one of 13 international artists' whose work was included in the exhibition Crown Point Press at Fifty at the de Young, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. He also curated the dual-exhibition In Conversation - June Schwarcz and John Chiara, at the Richmond Art Center. The Pilara Foundation again commissioned Chiara in 2013, for the group exhibition A Sense of Place at Pier 24 Photography. Concurrently, Chiara's work is included in TWISTED SISTERS: Reimagining Urban Portraiture, Museum Bärengasse, Zurich, Switzerland and Staking Claim: A California Invitational, a triennial exhibition at the San Diego Museum of Photographic Art. In 2015, John Chiara's works were exhibited at the J. Paul Getty Museum for the group show Light, Paper, Process, Reinventing Photography.

The artist's work is in the permanent public and private collections of the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; Pilara Foundation, San Francisco; National Gallery of Art, Washington; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University, Milwaukee; Yale Gallery of Art, Cambridge; Flat Files Collection, Pierogi 2000, Williamsburg, NY; Crown Point Press Archive, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; Crown Point Press Archive, National Gallery of Art, Washington; Harry Ransom Center, Austin; Freese Family Collection; Kerstin Morehead Collection; Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego among others.

In 2015, works by John Chiara were included in the exhibition "Light, Paper, Process: Reinventing Photography" curated by Virginia Heckert at the J. Paul Getty Museum.

Television documentary [link](#)

John Chiara - Photographic Process

Experimenting, Spark on PBS, Original air date: May 2006. (Running Time: 7:16) KQED Channel 9



John Chiara  
*Horseshoe Ramp at Mississippi, 2015*  
Mississippi series

Image on Ilfochrome paper  
50 x 54.5 inches (127 x 138.4 cm)  
Unique photograph



John Chiara  
*Sepulveda at Mississippi (Variation A)*, 2012  
Los Angeles series

Image on Ilfochrome paper  
33.5 x 28.5 inches (85 x 72.4 cm)  
Unique photograph



John Chiara  
*Foothill at Balboa, (Variation B)*, 2012  
Los Angeles series

Image on Endura transparency  
33.25 x 29.5 inches (84.5 x 74.9 cm)  
Unique photograph

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