

PAUL CUPIDO: 4 A.M 3 SEPT – 31 OCT 2021

Presented in Print Sales Gallery at The Photographers' Gallery, *4 am* is the first UK solo exhibition from Dutch photographer, Paul Cupido (b.1972).

Fleeting, ephemeral, abstract and dream-like, Cupido's work is inspired by Japanese photography as well as his travels there. His subjects encompass landscape, portraiture, and still life; presenting stylised compositions in which shadowy figures float in abstracted settings and natural forms emerge from darkness – complete, but seemingly unattached to the concrete world.

His affinity for the natural world was initially born out of a childhood spent on the island of Terschelling, Netherlands, and informed his interest in reflecting the impermanence and fleetingness of life through the changing seasons, the ebb and flow of tides, and the cycles of the moon.

The influence of Japanese art and philosophical principles – especially that of '*mu*' permeates Cupido's creative practice. An important concept in Zen tradition and Buddhist teaching, the term *mu* in Japanese translates loosely as "have not" or "without". Advocates propose it as a way of breaking through the 'conceptual fog' that can get in the way of true experience or enlightenment, suggesting that we equally consider what isn't seen or obvious with what is. This invitation to look beyond the visible is a core part of the experience of engaging with Cupido's economy of form and lyrical compositions.

Cupido works with both analogue film and digital, shooting widely while on his travels and reflecting on the results later, enabling a renewed journey of discovery. He favours analogue printing, where he harnesses simple techniques such as water droplets or light flares to add surrealist effects and is rigorous in his attention to the quality of printing and his choice of paper stock. In addition to his limited-edition pigment prints, Cupido has also produced a carbon print diptych with gold sheet and cyano-pigments and a set of Toyobo technique prints using non-toxic chemicals on metal plates.

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"I aim to engage with the world with wide-open senses. My work is about the magic moments of life as well as its inconveniences...Through photography, I learned to see and accept the true beauty of the essence of life." - Paul Cupido

Limited edition prints are available **from €1,400 + VAT**, with all works available to purchase directly from printsales.thephotographersgallery.org.uk.

-ENDS-

Press Contacts:

For interview requests, press materials and more information please contact:

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Notes for Editors:

Full artist bio available on request

Print Sales

Print Sales at The Photographers' Gallery is committed to offering expert advice to a new generation of collectors as well as major buyers, corporate collections and public institutions. It strives to provide opportunities for supporting and promoting emerging photographic talent alongside more established names. Print Sales currently represents thirty-five photographers and offers British and international, modern and vintage work for sale. In addition to these Print Sales also offers rare buying opportunities through its scheme of Gallery Editions in which world-renowned photographers and artists donate a limited-edition print of their work to help support the Gallery. Each year the Print Sales space stages five selling exhibitions highlighting the works of its represented photographers. All profits from the sale of photographic works at Print Sales goes back to support the public programme of The Photographers' Gallery. To see the full list of represented photographers and works available for purchase please visit www.thephotographersgallery.org.uk



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THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY

PRESS IMAGES

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3 SEPT - 31 OCT 2021



Image 1

Paul Cupido
Clair de Lune, 2018
Courtesy of the artist



Image 2

Paul Cupido
Umi, 2019
Courtesy of the artist

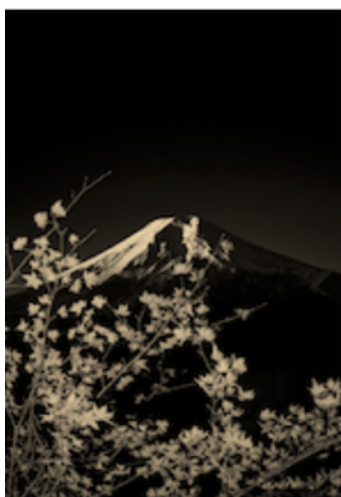


Image 3

Paul Cupido
Mt Fuji #3, 2019
Courtesy of the artist



Image 4

Paul Cupido
Blue/Gold, 2021
Courtesy of the artist



Image 5

Paul Cupido
Estudi Azuriel, 2019
Courtesy of the artist



Image 6

Paul Cupido
Moon Addict II, 2021
Courtesy of the artist

Press information

For further press information and image requests for exhibitions please contact: Grace Gabriele-Tighe or Harriet Black at Margaret PR on +44 (0) 20 7739 8203 or emails grace@margaretlondon.com or harriet@margaretlondon.com

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