

LÉVY GORVY

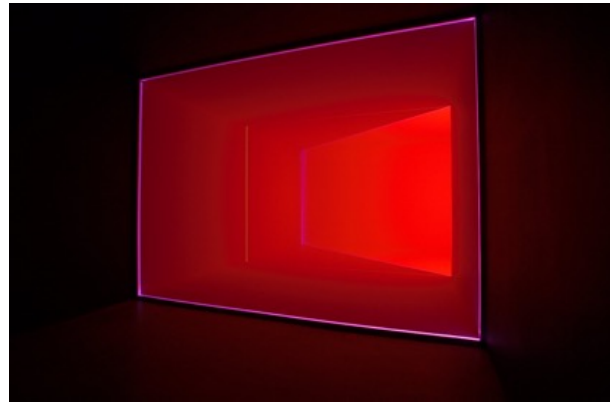
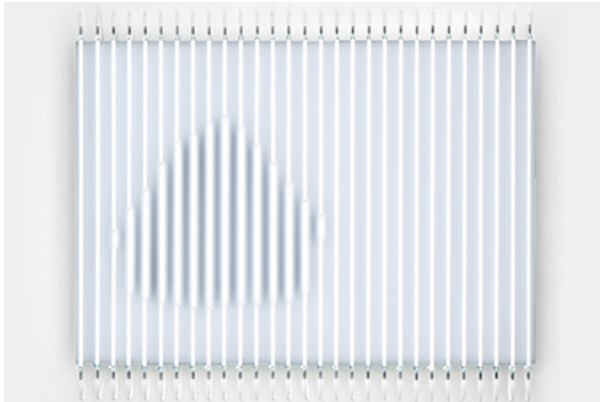
LÉVY GORVY'S NEW YORK GALLERY TO GLOW THIS SUMMER

PRESENTING ILLUMINATED INSTALLATIONS BY FRANÇOIS MORELLET AND JAMES TURRELL

Neon in Daylight: François Morellet **Depth Perception: James Turrell**

June 28 – August 17, 2018

Lévy Gorvy
909 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10021



LEFT: François Morellet, *Démonétisation n°5 (La meule)*, 2009, Neon and acrylic on canvas mounted on wood, 49 1/4 x 59 1/16 Inches (125 x 150 cm), Edition 1 of 3. © 2018 François Morellet / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / ADAGP, Paris.
RIGHT: James Turrell, *Wedgework V*, 1974, Fluorescent light, fibre optic, Dimensions variable. © James Turrell.

New York, NY — As the sun stretches into its longest days, we immerse ourselves in summer's slower modulations of daylight, its protracted evenings and shorter shadows. We find renewed pleasure in the city's lights—the streams of car headlights on the parkway, the flicker of streetlamps in the parks, the meteors that tear through the sky above it all. "Neon in daylight is a great pleasure," wrote Frank O'Hara of the uncanny glow of lamps that burn despite the hour.

Beginning June 28, 2018, Lévy Gorvy will present *Neon in Daylight: François Morellet* and *Depth Perception: James Turrell*, summer exhibitions celebrating the phenomena of light. Both Turrell and Morellet have turned to light as a revelation in itself, rather than a source that illuminates another object. The gallery will feature seminal works by each artist—five late neon sculptures by Morellet and Turrell's 1974 installation *Wedgework V*. Together, these installations invite visitors to engage issues of light and perception.

Neon in Daylight: François Morellet also marks the beginning of Lévy Gorvy's representation of the estate of the French artist in the United States.

About the Exhibition

Light shapes experience. From Vermeer to the painters of the Hudson River School and pioneers of Minimalism, artists have tested its relationship to new perceptual depths. Working in different contexts, Morellet and Turrell each focus the viewer on ways in which light connects internal experience with perception of the world beyond the confines of one's own body. Both artists began working with light in the 1960s: Morellet experimented with neon tubes as a member of the opto-kinetic Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel in Paris, and Turrell with projections as part of the Southern

California Light and Space movement. Both make light a bodily experience, whether through the disorientation and pleasure of perceptual distortion, or the afterimage that persists in the viewer's gaze.

François Morellet, *Neon in Daylight*

The five neon sculptures comprising *Neon in Daylight* reveal Morellet's unique mixing of rigorous neutrality and wry humor. Two 2012 works from the *Ready Remake* series, for example, place subtle silhouettes referencing Duchamp and Manzoni—*Fountain*, and *Merda d'artista*—under neat vertical arrangements of white neon tubes. *Démonétisation n°5 (La Meule)* (2009) employs the same technique in a nod to Monet. Destabilizing the viewer's perception in both somatic and intellectual ways, Morellet's work is experienced actively, as a sequence of unfolding revelations dawn on the viewer.

James Turrell, *Wedgework V*

Turrell's uncanny room-spanning installation belongs to the artist's landmark *Wedgework* series, in which projected light creates an illusion of structure. Initiated in 1969, this body of work clarified the artist's mission to display light in isolation, for its own sake: "I'm interested in the thingness of light itself," he explained. Exemplifying this is the luminous optical sleight of *Wedgework V*. Red fluorescent light is paired with light-reflective paint to produce a vertiginous spatial effect wherein the gallery appears to expand beyond the logic of its architecture.

About Lévy Gorvy

Lévy Gorvy cultivates a program devoted to innovation and connoisseurship in the fields of modern, postwar, and contemporary art. Founded by Dominique Lévy and Brett Gorvy, Lévy Gorvy embodies expertise, depth of knowledge, and a passion for art. The gallery fosters continued dedication to the living artists and artists' estates it represents and pursues a robust program of exhibitions and multidisciplinary events at its locations in New York's Upper East Side and in Mayfair, London. The gallery conducts ongoing art historical research, publishing original scholarship, exhibition catalogues, monographs, and other key scholarly resources. Lévy Gorvy also offers bespoke art advisory services, expanding its global reach with the opening of an office in Shanghai last year, and the launch of a new office in Zürich in November 2018.

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