

## Richard Learoyd: A Loathing of Clocks and Mirrors

March 7 – April 26, 2025  
508 West 25th Street  
New York



Richard Learoyd, *Untitled Portrait*, 2024 © Richard Learoyd, courtesy Pace Gallery

New York – Pace is pleased to present an exhibition of recent work by photographer Richard Learoyd at its 508 West 25th Street gallery in New York. On view from March 7 to April 26, the exhibition will feature a selection of photographs Learoyd produced with his custom-built camera obscura between 2018 and 2025. Deeply inspired by Dutch Golden Age painting, Learoyd's latest works take viewers on a journey through intimate moments and intricate details, examining the relationship between subject, light, and space. The photographs on display explore a range of subjects, from hauntingly evocative portraits to still-life compositions that breathe life into the simplest of objects.

Learoyd's unique photographic processes require an immense degree of technical precision, resulting in incredibly detailed, luminous prints with a tactile richness rarely seen in contemporary photography. Reflecting on the delicate interplay between light, shadow, and form, Learoyd's work is imbued with a surreal, auratic presence that speaks to his enduring interest in the notion of collective photographic memory—the idea that a picture can be felt and understood on a subconscious level. The artist is renowned for his masterful use of light and his ability to capture the profound depth and stillness of the human experience.

"Light and space have always been central to my work," Learoyd explains. "I want to capture more than just an image; I want to convey a sense of time, intimacy, and presence—things that transcend the immediate and evoke a more timeless feeling."

Highlights in the exhibition, carefully curated by Learoyd, include a photograph of clasped hands, an ode to Alfred Stieglitz's images of Georgia O'Keeffe's hands from the first half of the 20th century. Also on view will be the artist's most recent body of work, a series of photographs created using a new and transformative process of multiple impression printing layered with hand coated gesso on canvas. These multi-dimensional works showcase the artist's exploration of depth, texture, time, and the relationship between photography and materiality.

In recent years, Learoyd has mounted solo exhibitions at the Fundació Mapfre Casa Garriga Nogués in Barcelona, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Getty Center in Los Angeles, and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. His upcoming presentation at Pace in New York will coincide with AIPAD's 2025 Photography Show at the Park Avenue Armory, where the gallery will organize a special program with the artist—further details will be announced in due course.

**Richard Learoyd** (b. 1966, Lancashire, United Kingdom) uses a camera obscura to create large-scale portraits, still lifes, nudes, and landscape photographs in color and black-and-white. After using large-format cameras in the early 1990s as a student at the Glasgow School of Art—studying under landscape photographer Thomas Joshua Cooper—Learoyd revisited the format around 2003 amidst the increasing shift toward digital photography. In 2005, he expanded his subject matter from the quiet landscape images that occupied his practice and began to explore still lifes and portraiture. The same year, he built a camera obscura and has since constructed subsequent versions, all structures with two room-like chambers connected by a bellows with an inset lens. Working with Ilfochrome paper as film, Learoyd uses the camera obscura to render a single positive, full-color image without the use of a negative transparency, resulting in a unique image. Because of restrictions inherent to working with large cameras, limitations in depth of field and color impact his choices of photographic subjects.

Learoyd received a BA from The Glasgow School of Art (GSA), United Kingdom, in 1988 and an MA from GSA in 1991. Important one-artist exhibitions of his work include Richard Learoyd: Unique Photographs, McKee Gallery, New York (2009); Richard Learoyd: Dark Mirror, Victoria and Albert Museum, London (2015); Richard Learoyd: In the Studio, Getty Center (2016), which traveled to The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri (2017); Richard Learoyd, Fundació MAPFRE Casa Garriga Nogués Exhibition Hall, Barcelona (2019); and Richard Learoyd, Pace Gallery, Palm Beach, Florida (2021), among others. His work is held in numerous public collections worldwide including Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Tate, London; and Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut, among many others. Learoyd lives and works in London.

**Pace** is a leading international art gallery representing some of the most influential artists and estates of the 20th and 21st centuries, founded by Arne Glimcher in 1960. Holding decades-long relationships with Alexander Calder, Jean Dubuffet, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, and Mark Rothko, Pace has a unique history that can be traced to its early support of artists central to the Abstract Expressionist and Light and Space movements. Now in its seventh decade, the gallery continues to nurture its longstanding relationships with its legacy artists and estates while also making an investment in the careers of contemporary artists, including Torkwase Dyson, Loie Hollowell, Robert Nava, Adam Pendleton, and Marina Perez Simão.

Under the current leadership of CEO Marc Glimcher and President Samanthe Rubell, Pace has established itself as a collaborative force in the art world, partnering with other galleries and nonprofit organizations around the world in recent years. The gallery advances its mission to support its artists and share their visionary work with audiences and collectors around the world through a robust global program anchored by its exhibitions of both 20th century and contemporary art and scholarly projects from its imprint Pace Publishing, which produces books introducing new voices to the art historical canon. This artist-first ethos also extends to public installations, philanthropic events, performances, and other interdisciplinary programming presented by Pace.

Today, Pace has eight locations worldwide, including two galleries in New York—its eight-story headquarters at 540 West 25th Street and an adjacent 8,000-square-foot exhibition space at 510 West 25th Street. The gallery's history in the New York art world dates to 1963, when it opened its first space in the city on East 57th Street. A champion of Light and Space artists, Pace has also been active in California for some 60 years, opening its West Coast flagship in Los Angeles in 2022. The gallery maintains European footholds in London and Geneva as well as Berlin, where it established an office in 2023. Pace was one of the first international galleries to have a major presence in Asia, where it has been active since 2008, the year it first opened in Beijing's vibrant 798 Art District. It now operates galleries in Hong Kong and Seoul and opened its first gallery in Japan in Tokyo's Azabudai Hills development in 2024.



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Press Inquiries

Sara Fox  
Director of Public Relations  
sfox@pacegallery.com  
+1 646 522 5480

Talia Trauner  
Public Relations Manager  
ttrauner@pacegallery.com  
+1 305 778 9349

Emily Kopp  
Public Relations Manager  
ekopp@pacegallery.com  
+1 516 426 4146

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