

MARK VERDOES



'SKIN' , 2017

Fine art photography series
Limited edition of 5, hand signed and numbered

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Marks fascination with these hulls – skins – of traditional fishing boats, started when travelling through India. Primarily wooden boards tied together by rope and wooden pens, the hulls are rubbed with cashew oil to make them waterproof and weather resistant. Their daily journey out to sea exposes them to the elements; salt, sun, sand, water and wind. The skins endure, remember and change continuously. They are about life: past, present and future. Struck by the connection to his other work, Mark created the photo series 'Skin' in 2017.

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Studying his raw photo material, Verdoes repeatedly came across photos that attracted each other, as if they belonged together. That is when the idea sprouted to combine two images into one. Fairy-tale structures, pulled out of context, form a narrative landscape full of scars, emotions, life and history: the mystery of the skin.

Available at: www.sandvoort.gallery

Tijdens zijn omzwervingen in India trof Mark Verdoes deze boothuiden – want dat zijn het – aan. Eigenlijk slechts houten planken, aan elkaar geknoopt met touw en houten pennen, regelmatig ingesmeerd met olie van de cashewnoot om ze weer- en waterbestendig te maken, gaan deze kleine vissersboten door de branding heen de zee op. Dag in, dag uit, worden ze blootgesteld aan de elementen: zout, zon, zand, water, wind. De huid ondergaat, legt vast, en verandert continue. Net als in zijn doeken, gaan deze boothuiden over het leven: over het verleden, heden, maar ook de toekomst. Mark Verdoes herkende zijn uitgangspunten als beeldend kunstenaar, wat leidde tot de fotoserie Skin (2017).

Kijkend door zijn ruwe fotomateriaal, kwam Verdoes steeds weer foto's tegen die naar elkaar toe trokken, alsof ze bij elkaar hoorden. Daarom maakte hij de onorthodoxe keuze om twee foto's te combineren tot één beeld. Sprookjesachtige structuren, losgetrokken uit hun context, verworden tot een verhalend landschap vol littekens, emotie, leven, en geschiedenis: het mysterie van de boothuid.

Verkrijgbaar via: www.sandvoort.gallery

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According to Mark Verdoes (The Hague, 1960) art should be an experience that forces the mind to transcend the obvious. In his contemporary vision, Verdoes contemplates the position of human kind in the cosmos. His work is a reflection on how he perceives the world, in which all is changing shape continuously.

In his unique blend of techniques and materials, the guided coincidence plays a major role. Nature is the main driving force behind everything. He crafts the elements, eagerly using the unpredictability of air (heat) and water. Many of the required techniques have been developed in-studio, for example his methodology to integrate photography, paint and his unique procedure to capture the natural process of cracking mud.

Mark Verdoes started his career as a photographer for the magazines Esquire, Avantgarde and others. Following his need for artistic freedom made him into a versatile, multi-disciplinary artist with exhibitions from the early nineties onwards. Over time, he has built an oeuvre strongly inspired by the Tao and nature.

Education:

1997-1999 Fine Arts, Royal Academy of Arts, The Hague

1985-1988 Photographic design, MTS Photography & Photonica, The Hague

Mark Verdoes lives and works in the Netherlands.

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