

NEWS RELEASE

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New Exhibition of Photographs by Caleb Cain Marcus to Open at NAS

WASHINGTON – Caleb Cain Marcus spent two years on a journey to Patagonia, Iceland, Norway, New Zealand, and Alaska photographing glaciers. He often used a vertical frame to reflect a relationship with the land akin to an intimate portrait. Containing only two elements, ice and sky, the horizon that typically grounds a landscape vanishes. Freed from the horizon, a sense of scale is lost, altering one's experience of a landscape. It is in this unfamiliar territory that Cain Marcus hopes viewers can fully experience the persona of ice. “Caleb Cain Marcus: A Portrait of Ice” features 10 large-scale photographs and is on view February 3 through July 18, 2014 at the National Academy of Sciences.

His previous project, “The Silent Aftermath of Space,” attempted to find the solitude one feels in nature on the streets of New York City at night. Cain Marcus' response to the New York work is “A Portrait of Ice.” Before he started to photograph the glaciers he tried to pinpoint the stresses of living in a metropolis of high-rise buildings. He discovered that when the horizon is obstructed for long periods of time, as it is in New York City, people become detached from nature. He then wanted to understand the effect of a landscape without a horizon. The absence of a horizon in the city gives a feeling of compression and density but with the ice it frees the glaciers of perspective and scale that detaches them from reality.

In a related essay, also titled “A Portrait of Ice,” Marcus writes, “The Inuit elders say the melting of the ice is the land crying out in pain. Now we must listen.” And he tells Smithsonian Magazine writer Megan Gambino: “I feel very close to the Earth or however one wants to term it. ... Whether these [photographs] bring people closer to the environment or not, I don't really know. I certainly think that if people were more connected to it, they would act differently in their lives.”

Caleb Cain Marcus is a New York-based photographer, born in Colorado's Rocky Mountains. He is dedicated to the poetic search for the balance between city, nature, man, and the invisible. His photographs are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the High Museum of Art, among others. He holds an MFA from Columbia University.

“Caleb Cain Marcus: A Portrait of Ice” is on exhibit at the recently restored NAS Building, located at 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., Feb. 3 through July 18, 2014. The galleries are open on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. A photo ID is required for admittance.

The **Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences** sponsors exhibitions, concerts, and other events that explore relationships among the arts and sciences. For more information, call 202-334-2436 or visit www.cpnas.org. The National Academy of Sciences is a private, nonprofit institution that recognizes achievement in science by election to membership, and -- with the National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council -- provides science, technology, and health policy advice to the federal government and other organizations.

Images from the exhibition:



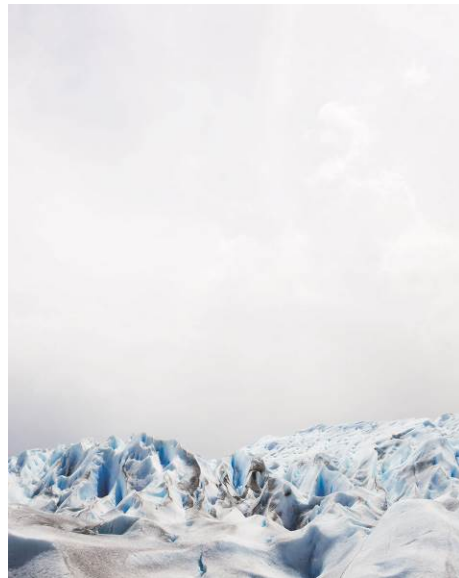
Sheridan, Alaska, Plate III
2010
Pigment fiber print
45 x 56 inches



Nigardsbreen, Norway, Plate I
2011
Pigment fiber print
56 x 45 inches



Fox, New Zealand, Plate IV
2010
Pigment fiber print
56 x 45 inches



Perito Moreno, Patagonia, Plate I
2010
Pigment fiber print
56 x 45 inches

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