

GLADSTONE

T. J. Wilcox examines the history and transformation of the White House Rose Garden in a new exhibition at Gladstone Brussels

Gladstone will present a new exhibition by T. J. Wilcox at the gallery's Brussels location, opening November 12, 2026. Bringing together a new series of digital collages, a moving-image work, and a sculptural installation, the exhibition takes as its point of departure the White House Rose Garden and the legacy of Rachel Lambert "Bunny" Mellon, who designed the garden for President John F. Kennedy in 1961. Developed by Wilcox while living in Milan and considering his home country from afar, the exhibition reflects on the garden as a site of cultural memory and its recent transformation within a changing American political and cultural landscape.

Wilcox was drawn to Mellon as a figure whose considerable influence on American visual culture was accompanied by an unusual aversion to public recognition. For Wilcox, the dismantling of the garden's historic design became an emotional catalyst for the exhibition, prompting an exploration of what is preserved, altered, or lost as places and images pass into collective memory.

A new series of prints on metal pays tribute to individual varieties of roses included in Mellon's original planting scheme. Though the images appear to be vintage photographs or frames taken from period newsreels, they are entirely contemporary constructions. Wilcox builds each composition by combining imagery from multiple sources, digitally painting and manipulating roses and backgrounds before applying the visual characteristics of Kodachrome, 8mm, and 16mm film. Scratches, fading, grain, and other traces of apparent wear give the works the appearance of images that have been viewed repeatedly over time. Wilcox has described his process as a handmade version of an AI methodology, using contemporary digital tools to cull, combine, and manipulate source imagery. The resulting compositions are produced as archival prints on aluminum.

The exhibition also includes a new moving-image work tracing the history of the Rose Garden through its recent transformation, as well as sculptural floral arrangements made in collaboration with artists from L'Erbavoglio, an artisanal workshop in Milan. Composed of botanically precise flowers fabricated in metal, the sculptures are based on an arrangement Mellon cut from the Rose Garden following Kennedy's assassination. With no known photograph of the original arrangement, Wilcox developed the work through historical research and interpretation.

This exhibition is accompanied by a statement from the artist.

Exhibition Details

T. J. Wilcox

The Rose Garden

November 12 – December 19, 2026

Grote Hertstraat 12 Rue du Grand Cerf,
Brussels, Belgium 1000

Grotehertstraat 12 Rue du Grand Cerf
Brussels, Belgium 1000

+32 2 513 35 31
gladstonegallery.com

GLADSTONE

About T. J. Wilcox

T. J. Wilcox's (b. 1965, in Seattle, Washington) work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at institutions including the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Grand Rapids Art Museum, Michigan; Carthage Hall, Lismore Castle Arts, Waterford, Ireland; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; and Kunstverein Munich, Germany. Wilcox has been included in group exhibitions at institutions including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva, Italy; Centro Galego De Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain; Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, Germany; Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany. His films have been screened at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Tate Modern, London, and he participated in the 2015 Biennale de Lyon and the 2004 Whitney Biennial.

About Gladstone Gallery

Gladstone is known for its commitment to artists whose prescient approaches and experimental practices have defined the contours of contemporary art. The gallery has long been an active partner in the cultivation of iconoclastic careers, fostering a roster of artists recognized for their ground-breaking contributions. Headquartered in New York and including outposts in both Brussels and Seoul, Gladstone's impact extends globally, enabling both the presentation of new bodies of work, and an amplification of the international reach of its artists. Alongside its work with contemporary artists, the gallery is steward to the legacies of pivotal historical artists and serves as an advocate for the enduring power of art. Gladstone is led by a team of partners who spearhead its long-term vision and program, building on the values of its founder Barbara Gladstone.

Press Contact

press@gladstonegallery.com