

GLADSTONE

Ugo Rondinone presents bright, dayglo yellow large-scale sculptures at Gladstone in New York

Gladstone is pleased to announce *bright light shining*, an exhibition by Ugo Rondinone. For this show, the presents new, large-scale sculptures along with an interconnected body of work, which act as building blocks of the perfect storm. In the center of the exhibition are three massive lightning strikes that forcefully punctuate the space. In bright, dayglo yellow, the bronze light sculptures depict the crooked and rhythmic lines that form strikes of creating tangible and static representations of these miraculous experiences and awe-inspiring phenomena. A hung relief created with sand, gravel, and concrete accompanies the light sculptures in the artist's conjuring of marvels. Using heavy elements borne directly from the earth, Rondinone suggests the interconnectedness of the that comprise both land and sky. As the viewer moves around the exhibition, each form continually changes based on viewer's vantage point. The conscientious selection of materiality in the works empowers a greater understanding Rondinone's experiential presentation. Connected here by towering lightning strikes and a weighty cloud, freezes an inexplicable moment in time that captures the excitement, fear, and impending change brought on environmental happenings, seemingly out of our control.

Often employing natural forms and materials in his work, Rondinone's examination of nature through painting, and sculpture alludes to deep, conceptual conversations surrounding the ways in which humans connect to environments and elements that comprise them. Lightning bolts, which we ordinarily experience as flashes of light a storm, also connect to Rondinone's interest in the earthly realm and the sublime, as seen in German Romanticism the works of Caspar David Friedrich, whom he has often made references to in his practice. Lightning forms a between the earthly realm and the divine, suggesting the possibility of transcending the physical world and everyday Rondinone's light sculptures further recall other natural forms in our everyday life, including inverted branches or the of a tree. As such, Rondinone places the quotidian as nothing short of extraordinary. As with the artist's colored and *nuns + monks* sculptures, which similarly feature natural forms painted in bright neon colors, the vivid, coloration of these works creates a stunning contrast and serves to evoke an altogether contemporary version of sublime. Each composition emphasizes temporality and the fleeting passage of time, while simultaneously our conceptions of impermanence and materiality.

Concurrent to the presentation at Gladstone, Rondinone will have two exhibitions in New York at Journal (September 8 – September 21, 2023) and Martos Gallery (September 14 – October 21, 2023).

About Ugo Rondinone

Ugo Rondinone (b. 1964, Brunnen, Switzerland) studied at the Universität für Angewandte Kunst in Vienna before moving to New York in 1997 where he currently lives and works. His work has been the subject of solo presentations at the George Pompidou, Paris (2003); Whitechapel Gallery, London (2006); Art Institute of Chicago (2013); Rockbund Art Van Beuningen, Rotterdam (2016); MACRO, Rome (2016); Carre D'Art, Nimes (2016); Berkeley Art Museum (2017); Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati (2017); Bass Museum of Art, Miami (2017); Belvedere, Vienna (2021); Tamayo Museum, Mexico City (2022); Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt (2022); Petit Palais, Paris (2022); Scuola Grande San Giovanni Evangelista di Venezia, Venice (2022); The Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, Geneva (2023); Gladstone Gallery, Brussels (2023); Parrish Museum, New York (2023); Städel Museum (2023); Storm King Art Center, New York (2023). In November, he will have a solo exhibitions at Fosun Foundation in Shanghai and a special installation at Phillips Collection, Washington.

Exhibition Details

530 West 21st Street
New York, NY 10011

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gladstonegallery.com

G L A D S T O N E

bright light shining

September 14 - November 9, 2023

Reception: September 14, 6-8pm

530 West 21 Street

New York, NY 10011

About Gladstone Gallery

Gladstone is recognized for its embrace of experimentation and visionary practices. The gallery has long been an active partner with artists pursuing catalytic ideas and engaging with pressing issues. Headquartered in New York, Gladstone's impact extends globally with galleries in Brussels and Seoul, enabling it to present new bodies of work and evolve its program to advance the practices and reach of its artists through time. Alongside its work with contemporary artists, the gallery is a steward of the legacies of pivotal historical artists and an advocate for the enduring power of their work. Gladstone is led by a team of partners who spearhead its longterm vision and program, building on the values of its founder Barbara Gladstone.

Press Contact

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