

ACQUAVELLA GALLERIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Acquavella Galleries at Frieze New York 2019

Damian Loeb: All Hope Is Lost

Randall's Island Park, Booth D4

Preview, May 2, Public, May 3-5



New York, NY, April 18, 2019 - Acquavella Galleries is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of a new body of work by Damian Loeb at Frieze New York this May. Titled *All Hope Is Lost*, the series depicts the solar eclipse that was visible from North America on August 21, 2017. Travelling to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Loeb used a hydrogen alpha telescope with an attached camera to observe and record the two minute and twenty-two second phenomenon. The artist devoted the next 20 months to painting the observations, using his meticulous approach to freeze the fleeting moments and to invite viewers to consider the seemingly eternal existence of the sun in relation to the ephemerality of the eclipse.

“Stopping the movement of the sun and the moon, Loeb creates an image of an extended present which we can contemplate in our own time,” writes Dr. Robert Shane, professor of art history at the College of St. Rose, in his catalogue essay for the series. “In response to this realization, Loeb offers us through his paintings a point of contact, of sensory intimacy, allowing us to survive, for a time, the inhumanity of the cosmos.”

The series' title, *All Hope Is Lost*, derives from Joseph Campbell's *The Hero's Journey*, where the phrase both alludes to humanity's contemplation of mortality, and more concretely is used to describe the moment of greatest peril before the archetypal hero reemerges victorious. The dramatic moments rendered in these paintings reflect the fine line

between optimism and defeat, good and evil, and light and dark. For the artist, this series represents his most intimate and political work to date.

For the full schedule of Frieze New York programming and events, visit frieze.com/fairs

The opening hours of the fair are:

Preview Day

Thursday, May 2, 11am-7pm

Public Days

Friday, May 3, 11am-7pm

Saturday, May 4, 11am-6pm

Sunday, May 5, 11am-6pm

Image: Damian Loeb, *The Architects of Law (Grand Mal)*, 2019, Oil on linen, 6 x 6 feet

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