

# Marlborough

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For press inquiries please contact Simone Ayers at Marlborough Gallery at 212.541.4900 or sayers@marlboroughgallery.com

Marlborough Gallery  
40 West 57th Street  
New York, NY 10019  
t. 212.541.4900  
f. 212.541.4948

www.marlboroughgallery.com  
mny@marlboroughgallery.com

## *Diane Tuft / Aftermath*

March 20 - April 21, 2012

The Directors of Marlborough Gallery are pleased to announce that an exhibition of recent work by Diane Tuft, entitled *Aftermath*, will open on March 20 with a reception from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and continue through April 21, 2012 at Marlborough Gallery. This exhibition, the artist's first solo show with Marlborough Gallery, will comprise photographs taken in Iceland four months after the dramatic eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull volcano in 2010.

Tuft's photographs capture both the beauty and the fragility of the natural world. Since 1998, she has worked with specific cameras, films and techniques to capture light at the near-infrared and near-ultraviolet ends of the spectrum. These wavelengths are just above and just below our visual range; therefore, it is impossible to pre-visualize the outcome of the photographs.

Tuft's infrared works, taken with a Leica camera outfitted with a red and black filter and black and white infrared film that is no longer commercially available, are printed in platinum, thus amplifying the otherworldly results. The ultraviolet photographs require considerable research and travel in order to find locations and conditions where ultraviolet light is prevalent. For this ongoing endeavor, Tuft has traveled to Great Salt Lake, Utah; Iceland; Greenland; and, most recently, New Zealand. Captured digitally, the presence of ultraviolet light is responsible for the vibrant and ethereal colors of these images. Understanding that the intense color in the ultraviolet photographs might be linked to environmental factors such as global warming and ozone depletion adds a haunting dimension to Tuft's stunning imagery.

Extreme environments with intense light are the settings where these non-visible ends of the spectrum are the most easily captured. Shooting from above in a helicopter or small airplane further disrupts the sense of scale and specificity of place within her photographs. The revelations of invisible light and distortions of landscape produce imagery that can be both surreal and disorienting.

The *Aftermath* series resulted from Tuft's third trip to Iceland, which took place shortly after the volcanic eruption in 2010. She surveyed and documented the volcano's crater and the country's landscape from a single-engine Cessna 172 aircraft. The vivid and saturated colors of the landscape are heightened by ultraviolet light, which appears in the cool purples, greens and blues of the prints.

The mystical nature of the images is further heightened by Tuft's

sensitivity to local folklore. Many of the titles for the *Aftermath* series derive from Norse mythology. For example, *Andvari's Treasure* references the dwarf Andvari, believed to live under a waterfall and possess not only the power to turn into a fish if pursued but also a magical ring that enabled him to amass gold and treasure. *Odin's Breath* makes reference to Odin, the chief Norse divinity and god of war and death as well as poetry and wisdom, and *Freyja's Bed* refers to Freya, the Norse goddess of love, beauty and fertility. Tuft believes that, "nature has more to say to us than we can understand...so many cultures around the world worship the landscape. Rocks are revered in Japan, trees in Iceland, rivers in India – many cultures find spiritual elements in landscape to worship. Perhaps if we use a light that we cannot see, it will explain their inner essence."

Tuft continues to travel and record the effects of global warming and the increase of ultraviolet light in the natural world. Increasingly, these environmental concerns, made visible through her stunning photographs, are the focus of the artist's pursuits. A trip to New Zealand in January 2012 included meetings with prominent scientists doing ozone research, in addition to photographic experimentation with a new ultraviolet lens typically reserved for scientific uses. About her intention, Tuft has stated:

*Our world is constantly changing, filled with mystery and lit by light that we cannot always see. I hope my photographs elucidate these truths and provoke a richer discussion about how to coexist with an environment that is so beautiful, powerful and precious.*

Diane Tuft was born in rural Connecticut and now lives and works in New York City. She earned a degree in Mathematics from the University of Connecticut and continued her studies in art at the Pratt Institute in New York.

Tuft's work has been exhibited at venues across the country, including the Katonah Museum of Art in New York; the Kimball Art Center in Park City, Utah; and Art L.A. in Santa Monica, California. The artist's work can be found in the permanent collection of the Whitney Museum of American Art and the International Center of Photography in New York City. A monograph about Diane Tuft entitled *Unseen: Beyond the Visible Spectrum* was published in 2009.

An illustrated brochure will be available at the time of the exhibition.

Marlborough Gallery/ International Public Art Ltd., 40 West 57th St, New York, NY 10019

t. 212.541.4900

f. 212.541.4948

mny@marlboroughgallery.com

Marlborough Fine Art (London) Ltd., 6 Albemarle Street, London W1S 4BY

t. 44.20.7629.5161

f. 44.20.7629.6338

mfa@marlboroughfineart.com

Marlborough Monaco, 4 Quai Antoine 1er, MC 98000 Monaco

t. 377.97702550

f. 377.97702559

art@marlborough-monaco.com

Galería A.M.S. Marlborough, Nueva Costanera 3723, Vitacura, Santiago, Chile

t. 56.2.228.8696

f. 56.2.207.4071

Galería Marlborough, S.A., Orfila 5, 28010 Madrid

t. 34.91.319.1414

f. 34.91.308.4345

info@galeriamarlborough.com