

CHRIS LEVINE +
LIGHT

17 MAY - 15 JUNE



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Private View:

Thursday 16 May

6.30 - 8.30pm

The Fine Art Society Contemporary is delighted to announce the first major London solo exhibition for Chris Levine.

Chris Levine is a light artist who works across mediums in pursuit of a sensory experience through image and form. Levine's work considers light not just as a core aspect of art, but of human experience more widely with a spiritual and philosophical edge underscoring his practice. Levine is perhaps best known for producing what is already being described as an iconic image of the twenty-first century, *Lightness of Being* (2007). With light at its core, this portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II presented a fresh depiction of the most famous woman in the world.

Chris Levine: Light will act as a survey of Levine's work to date, helping to contextualize the Queen and subsequent portraiture within his immersive light installations. These are not two modes of working, for Levine they are deeply interconnected and born from the cross-fertilization of disciplines including music, performance, installation, fashion and design. Levine will also unveil new figurative work in which the next well known subject is dramatically represented through the use of his distinctive visual language.

This major exhibition will be staged across the two main floors of The Fine Art Society - a rare occurrence for a contemporary artist. Like Whistler over 100 years ago, Levine will interrupt the natural light in the gallery to create his own atmospheric environment, which acts as both the subject and setting for his immersive light experiences. Levine aims to turn down the volume on the world around us and focus attention on the energy of light, the very thing at the core of all matter and space, and in doing so induce a meditative state in the viewer.

The exhibition will feature a range of media and light technology in the works including laser, LED, blipverts, lenticulars, lightboxes, photography and his first silkscreens. The artist does not simply utilise existing materials and processes, he is a pioneer in this field, creating and adapting technology in the pursuit of the widest possible visual sensation.

Chris Levine studied at Chelsea College of Art and Central Saint Martins. His exhibition *Hypervisual 1.2* (1999) completed a tour of 12 countries with the British Council. In 2012 his work featured in *The Queen: Art and Image* at the National Portrait Gallery, London. He has work in the Science Museum, London, has staged light performances with MoMA, New York and has worked with a wide range of collaborators, including Anthony and the Johnsons, Philip Treacy, Massive Attack, Grace Jones and the Eden Project. His new work, *Flower of Light* (2013), was exhibited at the inaugural Art13 in London and he will be creating a bespoke light installation for the National Portrait Gallery's Late Shift Extra: Salon de Lumière in celebration of Man Ray master of light on Friday 15 March.

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Gallery Hours:
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 11am-4pm

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Cover Image:
Flower of Light (2013)