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BENOÎT VOLLMER *two exhibitions*

Galerie Paul Frèches is pleased to present the first solo show of Benoît Vollmer in France,
The exhibition will be occurring in two sets:

> **From October 1st to November 7th** the little photographs from the *Liminaire* (2007-) series will be exhibited. The set, made of heterogeneous pictures, is strikingly united and poetic.

> **And from November to December**, *A new film* will be shown, conceived *in situ*, it will take into account the light of the season within its device (the project being currently worked out).

The subtle images of the « Liminaire » series, open to interpretation, do not impose anything to the viewer and certainly not their – heterogeneous – subjects; Benoît Vollmer sees them as **deconstructions** that play with the photographic medium (with its genre, with the notion of editions, etc.). Recently, Benoît Vollmer has been exploring the possibilities given by the moving image, and has decided to direct a film (16 mm): a slow crepuscular walk for this aesthete of fragility and fineness, who was looking for a "plain landscape", in transition...



Liminaire presents a set of unique prints that question the notion of aura in photography.

A sheet of ilfochrome paper is directly inserted into a large format camera and exposed to light, without the prior use of film. Shooting is at once slow and tricky.

The resulting reversed image combined with an extremely glossy surface may echo the old daguerréotypes. The smaller pieces —20 x 25 cm— tend to distinguish themselves from the large format dogma.

"Liminaire" is a mixed hierarchy-free collection broaching various genres and subjects in a small format that suppresses any kind of authority. Whereas each image can be appreciated in its own right, it's the layout that defines the general meaning: taking out one single image would disrupt the balance of the whole series forcing the viewer to reconsider the layout.

It seems that the events recounted here are meant to live on outside their own frames, in some other time and place. There could be many shots made before and after each one of these. They would be nothing like stills but fragments of duration or slow snapshots.

Magali Langlade / traduction : Céline Leroy

Benoît Vollmer was born in 1983. In 2008, he was awarded with a "Mention spéciale du jury" for the "Prix Photographique Ville de Levallois — Epson". He currently lives and works in Paris.

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