

Kayne Griffin Corcoran

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‘Then and Now’ by Mary Corse at Kayne Griffin Corcoran, LA



Untitled early light works Studio view, 1968 (Courtesy the artist and Kayne Griffin Corcoran)

Kayne Griffin Corcoran will present “Then and Now”, a career-spanning exhibition of works by American artist Mary Corse.

Mary Corse was born in Berkeley in 1945 and earned her MFA from Chouinard Art Institute in 1968. She is best known for her experimentation with radiant surfaces in minimalist painting, incorporating materials that reflect light. She is a member of the Light and Space art movement of the 1960s along with James Turrell, Robert Irwin, and Douglas Wheeler. Like many of these artists, Corse rejected some Abstract Expressionist practices and favored the controlled formal geometry of Minimalism.

For the last five decades, Mary Corse has radically explored perception, properties of light, and ideas of abstraction in her practice. “Then and Now” brings together multiple bodies of work from this groundbreaking half-century engagement with subjectivity. Central to the exhibition will be “The Cold Room” (1968/2017), an immersive installation that Corse originally conceived during her exploration of light works from 1966-68. The installation consists of a suspended light box inside a freestanding structure chilled near to the freezing point, heightening the perceptual experience for the viewers within. The exhibition will also include three monumental paintings created between the 1990s and early 2000s, each relating to Corse’s signature “white inner band” motif.