

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DUANE MICHALS:
EMPTY NEW YORK

April 24 – May 31, 2014

Opening Reception

Thursday, April 24, 6 – 8 pm



Empty New York, c. 1964
gelatin silver print, 8 x 10 inches



Empty New York, c. 1964
gelatin silver print, 5 7/8 x 7 1/4 inches

DC Moore Gallery is pleased to announce **Duane Michals: Empty New York**, his second solo exhibition with the gallery. Comprised of thirty rare gelatin silver prints dating from the 1960s, the exhibition focuses exclusively on Michals' early exploration of transitional early morning moments in New York City shops, parks, subway cars, and train stations. This is the first time these photographs have been exhibited as a group.

The images in this exhibition, taken over a half a century ago, include New York landmarks such as Penn Station, the Metropolitan Opera House, and Washington Square Hotel as well as ordinary locales, such as a laundromat, a shoeshine station, or an empty booth in a neighborhood diner. The series reflects Duane Michals' admiration for the work of French photographer Eugene Atget who memorably photographed the streets of Paris. As Michals has said,

"It was a fortuitous event for me [to discover the work of Eugene Atget in a book]. I became so enchanted by the intimacy of the rooms and streets and people he photographed that I found myself looking at twentieth-century New York in the early morning through his nineteenth-century eyes. Everywhere seemed a stage set. I would awaken early on Sunday mornings and wander through New York with my camera, peering into shop windows and down cul-de-sacs with a bemused Atget looking over my shoulder."

Of this intellectual revelation and point of departure, Michals recalls that how for him suddenly, "Everything was theatre; even the most ordinary event was an act in the drama of my little life." The universality of narrative, space, and their limitless capacities would set the stage for Michals' prolific and imaginative career.

Since 1958 Duane Michals has been making photographs which investigate themes of memory, mortality, love, and loss. Constantly interpreting and re-interpreting the world around him, Michals never stagnates and always finds new ways to understand the human experience through his idiosyncratic combination of philosophy, humor, history, and stark emotion.

Michal's first solo museum exhibition was at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, in 1970, and he will be honored with a career retrospective opening October, 2014 at The Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh. Duane Michals lives and works in New York City.

Also on view in the main gallery: MARK INNERST

DC MOORE GALLERY specializes in contemporary and twentieth-century art. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm. For more information, for photographs, or to arrange a viewing, please call 212-247-2111 or email Lily Zhou at lzhou@dcmooregallery.com.