

MACAULAY & CO. FINE ART

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MATHEW MCWILLIAMS ***HEADSTRIKES*** **OCTOBER 14 - NOVEMBER 7**

Macaulay & Co Fine Art is thrilled to present *Headstrikes*, a solo exhibition by Mathew McWilliams. In this exhibition, McWilliams continues to explore the photograph as a singular, unique object as a result of his ongoing investigation into the relationship between sculpture, painting, drawing and photography.

The two series in the exhibition represent variations on a process McWilliams has developed, taking paper as its starting point. For the series, *Headstrikes*, he begins by taking large sheets of paper and physically altering the surfaces by folding or crumpling, making permanent marks and indentations. He then flattens the paper and documents these disruptions photographically. Using one of the few remaining original Gicl  barrel-drum printers, he then prints the image of the altered paper onto the same sheet of paper. As a result of this process the print heads of the machine graze the folds of the paper, leaving light traces of ink. The printer behaves erratically as it is confronted with a sculptural surface and colours often drop out or change within the process.

For *Negative Folds and Lines*, the second series exhibited, McWilliams employs a similar process but using black paper. The paper is folded into a sculptural form and is lit in a studio setting. Light hits the folded edges of the form appearing as white lines against a black background. During printing no ink is laid down where white appears in the image, exposing the original black paper beneath.

It is not the technology that interests McWilliams so much as the unknown elements that come into play to create the work. "The process involves two different factors, firstly the choices that come with composing the folds and the second aspect, that really has very little to do with me, where the machine needed to create the work makes those decisions. The image appears as it appears, sometimes the result is subtle, other times more expressionistic."