

For Immediate Release

Thomas Lyon Mills

10 ½ Maps

From a dreamlike vantage at the fantastic intersection of the hidden wetlands of the Adirondacks and the subterranean catacombs of Rome, Thomas Lyon Mills creates expansive and mysterious amalgamations of observations and visions in his second solo exhibition at Luise Ross Gallery. Evoking organic atmospheres appreciated through contemplative solitude, Mills constructs richly painted works on pieced paper, as he builds out his compositions through multiple visits to his two distinct but united locales of inspiration.

Like a mapmaker, Mills draws and paints what he sees, but his paintings inevitably cross over into the unknown, where the visible and invisible meet – where the seen pays a constant debt to the unseen. As the Adirondack swamps and ancient Roman tunnels commingle, a new yet seemingly primeval scene unfolds before the viewer. We bear witness to the imagination of history itself, to the false omnipotence of the present which imposes our humble, penitent contemplation of the past. The brittle sciences of archeology and ecology crumble away as Mills uproots our vision and commandeers our desire for representational accuracy and empirical truths. The work urges us to see light within shadows, and to live within the reverie of a faint, but not forgotten, powerfully vivid dream.

Title: Thomas Lyon Mills
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Dates: 19 April – 25 May 2007

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