

Maija Laurinen

PORTFÓLIO

If and Only If

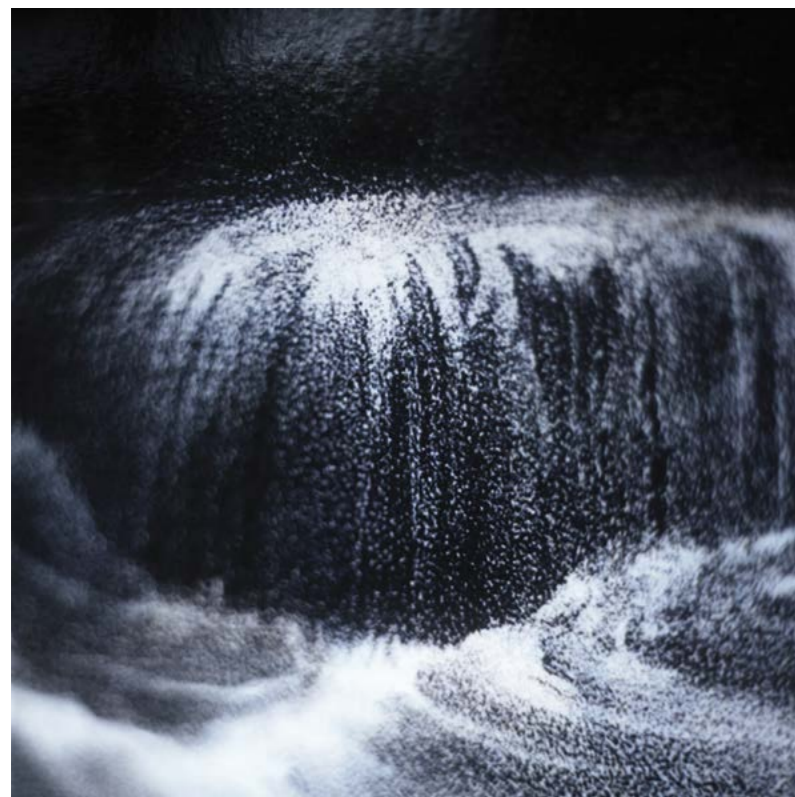
„If „ can have a variety of meanings; it can be used to describe an imaginary result of something that never happened, it can indicate something that might have happened or it can tell what has to happen before something else can take place. It's not easy to decide which definition describes better the work of Maija Laurinen.

Although Laurinen's works might look heterogeneous to one or another viewer, they build an organic path that leads to the heart of Laurinen's efforts. They are all part of a story that can hardly be described in words as Laurinen's photographic voice sounds brightest in moments of tranquility and when using the language of silence. Neither the photographs from her oldest series „Mute Land“, nor the latest works aim to display the structure of the known physical world. Vanishing, fleeting are key words to Laurinen's world in which layers of reality become a metaphor for her inner life.

There's no doubt, however, that Laurinen is a storyteller. A postmodern storyteller. The latest proof of it are her video installations, which are becoming a regular part of her exhibitions. In every apparently trivial situation is a hidden meaning, a mystery that wants to be discovered.

And the fascinating part of the story is: no matter what cipher one may use to decrypt the message, one can never be sure if it is the right one - which fills the thoughtful viewer with a thrill of joy.

Tomáš Gering



Untitled, 2010

Mgr.art Maija Laurinen (*1978)

Born in Nurmes, Finland,
Lives and works in Bratislava, Slovakia
and Nurmes, Finland.

Education

- 2013- Doctoral studies, Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2007-09 MFA in Photography, Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2003-06 BFA in Cinematography, Academy of Performing Arts, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2002-03 Fine Arts in Liminka Free Art School, Liminka, Finland
- 2001-02 Photography and Digital Imaging in London College of Music and Media, London

Solo exhibitions

- 2013* If and Only If, Galerie Pleiku, Berlin, Germany
- 2013* Maija Laurinen & Michal Czinege, Galleria Tyko, Nurmes, Finland
- 2012 Silence My Song, Photoport Gallery, Bratislava
- 2012 If and Only If, SODA Gallery, Bratislava
- 2011 If and Only If, Northern Photographic Centre, Oulu, Finland
- 2010 Shifting Spaces (with P. Bošanská), Galerie G4, Cheb, Czech Republic
- 2010 Viennafair (with J. Bartoš, Photoport Gallery), Vienna, Austria
- 2010 From Dusk till Dawn (with M. Czinege), Soda Gallery, Bratislava
- 2009 Brno Art Fair (with J. Šipöcz, Photoport Gallery), Brno, Czech Republic
- 2009 Shift Space, Galéria F7, Bratislava
- 2008 Mute landscapes, reflections, echoes, distancies, horizons and false horizons, Transit, Bratislava
- 2008 The Mute Land, Ex Libris, Bratislava
- 2006 Maija Laurinen, Ex Libris, Bratislava

Group exhibitions

- 2012 Fieldwork - Natural Landscape, House of photography, Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia
- 2012 Trau Dich was!, Galerie Kuchling, Berlin, Germany
- 2012 20 years of photography at The Slovak Academy of Fine Arts, Central Slovak Gallery, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia
- 2011 A Youthful Medium, 20 years of photography at The Slovak Academy of Fine Arts, Month of Photography, House of Arts, Bratislava
- 2011 Second Half, The Slovak Institute, Vienna, Austria
- 2011 Drawing as Thinking 2, Gallery Na Bydliku, Brno, Czech Republic
- 2010 Second Half, Gallery VŠPU, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2010 PORtraits, Slovak Institute Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2010 Second Half, UGM, Maribor Art Gallery, Maribor, Slovenia
- 2010 Christmas Bestseller, Soda Gallery, Bratislava
- 2010 20 years of photography at the Slovak Academy of Fine Arts, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; Prague, Czech Republic
- 2010 Drawing As Thinking, Galéria Medium, Bratislava
- 2010 Photoport Vol. 1, Espoo Culture Center, Finland; Jyväskylä University Gallery, Jyväskylä, Finland
- 2009 Christmas Bestseller, Soda Gallery, Bratislava
- 2009 Druhý polčas - Second Half Time, Galéria Medium, Bratislava
- 2009 50 words III, Bratislava
- 2009 Master diploma works - Academy of Fine Arts and Design, House of Arts, Bratislava
- 2009 Photoport vol. 1, Galleria Kui?, Ulvila, Finland

- 2009 Skúter II - Biennial of young art, Jan Koniarek Gallery, Trnava, Slovakia
- 2009 Transit Bratislava Martin, Turčianska galéria, Martin, Slovakia
- 2008 For Sale II, Photoport Gallery, Bratislava
- 2008 Inside, Nitrianská Galéria, Nitra, Slovakia
- 2008 50 words II, Bratislava
- 2008 Culture path, Nurmes House, Nurmes, Finland
- 2007 For Sale, Photoport Gallery, Bratislava
- 2007 50 words, Bratislava
- 2006 40 words, Bratislava
- 2005 Selected works of the department of cinematography, Galeria 35 mm, Bratislava

Memberships

- 2013- Candidate member, The Union of Artist Photographers, Finland
- 2013- The Artists' Association of Finland

Grants & awards

- 2013 One-year State Grant for Artists, Arts Council of North Karelia, Finland
- 2011 One-year State Grant for Artists, Arts Council of Finland
- 2011 Project grant, The Arts Council of North Karelia, Finland
- 2010 Project grant, Arts Council of Finland
- 2009 Rector's Prize, Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovakia
- 2008 Scholarship, Academy of Fine Arts and Design, Bratislava, Slovakia

*upcoming in 2013



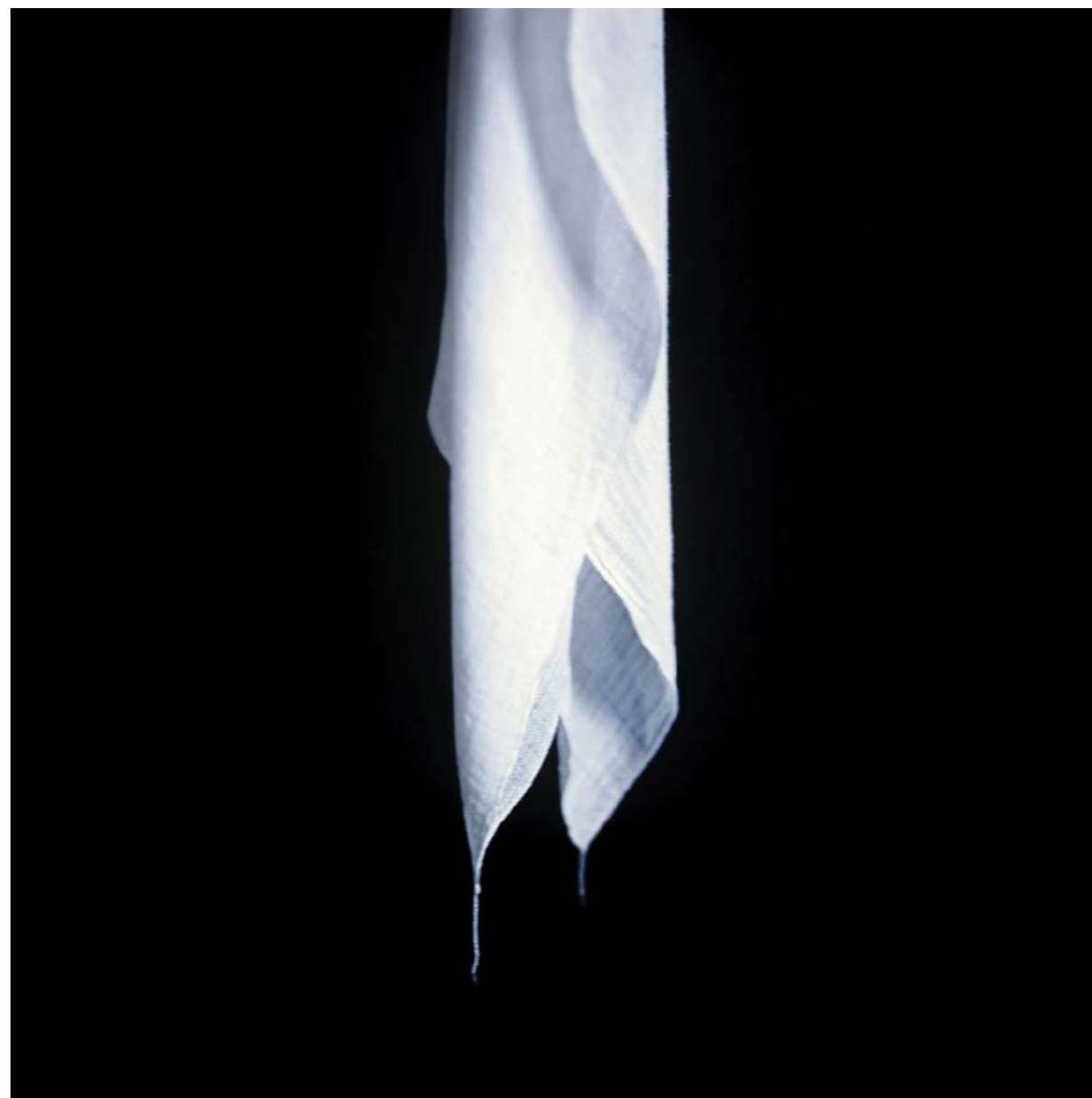
Untitled, 2010



Untitled, 2011



Untitled, 2011



Untitled, 2011



If And Only If, 2010



Untitled, 2011



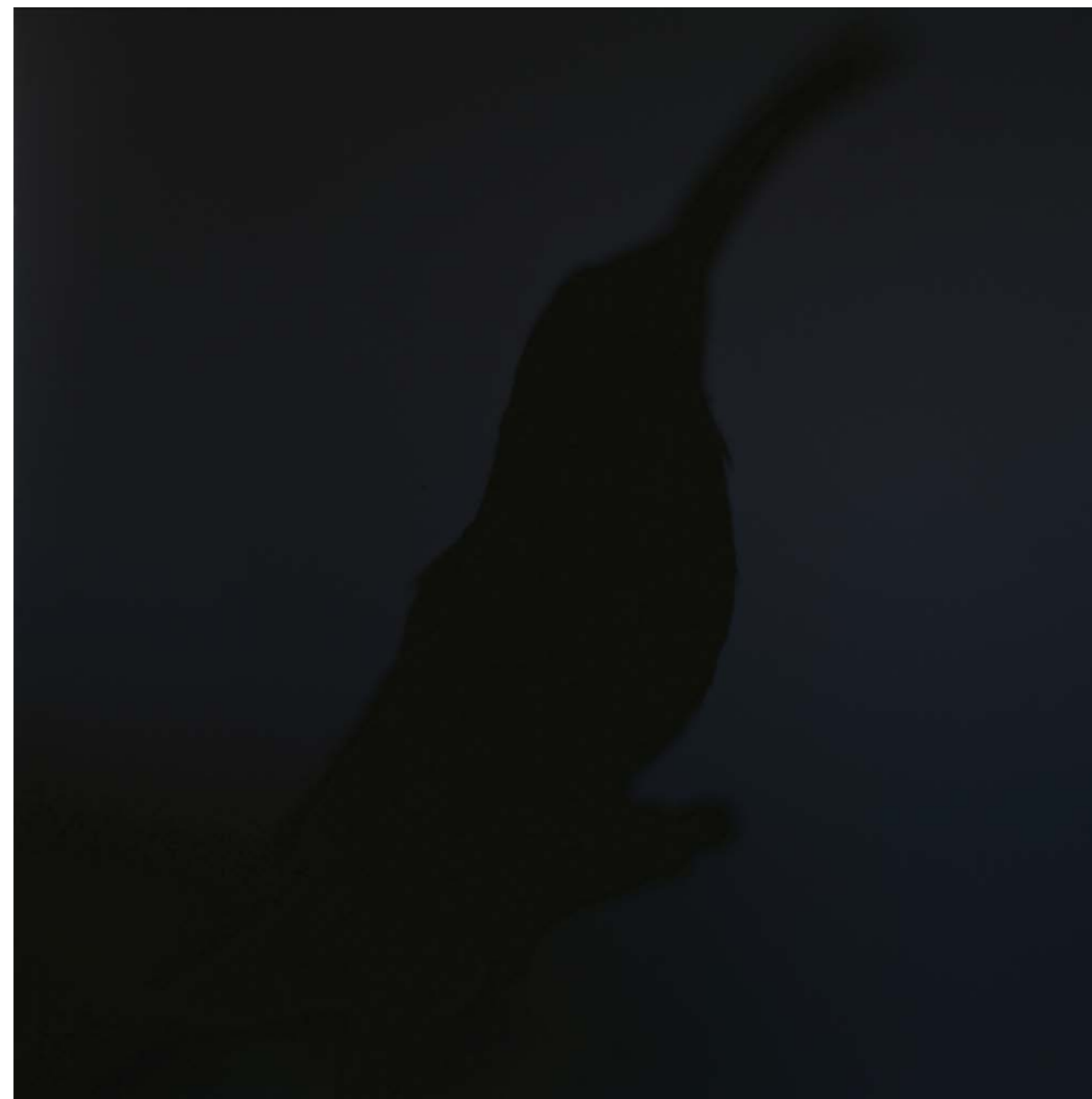
Untitled, 2013



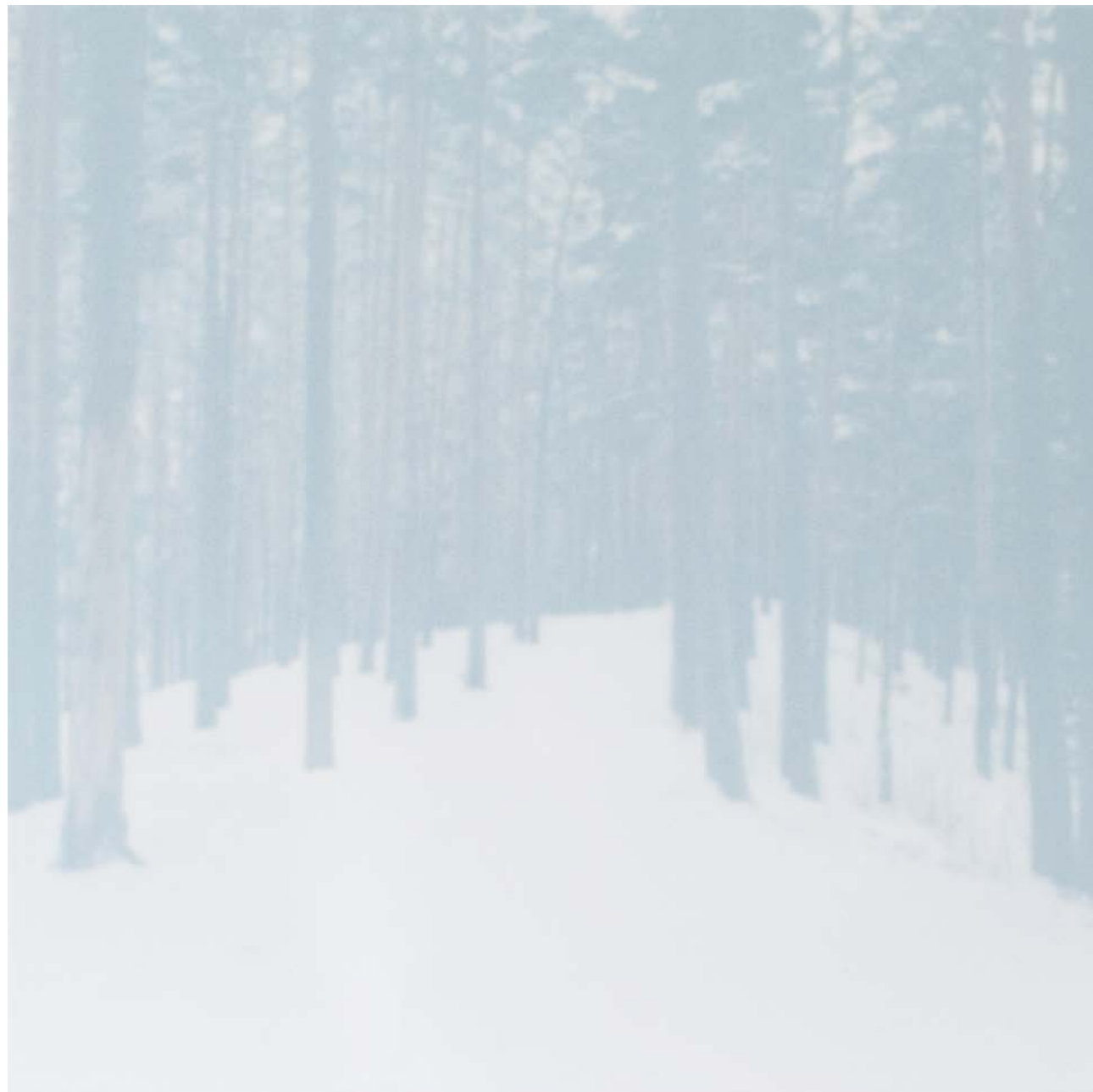
Untitled, 2013



Have We Met Before, 2009



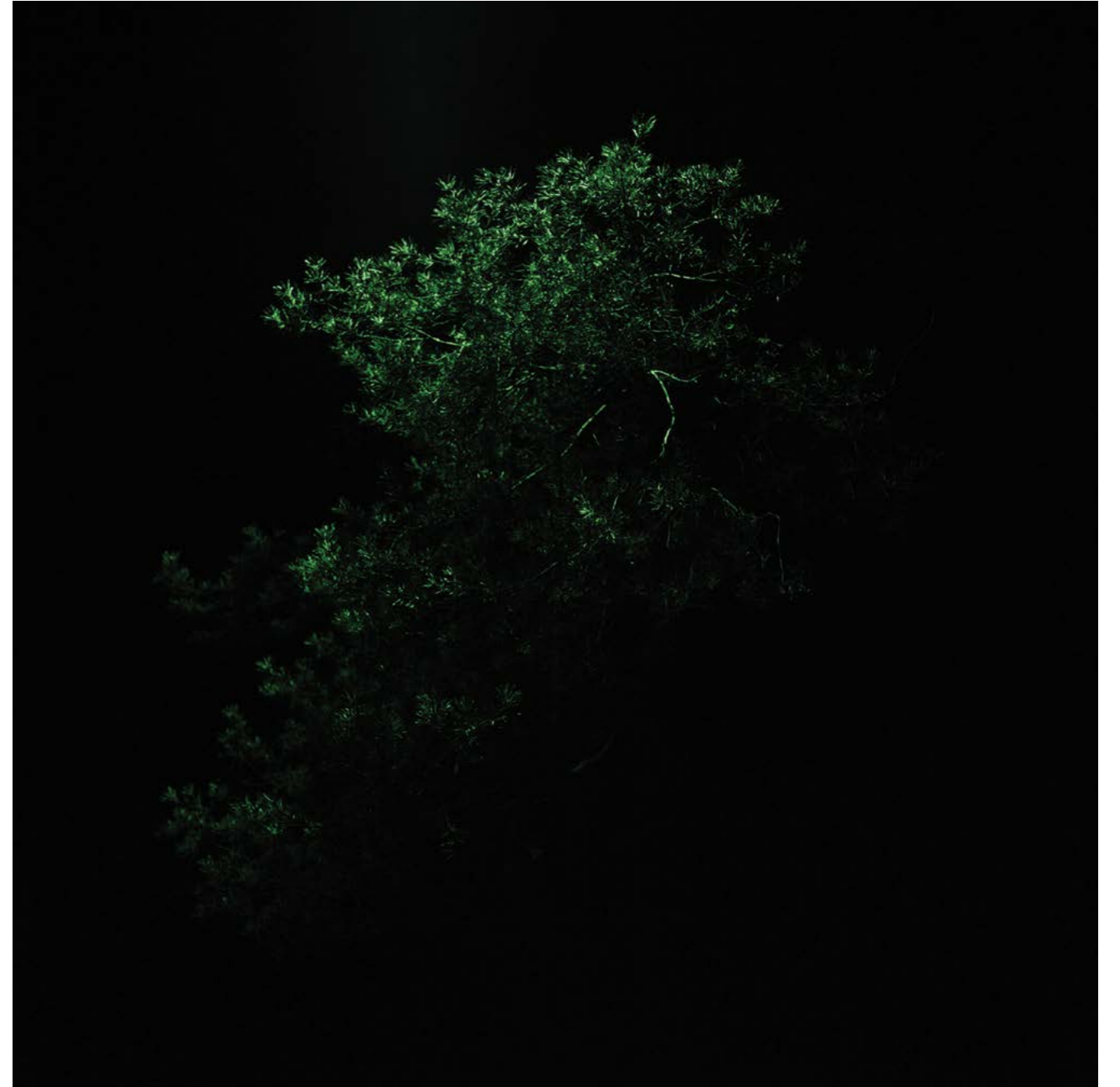
Hummingbird In Black, 2009

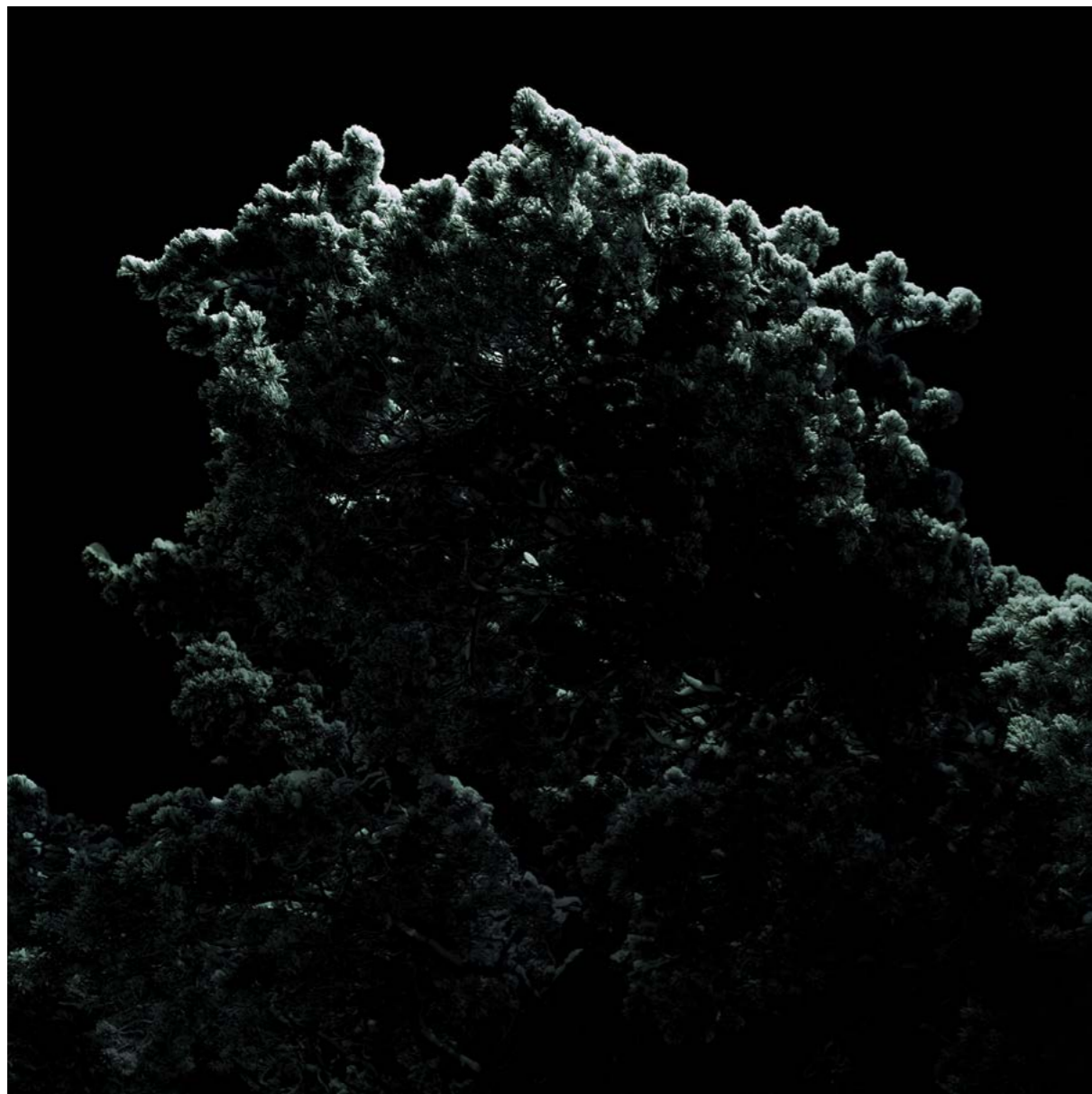


Untitled, 2010

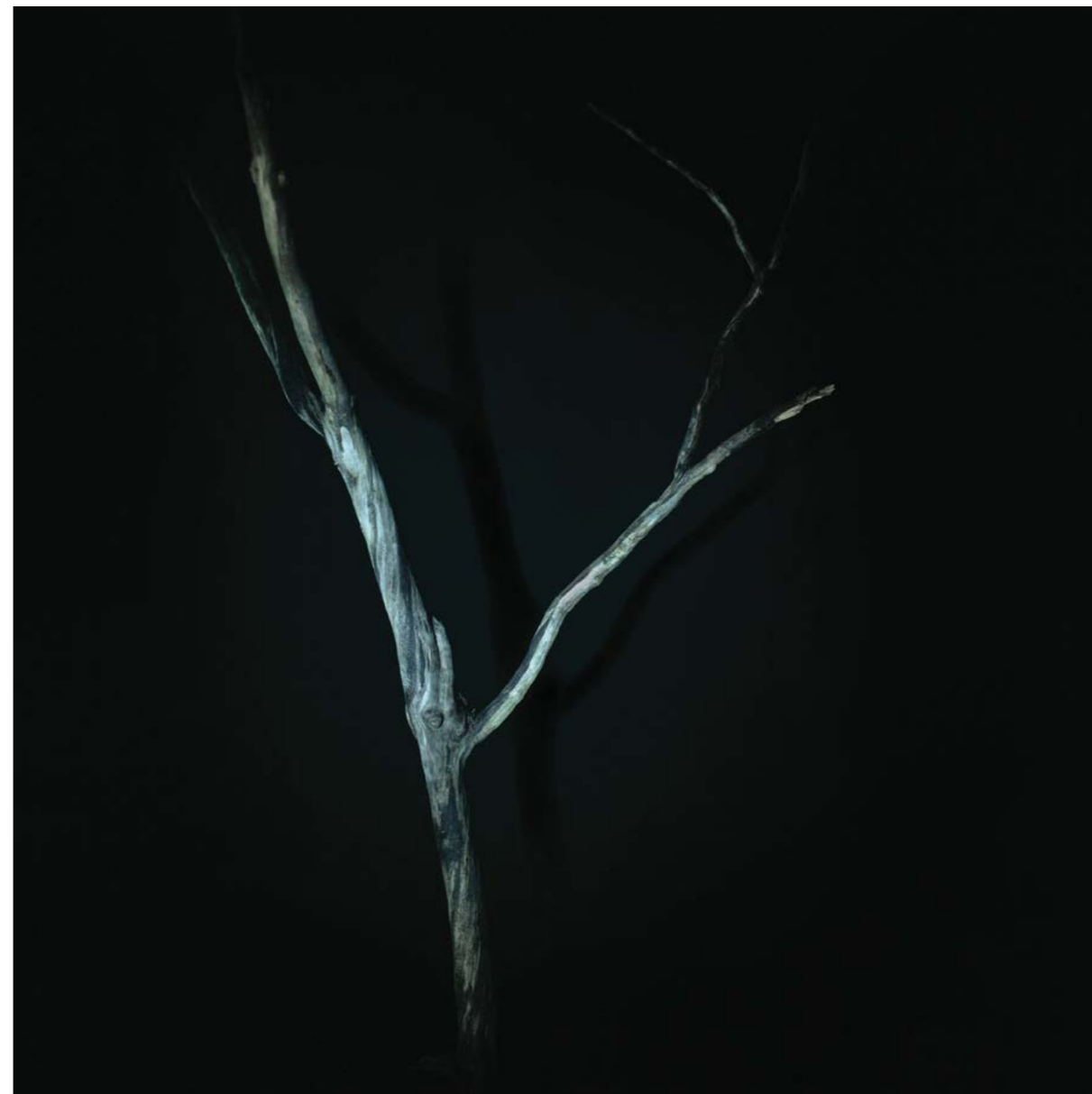


Shift Space, 2009





Untitled, 2012



Untitled, 2012



Untitled, 2011



Untitled, 2011