

PRESS RELEASE

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**Jeffrey Milstein: *Patterns of Culture***

Messums London

23 November – 23 December 2022

Preview and Book Launch: 22 November, 6-8pm



*NYC, Times Square © Jeffrey Milstein*

Jeffrey Milstein's first solo show in the UK features a selection of works documenting 'patterns of culture' in Europe and the United States as viewed from above including extraordinarily compelling images of Paris, London, New York, Rome and Florence. His photographs are taken from small planes and helicopters, using very high-resolution digital cameras. With his architect's eye for patterns and geometry, he has pioneered a style of precise straight-down aerial photography. The images of Italy are the first taken by the photographer in Rome and Florence, and will be premiered in the exhibition.



*Duomo di Firenze © Jeffrey Milstein*



*Rome Neighbourhood near Piazza Navona © Jeffrey Milstein*

The same occasion will celebrate the launch of the first large-scale publication produced by the artist entitled *FLYING*. Vast in scale at height 22" x width 28.75" x depth 3" with a silver fabric cover and embossed text, the book features 59 full-scale prints and an introduction by James Crawford, writer and broadcaster of BBC One documentary series *Scotland from the Sky*. Crawford comments: *'From the sky, Milstein turns row after row of LA backyards, trees, houses and car parks into a remarkable unfolding structure, like living cells growing under a microscope. London's Waterloo Station at night becomes a beautiful, iridescent sea shell, or the beginnings of a DNA double helix.*



*Waterloo Station (Night), © Jeffrey Milstein*





London Charing Cross Station, © Jeffrey Milstein



London Gherkin, © Jeffrey Milstein

Crawford highlights the significance of these images, *'This, of course, is what the view from above does better than anything else. It shows that our world never stops changing, not even for a second. It shows that our cities are hard-wired for change – always growing, shifting, suffering or thriving. Always regenerating and rewriting themselves. And one thing is for certain. The landscapes that Milstein – and, thanks to his photography, we – look down on today, will not be the landscapes of tomorrow.'*



NYC Chrysler Building 2 © Jeffrey Milstein

## Biography

Woodstock, NY-based Jeffrey Milstein was born in the Bronx in 1944. He received a degree in architecture from UC Berkley in 1968 and practised as an architect before turning to photography in 2000. Growing up his two interests were art and flying, becoming a pilot at the age of 17. His passion for flight led to his well-known typology of aircraft photographed from below while landing. The work was presented in a solo show at the Ulrich Museum of Art in 2008, as well as in a year-long solo show at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in 2012. In 2016 it was on display at the Brandts Museum in Odense, Denmark.

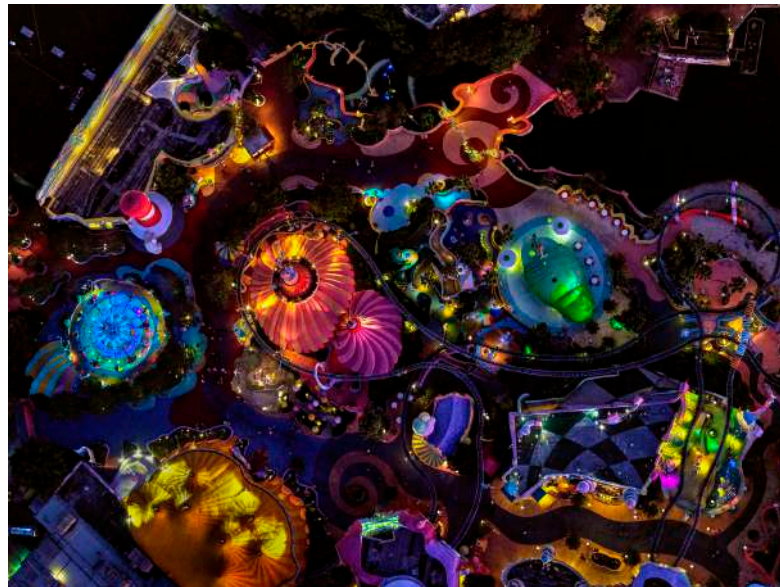
In recent years Milstein has reversed the direction of the camera creating award winning unique aerial images of man-made landscapes that are iconic and emblematic of the modern world. These photographs have been recently shown in solo shows at Kopeikin Gallery, Bau-Xi Gallery, and Benrubi Gallery in 2017-2018. The National History Museum of Los Angeles County opened a permanent installation in 2017 which included a large-scale reproduction of Milstein's aerial photograph of Beverly Hills. His aerial photograph of Newark Airport is a cover image for the catalogue accompanying the traveling FEP exhibition *'Civilization, The Way We Live Now'*.



*Newark Airport 8 Terminal B © Jeffrey Milstein*



Milstein's photographs have been exhibited and collected throughout the United States and Europe, and are represented by Kopeikin Gallery in Los Angeles, Benrubi Gallery in NYC, Bau-Xi Gallery in Canada, and ARTITLEDcontemporary in Europe. They have been published in New York Times, LA Times, The Guardian, Esquire, Fortune, Time, Harper's, GQ, European Photography, American Photo, Eyemazing, Graphis, photomagazin, Die Ziet, Liberation, Wired, PDN, Esquire, Conde Naste Traveler, and featured on the CBS evening news with Scott Pelly. Abrams published Milstein's aircraft work as a monograph in 2007, Monacelli published his extensive body of work from Cuba as a monograph in 2010, and Thames and Hudson published LA NY, a collection of aerial photographs of LA and NY in 2017. His work has been collected by museums including LACMA, the Smithsonian Museum, the George Eastman House, the Portland Museum of Art, and the Akron Art Museum.



*Newark Airport 8 Terminal B © Jeffrey Milstein*

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MESSUMS WILTSHIRE is a leading multi-purpose gallery and arts centre set inside a restored thirteenth-century tithe barn and surrounding buildings with exhibition space, sculpture garden and restaurant.

MESSUMS LONDON is a 2,000 sq ft exhibition space on Cork Street behind the Royal Academy. It hosts a rolling programme of exhibitions for our contemporary artists and is home to our photography department.