

SAM FALLS

Artist Bio & Resume

Sam Falls (b. 1984) is a California-based artist who draws upon plant matter and the natural landscape to create works that bridge painting, photography, and sculpture. By embracing the variable conditions of working en plein air, Falls actively engages with the environment and the passage of time to produce poetic, site-specific paintings and sculptures that serve as a direct conduit to the immersive experience of nature.

Selected Public Exhibitions & Collections

Folsom Streetscape, San Francisco, CA, 2020
En Plein Air, The Highline, New York, NY 2019
Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, MO 2019
Sculpture Garden Biennale, Parc des Eaux-Vives Genève, Switzerland 2018
Light over Time, Public Art Fund, New York, NY 2014
LAX Art, Los Angeles, CA 2013

Selected Solo Exhibitions

Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan 2024
Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, Switzerland 2022
303 Gallery, New York, NY 2023
Jessica Silverman, San Francisco, CA 2023
MOCA Cleveland, Cleveland, OH 2023
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA 2018
Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany 2018
MART, Galerica Civica Trento, Italy 2018
The Kitchen, New York, New York 2015

Selected Group Exhibitions

Marfa Invitational, Marfa, TX 2024
Musée Yves Saint Laurent, Paris, France 2024
Crystal Bridges Museum, Bentonville, AK 2019
Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO 2018
ICA Boston, Boston, MA 2017
International Center of Photography, New York, New York 2013



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Artist Statement

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Sam Falls (b. 1984, CA) takes nature as both his subject and material to create site-specific works that engage the viewer and the environment. Primarily working outdoors, Falls uses natural elements to collaborate directly with nature throughout his creative process. His works range from paintings employing water-reactive dyes activated by rain and mist to durational photograms harnessing sunlight and ceramics cast from plants pressed into wet clay. The specific atmosphere and ecosystem play a vital role in both the process and the final outcome of each piece.

In conjunction with the central theme of our relationship to the environment, Falls explores the symbolic power of nature to provoke reflections on our own mortality and temporal existence. His work examines the microcosm of emotional shifts linked to changing elements, as well as the broader narrative of a lifespan through the seasons—from budding blossoms to wilting petals and decay. Falls expands the definition of site-specific contexts by activating organic matter beyond its origin and preserving its silhouettes, akin to a form of fossilization or memento mori.











