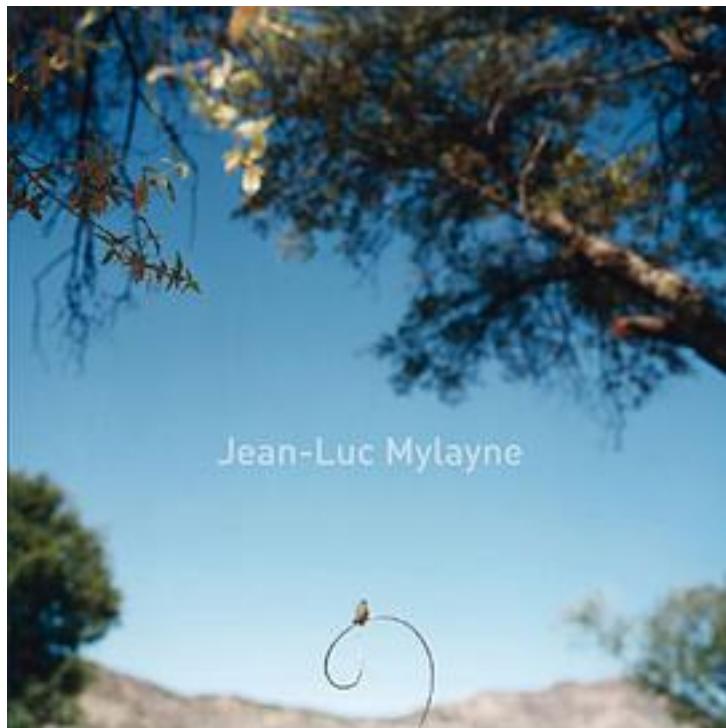


Jean-Luc Mylayne



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French photographer Jean-Luc Mylayne has traveled the world since 1976 in search of birds to photograph. His quest revolves around an encounter - secret and furtive - with the bird of the moment. In thirty-three years, Mylayne has taken no more than three hundred photographs, because each one is the result of a long and patient period of observation, and exists-without exception-in only a single print. Mylayne, who defines himself as a film director and speaks of birds as though they were actors, constructs his photograph around their presence. The compositions and tonalities of what he calls his scenes are extremely precise: the artist takes into account a multitude of parameters, such as the seasons and the time of day. He dedicates very special care to

his compositions, which he does not retouch, and to the focal lengths, for which his lenses are largely fashioned by hand. A single photograph might be the objective of several months of preparation. The arrival of the bird at the place that has been specifically reserved for it in the photograph constitutes the successful outcome. Mylayne's processes, the slow approach of the bird, and the dialogue between them all question time. Mylayne's photography is about the quiet 'discipline of experiencing the intervals' in contrast to the decisive moments so traditional to the photographic medium. This book, published in conjunction with an exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Lyon, France, presents a previously unpublished series of 68 photographs taken by Mylayne between 1992 and 2008. 'When I see a bird, I see at the same time that bird on a tree near the house. I see everything as an ensemble, and I realize that's how I see everything in life...With my lenses, I can take in that place, then the tree, the bush, the house. I try to capture all those places at the same moment, just like our eye travels from one spot to another in taking in the scene, and I try to reconstitute it' - Jean Luc Mylayne, Marfa, TX, 2006.

作者介绍:

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