

CLAIRE OLIVER

513 West 26th Street, New York, NY 10001

Matthew Sleeth: Magnificent Obsessions

January 22nd—February 21st, 2015

Matthew Sleeth's *Magnificent Obsessions* is the culmination of a ten year preoccupation with defining pattern in chaos and creating harmony from discountenance. Bringing a new sense of visual pleasure to conceptual art, this exhibition includes Sleeth's sculpture, video and photographic works.

Through typology and repetition, the Artist aims to draw attention to our compulsion for collecting, cataloging and composing. The works in this exhibition focus on what we do well - making patterns in the chaos. One broken umbrella is just a broken umbrella, whereas Sleeth's series of broken umbrellas say something about mass-production and waste. These images are a conversation about social, political, and cultural landscapes and those that inhabit them.

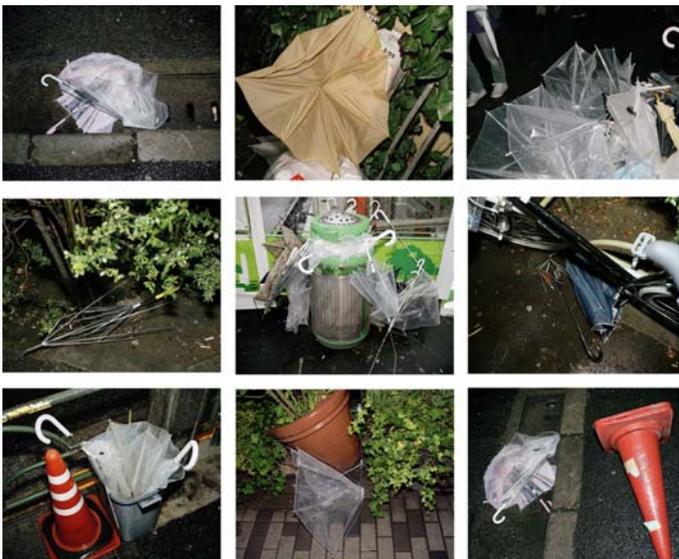
The works in *Magnificent Obsessions* are consistent with the core of Sleeth's practice: that is, a sustained fascination with the tension between abstraction and representation. Illustrating formal structures, Sleeth's grids of everyday objects transform the mass produced commodity into an ordered and rhythmic narrative. This refitting is clearly evident in the new work *New York Lights*, a work predominately abstract in intention, but figurative in conclusion. Commenting on contemporary cultural systems, *Surveillance*, a series of 3-D printed ceramic cameras, monitor all who enter the exhibition. Here Sleeth involves the viewer through an interesting diagram of the power paradigm. Through the process of their making and the use of specific



Surveillance
3-D printed ceramic
5 x 3 x 10 inches | 13 x 6 x 25cm

materials in his artworks, Sleeth examines how the built world displays the patterns of our social and economic systems.

Matthew Sleeth's work is held in many public collections including The National Gallery of Australia, National Portrait Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria. Sleeth was named one of the Fifty Most Collectable Artists by Art Collector magazine. There have been six monographs published on the Artist's work including "*Ten Series/106 Photographs*", published by Aperture Foundation, NY. *Magnificent Obsessions* is the Sleeth's third solo exhibition with Claire Oliver Gallery.



Abandoned Umbrellas Obsession
Grid of 9 C-prints mounted on DiBond
50 x 62 inches | 127 x 157cm