

# ONE MONTH ONE ARTIST

## Robert Charles MANN

born in 1960 in the United States

*As soon as Robert, at the age of eight, made his first print in his father's darkroom, he understood the magic photography even before he had taken his first photo.*

His mother a concert pianist and father a photographer, Robert grew up in an artistic world with his interests spread equally between photography and music.

He attended the Ohio State University School of Music, Musicians Institute in Hollywood, and Pacific Northwest Film Scoring Program in Edinburgh and also studied at the Maine Photographic Workshops and the Fine Print Studios of the Düsseldorf Museum.

During the 1980's Robert was involved with many experimental music and performance art projects in Los Angeles incorporating visual installations.

He started photographing for Exposure Magazine and concurrently took on the role of studio manager and exclusive printer for Herb Ritts producing all of his early books and editorial work.

He soon became one of the most sought after photographic specialists in Los Angeles printing the work of Helmut Newton, Mary Ellen Mark, Dennis Hopper, Peter Lindbergh and Sheila Metzner among many others.

His work also includes producing prints for Twelve Tree & Twin Palms photographic books as well as the Hollywood Archives. During the years 80's and 90's Robert produced over one million prints.



In 1989, with an international reputation in photography and photographic printing, Robert moved to Paris (France). Today his work is made primarily with pinhole cameras and traditional noble metal based printing techniques that achieve his particular photographic vision.

Robert is currently producing a new series of twenty solargraph pinhole images with hand made cameras exposing the sun's path for six months.

Installed in the USA and France on the solstice on June 21, each one will be retrieved on the solstice December 21 and prints will be produced soon after.

The photographs of Robert Charles Mann are currently in private and public collections internationally.

### SELECTION OF EXHIBITONS IN FRANCE AND OVERSEAS

#### FRANCE

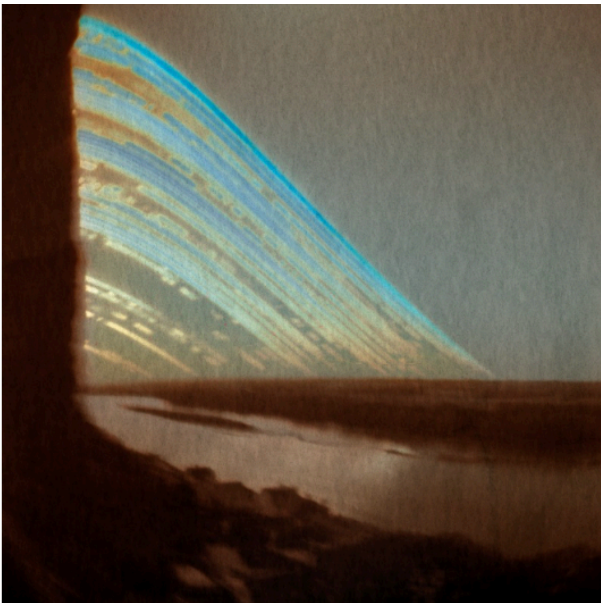
- 2019: Galerie Capazza, Nançay
- 2017-2019: Galerie Asinerie du Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire
- 2012: Musée de Vendôme
- 2009: Galerie Basia Embiricos, Paris
- 2001: Maison du Loir et Cher, Blois

#### OVERSEAS

- 2005: Musée de Pingyao, China
- 2004: Drabinsky Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 2003: National Gallery of Arts, Albania
- 2001: Special Photographers Gallery, London
- 2000: Provincetown Museum of Art, Massachusetts

## ROBERT CHARLES MANN TALKS TO US ABOUT HIS WORK

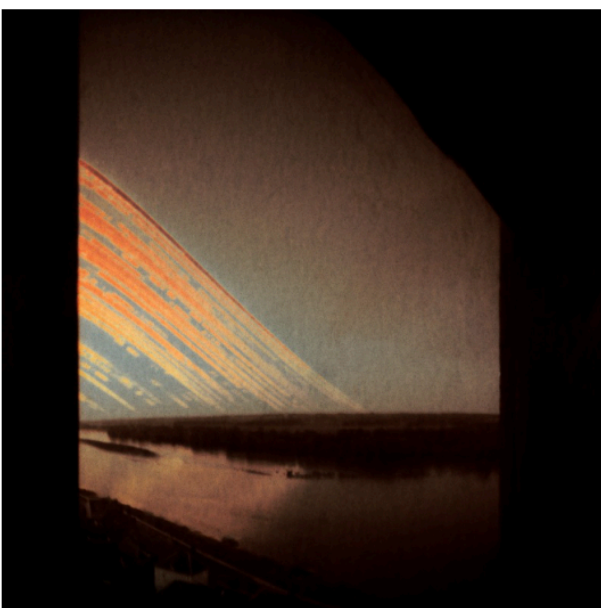
*I hope you find my photographs an experience rich in dreams and that they induce an exploration of the psyche. Several different lensless cameras are used to accomplish this. The pinhole camera has a way of suggesting objects rather than representing them because of the particular quality the pinhole image produces. This suggestive character carries with it a more profound mystery, which is not found on the surface of the image but rather in the possibilities of interpretation. The pinhole camera provides the aesthetic means needed for a subjective experience by the viewer. When this technique is combined with my themes and choice of subjects, the photographs begin to breath and become metaphoric environments.*



*A singular characteristic of pinhole photography is the fact that exposures are quite long, varying from seconds to several hours. This cumulative exposure produces effects that cannot be seen by the eye. Moving objects become translucent, having a vibrating quality, and some objects may become completely in the process due to displacement during exposure.*

*The Solargraph Series is based upon the idea that the path of the sun through the sky changes each day and that a long exposure will yield a cumulative image of these paths, I point the pinhole camera toward the sky where the sun will be*

*during the six months from solstice to solstice, either winter to summer or summer to winter. The final image is not a montage of several different images, but rather the result of a single continuous exposure for six months of the sun. This work bridges old school traditional techniques with modern digital techniques. The prints for each image are made on pure cotton fibre based paper with permanent pigments.*



*An image's significance may change with every choice I make concerning its qualities of contrast, density, and tone. A photographic image can be printed in thousands of ways. The tactile quality of the print is as important as the choice of materials. The print constitutes half the aesthetic of the photograph. The thematic process that began before the exposure was made and a more spontaneous chemical experimentation both take place while printing the negative.*

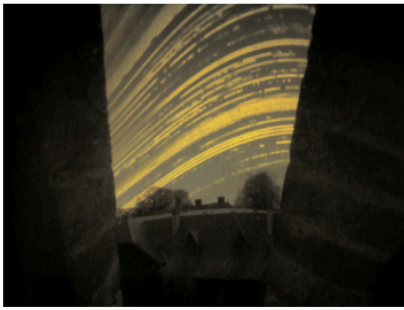
*These photographs carry the possibility of many messages. They are enigmas born to be deciphered by the viewer.*

*Photographs presented above :*

*- Solargraph 20180621-11, n° 1/3 - Photographic pinhole - 120 x 120 cm - © Robert Charles Mann*

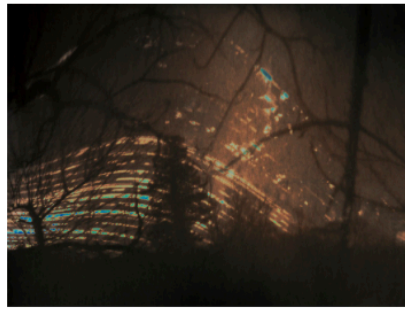
*- Solargraph 20180621-04, n° 1/3 - Photographic pinhole - 120 x 120 cm - © Robert Charles Mann*





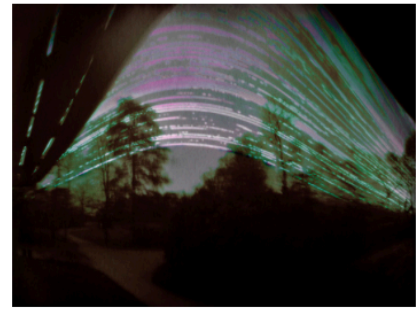
**Solargraph 20180621-06**

Photographic pinhole  
15 prints - 60 x 80 cm  
© Robert Charles Mann



**Solargraph 20180621-12**

Photographic pinhole  
15 prints - 60 x 80 cm  
© Robert Charles Mann



**Solargraph 20180621-02**

Photographic pinhole  
15 prints - 60 x 80 cm  
© Robert Charles Mann

You can find this selection of photographs by **Robert Charles MANN** and more on our website **by following this link**. We look forward to seeing you **next April at the Art Paris 2020 fair** to continue your discovery of this artist.

## THE MAN BEHIND THE ARTIST

Robert is also a film composer. His music style spans ambient electronica, orchestral soundtracks and background music for tv. He has recently composed music for *AD ASTRA* by James Gray starring Brad Pitt.

Robert also exclusively prints Brad Pitt's personal archives, first producing his story of Angelina Jolie for W Magazine and continues printing Pitt's massive archive of negatives. Pitt has thus become a collector of Robert's work purchasing eleven prints from the "Orbit Series" and the "Flower Series".



### GALERIE CAPAZZA

1, rue des Faubourgs - 18330 NANCAY  
[www.galerie-capazza.com](http://www.galerie-capazza.com)  
[contact@galerie-capazza.com](mailto:contact@galerie-capazza.com)



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