

deborah bell

PHOTOGRAPHS

511 W 25th St, Room 703
New York, NY 10001

telephone 212 691 3883

telex 212 691 3222

deborahbell@rcn.com

Press Release

DAG ALVENG SUMMER LIGHT

September 13 – October 25, 2008

Opening reception: Saturday, September 13, 2-5pm

Deborah Bell Photographs is pleased to present Norwegian photographer Dag Alveng's third one-person exhibition in New York. Dag Alveng was born in 1953 in Oslo, Norway. He lives and works both in Oslo and in New York City.

The exhibition will feature black-and-white gelatin silver prints depicting landscapes and everyday situations in pastoral summer settings in Norway and Sweden from Alveng's ongoing series, *Summer Light*, dating from the late 1970s to the present.

Though Alveng's subject is delivered in a straightforward and classical manner, his imagery ranges from pleasant views – a vacationing family crab-fishing at the beach, a lone dinghy in open water, or the artist himself, nude, falling into a fjord – to more complex and mysterious compositions, often in double exposure, of desolate, rocky shores and murky ocean vistas.

Alveng's gelatin silver prints are gorgeous and finely nuanced, in a palette ranging from moody, flat greys to brilliant, overexposed whites that accentuate the atmosphere and time of day during which he photographed.

Among Alveng's kindred spirits are the American photographers Robert Adams and Lewis Baltz, with whom he shares not only an interest in subject matter but also an eye for delicacy of light and tonal value that convey spare compositions that are at once deceptively simple, formally elegant and psychologically compelling.

The prints on exhibition will be 20 x 24" (50.8 x 61 cm) and 48 x 60" (120 x 150 cm), made from 8 x 10" (20.3 x 25.4 cm) or medium-format (2-1/4" square [6 x 6 cm]) negative film.

Alveng's previous one-person exhibitions in New York were in 1993 at Holly Solomon Gallery and in 1989 at Opsis Gallery. Since 1979 he has exhibited widely at museums and galleries in Europe, including, most recently, Gallery Brandstrup, Oslo (2003); The Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo (2001); Sprengel Museum, Hanover (2001); Gallery Riis, Oslo (1993) and in group exhibitions at Deborah Bell Photographs, New York.

Alveng's photographs are in the collections of major museums in the United States, Scandinavia and Europe, including The Museum of Modern Art, New York; the

Metropolitan Museum of Art; Yale University Art Gallery; Sprengel Museum, Hanover; Museum Folkwang, Essen; Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo; Henie-Onstad Art Center, Hovikodden; The National Museum of Photography – Preus Fotomuseum, Horten; The Art Collection of the City of Oslo; Bank of America Collection (formerly LaSalle Bank Photography Collection), Chicago; and numerous private collections worldwide.

Alveng has published several books, most notably *This is MOST Important* (2003); *Summer Light* (2001); *Layers of Light* (1995) and *Asylum* (1987). He was guest curator and guest editor of *Photographs from the Real World*, published in connection with the 1994 Olympics held in Lillehammer, Norway.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from Noon – 6pm. The gallery is located between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues in Chelsea, under the High Line.

For high-res scans and further information please contact Adam Bezer or Deborah Bell by phone at (212) 691-3883 or by email at deborahbell@rcn.com. Please also visit our website, www.deborahbellphotographs.com.



Branches Near Milton (1999)

Bleak Flowers (1990)

Round, Bleak Stones (1996)