

AbstrActual

FRANCIS MINIEN SOLO EXHIBITION

March 6 - April 25, 2020



The Cluster Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of the solo show **AbstrActual** presenting the work of artist Francis Minien, a member of our Brooklyn Art Cluster Studios in New York. The work will be on view from March 6th through April 25th, 2020 with a public opening reception on March 6, 2020, 6-8pm.

Francis Minien, with the artwork presented in **AbstrActual**, attempts to look at his environment in an as straightforward and unprejudiced manner as possible. His hope being that he might wriggle free from the cultural connotations that weigh upon our every interaction with the world and its contents. Photographs not as signposts, but as windows; views to respond to, rather than directions to follow. Minien clearly tries to avoid artifice, the imposition of contrived themes, or the use of stylistic tropes, he rejects the suggestion that his work is “documentary” photography. Produced by means of a technological apparatus, photographs are inherently mediated impressions of external reality. “The real” is where we live and both camera and photographer conspire to skew this reality. Yet these are known entities, and their effects are largely understood. But, through his artwork Minien seems to ask, just how direct and authentic are our lived experiences of that reality in the first place?

Francis Minien is a British artist and photographer based in New York City. An Associate of Britain’s Royal Photographic Society (ARPS), he holds an MA in Photography (2005) and a BA in History and Media Studies (1999), both from De Montfort University in the UK. Minien has traveled extensively and produced much of his photography while on the road. Unconcerned with the specifics of place - indeed he obstinately refuses to disclose locations - he operates sine loco, in the hope that this might free his photographs from the subjugation of culturally-specific readings.

The Cluster Gallery is a project space offering the opportunity to artists to show their work in a professional environment with the support of talented curators.