JHB Gallery is excited to debut a special solo exhibition featuring Ellen Carey’s new large-scale Polaroid Crush & Pull series, in the PRISMES Sector at PARIS PHOTO, 2018.

In this series, Carey combines both Polaroid and photogram using the Polaroid negative to create new abstract forms composed from chemistry-laden Polaroid pods and the light-tight color darkroom. “The great invention that is Polaroid—the game changer in photography and science, technology and art—offers me a chance to combine innovation with imagination,” says Carey. “Echoing Polaroid’s tag line “See what develops.”

With the artist’s intervention of physically crushing the negative it becomes both object and receiver of light. Polaroid’s 20th century instant technology meets the wonder of 19th century photograms, forging a new photographic object. Carey asks: “What is a 21st century photograph? In my work, the referent is removed. I use only light, photography’s indexical, and in the color darkroom, no light is allowed, except upon exposure. Replacing ‘normal’ chemistry with dyes in the Polaroid’s “pods” escalates these breaks in photography’s collective histories, letting light create my Crush & Pull as a Polaroid Photogram, a new 21st photographic object.”

At the invitation of The Ministry of Culture and PARIS PHOTO, independent curator Fannie Esouclen has included Ellen Carey’s Crush & Pull series among the selections for PATHS ELLES X PARIS PHOTO. As mentioned in the press release: “Esouclen leads us on a promenade along the aisles of Paris Photo retracing the history of photography through the prisme of women; a historic and contemporary stroll in search of treasures unearthed by exhibiting galleries and publishers.”

In addition, JHB Gallery is delighted to announce that this series has been selected for the JPMorgan Chase Art Collection “Curators’ Highlights” guide. The onsite guide includes 20 of the JPMorgan selected “must see” photographs and photo-based works at the participating galleries at PARIS PHOTO.
Carey is well known for her groundbreaking experimental practice that spans several decades. Her work has been the subject of fifty-five one-person exhibitions in museums, alternative spaces and commercial galleries, housed in over 60 art and photography museums. Her recent exhibition *Dings, Pulls and Shadows* was featured at The Amon Carter Museum of American Art (ACMAA), Ft. Worth, TX, 2018 in conjunction with her first limited-edition book of 200 titled-*Mirrors of Chance: The Photograms of Ellen Carey* (www.cartermuseum.org) and includes her essay of the same title.


For additional inquiries, including high res images and to arrange an interview with Ellen Carey please contact JHB Gallery at info@jhbgallery.com. T: +1 212 255 9286.