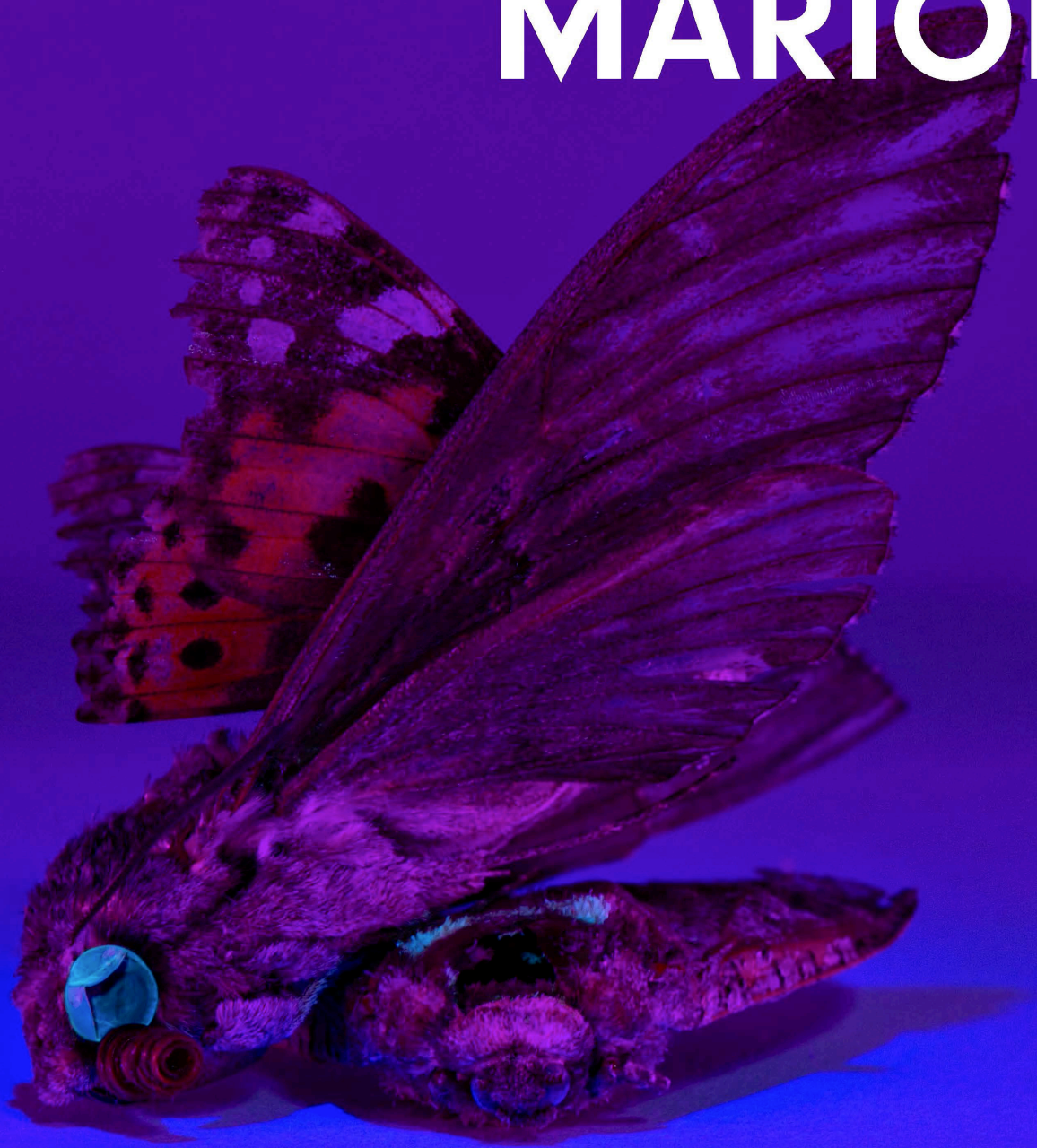


12.06 — 18.08.2024

# LÉONIE ROSE MARION



**RELEVER  
LA NUIT**

**12.06 — 18.08.2024**

**LÉONIE ROSE MARION  
RELEVER LA NUIT**

**PRESS RELEASE**

*Relever la nuit [Surveying the Night]* examines the light that forms the basis of photography, and the impact of our contemporary lifestyles on ecosystems. On moonless nights, the artist exposes photosensitive paper for the same length of time, taking readings of light pollution. The result are monochromatic images, with different shades of grey resulting from the emanations of artificial light on the outskirts of towns and villages. In Switzerland, it is no longer possible to observe the natural darkness of the night. The artist's work echoes a study carried out in 2019 by the University of Geneva on light pollution in the Geneva basin, based on aerial photographs taken at night, which led to a map of the region's nocturnal ecological network. In this project, the artist combines the role of photography as an aid to science with the notion of proof and imprint usually associated with photography. She records the disappearance of night, noting that darkness no longer exists, masked by endless light, and that it is through the clarity of the image that night is revealed, a paradox of the inversion inherent in the photographic process.

The exhibition brings together several types of image, exploring both documentary and more experimental strategies. Using *photograms*, the artist records the conditions of artificial light in Geneva. Using these images, taken without a camera and with long exposure times (7 minutes), she takes an experimental inventory of light pollution by creating snapshots at a given moment. At the same time, this work questions the scientific uses of the photographic image, as well as the paradox inherent in the project: the more light there is in the sky, the darker the image. So it is in the light that the darkness is revealed.

In her images of insects, made from animals collected by an acquaintance, the artist documents the mortality linked to artificial lighting. A study carried out in Germany estimates that 150 insects are killed per streetlight every night in summer.

The artist also documents the differences in colour temperature of artificial lighting (measured in degrees Kelvin). The colour temperatures of LED lighting do not necessarily correspond to the wavelengths (nanometres) of the bulbs. As with insects, which are disorientated by artificial light sources, certain wavelengths can affect plant growth.

With this project, which was awarded the 2022 Grant for a Documentary Photographic Project by the City of Geneva, Léonie Rose Marion reveals the multiple consequences of our lifestyles on the environment, while questioning the characteristics of the photographic medium.

## BIOGRAPHIE

Léonie Rose Marion (CH, 1993), lives and works in Geneva. A graduate of the Vevey School of Photography and the Geneva University of Art and Design (HEAD-Geneva), she works on a range of subjects relating to the territory, geology and the photographic medium. The artist's research into the materiality of photography is always rooted in documentary fieldwork, whether it's the disappearance of glaciers in her work *Surfaces reliques*, produced using out-of-date Polaroids, or her latest project *Relever la nuit*, in which she attempts to measure light pollution using photograms. Her work has been shown in various group exhibitions at Swiss institutions such as Photo Elysée, the Centre d'Art Pasquart in Bienne and IPFO-Haus der Fotografie in Olten.

Curator: Danaé Panchaud

Opening and meeting with the artists (in French):

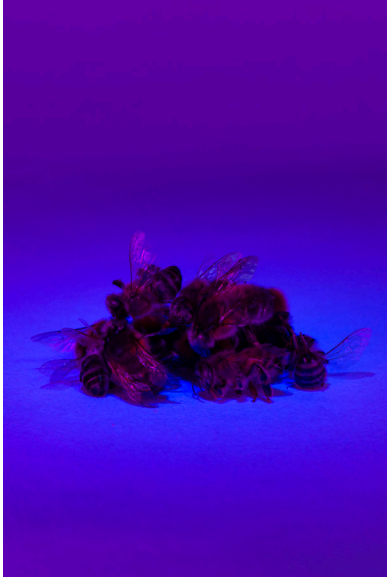
Tuesday 11 June 2024, 18h00

Press contact: [c.gunti@centrefotogeneve.ch](mailto:c.gunti@centrefotogeneve.ch) / +41 78 712 27 49

Images : [drive.google.com](https://drive.google.com)

Fondation Valeria  
Rossi di Montelera

... SUBVENTIONNÉ  
... PAR LA  
VILLE DE GENÈVE 



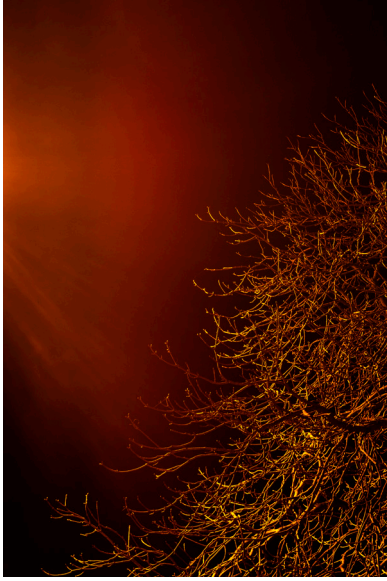
*untitled, 2024*



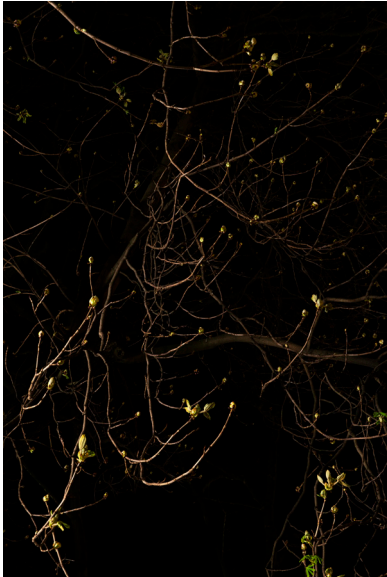
*untitled, 2024*



*untitled, 2024*



*2700K, 2024*



*4000K, 2024*



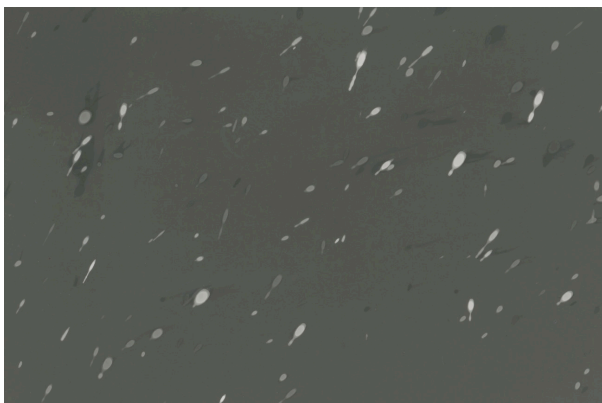
*Light trap, 2024*



*Winter halo, 2024*



*46°15'20.4''N 6°07'33.6''E  
13/05/21, 00h10, Exposure 7 min. Clear  
sky, 2021 (the photograms of the exhibi-  
tioj are from 2024)*



*46°46'01.0''N 6°39'47.4''E, 14/03/21,  
00h37. Exposure 7 min. Rain, 2021 (the  
photograms of the exhibition are from  
2024)*