

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

“Jean-Luc Mylayne ‘The Autumn of Paradise’ at Fondation Vincent van Gogh, Arles,”  
*Mousse Magazine*, February 10, 2019

## Mousse Magazine

### Jean-Luc Mylayne “The Autumn of Paradise” at Fondation Vincent van Gogh, Arles



1 2 3 4 5 6

Jean-Luc Mylayne, N° 96- août 1990 à décembre 1991  
© Jean-Luc Mylayne

How can one compare Vincent van Gogh and Jean-Luc Mylayne? Do we not associate these two names with lives and works that could not be more different from each other? We are certainly not instantly struck by any biographical or stylistic common ground or similarity of subject matter that would justify such a juxtaposition, but at the heart of these two artistic imaginations and the approach they take, we do find an abstract and, indeed, fundamental aspect that merits a closer look. It is the concept of time that crystallizes in their art via their chosen mediums, albeit each with a new “epochal” twist—painting in Van Gogh’s case, photography in Mylayne’s. While Vincent van Gogh accentuated

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

the speed with which he painted in an unprecedented way,<sup>1</sup> Mylayne adds slowness, the prolongation of time to the process of taking pictures. [...]

At the same time, there is an irresistible charm and attraction in the serenity and affinity with the natural environs that permeate Mylayne's challenging photographic compositions. It is, however, the aplomb with which the artist elaborates each and every detail, no matter how small, that transforms these photographs into veritable "tableaux", into complex works of art.

The artistic procedure is linked to a model and way of life, based on prolonged preparation "in the field" and direct confrontation, in order to give free rein to perception, to submit to the landscape, to the natural environs, to worldly and cosmic relations. Here too, Van Gogh and Mylayne share common ground. We mustn't forget Van Gogh's observation that people who accused him of painting too quickly had not taken enough time to study and appreciate his work.

In the artists' emphasis on earth and sky we recognize the distinct contingencies of their respective eras, eloquently demonstrated by their different responses to the demands of art and time, and also by the courage, commitment and tenacity with which they refuse to toe the line of the times. Neither Van Gogh nor Mylayne ride the waves.