

WHITE CUBE

Press Release

Marguerite Humeau

scintille

January 16 – February 21, 2026

White Cube New York

Press Preview and Artist Tour

Thursday, January 15, 2026, 10.30am–11.30am

‘Darkness becomes a presence that guides us towards new forms of cooperation, from a void to be conquered to a teacher of collective survival.’

– Marguerite Humeau, 2025

White Cube presents ‘scintille’, the first solo exhibition by multidisciplinary artist Marguerite Humeau (b.1986) to take place in its New York gallery. The exhibition runs concurrent to the artist’s touring museum exhibition ‘Torches’, presently on view at the Helsinki Art Museum, following shows at ICA Miami, Florida (2024) and ARKEN, Denmark (2025). Drawing inspiration from the enveloping darkness of caves and their intricate ecosystem, the artist debuts new sculpture and works on paper which will be presented as part of an immersive installation that transforms both floors of the gallery.

Informed by the artist’s recent visit to a bat cave in West Papua, the exhibition opens with two 13 feet-tall sculptures that evoke the forms of stalagmites and stalactites. Understanding the darkness of the cave as a metaphor for the obscure, the unclear and the unnameable, Humeau proposes her sculptures as guides to help navigate uncertainty. Returning to *The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows* (2021) by John Koenig, which explores the lack of language to convey certain feelings, each sculpture attempts to commemorate an emotion that lies beyond the limits of human vocabulary. The exhibition continues on the second level, where Humeau presents a series of bat-shaped sculptures cast in color-shifting glass, stemming from her fascination with chiropterology. Accompanying these is a suite of pastel drawings displayed along the walls which, not unlike prehistoric wall paintings, the artist has conceived of as non-verbal carriers of experiences and emotions.

Humeau’s multidisciplinary practice reimagines extinct worlds to speculate upon the mysteries of human existence. The immersive environments she creates act as ecosystems in which the artworks are active agents, engaging the viewer in spontaneous, physical encounters with the work. Through intensive independent research and collaborations with scientists and holders of arcane forms of knowledge, the artist considers the place and future of humankind.

‘scintille’ is on view at White Cube New York from January 16 through February 21, 2026.

W H I T E C U B E

For additional information, interview requests or press images, please contact:

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Notes to Editors:

- Marguerite Humeau (b.1986, Cholet, France) lives and works in London. She received her MA from the Royal College of Art, London, in 2011. Solo exhibitions of her work have been held at HAM, Helsinki Art Museum, Finland (2025); ARKEN Museum of Contemporary Art, Ishøj, Denmark (2025); ICA Miami, Florida (2024); Lafayette Anticipations, Paris (2021); Kunstverein Hamburg, Germany (2019); Museion, Bolzano, Italy (2019); New Museum, New York (2018); Tate Britain, London (2017); Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich, Switzerland (2017); Schinkel Pavillon, Berlin (2017); Nottingham Contemporary, UK (2016); and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2016). Humeau's work has been featured in numerous group exhibitions, including the Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, London (2024); Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland (2021); the Istanbul Biennial, Turkey (2019); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2019); MAMVP, Paris (2019); the High Line, New York (2017); Château de Versailles, France (2017); Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2017); FRAC Midi-Pyrénées, Toulouse, France (2017); Serpentine Galleries, London (2014); and Victoria and Albert Museum, Sculpture Gallery, London (2014). Humeau's work was included in the 15th Gwangju Biennale (2024), the 59th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia curated by Cecilia Alemani and the 23rd Biennale of Sydney (both 2022). In 2023, Humeau created the 160-acre earthwork 'Orisons' in San Luis Valley, Colorado, one of the largest earthworks ever produced by a solo female artist. It was curated and produced by Black Cube Nomadic Art Museum, headquartered in Denver.
- White Cube's exhibition programme extends across locations in London, Hong Kong, Paris, New York, Seoul and online. Since its inception in 1993, the gallery has exhibited the work of many of the world's most highly acclaimed contemporary artists.
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