



Daniel Arsham, *Bust of Athena Discovered in the Jungle*, 2024. Acrylic on canvas panel. 121.9 × 147.3 × 5.7 cm | 48 × 58 × 2.25 in. Courtesy of the artist and Perrotin.

DANIEL ARSHAM

TIME FOLD

Private view: Thursday 4 June, 6–8pm
Exhibition runs until Saturday 8 August 2026

Perrotin is pleased to present *Time Fold*, an exhibition of new and historical works by Daniel Arsham. Spanning sculpture, painting, and works on paper drawn from nearly two decades of the artist's practice, the exhibition traces Arsham's sustained engagement with geology, archaeology, and the cultural residue of the recent past.

Time Fold brings together several of Arsham's major bodies of work in dialogue with a group of five drawings from the artist's archives, created between 2007 and 2010, that are exhibited publicly for the first time.

Arsham has long described himself as working within a 'fictional archaeology': an imagined future in which the material culture of the recent past has been returned to the earth and recovered, transformed by the same mineralogical processes that shape geological time. In *Time Fold*, this archaeology is turned back on itself, becoming a site of excavation not only of objects but of the artist's own history.

The exhibition opens with Arsham's eroded busts and classical figures, works that fuse the iconography of ancient sculpture with the mineral vocabulary of the natural world. In *Grey Selenite Eroded Bust of Zeus*, the commanding features of one of antiquity's most powerful deities are overtaken by crystalline growth. The nearly two-metre-tall *Bronze Eroded Bust of Pericles*, cast in bronze and polished stainless steel and on view in the Claridge's lobby, carries this into monumental scale. These are not objects that mourn the past but rather propose an entirely different relationship with it, one in which deep history and the present moment are understood as co-existing states.

The same logic governs Arsham's treatment of objects from popular and consumer culture, in which the detritus of twentieth-century life undergoes the same petrifying transformation. Works including *Ash and Pyrite Eroded Pentax 6x7 75mm Camera* and *Grey Selenite Eroded Space Odyssey Movie Poster* collapse the distance between the ancient world and the late twentieth century, proposing that a



Daniel Arsham, *Portrait Bust of Duke Nemours and Floating Geometry*, 2007. Gouache on mylar. 37.1 x 29.2 cm | 14.6 x 11.5 in. Courtesy of the artist and Perrotin.



Daniel Arsham, *Bronze Eroded Bust of Pericles*, 2021. Bronze, polished stainless steel. 199 x 107 x 97 cm | 78 ³/₈ x 42 ¹/₈ x 38 ³/₁₆ in. Courtesy of the artist and Perrotin.

camera from the 1970s and a Greek hero from antiquity occupy the same speculative archaeological moment. The result is a peculiarly moving reassessment of what we consider worthy of preservation, and what we allow to be lost.

A new body of sculptures composed of sand introduces a further destabilisation of form. Where earlier works simulate erosion through the accumulation of mineral deposits, these new sculptures operate through structural fragility, foregrounding the conditions under which objects might fail to endure at all.

Central to the exhibition is a group of five works on paper drawn from Arsham's archives and shown publicly for the first time. Three gouache works on mylar, *Apollo Belvedere*; *Geometry in Collapse*, *Portrait Bust of Duke Nemours and Floating Geometry*, and *Statue of a Wounded Amazon and Geometry*, show classical figures overlaid with

flat, architectural geometric forms, a compositional logic that directly anticipates the mineral intrusions of Arsham's later three-dimensional work. Alongside these are two gouache drawings, *Camera Study in Gouache* and *Rolleiflex Camera Study in Gouache*, in which the analogue camera appears as a subject of the same careful, elegiac attention it would later receive in sculpture.

Seen together, these early works confirm that Arsham's central preoccupations were fully formed at the outset of his practice. *Time Fold* is not an exercise in chronology. It is an argument that past and future are not oppositional categories but coexisting states, and that every object, in Arsham's hands, is always in the process of becoming something else.