Harry Callahan Nature Abstracted June 23 – August 18, 2012



Marc Selwyn Fine Art is pleased to announce *Nature Abstracted*, an exhibition of black and white photographs by world renowned photographer Harry Callahan.

Nature Abstracted focuses on one aspect of Callahan's work—his elegant, abstracted, and often calligraphic images of the natural world. Lyrical reflections of sunlight on the water, delicate weeds in the snow, or reeds in a lake seem to transcend photography and cross over into the world of painting and drawing. Begun in the 1940's when realism was the dominant aesthetic, these sophisticated images foreshadow Abstract Expressionism, reducing nature to the abstract patterns and linear rhythms embraced by artists such as Cy Twombly, Franz Kline, or Jackson Pollock. Callahan's innovative approach to such themes embodies his search for new ways of seeing, which ultimately cemented his position as one of the seminal figures of 20th century photography.

Harry Callahan (1912-1999) began photographing as an untrained amateur in 1938 while working for the Chrysler Motor Parts Corporation. In 1946, Callahan's talent was noticed by the Museum of Modern Art for his first exhibition and soon he was teaching at the Institute of Design in Chicago (formerly known as the New Bauhaus). After 15 years in Chicago, he moved to the Rhode Island School of Design to establish the photography department where he would remain until his retirement in 1977. Callahan's work has been the subject of numerous exhibitions at institutions such as Museum of Modern Art, New York, Centre Pompidou, Paris, National Gallery of Art, Washington and Center for Creative Photography, Arizona. Additionally, Callahan is included in major museums worldwide, such as Art Institute of Chicago, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, National Museum of Photography, Copenhagen and Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, among others.

Marc Selwyn Fine Art is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, please call Alisun at 323.933.9911.