

TOLARNO GALLERIES

Andrew Browne

LUX SUBLIMATA

10 October – 7 November 2026

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LUX SUBLIMATA (Latin: sublimated light) presents a suite of editioned dye sublimation images on banner-like unstretched satin. The works embrace a luminous if fragmented abstraction originating in the observed urban world, whilst their diaphanous materiality gestures toward a casual, even provisional character at some remove from the oft-presumed authority of similarly scaled painting.

Closely related to recent modestly scaled photographic works on brushed aluminium "…happenstance encounters with the urban texture of the lowdown, forsaken or redundant…" their fractured imagery, sourced from the incidental ruination of peripheral locales, and importantly their *surfaces*, is also an engagement with the abrupt and frontal spatiality embedded in a type of degraded modernist schema, to which they allude. As such their fabric fields of tracery and each images apparent dissolution alludes to times passing, to a now enervated idealism, and certainly to mortality.

In titling the exhibition, the word *lux*, scientifically a unit of illuminance, is here appropriated colloquially from the archaic Latin term for light, in underlining their character as images incorporating theatrical, contrived light effects. And the technical process of sublimation (the *sublimata*) - embedding imagery literally within the satin substrate via heat, gas and pressure – may invite broader alchemic as well as metaphoric resonances.

Though no doubt reminding (for some) of various strands of visual art history, whether the controlled chaos of Matterism, the experimentation of Arte Informale or the base materiality of Arte Povera, they nevertheless sit within my over-arching investigation into both nature and phenomena. Here winnowed to abstraction - where both light and darkness also operate as key components - they retain a fragile link to their ephemeral sources, whilst conjuring a web of associations, high and low.

AB Oct '26

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Image: *Gold!* Dye sublimation on satin 194.5 x 143.5cm 2026 Edition of 3