

Datebook: Bobby Neel Adams' Photo Series on Extinction at Smack Mellon, Brooklyn | Artinfo

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Bobby Neel Adams' "Memento Mori," "House Cat #4, 2016, 19" x 12.67", digital inkjet on rag paper
(Courtesy of Smack Mellon and the artist)

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"Memento Mori" an exhibition of works by Arizona-based photographer Bobby Neel Adams will run from September 24 through October 30, 2016, at Smack Mellon, Brooklyn, New York. The photo-series pays tribute to numerous species that are on the brink of extinction as their natural habitat is slowly being destroyed by human progress.

Bobby Neel Adams uses the traditional vanitas painting technique to create his powerful images. He creates his compositions using found animal carcasses, dead insects, and flora native to the region. The delicate images memorialize these neglected lives that are lost and bring to our attention the interconnected relationship between nature and human expansion.

The artist also draws inspiration from 19th century American mourning portraiture, the tradition of making keepsake photographs of the recently deceased. By choosing decaying objects as his subjects matter, Adams through his images symbolize the ephemeral nature of life and the certainty of death.

The exhibition is on view at Smack Mellon, 92 Plymouth Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. For details, visit, <http://smackmellon.org>/Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek of the exhibition