

MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY

523 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011 Tel: 212-243-0200 Fax: 212-243-0047

PRESS RELEASE

Ken Price: Pluto Ware

November 5 – December 23, 2021

Opening: Thursday, November 4, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Matthew Marks is pleased to announce **Ken Price: Pluto Ware**, the next exhibition in his gallery at 526 West 22nd Street. The exhibition features twenty-five ceramics and eight works on paper made between 1993 and 2000, all of which are exhibited here for the first time.

The title *Pluto Ware* is a pun on the word pollution. With their images of factories and refineries spewing dark clouds and ominous oil slicks often in brilliantly colored landscapes, the *Pluto Ware* allowed Price to explore his unique aesthetic while also raising awareness of the effect of industry on the American landscape.

As early as 1964 John Coplans wrote that Price's work "invokes to a remarkable degree a strange interplay between the joyful and the ominous" and praises Price's "physically brilliant" use of color as "dark, murky, very elemental and primordial."

Ken Price (1935–2012) was born in Los Angeles. After graduating from college in 1959, Price returned to Los Angeles and was given his first one-person exhibition at the now legendary Ferus Gallery in 1960. Price had one-person exhibitions at the Menil Collection in Houston, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, and the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, Texas. In 2012, shortly before his untimely passing, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art presented a retrospective of his work, which traveled to the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. In 2013 the Drawing Center in New York, in collaboration with Buffalo's Albright-Knox Art Gallery, organized the first survey of Price's works on paper.

Ken Price: Pluto Ware is on view at 526 West 22nd Street from November 5 to December 23, 2021, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

For additional information, please contact Jacqueline Tran at 212-243-0200 or jacqueline@matthewmarks.com.