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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Robert Mapplethorpe: 'Sheathed'
Joseph Stashkevetch: "Love Among The Ruins"

15 March – 15 April 2019

This is Baldwin Gallery's eleventh show with **Robert Mapplethorpe**: famous for his celebrity and flower 'portraits', and striking, often intimate explorations of the human figure, Mapplethorpe subjected all of his disparate objects to a rigorously exquisite value flattening: that a lily should be exposed as prurient, and shocking tableaux be revealed in classical elegance. And always, perhaps most recognizable, the exquisite surface of the photographs themselves; Mapplethorpe's mastery of lighting, grain, and depth of field all focus the viewer to the formal beauty and the intrinsic integrity of each object. The current show 'Sheathed', mines a stylistic vein of leather running through the oeuvre. Emblematic of deviance, violence, and sex, a stand in ' for skin, and nakedness, Born in the rapidly changing post-war 1946, Mapplethorpe spent his childhood on Long Island, and he received a B.F.A. from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. Robert Mapplethorpe died of AIDS in 1989 at the age of 42.

The Baldwin Gallery also presents its sixth solo show with internationally recognized New York artist Joseph Stashkevetch. Stashkevetch creates exquisitely precise and striking monochromatic worlds in his meticulously constructed compositions. Stashkevetch's works are sensual in their details no matter what the subject matter, however, the artist is best known for his flower drawings which are truly succulent, bold, and dramatic in detail and nature. With skill and deliberation, Stashkevetch slowly builds and reduces the surface, using conté crayon, sandpaper and water washes on rag paper, until the forms emerge in light and recede in velvety shadow. From a distance these large-scale drawings appear photographic in their level of detail and clarity; however, as the viewer approaches the work, the pristine, velvety surface reveals the intricate texture and marking evident in hand-drawn work. Joseph Stashkevetch has shown extensively in Europe and America and is in important public collections such as the Whitney Museum of American Art and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

The public is invited to meet the artists at the opening.

Images are available upon request. Please call 970.920.9797 for further information.

Since 1994, the Baldwin Gallery has been presenting new work by established artists of international renown. In that time, the gallery has earned a reputation as an important venue for contemporary art.

Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday from Noon to 5 pm. The Baldwin Gallery is located at 209 South Galena Street in Aspen, Colorado.