

#### NEW RELEASE KEHRER VERLAG

# Joe Ramirez The Gold Projections

Texts by Mark Gisbourne, Drew Hammond,
Jim Rakete, Jörg Völlnagel, Wim Wenders
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### This book, for the first time, presents Ramirez' unique technique of projecting images and films on a surface prepared with gold

Joe Ramirez is a visual poet, synthetizing painting and film in a new language: *The Gold Projections*. Using a technique, which he has since patented, Ramirez projects films onto a circular, slightly convex, wooden panel, which he has gilded by hand in an elaborate process, leaf by leaf and layer by layer. This creates a unique projection surface, which determines the form of the projected images.

In this debut artist book, an entire lifetime of dreaming in light is condensed to display a process unique to the California-born artist, whom Wim Wenders considers »a true 21st century Renaissance artist«.

From furniture designer, to monastic fresco painter and inventor-filmmaker, Joe Ramirez unites worlds that are only apparently disjointed. Personally building exquisite, water-guilded surfaces receiving Goyaesque moving images from state-of-the-art projectors, Ramirez is a master in creating a suspension of time evocative of Andrei Tarkovsky.

The book includes pictures of paintings, round silverpoints, water-guilded panels and stills from *The Gold Projections*, which speak the timeless language of dreams and memories. At the heart of the book is Joe Ramirez's latest film painting *Somnium* (Latin: dream), based on Johannes Kepler's 1608 novella of the same name, which describes the author's dream journey to the moon.

Joe Ramirez, who was born in San Francisco in 1958, has lived and worked in Berlin since 2007. He studied painting and film at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as sculpture at the Royal College of Art, London, before working as a fresco painter. During the restoration of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, Ramirez had the unique opportunity of viewing Michelangelo's ceiling paintings up close. The journey in the hoist became an initialising experience: the scenes from *The Last Judgement* rolled past him as in a painted film revealed in stop motion – "fresco cinema". The impression these images made never left him, and he went on to create something completely new, transforming them over a period of 12 years into his own pictorial language: The Gold Projections.

## **Exhibitions**

The Gold Projections
Kulturforum Berlin (on the occasion of the 67th Berlin Film Festival)
February 7 –19, 2017

Alchemie. Die Große Kunst / Alchemy. The Great Art Kulturforum Berlin April 6 – July 23, 2017

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Barbara Karpf, barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com or Rebecca Rössling, rebecca.roessling@kehrerverlag.com Kehrer Verlag, Wieblinger Weg 21, 69123 Heidelberg, Germany Fon ++49 (0)6221/649 20-25 | Fax ++49 (0)6221/64920-20 www.kehrerverlag.com | www.artbooksheidelberg.com



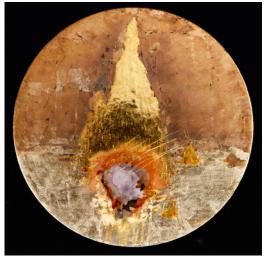
# **Press images**



1. Orphée, 2014. Video Still © Joe Ramirez



2. Ropecutter, 2015. Video Still © Joe Ramirez



3. Somnium – The Falling, 2016. White gold silverpoint, shellack,  $\emptyset$  40 cm © Joe Ramirez



4. The Magic Dress, 2015. Silverpoint and tempera,  $\emptyset$  50 cm © Joe Ramirez



5. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez



6. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez





7. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez



8. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez



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10. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez



11. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez



12. Somnium (2013–2017). Video Stil © Joe Ramirez