

Amanda Means
Color Polaroid Light Bulbs
Ricco/Maresca Gallery
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The usual approach in photography is to light objects from the outside and photograph the resulting reflected light. I am interested in finding ways to illuminate objects from within – to delve inward, to work more from the inside. In this series, the light bulbs burn with their own source of light, illuminating their fragile glass form from within. This exploration of light and glass surface changes these mundane objects into things that are mysterious and powerful. It is the tension between the everyday, common light bulb and the transformation they undergo that drives me. The bulbs retain an intimacy that relates to their true scale and true use, yet they look like many different things – sometimes a sunset, sometimes the infrared image of an alien’s cranium. I am interested in exploring the inexplicability and mystery of what we take for granted. I take great pleasure in rediscovering the living nature of harnessed electricity. In some ways I think of these bulbs as the flowers of the city.