



Trent Parke: *The Crimson Line*

The Crimson line is a meditation on the impact of hard industry on the visual environment, using the fleeting colours of twilight to irradiate an overlooked, unappealing and often-ignored world. Soaring plumes of steam are illuminated in gradient as they catch the rising and setting sun; industrial complexes, fire-lit and skeletal, are silhouetted against the vivid landscapes beyond. First shown in his 2019 exhibition book of the same name, Trent Parke presents a tonal progression from one image to the next. Mirroring this, Michael Reid Berlin has selected 20 works that encapsulate the series, and presented them in Parke's intended order, contiguously spanning our gallery.

Hailing from the steel city of Newcastle, and growing up with his father working at Tubemakers, it was only a matter of time before Parke was drawn to the jagged, industrial landscape that surrounds the Adelaide beachside suburb where he lives. One of his only early childhood memories is accompanying his mother to pick his dad up from work, travelling through a vista of ship yards, chimneys, and the BHP steelworks.

Parke has always been interested in the transformative powers of light but it was the ephemeral colours of dawn and dusk, the great multitude of reds that made him curious about the colour crimson. He discovered the colour that is used in commercial products is harvested from the crushed and boiled bodies of the female scale insect, the Cochineal. A minute insect that inhabits the pads of the prickly pear cactus, intensively farmed for their crimson dye.

Scarlet, magenta, orange, and crimson, are the coloured dyes produced by the Cochineal. The parallel between the man-made hues from this minute insect and the colours of creation at its grandest scale, as seen in an Eagle Nebula during the birth of a new star, is fascinating to Parke. These colours of life and blood are also etched into his memory from the birth of his sons, the bath water, the umbilical cord and placenta.

Cinematic in his vision, Parke's work has always been firmly established in film noir. Like his previous published books; *Minutes to Midnight* and *The Christmas Tree Bucket*, Parke builds a narrative that twists and turns. From the micro to the macro, science, genetics, factory lines, laboratories and processing plants. Global warming, consumerism and beauty, his landscapes provide a backdrop that frames a dark and foreboding narrative of strange truth and fiction.





Australian Ambassador to Germany

Philip Green OAM

“I am delighted that the works of Trent Parke, one of Australia’s leading artists of international acclaim and one of my personal favourites, will be presented in Berlin - my wife and I are particularly taken by the intense and innovative beauty of Parke’s series ‘The Crimson Line’.”

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #03, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #30, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #28, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #91, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #26, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #40, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #44, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #12, 2019

pigment print

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #17, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed





The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #05, 2019

pigment print

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #1, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed





The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #06, 2019

pigment print

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #35, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #24, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #20, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed





The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #07, 2019

pigment print

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #36, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #13, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #21, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #08, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed





APPENDIX

The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #23, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$ POA

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #02, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #65, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #82, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #52, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #57, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #75, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #89, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #71, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #48, 2019

pigment print

36.5 x 55 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$4,400, unframed

108 x 162 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed





The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #10, 2019

pigment print

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



The Crimson Line [series]

Untitled #16, 2019

pigment print

55 x 36.5 cm

edition of 4 + 2AP

\$2,200, unframed

162 x 108 cm

edition of 8 + 2 AP

\$8,800, unframed



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