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Katie Paterson
*Light Bulb
To Simulate
Moonlight*
2008

Boxed set of two light bulbs
with halogen filament, frosted
coloured shell, 28W, 4500K
17 (h) x 14 (w) x 10 (d) cm

Estimate:
£2,000 — £3,000

British, 1981
Lives and works in London;
MA (Hons), Slade School
of Fine Art, London, 2007

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Katie Paterson creates poetic works of art that address our physical landscape in unimagined and inspiring ways. Her practice is multi-disciplinary, cross-medium and conceptually driven, often exploring our physical universe by means of technology, and connectivity by way of moonlight, lightning storms, melting glaciers and dead stars. Offering fresh insight into the imaginative potential of present-day technologies, Paterson gives new meaning to the conceptual tradition of art as idea.

In 2008, Paterson worked with OSRAM – a manufacturer of daylight bulbs – to develop and produce a unique bulb that emits the identical light, in terms of wavelength and amperage, of a full moon. The factory produced the bulb in an edition of 289, which, if each bulb were left to burn until spent and then changed for the next, would last sixty-six years – the global average human life span.