

Modern Art

Press Release

Tom of Finland
Preliminary Drawings
5 July – 10 August

Stuart Shave/Modern Art is pleased to announce an exhibition of drawings by Tom of Finland. This show at Modern Art is comprised of some 30 figurative pencil drawings dating from the early 1960s to the late 1980s, each made as preparatory studies for the highly finished illustrations of gay visual identity for which Tom of Finland is internationally renowned. It is the first solo exhibition of the artist's work held in Britain.

Tom of Finland was born Tuoko Laaksonen in Kaarina, Finland, in 1920. He lived and worked in Finland for the majority of his life, travelling frequently to the United States. He died at the age of 71 in Helsinki, Finland. Tom of Finland's work has been included in the exhibitions *Keep Your Timber Limber*, ICA, London (2013); *The Collectors*, Nordic and Danish Pavilions, 53rd Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy (2009); *Compass in Hand*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA (2009), travelling to IVAM, Valencia, Spain (2010), and Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany (2011); *Protest and Survive*, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2000); *Made in California*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, USA (2000); The 1991 Whitney Biennial (with Group Material), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA (1991); and the New Museum, New York, USA (1989). His work is held in the permanent collections of The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, USA; Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY, USA; Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland; and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, USA.

Modern Art is grateful for the support of the Tom of Finland Foundation. With thanks to Sarah McCrory.

For further information, please contact Modern Art.

List of Works

Tom of Finland
Preliminary Drawings
5 July – 10 August 2013

Front room (clockwise from left):

Untitled, 1974
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.5 x 21 cm
11 5/8 x 8 1/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00018)

Untitled, 1987
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.5 x 21 cm
11 5/8 x 8 1/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00020)

Untitled, 1988
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.7 x 20.3 cm
11 3/4 x 8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00032)

Untitled, c. 1964
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
28.9 x 19.1 cm
11 3/8 x 7 1/2 ins
(MA-FINLT-00016)

Untitled, 1988
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.2 x 21.6 cm
11 1/2 x 8 1/2 ins
(MA-FINLT-00002)

Untitled, c. 1981
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
29.2 x 21 cm
11 1/2 x 8 1/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00019)

Untitled, c. 1961
undated, signed
graphite on paper
21 x 14.9 cm
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00013)

Untitled, c. 1965
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
20.8 x 15 cm
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00025)

Untitled, c. 1963
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
21 x 13.7 cm
8 1/4 x 5 3/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00012)

Untitled, 1985
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.8 x 41.6 cm
11 3/4 x 16 3/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00022)

Untitled, c. 1965
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
21 x 14.9 cm
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00026)

Back room (clockwise from left):

Untitled, c.1978
undated, signed
graphite on paper
29.7 x 21 cm
11 3/4 x 8 1/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00001)

Untitled, 1976
dated, signed
graphite on paper
29.8 x 41.6 cm
11 3/4 x 16 3/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00023)

Untitled, c. 1978
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
29.7 x 21 cm
11 3/4 x 8 1/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00027)

Untitled, c. 1963
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
21 x 15 cm
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00011)

Untitled, 1977
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
40.6 x 27.6 cm
16 x 10 7/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00021)

Untitled, c.1982
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
41.9 x 29.7 cm
16 1/2 x 11 3/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00006)

Untitled, 1979
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
36.7 x 29.5 cm
14 1/2 x 11 5/8 ins
(MA-FINLT-00017)

Untitled, 1980
undated, unsigned
graphite on paper
41.9 x 29.7 cm
16 1/2 x 11 3/4 ins
(MA-FINLT-00008)