

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

20 GROSVENOR HILL
LONDON W1K 3QD
GALLERY HOURS:

T. 020.7495.1500
E. london@gagosian.com
Tue–Sat 10:00am–6:00pm



CY TWOMBLY

Saturday, 10 October–Saturday, 12 December 2015

Opening reception: Saturday, 10th October, from 6:00 to 8:00pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Cy Twombly to inaugurate the new gallery at Grosvenor Hill in Mayfair.

The exhibition will include as yet unseen large *Bacchus* paintings, with loans from the Cy Twombly Foundation and other collections.

Twombly's enduring importance to the art of the present is attested to by the many recent survey exhibitions in leading international museums. He has been a cornerstone of Gagosian Gallery since the 1980s. Gallery exhibitions of his work presented over the last twenty-five years include "Bolsena Paintings" (1989–90), "The Coronation of Sesostris" (2000–01), "Lepanto" (2002), "Bacchus" (2005–06), and "The Rose" (2009).

Throughout this period, Twombly inaugurated several Gagosian galleries with exhibitions of new work—"Ten Paintings and a Sculpture" (London, 2004), "Three Notes from Salalah: (Rome, 2007–08), "Leaving Paphos Ringed with Waves" (Athens, 2009), and "Camino Real" (Paris, 2010). "The Last Paintings" and "Photographs" toured Gagosian Los Angeles, Hong Kong, London, and New York in 2012.

Designed by award-winning architects Caruso St. John, who were also responsible for Gagosian Britannia Street and Gagosian galleries in Rome and Paris, the new gallery—the third in London—features large double-height daylit spaces, and is located in Grosvenor Hill, above Berkeley Square, between Davies Street and New Bond Street.

Larry Gagosian comments, "It was a tremendous honor that Cy Twombly inaugurated so many of our European galleries with exhibitions of new work. In keeping with this tradition, we are excited to be able to show several previously unseen works as the opening exhibition at the Grosvenor Hill gallery."

A fully illustrated catalogue with an essay by Briony Fer will be published to accompany the exhibition.

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Cy Twombly (1928–2011) was born in Lexington, Virginia. He studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (1947-49); the Art Students League, New York (1950–51); and Black Mountain College, North Carolina (1951-52). In the mid-1950s, following travels in Europe and Africa, he emerged as a prominent figure among a group of artists working in New York that included Robert Rauschenberg and Jasper Johns. Major retrospectives were held at the Whitney Museum (1979); Kunsthaus Zürich (1987, traveled to Madrid, London, Düsseldorf, and Paris); and Museum of Modern Art, New York (1994, traveled to Houston, Los Angeles, and Berlin). In 1995, the Cy Twombly Gallery opened at The Menil Collection, Houston, exhibiting works produced by Twombly since 1954. The European retrospective “Cy Twombly: Cycles and Seasons” opened at Tate Modern, London in 2008 and traveled to Bilbao and Rome. “Cy Twombly: The Natural World, Selected Works 2000–2007,” Art Institute of Chicago (2009) and “Sensations of the Moment,” MUMOK, Vienna (2009) were important surveys. In 2010, his permanent site-specific painting *Ceiling* was unveiled in the Salle des Bronzes at the Musée du Louvre. At the same time he was made a Chevalier of the Légion d'honneur by the French government. Twombly died in Italy in 2011.

Selected recent exhibitions include “Cy Twombly: Sculpture,” Museum of Modern Art, New York (2011); “Cy Twombly Photographs 1951–2010,” Museum Brandhorst, Munich (2011); “Cy Twombly: Sculptures,” Philadelphia Museum of Art (2013); “Cy Twombly: Paradise,” Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2014); “Cy Twombly: Treatise on the Veil,” The Morgan Library & Museum, New York (2014); and “Cy Twombly: Paradise,” on view at Ca' Pesaro, Venice through September 22, 2015.

For further inquiries please contact the gallery at london@gagosian.com or at +44.207.841.9960. All images are subject to copyright. Gallery approval must be granted prior to reproduction.

Press Enquiries

Bolton & Quinn

T. +44.207.221.5000

www.boltonquinn.com

Contact: Erica Bolton

E. erica.bolton@boltonquinn.com

Contact: Jessica Baggaley

E. jess@boltonquinn.com

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Image: *Bacchus*, 2006–08, acrylic on canvas, 128 3/4 x 162 3/8 inches (327 x 412.5 cm), Cy Twombly Foundation Collection © Cy Twombly Foundation

Gagosian Gallery was established in 1980 by Larry Gagosian.