

GAGOSIAN



FRIEZE MASTERS

Booth C2

October 3–6, 2019
Regent's Park, London

Cy Twombly, *Untitled*, 1961, oil-based house paint, pencil, and wax crayon on canvas, 19 3/4 × 23 3/4 inches (50.2 × 60.3 cm)
© Cy Twombly Foundation

October 2, 2019

Gagosian is pleased to participate in Frieze Masters 2019 with works by Cy Twombly. Spanning fifty years of the artist's career, this presentation includes a number of never-before-exhibited works. It coincides with a significant exhibition of Twombly's sculptures at Gagosian Grosvenor Hill, London.

Throughout his career, Twombly developed a gestural vocabulary charged with spirit and meaning. Abounding in allusions to classical, modern, and ancient poetic traditions, Twombly's visceral, scrawling lines reconcile word with image, allowing his works to be "read" in terms of both their lexical meaning and their broader cultural allusions.

Klu (1951) was painted at the beginning of Twombly's career, soon after he met Robert Rauschenberg. While studying together at Black Mountain College in North Carolina, Twombly and Rauschenberg were inspired by Franz Kline's monochrome brushstrokes and the gritty canvases of Jean Dubuffet. The two young artists began experimenting with pared-down color schemes, mixing their oils with dirt and gravel to emphasize the physicality of the painting process. It was out of this impulse that Twombly created *Klu*, whose symmetrical structure and earthy hues evoke both the mystical and the natural.

Four years later, Twombly completed a series of graphite drawings on vellum whose heavy horizontal scribbles prefigure his later style of aleatory mark making. These early drawings will be exhibited for the first time ever at Frieze Masters, along with a late group of four works on paper from 1971.

As Twombly spent his career working in various locations—including his hometown of Lexington, Virginia, and his coastal residence in Gaeta, Italy—natural motifs drawn from these landscapes came to figure increasingly in his art. With its dripping, fiery-toned blooms of acrylic and wax crayon, *Untitled* (2001) wed Twombly's floral motifs with his mature turn toward vivid pigmentation, resulting in a lyrical and sensuous composition that pulses with primeval energy.

Cy Twombly was born in 1928 in Lexington, Virginia, and died in 2011 in Rome. Collections include the Centre Pompidou, Paris; Louvre Abu Dhabi; Menil Collection, Houston; Museum Brandhorst, Munich; Museum of Modern Art, New York; and Tate, London. Recent exhibitions include *Cycles and Seasons*, Tate Modern, London (2008); *The Natural World*, Art Institute of Chicago (2009); *Sculptures*, Philadelphia Museum of Art (2013); *Paradise*, Museo Jumex, Mexico City (2014, traveled to Ca' Pesaro, Venice, in 2015); *Treatise on the Veil*, Morgan Library and Museum, New York (2014); and a major retrospective at Centre Pompidou, Paris (2016). Twombly received numerous accolades during his lifetime, including the Praemium Imperiale from the Japan Art Association, Tokyo, in 1996, and the Golden Lion award at La Biennale di Venezia in 2001. In 2010, Twombly's permanent site-specific painting *Ceiling* was unveiled in the Salle des Bronzes at the Musée du Louvre; on that occasion he was made a Chevalier of the Légion d'honneur by the French government.

To receive a PDF with detailed information on the works, please contact the gallery at inquire@gagosian.com.

To attend the fair, purchase tickets at frieze.com.

#FriezeMasters

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