

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 2001

DRAWING & PAINTING  
February 14 – March 17, 2001

Willem de Kooning  
Richard Diebenkorn  
Sam Francis  
Arshile Gorky  
Al Held  
Hans Hofmann  
Joan Mitchell  
Roy Lichtenstein  
Robert Rauschenberg  
Ad Reinhardt  
Dorothea Rockburne  
Philip Taaffe  
Frank Stella

Lawrence Rubin • Greenberg Van Doren • Fine Art is pleased to present a selection of paintings and drawings from the 1940s through the 1990s. This exhibition explores the divergent paths in post-war abstraction taken by some of the most influential American artists of the twentieth century.

Hofmann, a patriarch of American modernism, is represented by the small, joyous painting *Bouquet*, 1951. *Bouquet*'s thick, swirling layers of paint contrast with the smooth, cool surface of Ad Reinhardt's extraordinary *Blue and Grey*, 1950. Hofmann and Reinhardt's interest in pure abstraction is echoed by Sam Francis's monumental canvas *Untitled*, 1959, in which fragmented fields of brilliant color form puzzle-like pieces. It was during the late 50s that Richard Diebenkorn turned from abstraction to the figure. From 1958 comes his portrait-sized canvas *Woman with Hat*. A more oblique reference to the figure is found in de Kooning's *Untitled*, 1974. Here expressionistic brushstrokes of fleshy pinks are punctuated by passages of blue and orange. Joan Mitchell's painterly *Maple Leaf Forever*, 1968, takes nature as its source of inspiration. The Minimalist aesthetic of the 70s is exemplified by Al Held's important black and white painting *North, Northwest*, 1973 and Dorothea Rockburne's folded paper piece *Arena IV*, 1978.

Also included in the exhibition are later works by Rauschenberg and Lichtenstein, created in the artist's signature styles. Rauschenberg's dye transfer painting *High Pockets*, 1997, is an homage to American industry. *Interior with Woman*, 1997, from Lichtenstein's last series of interiors, recalls his women from the 60s. Frank Stella's large relief *Ahab the Carpenter*, 1991, is from the ongoing series inspired by Melville's Moby Dick. In Philip Taaffe's mural sized *Tsuba Colony*, created for the 1995 Whitney Biennial, barbed wire weaves its way through circular medallions.

Lawrence Rubin Greenberg Van Doren is located at 730 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 57<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10019. Gallery Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. For more information about this exhibition, please call 212.445.0444.