

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

October 16, 1996

PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY
456 North Camden Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210
PH: (310) 271-9400 FAX: (310) 271-9420

GALLERY HOURS: Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

SAM FRANCIS: A SURVEY OF PAINTINGS 1965 - 1983

Saturday, November 9, 1996 through Saturday, January 25, 1997
Opening Reception, Saturday, November 9, 1996 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Gagosian Gallery will present a group of important paintings on canvas and on paper by the celebrated artist, Sam Francis. All works in this exhibition were kept by the artist until his death in 1994.

The Gagosian exhibition will include a rare group of large works on canvas, some monumental in size that exemplify Francis's mastery of scale, brilliant color, and emotional intensity. Many of these have never been shown in a commercial gallery, and were displayed only in select museum exhibitions during the artist's life.

The paintings on canvas include masterpieces of Francis's *Fresh Air* and *Grid* pictures. They are joined by a selection of especially fine paintings on paper.

An illustrated catalogue will be published to accompany the exhibition. The book includes an essay by Pierre Schneider, one of the world's experts on Henri Matisse and the author of the catalogue of Sam Francis's paintings from the 1950s, exhibited last year in Paris at the Galerie Jeu de Paume.

A large traveling Sam Francis retrospective is now being prepared by the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.