

# GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **GAGOSIAN GALLERY**

555 WEST 24TH STREET  
NEW YORK NY 10011  
GALLERY HOURS:

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Tuesday – Saturday: 10am–6pm

## ***ALIGHIERO e BOETTI***

**Saturday, February 10 – Saturday, March 31, 2001**

**Opening Reception, February 10 6-8 pm**

Gagosian Gallery, in conjunction with the Archivio Boetti in Rome, is pleased to announce an exhibition of works by the Italian conceptual artist Alighiero e Boetti. Providing help with research and loaned works, this is the Archivio's first collaboration with a commercial gallery.

The exhibition is comprised of examples from some of the artist's most important series, including *Camouflage* canvases from the 1960s, *Alternating 1 to 100 and Vice Versa* kilims from the 1990s and the well-known *Maps* from 1971-1992. The show will also include two significant self-portrait sculptures, one from the beginning of his career, *Me Sunbathing in Turin on 19 January 1969*, and another from the end, *Self-Portrait*, 1993.

Boetti often conceived of an idea for a work of art but left its design and execution to others, recruiting people from all walks of life to carry out his concepts. The last major series Boetti completed before his death in 1994, the *Alternating from 1 to 100 and Vice Versa* kilims were in many ways a culmination of the themes and methods he used throughout his life. The artist invited 50 friends, relatives and groups of students from different art schools throughout France to create the designs based on a 10 x 10 grid of alternating black and white squares. The original idea specified the constraints for the execution of the design, but the plausible variations meant that the individual results were quite varied. The designs were translated to kilims woven by Afghani refugees living in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Boetti has had major exhibitions at Museums für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt, DIA Center for the Arts in New York, Whitechapel Art Gallery in London and will be part of the upcoming 2001 Arte Povera exhibition being organized by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis and the Tate Gallery in London.

A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition, and will include an essay by Norman Rosenthal, Director of the Royal Academy of Art in London, and an interview of Francesco Clemente by Louise Neri.

For more information please contact the gallery.