

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

January 8, 2002

PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

555 WEST 24TH STREET

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GALLERY HOURS:

Tuesday – Saturday: 10am–6pm

Cy Twombly: *Lepanto*

Saturday, January 19 – Saturday, February 23, 2002

Opening reception: Saturday, January 19, 6 – 8pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of paintings by Cy Twombly. *Lepanto*, one painting in twelve parts was first exhibited at the XLIX Venice Biennale in the summer of 2001.

This suite of paintings depicts the famous sixteenth century sea battle of the combined European forces under Venetian leadership against the Ottoman invasion. The glorious sequence of panels is to be absorbed as a single image, a panoramic portrayal of war on a heroic scale where the viewer stands in the midst of the battle through to the destruction by fire of the Turkish fleet.

Richard Howard writes in the exhibition catalogue:

“As grim and sometimes uproarious as the panels are, their cumulative effect, as we move among them, or step back to take in the whole sequence as a single image, is one of luminous intensity. We witness historical evidence through a personal meditation on tragedy. Certainly *Lepanto* is an accounting, but not a final summing up. We are still, with Twombly in the thick of the fight.”

A fully illustrated catalogue with essays by Richard Howard and Kirk Varnedoe will accompany the exhibition.

For more information, please contact the gallery.

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