GAGOSIAN GALLERY

May 8, 2002

PRESS RELEASE
GAGOSIAN GALLERY

555 WEST 24TH STREET NEW YORK NY 10011 GALLERY HOURS: SEX AT NOON TAXES

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Ed Ruscha: Paintings

Friday, May 10 – Saturday, June 15, 2002 Opening reception: Friday May 10, 6 – 8 pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new paintings by Ed Ruscha, his first in New York since 1998.

One of the most influential artists working today, Ruscha is renowned for his unique ability to blend Pop art and Conceptual art in the medium of painting. For this exhibition, Ruscha continues to explore the subject of mountains, which he started in 1998.

In a series the artist calls "mirror paintings", the stylized mountains, painted with their reflection, are emblazoned with palindromes and idiosyncratic witticisms such as "SEX AT NOON TAXES" and "SOLO GIGOLOS." The landscape and the text create a double-entendre, where the painting and its text mirror each other in a visual pun. The exhibition also includes a series of "fictional paintings" with anecdotes and imagined characters that offer a glimpse of seemingly mundane events.

A fully illustrated catalogue with an essay by Adam Gopnik will accompany the exhibition.

For further information, please contact the gallery.