

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

980 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK NY 10021

GALLERY HOURS:

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Tue – Sat 10:00am - 6:00pm

JEFF KOONS ANDY WARHOL: *FLOWERS*

November 11 – December 21, 2002

Opening Reception: November 11th, 2002: 5 – 8pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of works by Jeff Koons and Andy Warhol. The exhibition will juxtapose the work of these two seminal Pop figures through their use of flower imagery in a range of media.

In a review following Warhol's first show at Leo Castelli Gallery, David Bourdon described Warhol's *Flowers* canvases as "...cut out gouaches by Matisse set adrift on Monet's lily pond" (*The Village Voice*, 3 December 1964). The exhibition incorporates the variety of sizes and palettes of Warhol's *Flowers*, illustrating the serialized nature of Warhol's work while simultaneously revealing the subtle individuality of each canvas. Drawings of flowers from the 1950s, 60s and 70s will also be shown as a view into the history of the flower as subject within Warhol's *oeuvre*.

While some of Jeff Koons' flower sculptures reference childhood objects and pleasures, others embody the oxymoronic concept of inanimate/animate objects, the still life, or *nature morte*. The exhibition will include early examples of Koons' exploration of the flower motif and will span through the 1990s encompassing sculptural works made of plastic, stainless steel, glass and wood.

Jeff Koons Andy Warhol: *Flowers* offers a fresh view into two seminal contemporary artists' manipulation and representation of natural beauty and form.

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