

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

August 23, 2005

PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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GALLERY HOURS:

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Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00am–6:00pm



ROY LICHTENSTEIN: *Sculpture*

Friday, September 16 – Saturday, October 22, 2005

Opening reception: Friday, September 16th, 6 – 8pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to announce its exhibition "Roy Lichtenstein: Sculpture," which has been organized in collaboration with the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation. This extensive survey reflects over 50 years of Lichtenstein's sculptural oeuvre, and it will highlight the artist's "Head," "Glass" and "Brushstroke" subjects.

The collision of high and low modes is the very strategy of his art, indeed of Pop in general, and here he extends it to sculpture as well: traditional bust meets abstract mannequin, Abstract Expressionist brushstroke meets cartoon sign of the same. Crucially, however, the reference to traditional genres not only frames this collision, but in doing so, controls it as well. And if there is a radical edge in Lichtenstein, it lies here: less in his thematic appropriation of comics and the like, and more in his formal reconciliation of lowly contents and high forms.
-Hal Foster

Employing minimal graphic means to represent commonplace items such as a fishbowl or a mirror, Lichtenstein's abstract forms are seductive Pop objects that convey a substantial visual presence. Aesthetically referencing the artist's own paintings and drawings, the works also nod to historical masterpieces, evoking Matisse and Picasso, Cubism and Surrealism. Through swooping paint strokes and larger-than-lifesize drinking glasses, Lichtenstein creates objects that oscillate in the realm between two and three dimensions, a paradoxical state that uniquely distinguishes Lichtenstein's sculpture.

A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany this exhibition. Included is an illuminating essay by eminent scholar and Princeton University Professor, Hal Foster, that highlights Lichtenstein's approach to and impact upon three-dimensional art making. A comprehensive biography and bibliography dedicated to major museum exhibitions and publications of the sculptures is also included.

This exhibition was originally on view at Gagosian Gallery, London, from June 6 through August 6, 2005.

For more information please visit www.gagosian.com.