

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

25 November 2011

PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY
VIA FRANCESCO CRISPI 16
00187 ROME ITALY
GALLERY HOURS:

T. +39.06.420.86498
F. +39.06.4201.4765
Tue–Sat: 10:30am–7:00pm and by appointment



CECILY BROWN

Friday, 18 November–Saturday, 31 December 2011

Opening reception for the artist: Friday, November 18th, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new paintings by Cecily Brown.

Presenting a world that pulses with excesses and appetites, Brown explores the breadth of human experience in tactile oil paintings. Broadly inspired by the history of painting—from Rubens and Veronese to the muscular expressionism of Willem de Kooning—Brown’s personal vision transcends classical notions of genre and narrative, freeing subject matter from its original context and positioning it within a new aesthetic reality.

Submerged within vigorous gestural abstractions are scenes in which tangles of flesh dissolve into sensuous textures. In the dense scenario of *The Green, Green Grass of Home* (2010) flickering figures are enfolded in vivid landscapes of lilac, charcoal, and burnt orange. In *The Haunter* (2010) a yawning orifice opens up in a sea of deliquescent color that is smeared and wiped across the support. In *Handsome Stranger* (2010) and *Wake, Awake for Night is Flying* (2010) anatomical silhouettes—the ball of a foot, the crook of an elbow—can just be made out. Eschewing fixed meaning, Brown’s paintings reflect the flux of life through fragmentary glimpses of form.

Cecily Brown was born in London in 1969. Her work is included in public collections including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and Tate Gallery, London. Solo exhibitions include “Directions: Cecily Brown,” Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. (2002); MACRO, Rome (2003); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid (2004); Museum of Modern Art, Oxford (2005); Kunsthalle Mannheim (2005–06); Des Moines Art Center, Iowa (2006); The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (2006–07); and Deichtorhallen, Hamburg (2009). Her most recent exhibition, “Based on a True Story,” traveled to GEM, Museum of Contemporary Art, The Hague, and Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover in 2010. Brown lives and works in New York.

Press Enquiries

Francesca Martinotti
E. martinotti@lagenziarisorse.it
T. +39.06.9784.8570
www.francescamartinotti.com

For all other information please contact the gallery at +39.06.4208.6498 or at roma@gagosian.com.