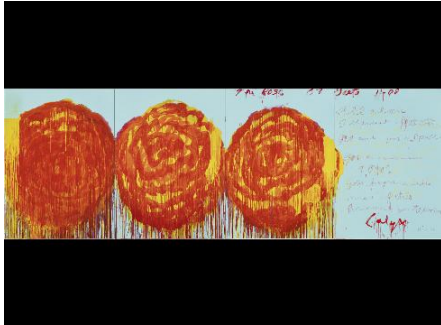


GAGOSIAN GALLERY

Cy Twombly Covers Walls of Gagosian Gallery With Giant Roses

Preview by Farah Nayeri



Feb. 12 (Bloomberg) -- Five panels by [Cy Twombly](#) picturing roses in full bloom go on display at London's [Gagosian Gallery](#) from today.

Sprawled across each 24 foot (7 meter) panel are three open roses in bleeding shades of red, orange, yellow, or purple, with a curtain of dripping paint that gives them a dewy, life-like quality.

Virginia-born Twombly, who turns 81 in April, painted "[The Rose](#)" series last November at his home in the Italian resort of Gaeta, between Rome and Naples. Twombly, who moved to Italy in the late 1950s when his career was in the budding stages, has spent much of his time there since. The artist was absent at yesterday's press preview, and does not give interviews.

"I work in waves, because I'm impatient," Twombly said in a rare conversation last year with [Tate](#) Director [Nicholas Serota](#), who curated his 2008 retrospective at Tate Modern. "Because of a certain physicality, of lack of breath from standing."

On the right side of all five panels are scrawlings in colored pencil: stanzas from "Les Roses" by the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke. These poems inspired the series.

“The Rose” is on through May 9 at the Gagosian Gallery, 6-24 Britannia Street, London WC1X 9JD.

For more information: telephone +44-20-7841-9960 or click on

<http://www.gagosian.com/exhibitions>.