

GAGOSIAN GALLERY



## Alberto Giacometti, Yves Klein: In Search of the Absolute



### WHAT IS IT...

Contrasting shades of modernism by a pair of true radicals.

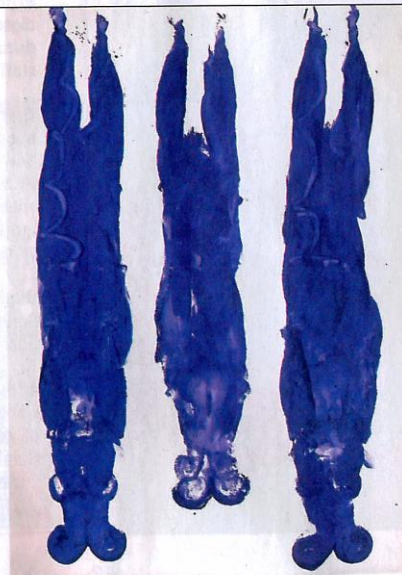
### WHY GO...

It's a mini, museum-quality show minus the ticket price.

→ Gagosian Grosvenor Hill.  
⊖ Bond St.  
Until Jun 11. Free.

**THE CHANCE TO** see these two giants of modern art side by side should be enough to make any art lover wet themselves. But full disclosure: I hate Alberto Giacometti. Something about his haunted, skinny humans just makes my brain go 'Nah, this is a bit shit'. Klein, on the other hand, now he's good. So if this show can somehow turn my Giacometti hatred around, then we'll be on to a winner.

The artists lived just a mile apart in Montparnasse, creating art in a Paris that was still coming to terms with the end of WWII. In their own ways, each was a true radical: Giacometti a genius of figurative sculpture, Klein a man who invented colours (his famed International Klein Blue)



and upset the art world with his monochromes and shows of nothing.

Works from Klein's 'Anthropometry' series (pictured) fill the first room and are the result of the Frenchman dousing nude female models in his signature blue and pressing, pulling and dragging them across a canvas. They work perfectly in relation to Giacometti's sculptures. His forms are equally squished and manipulated, their lumps and bumps twisted, flattened and exaggerated.

There's a kinship between the two: an uncompromising approach to art and the body. Both are stunning artists who created important art that works perfectly together. Even if you hate Giacometti, like I still do, it's a must-see. ■ *Eddy Frankel*

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