



### **Pop Art and the Alps**

Warhol. Wesselmann . Indiana . Wesselmann . Ramos . Hirst

13 December – 29 December 2008

Coskun Verbier confirms its position as one of Europe's leading Pop Art dealers with an exhibition 20TH CENTURY POP – a group of works by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Indiana, Tom Wesselmann, Damien Hirst, and Mel Ramos in their gallery in the Swiss Alps.

The greatest portrait artist of the 20th Century, Andy Warhol succeeded almost single-handedly in resurrecting grand-style portraiture of people important, glamorous, notorious or rich enough – whether statesman, actresses, or wealthy patrons of the arts – to warrant leaving their human traces in the history of painting.

In the works on display, the iconic images of Marilyn evinces a ring of commonplace truth that we recognise from the newspapers and glossy magazines that disseminated their fame; and it is this facet of Warhol's, his remarkable ability to elevate seemingly ordinary images, that has, for the twenty first century viewer, achieved a level of recognition that is even greater than those depicted. Warhol used the film still from the film Niagara: it was the film which finally brought Marilyn

Monroe stardom and into the public eye.

Also, shown for the first time in the Alps is the complete portfolio of Mao based on the QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG - rendered so painterly in such a freely brushed style that his face emerges almost as cosmetic and glamorous as the Artist's Marilyn's which can also be seen in the exhibition.

One can also view Number Sculptures and Love by Robert Indiana who has recently gained international acclaim for his sculpture and print series entitled "Hope" which he unveiled at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado for the Barack Obama campaign. "Hope" was inspired by his iconic Love image which will be available in the gallery. Robert Indiana was born in New Castle, Indiana and currently lives in Vinalhaven, Maine.

Tom Wesselmann who is famous for his depiction of sun-kissed blondes, will be represented in the gallery with his New Bedroom Blonde Doodle, 1991 and Bedroom Blonde, 1998. These colourful screenprints are representative of the artist's seductive California nudes. Wesselmann was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1931 and died in 2004.

There will also be works by Damien Hirst from his ever popular Spots to his more reflective Butterflies. Most recently Hirst has been in the press for his white glove sale at Sotheby's London and his ranking as the most powerful person in the artworld by Art Review's annual "Power 100." Hirst was born in England in 1965 and after being awarded the Turner Prize in 1995 his career launched into superstardom as he pushed the limits of art with his shark suspended in formaldehyde (The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living, 1991) and diamond encrusted human skull (For the Love of God, 2007).

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