



New (York) Works: Latest Works by Frank Bowling RA
ROLLO Contemporary Art, 51 Cleveland Street, London W1T 4JH
5th March 2008 – 12th April 2008

Royal Academician Frank Bowling's latest works will be the first solo show to be held at ROLLO's new Fitzrovia gallery with an exhibition of canvases created on a recent trip to New York, opening on 5th March 2008.

With 6 exhibitions scheduled between January and April around the UK, 2008 is set to be Bowling's busiest year. Two solo shows in London (ROLLO March and Poussin Gallery April), a group exhibition (*ROLLO Preview* Jan 08), an exhibition in Brighton dedicated to ending of the slave trade (*Redemption Song*, Feb/March) and a travelling show (Big Paintings, *BIG PAINTINGS*, the Arts Institute at Bournemouth, as part of the text+work programme, touring to Wolverhampton University Art Gallery Feb-April (where Bowling recently received an honorary doctorate); with interest also from European Public Spaces wishing to work with Bowling later in 2008.

The works for the ROLLO exhibition, *NEW (York) WORKS*, demonstrates Frank's relentless mastery of colour with an evermore vibrant palette; proving that at 72 years old his work is always developing.

The paintings in ROLLO's exhibition were begun in October 2007 on Bowling's latest trip to his New York studio, showing the incredible inspiration Bowling derives from the city. Bowling has long had a close connection to New York, living between New York and London since 1966 whilst maintaining studios in both cities. It was in New York Bowling met critic Clement Greenberg who encouraged Bowling's move into abstract painting in 1971, and where Bowling for a long time found greater acceptance from the art world, being regarded as one of the greatest living abstract painters.

Typical of Bowling's work - which has been shown at prestigious institutions including Tate, Whitechapel, The Serpentine, The Royal Academy - is the confident application of bright colour and thick gels, which give the work its dense and textural surface. The latest paintings show the influence of New York City on Bowling with their citric bright colour and energy akin to the city.

The masterpiece of the show is Bowling's '*First Flight; in M'ry RBK, Bye Ol' Pal*'; a dedication to Bowling's contemporary, Kitaj, who Bowling studied with at The Royal College of Art, London between 1959 and 1962.

The exhibition at ROLLO demonstrates that, when it comes to juxtaposing intense colours harmoniously, with both audacity and subtlety, Bowling is still very much the unrivalled living Master.

For further details please contact Philippa Found, Gallery Director, 020 7580 0020, philippa@rolloart.com