

Frank Bowling RA, *Crossings: From New Amsterdam, Berbice to New Amsterdam, New York via Holland and London*, 5<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011  
 ROLLO Contemporary Art, 51 Cleveland Street, London W1T 4JH

ROLLO Contemporary Art is delighted to announce details of the forthcoming solo exhibition of new works by Frank Bowling RA at ROLLO Contemporary Art from 5<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011, which will coincide with Bowling's solo exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, the launch of Frank Bowling's monograph and screening of a film about his life, and will precede Bowling's solo show at Tate Britain opening in Spring 2012.

ROLLO Contemporary Art's exhibition entitled '*Crossings: From New Amsterdam, Berbice to New Amsterdam, New York via Holland and London*' will show 17 new works, alongside works from the 1990s and 2000s. Celebrated as a 'painter's painter', colour and form have been a fascination for Bowling for over five decades. Testimony to this is the astounding range of colours and powerful compositions in Bowling's canvases. The new works presented at ROLLO can be divided into two bodies, 'Crossings' - in which bands of colour are overlaid along the centre of the canvas, creating a thickly textured build up of contrasting overlaid colour – and a body of work characterized by an explosive application of paint, drawing on his works from the 1990s. These latest works have evolved to also utilize Bowling's trademark of framing the painting with collaged fragments of coloured canvas, and reveal his interest in the surface texture of paint. These new bodies of work will be punctuated with earlier works by Bowling from the 1990s and 2000s, displaying Bowling's ever evolving masterful exploration of colour and form in painting.

May 2011 will also see the opening of Bowling's solo exhibition of new works on paper at the Royal Academy of Arts, London (in association with ROLLO Contemporary Art) in the Tennant Gallery from the 27<sup>th</sup> May until 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2011. The opening of which will mark the sixth year anniversary of Bowling's election as a Royal Academician. The exhibition will also include excerpts from film maker Rose Jones documentary on Bowling's life, including archival footage, and interviews with the artist and his contemporaries from the 1962 Royal College of Art class such as an interview with David Hockney on Frank Bowling's art.

The Royal Academy exhibition opening will also mark the launch of a 160 page monograph celebrating Frank Bowling's work and journey from New Amsterdam, British Guyana to London and New York written by acclaimed art critic Mel Gooding and published by the Royal Academy of Arts (RAE).

A busy 2011 will be followed by an equally eventful 2012, with Frank Bowling Solo Display at Tate Britain in association with ROLLO Contemporary Art, curated by independent U.S. based curator Courtney Martin, opening in April 2012, which will run until November 2012 and will include works from the last five decades of Bowling's career. 2012 will also see Bowling's iconic work, *Mirror*, shown at the V & A exhibition, *British Art and Design since 1945*, and a solo exhibition at ROLLO Contemporary Art in summer 2012.

Frank Bowling RA was born 29<sup>th</sup> February 1936 in British Guiana, South America. He moved to London in 1953 where he studied Painting at the Royal College of Art alongside Hockney and Kitaj, graduating in 1962. Since then he has divided his time between his studios in London and New York. His extensive exhibition history includes exhibiting his 'Map' painting 'Marcia H Travels' (1968) in the 2003 Venice Biennale and solo shows at prestigious international institutions such as The Whitney Museum of American Art (1971), The De La Warr Pavilion, (1997) The Herbert Art Museum & Gallery, Coventry (1997), The Royal Academy of Arts, London (2006, 2011).

Bowling has received many prominent awards including two Simon Guggenheim Fellowships (1967 and 1973) and the Pollock Krasner Award, twice, in 1992 and 1998. The Arts Council of Great Britain Award, 1977 and The New York State CAPS Award in 1975. In recognition of his achievements, on May 26<sup>th</sup> 2005 he was elected a Royal Academician and in 2008 Bowling was honoured with an OBE for 'Services to the Arts'.

Frank Bowling's paintings are represented in many prestigious public collections including the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, The Tate, London, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA, and the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), New York.

## NOTES / CONTACT

Frank Bowling has been represented by ROLLO Contemporary Art for the past six years.

To request images and prices of new works, and for all sales and enquiries please contact Philippa Found on +44 (0) 207 580 0020, [philippa@rolloart.com](mailto:philippa@rolloart.com)