

# LÉVY GORVY

For Immediate Release

Lévy Gorvy at Art Basel Hong Kong

March 23 – 25, 2017

Booth 1C14

Lévy Gorvy is pleased to participate in **Art Basel Hong Kong 2017** with a selection of works anchored in the gallery's program. This will mark the gallery's inaugural presence at the fair under the new partnership of Dominique Lévy and Brett Gorvy, and the gallery's fourth year at Art Basel Hong Kong in total. Exploring modern and postwar experimentation in America, Asia, and Europe, Lévy Gorvy's booth features works by **Pierre Soulages**, **Zao Wou-Ki**, **Roy Lichtenstein**, **Joan Mitchell**, **Alexander Calder**, **Chung Sang-Hwa**, **Rudolf Stingel**, and **Frank Stella**.

Lévy Gorvy's presentation foregrounds cross-cultural exchange in the twentieth century, placing a diverse group of artists in dialogue in their sensibility and approach to the language of abstraction. A highlight of the booth, **Pierre Soulages' *Peinture 97 x 130 cm, 30 août 1961***, epitomizes this global discourse between East and West. As a young artist in the 1950s, Soulages was close with Chinese artist **Zao Wou-Ki**, who had just moved from China to Paris. Together, they traveled to the United States and Asia, where Soulages was struck by the grace of traditional calligraphy. From his early paintings composed of black bars on a light ground, Soulages has continued to explore the effect of thick, gestural black paint on its surrounding light. *Peinture 97 x 130 cm, 30 août 1961* is dominated by forceful, broad strokes of black paint that allow the luminosity of the underpainting to shine through. The painting has been in private hands since its creation in 1961, and Art Basel Hong Kong 2017 marks its first-ever public exhibition.



Zao similarly used luminous coloration and stark contrasts in his *11.11.96, 1996*, on view in Lévy Gorvy's booth, which translates the powerful gesturality of Soulages' work into delicate, calligraphic brushwork atop a sublime field of color and pale light. *11.11.96* presents a transcendental consideration of landscape,

Zao Wou-Ki, *11.11.96, 1996*. Oil on canvas, 78 ¾ x 63 ¾ inches (200 x 162 cm) © DACS 2017. Reserved rights. © Zao Wou-Ki - ProLitteris, Zurich.

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writing, and man's relationship to nature. Zao's abstract landscapes were recently on view at Lévy Gorvy New York, paired with paintings by Willem de Kooning in the gallery's inaugural exhibition, *Willem de Kooning | Zao Wou-Ki*.

Another highlight of the booth is **Roy Lichtenstein's** *Cosmology*, 1978. Collapsing various surrealist tropes into a single image, *Cosmology* is steeped in self-referential markers that trace the progression of Lichtenstein's work. Featuring motifs that hark back to the work of Giorgio de Chirico, Pablo Picasso, and René Magritte, as well as references to earlier periods of Lichtenstein's own career, *Cosmology* lives up to its title, as the intensely stratified collage of historically loaded and intimately linked forms intermingle in a single image—one that manifests the inception of multiple histories of modern art.



Roy Lichtenstein, *Cosmology*, 1978. Oil and Magna on canvas, 107 × 167 ½ inches (271.8 × 425.5 cm) © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein/ DACS 2017

Lévy Gorvy in Asia

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LEVY GORVY 909 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK NY 10021  
WWW.LEVYGORVY.COM +1 212 772 2004

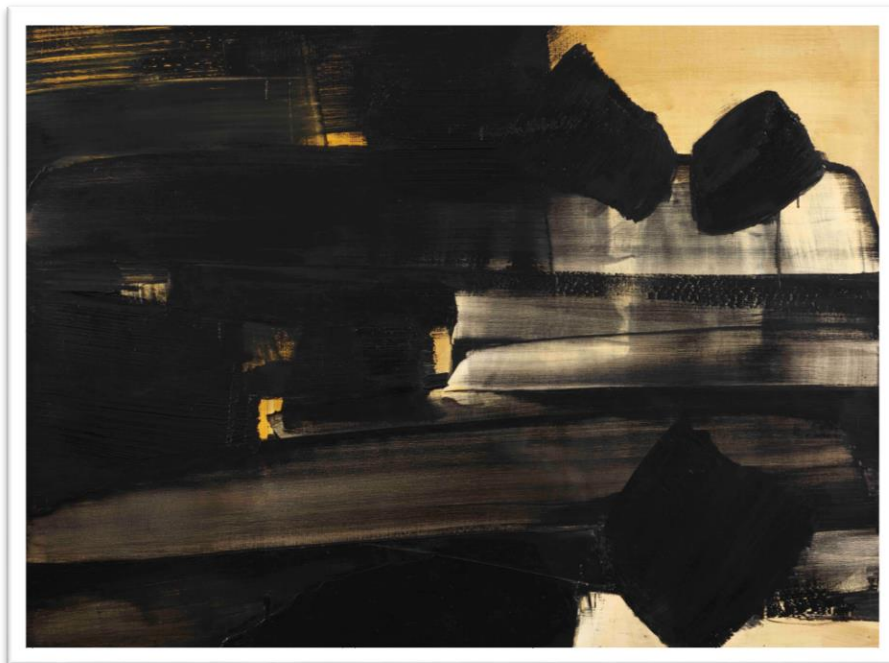
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The participation of Lévy Gorvy in Art Basel Hong Kong is emblematic of the gallery's commitment to the Asian market and its ongoing mission to cultivate an exchange between artists and collectors. Lévy Gorvy is dedicated to expanding its presence in Asia, as evidenced by its recent exhibition of works by Willem de Kooning and Zao Wou-Ki in New York, which featured paintings from such prestigious museum collections as the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington D.C., and The Art Institute of Chicago, among others. The gallery is proud to announce that this exhibition will travel to Hong Kong this September, opening at the ArtisTree cultural center, an event that will mark de Kooning's first major retrospective in China. Lévy Gorvy will continue to closely collaborate with the Fondation Zao Wou-Ki and is looking forward to pursuing a permanent presence in Asia.

In keeping with the gallery's established international program and focus on Asia, its program also includes a recent exhibition by renowned Japanese artist, Kazuo Shiraga, in London, as well as exhibitions by two of Korea's most celebrated artists. The gallery's current exhibition in New York, featuring Seung-taek Lee, presents works from the 1950s through the present and follows the recurring themes of wind, stone, and rope, which comprise the preeminent motifs of Lee's practice. In 2017, Lévy Gorvy will open an exhibition of new works by Chung Sang-Hwa in London, which follows the New York gallery's 2016 exhibition of historic works by the artist.



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Pierre Soulages, *Peinture 97 x 130 cm, 30 août 1961, 1961*. Oil on canvas, 38 3/16 x 51 3/16 inches (97 x 130 cm) © ADAGP, Paris, and DACS, London 2017

## About the Gallery

Lévy Gorvy opened its expanded New York space in January 2017 and maintains a gallery in London. The gallery represents a diverse roster of postwar and contemporary artists, including Enrico Castellani, Chung Sang-Hwa, Gego, Seung-taek Lee, Senga Nengudi, Carol Rama, Karin Schneider, Pierre Soulages, Pat Steir, Frank Stella, and Günther Uecker, as well as the estates of Yves Klein, Roman Opalka, and Germaine Richier. The gallery also specializes in private sales in the secondary market, focusing on the work of Alberto Burri, Alexander Calder, Willem de Kooning, Lucio Fontana, Alberto Giacometti, Pablo Picasso, Robert Ryman, Kazuo Shiraga, Cy Twombly, Andy Warhol, and Zao Wou-Ki.

Working closely with artists' families, foundations, and estates, Lévy Gorvy advances the legacy of the artists it works with while embracing a new generation of collectors, audiences, curators, and critics. The gallery participates in major art fairs worldwide, including Art Basel, Frieze Masters, Frieze New York, Zona Maco, and Art Basel Miami Beach. Lévy Gorvy concurrently



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pursues a robust exhibition schedule, commissioning original writing and scholarship for exhibition catalogues and other publications, and curating a dynamic program of multidisciplinary public events.

Dominique Lévy formed her eponymous gallery in 2012, establishing a rich program of historical and contemporary exhibitions, and a strong group of represented artists and estates. Lévy was previously a partner at L&M Arts, a venture which followed her tenure at Christie's, where she was the founder and International Director of the Private Sales department. Brett Gorvy was formerly Chairman and International Head of Post-War and Contemporary Art at Christie's, and remains one of the leading forces and tastemakers behind the twentieth-century art market. Lévy Gorvy's commitment to Asian artists, collectors, and cultural institutions is bolstered by Gorvy's experience at Christie's, where he led his department's foray into the Asian market.

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For additional information please contact:

Sam Talbot

SUTTON

[sam@suttonpr.com](mailto:sam@suttonpr.com)

Catharina van Beuningen

SUTTON

[catie@suttonpr.com](mailto:catie@suttonpr.com)

