

## AUSTIN / DESMOND FINE ART

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### TIMOTHY HYMAN – *THE MAN INSCRIBED WITH LONDON* 07 OCTOBER - 06 NOVEMBER 2009

Austin/Desmond Fine Art presents an exhibition of new work by Timothy Hyman.

Taking its title from one of the central works in the show, this exhibition of around thirty new paintings and drawings will highlight Timothy Hyman's ongoing fascination with London, the city in which he was brought up and continues to live and work. As the novelist Richard Zimler writes; "*He has turned that city into the grand, urban Asgard of his own personal mythology. Tim is an adventurer of the heart who knows that life is tragic and terrible, but also absurdly comic and heroic*".

This show also presents work from recent travels in Europe and in India, a country much beloved by the artist whose people and places frequently become subjects in his paintings. In 2007 he received the National Portrait Gallery's BP Travel Award and set out to renew several Indian friendships "at the end of a pencil" in preparation for a large commemorative group portrait. Sixteen of these drawings and studies were exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in the summer 2008 but the final large-scale canvas *Around Bhupen* will be shown here for the first time, along with preparatory studies. Additionally on show will be Timothy Hyman's double-portrait of Tamar Garb and Linda Nochlin, *Night Taxi*, 2009.

Timothy Hyman was born in Hove, Sussex, and brought up in London. He studied at the Slade School of Art (1963-67) and his work is represented in many public collections, including those of the Arts Council, the British Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum, the Museum of London, the Contemporary Art Society, The Government Art Collection, Deutsche Bank and Clifford Chance. He has had one-man shows in London, Municipal galleries nationwide and also in Bombay. Recent Group shows have included *London Now – City of Heaven, City of Hell* at Guildhall Art Gallery (2006), *Drawing Inspiration*, Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal (2006), *Home and Garden*, Geffrye Museum, London (2007), *BP Travel Award Touring Exhibition* National Portrait Gallery (2007-2008). He co-curated the Hayward Gallery touring exhibition *Carnavalesque* (2000) and was lead curator for the Tate Gallery retrospective of *Stanley Spencer* in 2001. In 2003 Thames & Hudson published his monograph on *Sienese Painting*. He co-curated (with John Gage and Robert Hoozee) the major exhibition *British Vision*, in Ghent 2007-08.

Also on display will be Timothy Hyman's 'Book of Emblems' dedicated to the memory of the Indian painter Bhupen Khakhar (1934-2003). Painted over a five-year period this pocket-sized book holds 38 images in an accordion format and has now been published in a limited edition of three hundred signed copies. Hyman's original images will be on display and copies of the signed edition will be available during the show at a special price of £15.95. To view images from the 'Book of Emblems' please click [here](#).

An illustrated catalogue, including an essay by the artist Tess Jaray and a note by the novelist Richard Zimler, will be published to accompany the exhibition.

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