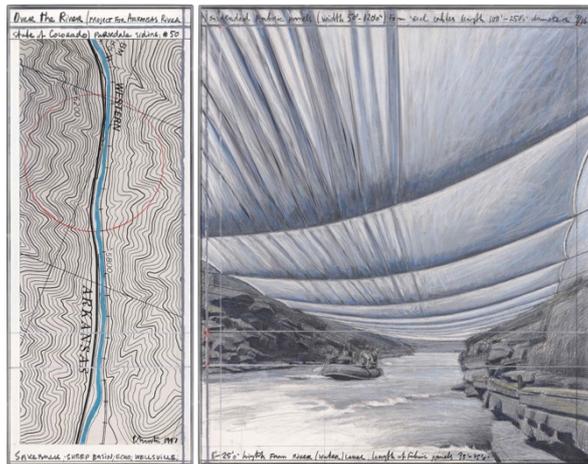


# Stern Pissarro Gallery

66 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1NE, UK  
stern@pissarro.com www.pissarro.art

## CHRISTO AND JEANNE-CLAUDE: A LIFE OF PROJECTS

20<sup>th</sup> June - 21<sup>st</sup> July



*Over the River (Project for Arkansas River, State of Colorado), 1997*

This summer London will play host to *The Mastaba (Project for London, Hyde Park, Serpentine Lake)*, Christo's latest ground-breaking installation and his first public outdoor project in the United Kingdom. Composed of 7,506 painted barrels, the trapezoidal structure will float majestically on the surface of the Serpentine Lake in Hyde Park. This *Mastaba* will coincide with a Serpentine Gallery exhibition examining his extraordinary half-century collaboration with his late wife Jeanne-Claude. To compliment these events, Stern Pissarro Gallery will hold a special exhibition entitled *Christo and Jeanne-Claude: A Life of Projects*.

The pioneering and distinctive work of contemporary environmental artists Christo (b. 1935) and Jeanne-Claude (1935-2009) has consistently delighted and thrilled admirers from across the world. Their innovative and ambitious work – made according to Christo entirely for pleasure - is famously monumental in scale and often both conceals and reveals 'space' in new and surprising ways. Temporary in nature, the projects are funded entirely by the artists through their sale of original works by Christo.

*We don't have a philosophy of art. What is it that Christo and Jeanne-Claude do? We wish to create works of art, works of joy and of beauty. As with every true work of art, it has absolutely no purpose whatsoever: it is not a message, it is not a symbol, it is only a work of art. And like every true artist, we create those works of art for us and our collaborators.*

Showcasing the rare original works, Stern Pissarro Gallery will focus on their most famous projects and provide a unique opportunity to understand what Christo and Jeanne-Claude defined as their 'software period'. Highlights include original works from their early *Wrapped Objects* series (1958-69) and their now-iconic wrapped buildings, *The Pont Neuf Wrapped*, 1985 and the *Wrapped Reichstag (Project for Berlin)*, 1995. Other highlights include work for the *Surrounded Islands (Project for Biscayne Bay, Greater Miami, Florida)*, 1983 that involved weaving walkways of synthetic pink fabric around 11 islands, *Valley Curtain (Project for Colorado)*, 1971, *Over the River (Project for the Arkansas River, State of Colorado)*, 1992, and the recent 2016 project *Floating Piers (Project for Lake Iseo, Italy)*.

Marking Christo and Jeanne-Claude's legacy as one of the most influential artistic duos of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century, the exhibition at Stern Pissarro features major works for sale and on loan. David Stern, co-owner of the gallery comments, *Christo and Jeanne-Claude's unique artistic language continues to evolve the boundaries of painting, sculpture and architecture. Taking us on a journey from their early experiments to the present day, our gallery exhibition offers a rich addition to the Christo festivities this summer.*

### Note to Editor

Stern Pissarro Gallery was established in 1964 and is co-owned by David Stern and Lélia Pissarro, great-granddaughter of Camille Pissarro. The gallery is situated at the heart of London's historic art district in Mayfair.

### Visitor Information

Opening hours:

Monday - Friday 10am - 6pm

Saturday 10am - 5pm

66 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1NE, United Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0)20 7629 6662

Nearest tube station: Green Park (Jubilee, Piccadilly and Victoria lines)

### Mayfair Art Weekend

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June *Gallery HOP!* Extended hours evening 6pm – 8pm

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> June 11am – 4pm

### Social Media

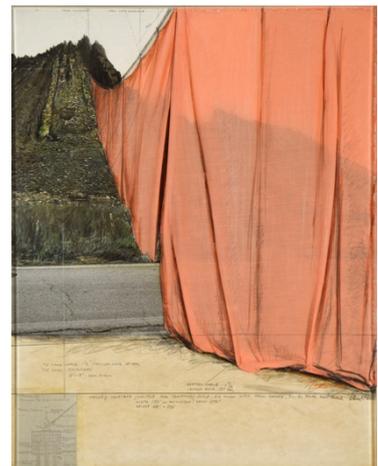
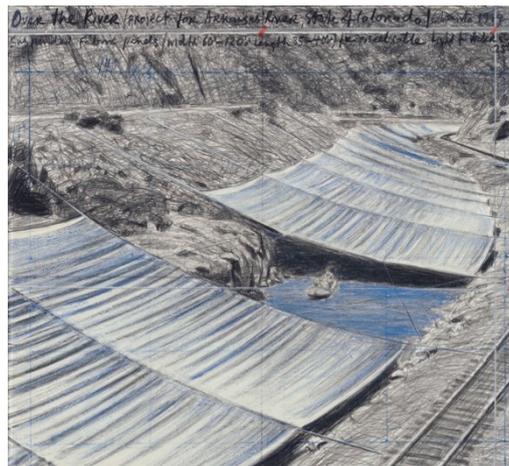
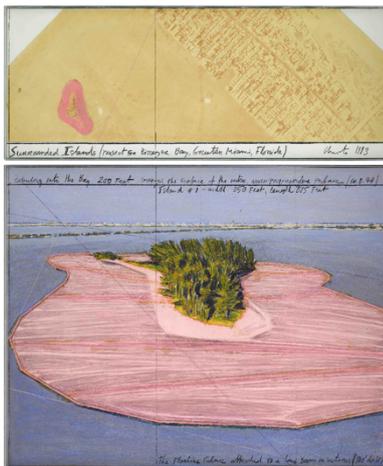
Instagram: @sternpissarrogallery

### Press Information

Mia Swailes

stern@pissarro.com

+44 (0)20 7629 6662



Left to right: *Surrounded Islands (Project for Biscayne Bay, Greater Miami, Florida), 1983*, *Over the River (Project for Arkansas River State of Colorado), 1999*, *Valley Curtain (Project for Colorado), 1971*