



## PRESS RELEASE

### Clive Duncan FRBS & Simon Erland: FORM : METAPHOR

The work of two British sculptors

19<sup>th</sup> October – 17<sup>th</sup> November 2007

Private View Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 6-8.30pm



Clive Duncan, *Pasiphaë*, polished plaster (for bronze), mounted on wood, unique (bronze in Edn. of 3), length 40 x height 23 cm

Mumford Fine Art is pleased to host an exhibition featuring pieces by distinguished sculptors Simon Erland and Clive Duncan FRBS. This exposition presents finely modeled figures, wall text and found objects. A notable theme in the show is the portrayal of the bull as subject matter; in Erland's work the taurine form is seen carefully modeled as an appreciation of the fighting bull's figure, and with Duncan *Pasiphaë*, other characters and a found objects' sculpture are vehicles to convey themes within the fabric of life.

Indeed Erland's renderings of the bull strike a chord with the currently volatile financial markets. The artist first became enraptured with the taurine subject in the late 1990s, which resulted in an international touring exhibition that started in New York, USA, and culminated in an extensive tour of Spanish banks. This previous exhibition included bronze studies for several life-sized bulls for key Spanish bull fighting families including the Domecq family, presently in situ on the bull ranches (or fincas). Erland now showcases several bronze maquettes as proposals for his next life-sized bulls, destined for prominent financial institutions such as Merrill Lynch.

Clive Duncan's work is also primarily figurative and two pieces that also display the bull form are titled *Pasiphaë*, presenting the mythological Queen Pasiphaë consummating her obsessive love (as forced by Poseidon) with the white bull. Displayed is the female figure partly within the shell of a bull, its horns and body covering the front half of the crouched body. One sculpture is in bronze and other a finely polished plaster, giving the appearance of bone.

Duncan also displays a number of other sculptures, *Icarus IV* seen as a powerful one-winged bronze figure falling in space. A piece titled *A Dance to the Rhythm of Life* (based on Anthony Powell's book *A Dance to the Music of Time*) stages time-based metaphors by assimilating found objects, including timber, steel, newspaper, a metronome, a Calliper compass and a champagne cork. Indeed, Duncan references a comment by Gottfried Richter that forms the basis of his practice, "Art makes visible otherwise hidden cultural and psychological forces."

[www.mumfordfineart.net](http://www.mumfordfineart.net)

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Mumford Fine Art is a fine art dealership, specializing in contemporary & 20th century British and North American art, based in a spectacular rooftop gallery in Soho. The gallery works with 11 contemporary artists and has a strong working relationship with the Estate of Dame Elisabeth Frink, the renowned 20th century British sculptor. Mumford Fine Art not only has a regular exhibition programme but also participates in international art fairs in the UK and USA, and offers art consultancy as well as a number of other specialist services.

Tube: Oxford Circus, Piccadilly Circus

Opening Times: Tues-Fri 10.30-5.30, Thurs til 7.30, Sat 12-5



Simon Erland, *Hakon* (of the Domecq family),  
bronze, maquette for life-size bronze, A/P,  
length 36 x height 24.5 cm (incl. base)

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