PEDER LUND

Press release exhibition Howard Hodgkin: New Paintings October 22 – November 26, 2011

Peder Lund has the pleasure of exhibiting ten new paintings by the British artist Howard Hodgkin (1932). The paintings are from the period 2008-2010 and the exhibition is curated by the artist. At 1 pm on the opening Saturday October 22, Hodgkin will be in conversation with Åsmund Thorkildsen discussing his artistic work and the exhibited paintings. The exhibition is on display until Saturday November 26.

Howard Hodgkin's new paintings are characterised by a much looser, more pastose technique. A classic Hodgkin painting, of the kind that secured him international recognition in the 1980s, is relatively small, powerful, composed of dense brushstrokes and stippling, and saturated with intense, bright colours. Paintings from this period were the result of several decades of work with painting and graphics. According to Hodgkin, his paintings are representational, meaning that they are not non-figurative. These are paintings whose forms and colours refer to something beyond their mere presence on the wooden panels they are painted on. They represent, or correspond with, other paintings, and they correspond to emotions experienced in real situations and with memories of those. The paintings are concurrently in dialogue with contemporary art and art history. The freedom and naturalness that we observe in Hodgkin's latest pictures are the result of over sixty years of artistic practice.

With his characteristic colour-vibrating and pastose paintings, Hodgkin is considered one of the most important living painters. Hodgkin received The Turner Prize in 1985, was knighted in 1992 and was made a Companion of Honour in 2003. His paintings have been exhibited at some of the most influential museum institutions in the world. In 2010-2011 the travelling exhibition *Time and Place, 2001-2010* was shown at Modern Art Oxford, De Pont Museum of Contemporary Art in Tilburg and at the San Diego Museum of Art. In 2007, the exhibition *Howard Hodgkin: Paintings 1992-2007* was shown at Yale Centre for British Art in New Haven and later at the Fitzwilliam Museum of Modern Art in Dublin, Tate Britain in London and at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid. The Scottish National Gallery in Edinburgh exhibited *Howard Hodgkin: Large Paintings* in 2002 and in 1995 the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York exhibited *Howard Hodgkin: Paintings 1975-1995*.

It is with great pleasure that Peder Lund hosts the first exhibition of Howard Hodgkin's paintings in Norway. In the event of the exhibition, Peder Lund publishes the book *Howard Hodgkin: The Thinking Painter of Embodied Memories*. The book is written by Åsmund Thorkildsen and published by SKIRA.

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