THE MAYOR GALLERY

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ZANGS

WORKS FROM 1957 - 1989

31St October – 6th December 2013



The Mayor Gallery's forthcoming exhibition Herbert Zangs (b.1924 Germany- d. 2003 Germany) will include a selection of the German Informal Abstract Expressionist's work, including Relief-Painting, Jutes, Charcoal-Painting, Whip series and Whitenings.

After service in the armed forces Zangs began to study at the Düsseldorf Art Academy in 1945 and later discovered Abstract Art in 1951 during a visit to Paris. He quickly developed his own style of working with found objects in 1952 when his white works were born. The 'Whitenings', echoing Lucio Fontana's 1946 'White Manifesto', explore the movement of colour and form within a spatial structure, influenced by a transformative experience of when he was a soldier on a mission in Scandinavia; one winter's night, the landscape was completely white, covered with a blanket of snow; what had been familiar was suddenly transformed and had become strange.

In 1957 he was the first post-war German artist to have a solo exhibition in England, whilst in Düsseldorf Otto Piene and Heinz Mack were founding Group ZERO. With the monochrome white works and the series of Relief-Paintings titled "Vibrations", Zangs became closer to the ZERO movement which proclaimed an artistic renewal based on themes of light and movement, consequently seeking to banish darkness from the world.

A radical and innovative artist Zangs' oeuvre explores colour, texture and structure. Freed from all content and function, every work is the object of its process, both painting and object.

An illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

High resolution images available on request.

Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm; Sat 12pm-3pm - Admission: Free Nearest Tube Station Green Park or Picadilly Circus

Press enquiries:

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