



Frieze Masters 2025

International Pop

15 – 19 October | Stand C17

In its centenary year, 2025 The Mayor Gallery is proud to present *International Pop* celebrating a movement the gallery has championed for over five decades through more than fifty pioneering solo and group exhibitions. Bringing together both iconic and rediscovered artists from across the globe, it reveals the political, cultural, and aesthetic dimensions of Pop Art beyond just its American and British epicentres.

One of the highlights is *Great American Nude No. 27* (1962); a historic work by **Tom Wesselmann** (1931-2004 USA) and a quintessential example of the bold, graphic sensuality that defined American Pop. Wesselmann is joined by key figures of US Pop such as **Joe Goode** (1937-2025) known for his subversive reworkings of domestic imagery, and **Robert Watts** (1923-1988 USA) who along with **Billy Apple** (1935-2021 New Zealand), featured in the groundbreaking 1964 *American Supermarket* exhibition at Bianchini Gallery, New York.

Richard Hamilton (1922-2011 UK) widely regarded as one of the founders of British Pop Art represents the UK alongside Female Pop artists **Sue Dunkley** (1942-2002); an until recently unknown British artist whose raw, psychological portraits have now gained widespread institutional recognition since The Mayor Gallery's exhibition in 2024. **Pauline Boty** (1938-1966) who explored themes of celebrity and female agency, becoming a cultural icon and darling of the British Press herself, later to be discovered again by the gallery in the 1990s. **Ferdi** (1927-1969), the Dutch sculptor (and wife of Shinkichi Tajiri) whose fantastical, sensuous forms challenged male-dominated norms of sculpture, is also featured.

This presentation sheds light on Pop Art's global resonance as a form of political resistance. From Brazilian artist **Décio Novello** (1929-2019), who produced vibrant yet coded works under Brazil's military dictatorship, to Slovak avant-gardist **Stano Filko** (1937-2015), whose conceptual pieces challenged the boundaries of expression under Soviet rule; these artists demonstrate how Pop could be a form of defiance as much as celebration. In the same vein, Italian **Mario Schifano** (1934-1998) is represented through his *Compagni, Compagni* series created in response to the social upheavals of 1968. These works, rich in symbolism and surrealist narrative, speak to universal struggles for justice and change.

A special highlight is a striking sculptural work by **Shinkichi Tajiri** (1923-2009), the Japanese American artist whose *Machine No. 6* is currently featured at Tate Modern. Tajiri, a former U.S. soldier turned pacifist, fused industrial aesthetics with meditative silence, offering a powerful stance against the noise of war and oppression. The historic painting 'Pisas umbral de la muerte', 1963 by **Rafael Canogar** (1935 Spain) which was one of the first artistic responses to the assassination of J.F.K. is a powerful and timely expression of freedom.

The stand also offers an opportunity to rediscover a number of under-recognised artists whose importance has only recently been reasserted, thanks in part to The Mayor Gallery's commitment to revisiting and reviving neglected legacies such as **Key Hiraga** (1936-2000), the Japanese painter whose explosive, eroticized urban scenes critique postwar consumerism and **Claude Gilli** (1938-2015), a central figure of the École de Nice, whose colourful works are rooted in French Pop's Mediterranean identity.

Works by **Valerio Adami** (1935 Italy), **Imre Bak** (1939- 2022 Hungary), **Marcel Broodthaers** (1925 Belgium - 1976 Germany) **Erró** (1932 Iceland), **Jan Henderikse** (1937 The Netherlands), **Emilio Tadini** (1927-2002 Italy) are also featured.

Through the work of The Mayor Gallery, these artists have now entered prestigious collections, including the **Gandur Foundation for Art**, **MAMAC Nice**, **Rijksmuseum**, **Tate Britain**, and **Pallant House Gallery**, which recently acquired Dunkley's *Gilbert & George* (a pink version of the yellow which will be on the stand). Their resurgence continues with upcoming institutional shows, including the More Museum's 2025 exhibition *From Pin-Up to Power Girl*, where Ferdi and Dunkley will feature prominently.

This special centenary exhibition is more than a celebration; it is a statement of intent. As The Mayor Gallery looks ahead to its second century, this dynamic presentation affirms its enduring role in shaping and expanding the canon of contemporary art. For collectors, institutions, and enthusiasts, this stand promises a rare convergence of historic masterpieces and revelatory rediscoveries.

Image: Sue Dunkley, *Untitled (Gilbert & George, Yellow)*, 1969, Oil on canvas, 107 x 127 cm, 42 1/8 x 50 inches

High-res images available on request

Opening times: Monday – Friday, 10 am – 5.30 pm

Press enquiries: Amy Baker: amy@mayorgallery.com

THE MAYOR GALLERY

9 Bury Street, St James's, London, SW1Y 6AB

+ 44 (0) 20 7734 3558 mayorgallery.com