

# WILLEM DE KOONING

## PAINTINGS 1975 - 1978

APRIL 20 - JUNE 3, 2006



Willem de Kooning c. 1971 © Dan Budnik - Woodfin Camp

L&M Arts is pleased to present **Willem de Kooning: Paintings 1975 - 1978**. This exhibition is of special importance to the gallery as it revisits the body of work with which Robert Mnuchin, a long time supporter and collector of Willem de Kooning's paintings, chose as the first exhibition for his new gallery, C&M Arts, in 1993. When Dominique Lévy joined forces with Robert to form L&M Arts, he found in her a shared passion for this thrilling body of work.

In the seventies, de Kooning turned away from the harsher style that had made him famous in the 1940s and 1950s and transformed by his new surroundings in East Hampton, created a unique body of work which is distinctive for its fluid, vibrant brush work and color. While the seventies works appear purely abstract at first, longer study reveals that their organic landscape quality points to the water and dunes of Long Island as their inspiration. De

Kooning's interest in light and reflection is apparent in these paintings, which were created exclusively during daylight hours so that the natural light could inspire out-of-doors colors. The calming Hamptons landscape so affected de Kooning that he remarked in 1972:

*I got into painting in the atmosphere I wanted to be in. It was like the reflection of light. I reflected upon the reflections on the water, like the fishermen do. They stand there fishing. They seldom catch any fish, but they like to be by themselves for an hour. And I do that almost every day.*

It is a great pleasure for L&M Arts to bring together twelve works in this exhibiton, which is accompanied by a fully illustrated publication with an excerpt from an essay by Diane Waldman, originally published in the 1978 Guggenheim exhibition catalogue, *Willem de Kooning in East Hampton*.

Please direct inquiries to **Maureen Bray** at 212.861.0020 or [mbray@lmgallery.com](mailto:mbray@lmgallery.com).

L&M Arts is located at 45 East 78th Street, New York, New York.

Gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 - 5:30 or by appointment.

### UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

ANDY WARHOL  
MAO

July - September 2006

MINIMALISM  
DEFINING FORM

October - December 2006

DAVID HAMMONS  
NEW WORK

January - March 2007