

EDUARDO PAOLOZZI

02/11/11 - 26/11/11 PRIVATE VIEW 02/11 6-8PM

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ritish sculptor, collagist, printmaker, filmmaker and writer Eduardo Paolozzi is regarded as one of the most prominent British artists of the 20th Century. His fascination with the relation between the mechanical and the imaginative is brought together in this exhibition through both sculpture and collage. Featuring works which span from 1947 to 2000; together they reveal his powerful intelligence and artistic

foresight.

The exhibition at Flowers Cork Street will feature a maquette of one of Paolozzi's most noted public works, Newton. The piece relates closely to the sculpture he donated to the new British Library at St Pancras in 1995. Paolozzi drew his inspiration from William Blake's colour print, *Newton*, 1795, which is also on display at the Library.

He was fascinated by the union between two British geniuses; representing nature, poetry, art, and architecture. The choice of Blake's engraving of Newton as the model for the sculpture caused some controversy, as Blake was known to be deeply antiscientific but Paolozzi decided that this synthesis of concepts would be ideal for the new British Library.

A folio of 9 Designs provides insight into Paolozzi's well-known surrealist nature: fusing of-the-time electronics and rudimentary mechanical imagery with more classically themed subjects including non-specific cultural artefacts, interiors and environments. His statement in 1977 explains his appreciation for the possibilities of the medium.

Improbable events can be frozen into peculiar assemblies by manipulation: time and space can be drawn together into new spatial strategy

Paolozzi 1977

Head 1993 conveys one of Paolozzi's most frequented takes on the human form, reducing and extending physical contours and features until it is redefined into a geometric grid. Resembling a fusion of man and machine this piece is part of a series that have now been coined 'Mondrian heads'. They are an example of his exploration in merging many themes integral to his practice.

[they are a] successful amalgam of something I've been striving for, which is African art, psychopathic art, geometric art, art which takes care of the machine and in addition to that, lubricated and bound together by Broadway boogie woogie, saying in other words that you can't evade modernism; if you try and avoid modernism you're dead'

Paolozzi

The blend of bodily form and machine reoccurs in two maquettes, *London to Paris* 2000. The train wagon is piled high with an unusual load; a mechanistic, dismembered figure is arranged across the vehicle accompanied by other objects. Between the ages of nine and fifteen Paolozzi enjoyed drawing engines and travelled many times from Edinburgh to Milan changing trains in London and Paris. In these later works he sought to reach commuters.

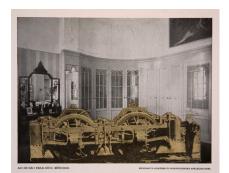
Even if you don't like sculpture you might see something like this parked in a siding of a railway. It's stuck under your nose for the ordinary commuter who might not go to sculpture parks - they can't miss it. It's a way of making sculpture more accessible.

Paolozzi

Eduardo Paolozzi was born of Italian parents in Leith, Edinburgh, in 1924. He attended evening classes at Edinburgh College of Art in 1943 then studied at St Martin's School of Art in 1944, and the Slade School of Fine Art from 1945-47. In 1947 he lived in Paris for two years, meeting artists such as Arp, Brâncusi, Giacometti and Léger. Upon moving back to London he taught in several art schools, whilst developing his sculpture and printmaking. Paolozzi was awarded a CBE in 1968 and became a Royal Academician in 1979. In 1981 he was appointed Professor of Sculpture at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Munich. Paolozzi was promoted to the office of her Majesty's Sculptor in Ordinary for Scotland in 1986, which he held until his death in April 2005. Paolozzi was awarded KBE and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 1988. Numerous solo and group exhibitions have followed since Paolozzi's first solo exhibition at the Mayor Gallery, London, in 1947. He represented Britain at the 30th Venice Biennale in 1960, winning the David E. Bright award for the best artist under thirty. A 70th birthday exhibition of Paolozzi's sculpture and graphics was organised at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in 1994, The British Council organised an international tour of his graphics, which was first shown at the Edinburgh Festival in 1996.

For further information and images please contact Ceri Stock 020 7920 7777 or email ceri@flowersgalleries.com



















left
A Folio of 9 Designs 1960-62
Collage
32 x 23.5 cm / 12% x 9% in

right
With Three Lamps 1959
Collage
30.7 x 23 cm / 121/4 x 91/4 in



WITH MIRE LAMPS Whitedo Passesze 1939