

NEWS RELEASE

8 January 2010
For immediate release

Bob Dylan on Canvas: exclusive show of his very first works on canvas

13 February – 10 April 2010



Motel Pool

Acrylic on Canvas, 122.5 × 91.5 × 4.5 cm

“This suite of new acrylic on canvas paintings by Bob Dylan is, on first sight, startlingly fluent, original and imaginative, but it is soon clear that they are also subtle and with deep meaning.”

Professor Maurice Cockrill RA

On 13 February 2010 the prestigious Halcyon Gallery at 24 Bruton Street, Mayfair will open *Bob Dylan on Canvas*: an exclusive exhibition of Bob Dylan’s first paintings on canvas. This unique body of work witnesses the culmination of his artistic progression in *The Drawn Blank Series*: from drawings to works on paper and now finally to canvas. The *Bob Dylan on Canvas* exhibition signifies an end to this chapter in his artistic career as he moves forward from *The Drawn Blank Series* and onto the next phase.

Based on drawings and sketches made while on the road during the period of 1989 - 1992, the paintings in *Bob Dylan on Canvas* visually echo the stylistic hallmarks of Dylan’s prose,

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poetry and music. Just as Dylan's songs are constantly reinvigorated and rediscovered through his live performances, so these paintings revisit images and scenes which were captured in all their immediacy by the artist.

Bob Dylan said of his paintings: *"I just draw what's interesting to me, and then I paint it. Rows of houses, orchard acres, lines of tree trunks, could be anything. I can take a bowl of fruit and turn it into a life and death drama. Women are power figures, so I depict them that way. I can find people to paint in mobile home communities. I could paint bourgeois people too.*

I'm not trying to make social comment or fulfil somebody's vision and I can find subject matter anywhere. I guess in some way that comes out of the folk world that I came up in."

In these latest works the painterly quality enhances the atmosphere of the subject matter, as Professor Maurice Cockrill RA writes: *"The larger canvases of these later paintings are images which stand as single statements offering multiple interpretations. Each has a brilliance and translucency of colour that contributes greatly to the emotional charge of the subject, in much the same way vigorous brushwork brings a particular velocity to the drawing and construction of the compositions."*

Bob Dylan on Canvas is the last UK exhibition of this body of work and foreshadows his upcoming exhibition at the prestigious Statens Museum for Kunst in Copenhagen in which he will unveil new works along with selected pieces from *The Drawn Blank Series*, curated by Dr. Kasper Monrad.

Paul Green, President of the Halcyon Gallery, commented: *"These paintings are the culmination of everything Dylan has done with The Drawn Blank Series so far, signalling a new phase in the artist's career. The evolution of medium, from paper to canvas, has been an important development resulting in a creative explosion which has given greater meaning to the paintings. Bob Dylan on Canvas is the grand finale of the Drawn Blank years and the precursor of the new 'Brazil' series in which Dylan explores the canvas further."*

Contact information:

For further press information, high resolution images for publication or Bob Dylan's full biography please contact Halcyon Gallery:

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Notes to Editors:

Bob Dylan

Bob Dylan is one of the world's most popular and acclaimed songwriters, musicians and performers, having sold more than 110 million albums and performed literally thousands of shows around the world in a career spanning five decades. His most recent album, *Modern Times* - lauded by critics around the world and selling more than 2.5 million copies to date - entered the Billboard Top 200 Albums chart at #1, as well as debuting within the Top Five in 21 other countries.

Bob Dylan was recently awarded a special Pulitzer Prize for "his profound impact on popular music and American culture, marked by lyrical compositions of extraordinary poetic power." In 2001, he received a Golden Globe and an Academy Award for best song from a motion picture for "Things Have Changed" from the movie *Wonder Boys*. *Dylan's Chronicles – Volume I*, his recent memoirs released in October 2004, was a world-wide best seller, spending 19 weeks on *The New York Times* Bestseller List. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988 and the Songwriters Hall Of Fame in 1982.

Halcyon Gallery

Situated in the heart of Mayfair, London, Halcyon Gallery is one of Europe's leading art galleries representing some of the finest artists and sculptors working today. Halcyon Gallery is committed to supporting and nurturing outstanding living artists, specialising in fine art and master graphics as well as original paintings, drawings and sculpture.

Halcyon Gallery's magnificent five-storey flagship gallery at 24 Bruton Street opened in 2008, joining the original gallery, established in 1973, at 29 New Bond Street. Both spaces hold important exhibitions of iconic modern masterpieces and new work by eminent contemporary artists throughout the year. For further information please visit: www.halcyongallery.com

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Free entry