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CHUCK CLOSE
Recent Paintings
September 29-October 29, 1995

Seven recent paintings by Chuck Close inaugurate the main exhibition space of PaceWildenstein Los Angeles, 9540 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California. The exhibition opens to the public on Friday, September 29, 1995 and continues through Saturday, October 28, 1995. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Chuck Close Recent Paintings includes oil on canvas portraits of contemporary artists Paul Cadmus, Roy Lichtenstein, Dorothea Rockburne, and Lorna Simpson, measuring 102" x 84", and two self-portraits, measuring 72" x 60". *Paul*, *Roy I*, and *Roy II* are rendered in color and *Dorothea*, *Lorna*, and the self-portraits in black and white.

The previous solo exhibition of Chuck Close's paintings in Southern California was held in 1971 at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Chuck Close's paintings were first exhibited in 1967. Since then Close has created a remarkable body of work, in a variety of media, using the human face as his subject. "Instead of arriving at an appropriate variation on some familiar theme, Close has shaken portraiture loose from all our historical expectations and humanist associations, freed it finally from familiar patterns of aesthetic experience. Close's portraits give us something far more urgent, necessary, and useful...a self-sustaining, self-contained beauty which is altogether terrifying in its clarity," writes John Yau in the catalogue essay.

Chuck Close's paintings, drawings, prints, and photographs have been exhibited extensively. A major retrospective of Close's work was organized in 1980 by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, and traveled to three venues including the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.

A second retrospective was organized in 1994 by Staatliche Kunsthalle, Baden-Baden, Germany and traveled to the Lenbachhaus Städtische Galerie, Munich.

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Alex/Reduction Block (1991-1993), a print project of fourteen monumental progressive and state proofs, which were previously exhibited at The Museum of Modern Art, New York, will be on view at the Lannan Foundation in Los Angeles beginning September 30, 1995. Close's work will also be included in "25 Americans: Paintings in the 90's" at The Milwaukee Art Museum (September 8-November 12, 1995); the Biennale, Kwang-ju, Korea (September 20-November 20, 1995); and the Carnegie International at the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh (November 3, 1995-February 18, 1996).

Chuck Close Life and Work: 1988-1995 (Thames & Hudson) will be released this September. The 128 page book documents the artist's personal and professional experiences over the last seven years and includes text by John Guare and 100 illustrations.

Chuck Close Recent Paintings is accompanied by a full color catalogue and includes text by John Yau, a critic and curator who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley.

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