

# HAUSER & WIRTH

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Press Release

## Subodh Gupta

Hauser & Wirth Zürich

25 September – 13 November 2010

Opening: Friday 24 September 6 – 8 pm

Hauser & Wirth is proud to announce the opening of its new Zurich space with an exhibition of works by Subodh Gupta, including monumental new sculptures and the 'Cosmos' paintings, first shown at PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, Ukraine. Gupta's ideas take shape in a variety of different media, such as steel, bronze, marble and paint. Materials are encountered for their aesthetic properties and as conceptual signifiers carrying a wealth of connotations. The mass-produced utensils that have played such a prominent role in Gupta's art offer an ambiguous symbolism: whilst they are seen by those in the West as exotic and representative of Indian culture, to those in India they are ubiquitous items, used daily in almost every household. Gupta harnesses these hybrid associations, allowing them to resonate in the viewer's mind and has made steel a subject in its own right.



The final paintings in Gupta's oeuvre to feature utensils as the central motif, the works relate not only to the earlier 'Still Steel Steel' series (2007 – 2008), but also to the sculptures that Gupta constructs using innumerable thalis and tiffins. These paintings are poetic and meditative depictions of metal and light. They show stainless steel kitchenware in a state of suspended flight, their photorealism rendered abstract by the blur of their motion. The flat surfaces of these paintings reference Pop Art while the utilitarian subject matter ties them to the tradition of still life painting.

New marble sculptures will complement the paintings. These take ordinary objects such as a bucket and drum as their subjects, yet in carving these items from marble and at a larger-than-life size, they transcend the simplicity of the original object, turning the practical forms into majestic objects of beauty.

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This exhibition is Hauser & Wirth's inaugural show at Hubertus Exhibitions, a raw industrial space that will be the temporary home for the gallery during the refurbishment of the former Löwenbräu brewery building. Together with Hauser & Wirth Zürich, the Migros Museum für zeitgenössische Kunst, Galerie Bob Van Orsouw and Kunstgriff bookshop will all be based at Hubertus Exhibitions until the Löwenbräu renovation is completed in 2012. Hubertus Exhibitions is located at Albisriederstrasse 199A, 8047 Zurich and can be visited online at [www.hubertus-exhibitions.ch](http://www.hubertus-exhibitions.ch).

Subodh Gupta lives and works in New Delhi, India. The artist's monumental sculpture, 'Et tu, Duchamp', is on view at KÖR am Kunsthalle Wien project space Karlsplatz, Vienna, Austria until 31 October 2010. Recent solo exhibitions include 'Common Man', Hauser & Wirth London, England (2009); and 'Subodh Gupta. Faith Matters', Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev, Ukraine (2010). Catalogues documenting these exhibitions will be published this autumn.

Forthcoming solo exhibitions include 'Take off your shoes and wash your hands', Tramway, Glasgow, Scotland (October 2010); and Sara Hildén Art Museum, Tampere, Finland (February 2011). In September 2010, a ballet for which Gupta designed the stage set, organised in collaboration with Ballet Preljocaj and Bolshoi Theatre will premiere at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, Russia.



### Forthcoming exhibitions:

**Jason Rhoades**  
**'1:12 Perfect World'**  
**24 September – 18 December 2010**  
**Hauser & Wirth London**

**Dieter Roth, Björn Roth**  
**'Work Tables & Tischmatten'**  
**6 October – 30 October 2010**  
**Hauser & Wirth New York**

**Louise Bourgeois**  
**'Louise Bourgeois: The Fabric Works'**  
**15 October – 18 December 2010**  
**Hauser & Wirth London**

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Cosmos III  
2009  
Oil on canvas  
112 x 136.5 x 2.5 cm / 44 1/8 x 53 3/4 x 1 in  
© Subodh Gupta  
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth

Fill  
2010  
Marble  
151 x 162 x 140 cm / 59 1/2 x 63 3/4 x 55 1/8 in  
© Subodh Gupta  
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth  
Photo: Stefan Altenburger Photography Zürich

Cosmos V  
2009  
Oil on canvas  
198.1 x 213.4 x 4.3 cm / 78 x 84 x 1 3/4 in  
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Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth