



4-6 SHEEP LANE LONDON E8 4QS UK

T +44 20 7254 8391 rocketgallery.com

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Peter Hedegaard **retrospective**

Jonathan Stephenson/Rocket presents a retrospective exhibition of work by the Danish-born London painter **Peter Hedegaard** (1929–2008).

This exhibition has been in preparation for four years and the focus is on a group of large 1970s paintings on canvas which have been hidden from view for the past four decades at the artist's former Belsize Park studio.

Alongside these substantial canvases will be shown smaller gouaches and screen-prints from Hedegaard's short career, dating from 1965 until 1976 when he stopped his studio work.

Peter Hedegaard (1929–2008) was born in Copenhagen but came to England with his parents in 1935. He was educated at Charterhouse and Hertford College, Oxford before studying design at the Bartlett School of Architecture. After a short period of working as a designer he turned to painting and worked from his studio in Belsize Park in north London.

Hedegaard had his first solo exhibition at the Musée Municipal Saint-Paul de Vence in France. In England he had his first solo show at the Architectural Association in 1967 and later exhibited at Curwen Gallery, Bear Lane Gallery and Oxford Gallery. In 1968 he had a significant exhibition of shaped canvases at Galerie Wilm Falazik, Bochum, Germany. In 1971 he had a solo exhibition at the Ikon Gallery, Birmingham.

The Estate of Peter Hedegaard has been represented by Rocket since 2009 with solo shows in 2010 and 2013. These exhibitions led to acquisitions by the Daimler Art Collection, Germany; Southampton City Art Gallery; Victoria & Albert Museum; Department of Prints and Drawings, British Museum; and RISD Museum, Rhode Island, USA.

The Rocket Press is publishing the first monograph on Hedegaard and his work. The biographical essay is by Chantal Condron (Curator at the UK Government Art Collection) who has been researching the artist for the last five years. The foreword is by Nigel Prince (Executive Director of Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver). The book – which includes 150 colour photographs – is designed by Jonathan Stephenson and printed by Die Keure in Bruges.

The exhibition opens on Wednesday 22 May with a drinks & sushi reception from 6-9 & continues until 22 June [open Thursday to Saturday 12-6 & by appointment]

For images please contact Rocket on 020 7254 8391 or gallery@rocketgallery.com