

Anish Kapoor

Breathing and Rising

December 10, 2020 – March 6, 2021

The exhibition consists of two of Anish Kapoor's latest series. After his work *Shadows*, which we exhibited three years ago, the artist has continued to expand his graphic work exploring primordial opposites like open and closed or light and darkness in a dialectical way: the shadow that is always produced by light. This topic is in fact one of the central motifs of his work ***Breathing and Rising***. In this work, it is made clear that there is a conceptual connection with his sculptural work, a similarity of intentions expressed more nakedly. Kapoor's color always absorbs light and appears to emerge from the shadows, hence why there is always a tension between opacity and transparency. Again, his chromatic range echoes the pigments used in mystical or religious ceremonies, highlighting the crossroads between the East and the West in his work. The result of this work is related to the modern art tradition and to abstraction, although it deliberately moves away from simple formalism. With this chromatic absolute, Kapoor wants the observer to connect at the corporeal and symbolic level to a time-space specific to this work, and which appears clearly separated from the material world it is in. In any case, Kapoor invites us to search not for meaning, but for the sense of things. The titles of the exhibition's series of engravings evoke a poetic approach to the world of biology, where reality and symbolism combine. The graphic technique employed—extracting light from the mass of color, in mezzotint—is totally coherent with the work's conceptual purpose.

Anish Kapoor (1954, Bombay / India) In 1972 he moved to London, where he currently lives and exhibits in the most prominent international art centers. He studied at the Hornsey College of Art and later at the Chelsea School of Art, though his link to India has never been broken and he continues to travel there and to draw inspiration from its traditions. At the beginning of the 80s, Kapoor broke out as one of the most important English sculptors together with the likes of Richard Deacon, Tony Cragg and Anthony Gormley. Kapoor's work consists of extremely simple, curved, usually monochromatic pieces where color is always intense. One of the materials he employs is powder pigment. Since the end of the 90s, Kapoor has produced large pieces such as *Taratantara* (1999), 35 meters high and installed in the flour mills of the Baltic at Gateshead, or *Marsyas* (2002), a piece made of steel and polyvinyl that was installed at the Tate Modern's Turbine Room. Kapoor represented the United Kingdom in the 1990 Venice Biennale and in 1991 he was awarded the prestigious Turner Prize. He has recently exhibited at the Paris Grand Palais, the Bilbao Guggenheim, the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art, and Mexico City's University Museum of Contemporary Art. In Spain, La Caja Negra has shown his graphic work since 2004.