

KEN CURRIE

THE GIGOT BONE

FLOWERS

5 September - 6 October 2012

Private view Tuesday 4 September 6 - 8pm



Gigot of Lamb 2011, Oil on Canvas 66 x 76.5 cm

Flowers
21 Cork Street
London W1S 3LZ
+44 (0)20 7439 7766

Opening times:
Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm
Saturday 10am – 2pm

Throughout his career Ken Currie has explored a wide range of concerns through his dedication to the medium of painting. His latest exhibition, *The Gigot Bone*, consists of a series of disparate and apparently unconnected images which nevertheless seem to coalesce around notions of transience, beauty and decay.

Currie juxtaposes self-portraits with images of dead game and cuts of freshly butchered and glistening meat. *The Gigot Bone* and *Gigot of Lamb* have been gauged and carved but plenty of flesh remains on the bone. However, the flesh of Currie's own face in the *Self-Portrait, September* series contrasts sharply with the vitality with which the meat is painted. Each portrait shows his head lolling in a seemingly lifeless deep sleep, his colour pallid and grey.

In *Dead Hare I-III* Currie charts in triptych form the decomposition of a once lithe and vital creature - the viewer is asked to look at the carcass wither, crumple and hollow out. The hare's limbs bow, accentuating the angles of the joints as the flesh on its neck decays and the head contorts. In these works Currie seems to play with the viewer's preconceived notions of traditional beauty and pathos.

Whilst working toward his triple portrait painting *Three Oncologists* Currie had life-masks made of his subjects. These casting sessions prompted the two paintings *Taking a Life Mask I & II*, which depict the esteemed oncologists during the casting process, their features ghostly white and indistinct. Freshly applied plaster has not yet turned. Excess splays over into neatly combed hair and splatters onto their clothing.

The connections and associations between this small body of new paintings are intentionally ambiguous and allusive.

Notes to Editors

Ken Currie was born in Great Britain in 1960, and currently lives and works in Glasgow. He accepted two highly acclaimed portrait commissions: Portrait of Peter Higgs 2008, shows the eminent scientist at his home in Edinburgh and is displayed in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Edinburgh University and Three Oncologists 2002 (Professor RJ Steele, Professor Sir Alfred Cuschieri and Professor Sir David P Lane of the Department of Surgery and Molecular Oncology, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee), Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

Over the last 29 years he has exhibited in numerous international solo and group shows at institutions and galleries including: Arnolfini, Bristol; Mackintosh Museum, Glasgow School of Art; Raab Gallery, Berlin; Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, Sydney, Australia; Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh and the Edinburgh and Yale Centre for British Art, New Haven. His work can be seen in many collections including The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art; The National Library of Scotland; The Imperial War Museum, London; The New York Public Library; The Yale Centre for British Art, New Haven; and the Boston Museum of Fine Art.

For further information and images please contact Ceri Stock on 020 7920 7777 or email ceri@flowersgallery.com

www.flowersgallery.com