



# JOHN KIRBY GHOSTS

7 April - 30 April 2011

Private View Wednesday 6 April 6 - 8pm

FLOWERS

21 Cork Street

London W1S 3LZ

T+44 (0)20 7439 7766

[www.flowersgalleries.com](http://www.flowersgalleries.com)

*Untitled Head 1 (detail) 2011, Clay, 26 x 25 x 15 cm*

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

John Kirby's paintings typically reflect complexities of gender, sexual orientation and race with insight, emotion and painful honesty. In his most recent series, Ghosts, Kirby makes novel moves towards sculpture, creating small, subtle ceramic portraits that still reveal traces of his familiar themes.

In Kirby's new, mysterious and deeply ambiguous works in Ghosts, internal conflicts are conveyed through facial expressions and body language. Much sparer than his previous paintings, these recent works appear naked, bare and truthful. Yet the bleak, wistful gazes of Kirby's Ghosts continue to communicate the emptiness and menace intrinsic to Kirby's fascination with the paradoxes of the human condition.

Born in Liverpool, England, in 1949, John Kirby worked with Mother Teresa's Boys Town in Calcutta before studying at London's St Martin's School of Art and the Royal College of Art in the 1980s. Kirby exhibits internationally and his work is in important public collections such as Tate Britain, the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, and the Irish Contemporary Art Society.

The Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool will hold a major retrospective of John Kirby's work later this year.

For further information and images please contact Karen Demuth on 020 7920 7777 or email [karen@flowersgalleries.com](mailto:karen@flowersgalleries.com)