

3812 Gallery opens a new gallery space in Hong Kong to celebrate its 10th anniversary

The homegrown gallery inaugurates its new space with the first solo exhibition in Asia of late renowned Modern British artist, Sir Terry Frost RA, "Here Comes the Sun - The Art of Terry Frost, 1948-2003"



Courtesy of 3812 Gallery

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, 3812 Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of its new 3,600 square-foot gallery space on Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong opening on 25 February 2021. For its inaugural show, the gallery will present the first solo exhibition of Sir Terry Frost RA (1915-2003) in Asia, entitled "Here Comes the Sun - The Art of Terry Frost, 1948-2003". The exhibition will display 20 acrylic and collage paintings, and oil on canvas works, created by this seminal figure in Modern and Post-war British art between 1948 and 2003.

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3812 Gallery was founded by Calvin Hui and Mark Peaker in Hong Kong in 2011, specializing in Chinese contemporary art that adheres to the gallery's curatorial vision of Eastern Origin and Contemporary Expression. In 2018, it opened a new gallery space in the St James art district in London, becoming the first and only Hong Kong-rooted gallery to open a space in Europe in 2018, specializing in Chinese contemporary art and Hong Kong ink art. To coincide with the gallery's 10th anniversary in 2021, 3812 Gallery opened a brand-new space to expand into a new cultural and artistic landscape as a pioneering international gallery in Hong Kong. With a new flagship space, 3812 Gallery Hong Kong will introduce major Western artists to Asia and help to reimagine British and European artists by showcasing their work in an Asian context. Meanwhile, 3812 Gallery London continues to actively promote outstanding Chinese Modern and Contemporary art as well as Contemporary Ink art and Hong Kong ink art in the British and European markets.

Celebrating this major milestone, 3812 Gallery Hong Kong will exclusively represent the Sir Terry Frost Estate in Asia. A prominent British abstract artist, Frost was drawn to the fascinating natural landscapes of St Ives, Cornwall, in the southwest of England. He is known for creating colourful abstract works inspired by the coastline, sun, moon and glittering water, as well as boats and the female form, all of which figured prominently in his compositions, abstracted into sensuous circles and curves to explore pace, lines, colour, space and depth. Despite starting his career as an artist at the age of 30, Frost was an important member of the St Ives School, a namesake art movement that originated in the Cornish town in the 20th century. Frost had numerous international solo exhibitions in his lifetime, including major shows at the Tate, including Tate St Ives, British Council, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and Mark Rothko Art Centre, Latvia. He is regarded as one of the most internationally recognised British abstract artists.

As suggested in the exhibition title, "Here Comes the Sun", this Hong Kong exhibition showcases Frost's signature use of warm and shining colours, alluding to the Pearl of the East with rich historical and cultural significance. Throughout his career, St Ives had a profound effect on him, as it was this very place where Frost's artistic vision found true expression. His paintings took on the feel of the landscape around him as he explored the idea of natural forms as emblems of abstract forces, with the sun and the moon essentially becoming his 'two gods'. This can be seen in *Blue Moon Tree* (2000) and *Yellow (moonship)* (1974), two works featured in the exhibition. The circular and spiral forms can be perceived as symbols of eternity. This exhibition establishes a dialogue that transcends the boundaries of time, space and culture between the coastal dwellings of St Ives and Hong Kong. The humanistic spirit of the two beautiful places meet here, bringing together the East and West through the important works of Terry Frost.

Frost has garnered international recognition over the years, as **Philip Dodd**, renowned British curator, commented: "Terry Frost is a major artist, and friend of Mark Rothko, whose first exhibition in Hong Kong is a wonderful opportunity to see his connections with the aesthetics of Asian art. As important Western artists go East, they will be metamorphosed in a new context. In a globalised artworld, we should be bringing Western and Eastern artists together, seeing what connects them, what makes them different. The Frost show is an exemplary case."

Calvin Hui, the co-founder of 3812 Gallery and curator of this exhibition, said, "In times of great difficulty brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, 3812 Gallery makes a bold statement by opening a new gallery in Central. We opened our galleries in Hong Kong and London, two important cultural and artistic cities to connect and create a dialogue between Chinese and Western cultures. We are immensely proud of representing Sir Terry Frost exclusively in Asia, thanks to the trust and support from Terry Frost Estate, and taking this special occasion to inaugurate our new Hong Kong gallery with the artist's first solo exhibition in the continent."

Exhibition Date: 25 February to 25 March 2021

Opening hours: 11 am to 7 pm (Appointment is required for weekend visits:

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About Sir Terry Frost RA

Sir Terry Frost RA (1915-2003) was a renowned British abstract artist, inspired by the fascinating natural landscapes of St Ives, Cornwall in southern England. He was an important member of the Modern British art movement that originated in St Ives, Cornwall in the 20th century. Despite starting as a late artist at 30, his works have been studied and is seen to be one of the most recognized abstract artists in Britain.

Terry Frost has had various solo and group exhibitions globally spanning over five decades in prominent museums including The Museum of Modern Art Oxford, Tate Gallery (London and St. Ives), and British Council (New York). Frost was elected as a Royal Academician by the Royal Academy of Arts in 1992, and then knighted in 1998. Throughout his career, Terry Frost was also a highly respected teacher at Leeds University, Bath Academy of Art, Coventry School of Art, University of Reading and San José State University, California. His works are collected by world-renowned museums from Tate to the Metropolitan in New York and he was a friend of Rothko. Like Hsiao Chin, he has been given a show at the prestigious Mark Rothko Art Centre next to Rothko's own paintings.

About 3812 Gallery

3812 Gallery was named after the co-founders were inspired by the infamous La Vallée Blanche at an altitude of 3812 meters while skiing in Chamonix in the Alps. Looking back at the past ten years, 3812 Gallery has been deeply rooted in Hong Kong. It always adhered to courage and perseverance to take on different challenges.

Co-founded by Hui and Mark Peaker in Hong Kong in 2011, 3812 Gallery is recognized as the city's foremost gallery dealing in Chinese contemporary art as well as an agent for the post-war Chinese abstract art master Hsiao Chin. The gallery actively promotes contemporary ink art in the international market.

Launching 3812 Gallery firmly onto the international stage, in 2018 it opened the new flagship space, 3812 Gallery London, in the exclusive St James' arts district. Coinciding with the 3812 Gallery's 10th anniversary in 2021, it opened a brand new 3,600 square feet space to expand into a new cultural and artistic landscape as the foremost international gallery in Hong Kong. The gallery will also exclusively represent three Modern British artist estates – Francis Davison, Terry Frost and Albert Irvin in Asia, and have five outstanding Hong Kong contemporary ink artists – Chui Pui Chee, Chloe Ho, Kassia Ko, Raymond Fung and Victor Wong to join, establishing the gallery's vision to develop into an international gallery.

3812 Gallery is dedicated to fostering cultural understanding of Chinese contemporary art with "Eastern Origin and Contemporary Expression". We strive for establishing international dialogue and exchanges by uniting artists, academics, collectors and the general public through our thoughtfully curated art programme. We believe that this sharing of cultural identity is essential in the understanding and appreciation of Chinese contemporary art.

Exhibition Highlights



Terry Frost

Blue Surge, 2002

Acrylic and collage on canvas

127 x 153 cm

Courtesy of the Estate of Terry Frost

Blue Surge, the artwork featured on the cover of the exhibition catalogue, is one of Terry Frost's most outstanding compositions. The sea blues and the glowing sun evoke the coastal landscapes of St Ives, Cornwall. He combines his bold painterly style with the technique of collage to create this vibrant and uplifting composition. Frost's paintings took on the feel of the landscape around him as he explored the idea of natural forms as emblems of abstract forces, with the sun and the moon essentially becoming his 'two gods'.



Terry Frost

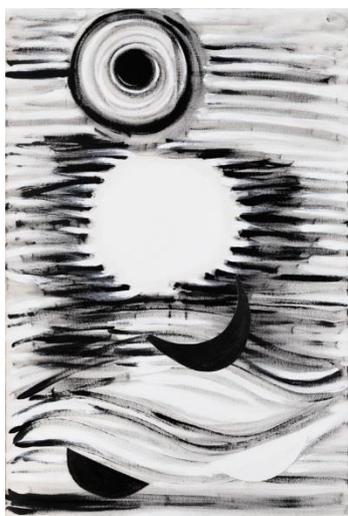
June 68, 1967-68

Oil on canvas

254 x 152.4 cm

Courtesy of the Estate of Terry Frost

Presenting Terry Frost's works from different decades, the exhibition narrates the journey and developments throughout his artistic career. The form and colour in Terry Frost's works evolved into simplicity in the 1960s as they were influenced by the famous American abstract artist Ellsworth Kelly. Despite the abstract nature of his paintings, Frost's shapes and colours are still associated with everyday elements in life, such as the female form, the sun, boats, and so on. It is from these elements that we start to see the connection between the St Ives and New York artists. While Frost's work is experimental, there is a rhythm that is inextricably connected to St Ives. His paintings are characterised as an immersion into an abstract world that is inspired by reality and nature, without depicting either in a naturalistic way.



Terry Frost

Lizard Light, 1996-98

Acrylic on canvas

188 x 127 cm

Courtesy of the Estate of Terry Frost

In the 1990s, Frost became increasingly taken with the idea of natural forms as emblems of abstract forces. Round and spiral shapes thus dominate Terry Frost's works, often in combinations of red, black and white. He discovered the beauty of harmony, disharmony and contrast in the balance of composition and continued to experiment with colours and forms. In *Lizard Light*, the wave-like lines are slowly rippling around the sphere. A powerful visual impact is achieved through the simple contrast between black and white, even though the abstract still is recognised as the serenity of shimmering light on water. *Lizard Light* demonstrates Terry Frost's sophisticated control of composition. The artistic techniques he developed in the 1950s have provided a solid foundation for his creation some 40 years later.



Terry Frost

Swing Purple, 2002

Acrylic and collage on canvas

152 x 152 cm

Courtesy of the Estate of Terry Frost

The playful and varied geometries in *Swing Purple* are reminiscent of boats bobbing on the sea in the St Ives. The painting has a joyful, positive energy with the colours and lines referring to the breath-taking beauty and ever-changing light of St Ives. The tides, rising moon and warm sunlight, to a large extent, have inspired Terry Frost's paintings. For him, living with nature is “a moment of fear, of excitement, of breath-stopping awe...that contact with forever, being part of everything and being nothing.” Terry Frost employs collage to transform his experience into an abstract expression in which he believes not only evokes emotional but also physical sensations.



Terry Frost

June Collage, 2002

Acrylic and collage on canvas

125 x 214 cm

Courtesy of the Estate of Terry Frost

In his late years, Terry Frost ruthlessly continued to develop his personal style. *June Collage* responds to the artist's technique of collage and to the symbolic combination of red, white and black originating in the 1950s and 60s. In this work, we see influences of American hard-edge painting, which together with the overlapping collage gives a three-dimensional effect. Renowned British artist Adrian Heath describes Frost's paintings: "Direct and spontaneous action produced more authentic results than calculation or planning." The intuitively created geometrical shapes and lines appear simple yet surprisingly subtle. The lines in the centre of the painting remind the viewer of the horizon, with a red semi-oval shape similar to a rising sun shining on the green earth below.