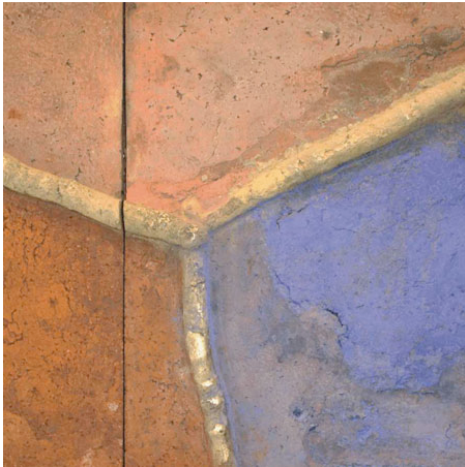


ROBERT STEELE GALLERY

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Press Release
Jeff Lowe | New Works from the Paper Flag Series
12 April – 12 May 2007

The **Robert Steele Gallery** at 511 West 25th Street between 10th and 11th Avenues in Chelsea is pleased to announce an exhibition of new Works on Paper by **Jeff Lowe**, opening on Thursday, April 12th through May 12th, 2007. A reception for the artist will be held **Thursday, April 12th, from 6 to 8pm**. Also on view in the Gallery will be paintings by **Fred Cress**. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 to 6pm and by appointment.

An internationally acclaimed British sculptor, **Jeff Lowe** has long been known for works that range from large scale free standing objects to intimate wall panels that use elements of drawing and relief. Eric Moody has described Lowe's work as *object lessons in close observation*. In these new works from **The Paper Flag Series**, that observation has led to an intense investigation of paper, pigment and process.

Says Lowe: (The series) started out as an experiment in 2006 working with paper pulp pressed into moulds and using pigment and metal powders (brass, copper, iron, graphite) as well as coloured pigments, mainly earth pigments: red oxide, yellow ochre, blue, white and black. The works developed organically as I had never worked with paper before and there seemed to be little information available to help to understand the process. The works started in Portugal and the colours seem to have much to do with that country, perhaps even the textures as well. The use of "drawing," the raised line, follows on from the three-dimensional pieces cast in iron and aluminium. Although I am in control of the colour and form in these pieces there is inevitably a strong element of surprise and to an extent accident, which I encourage as part of the process of making.

All the works I have made over the last few years seem to work in an area between sculpture and drawing, illusion and reality. The paper pieces are not "paintings," the colours constructed like elements of a sculpture. There is no applied colour only some working on the surface to activate, almost like a patina. The use of the grid also seems important in terms of them being seen as sculptural objects.

Lowe has lived and worked in London and Portugal since the early 1970s, and his sculptures have been exhibited worldwide, with solo shows at the Centre for Contemporary Art (Australia), the Trem Gallery (Portugal), the MAAK Gallery (London), and selected group exhibitions including the Bodo Niemann Gallery (Berlin), the Galeria Internacional de Arte (Portugal) and the National Gallery (Melbourne), among others. He won the Pollock-Krasner Award, and consequently was short listed for Hakoni Prize, Japan; other awards include the Greater London Arts Award and the Sainsbury Award. Lowe was an artist in residence at Mermer Stone Quarry, Yugoslavia, and Praham College, Melbourne, Australia. Public Collections include Leicester Education Authority, Arts Council England, Contemporary Arts Society, Channel 4 Television and the National Gallery, Australia. He studied at Leicester College of Art and St. Martin's School of Art .

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