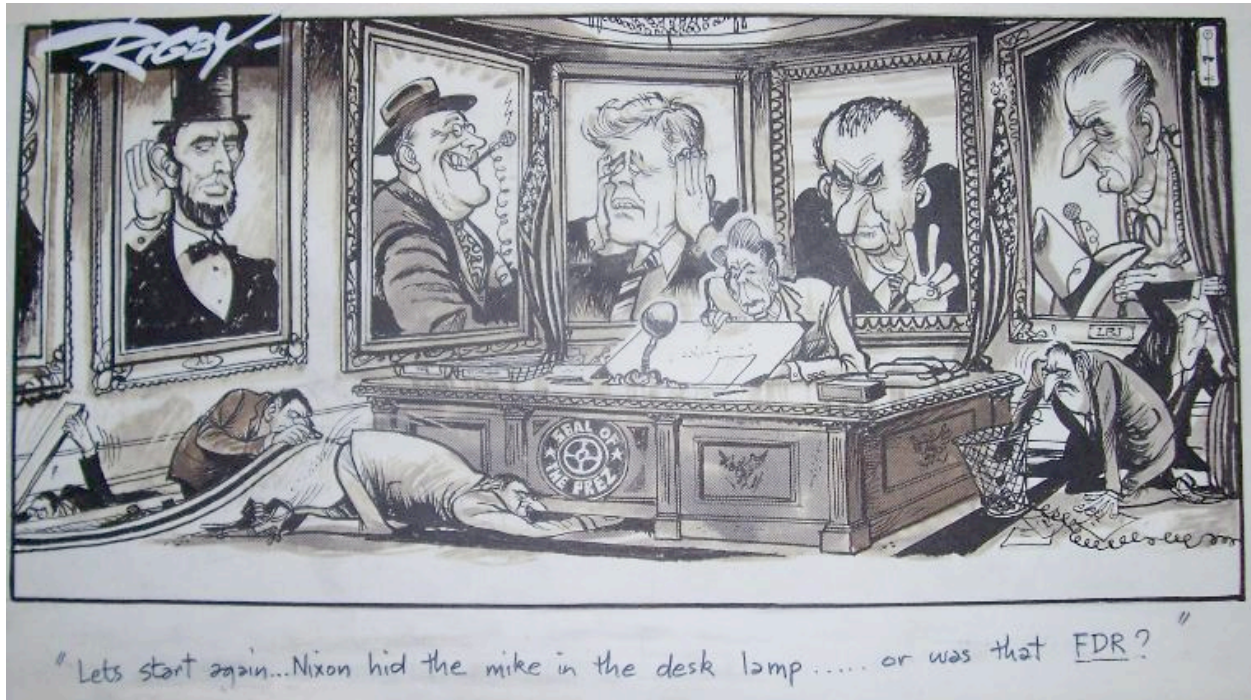


# ROBERT STEELE GALLERY

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## Paul Rigby

*A Celebration*

January 12 – February 2008

The **Robert Steele Gallery** at 511 West 25th Street between 10th and 11th Avenues in Chelsea is pleased to announce the opening of **Paul Rigby**, a retrospective exhibition of the late Australian artist's editorial and daily news cartoons. With over 140 drawings, the exhibition will primarily focus on Rigby's depiction of New York and US themes from the years 1977 to 2000. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 to 6pm and by appointment.

An extraordinarily prolific and versatile illustrator, Rigby, in a career that spanned over fifty years, tackled ordinary life, sport, bureaucracy, business, diplomacy, war, entertainment and above all, politics, where his humor and insight could be devastating. Former UK Prime Minister Edward Heath, on his way out of office, met Rigby at a function, and said mournfully: "Mr Rigby, I believe you have killed me."

Born in Melbourne in 1924, Rigby began drawing editorial cartoons for the *Daily News* in Perth, Australia, and later the UK's *Sun* and *News of the World*, as well as Australia's *The Daily News (WA)* and *Telegraph and*

*Mirror (NSW)*. When Rupert Murdoch acquired the *New York Post* in 1977, Rigby moved to that paper, remaining in the US until his semi-retirement in 2003.

Rigby was recognised and honored in many countries for his cartooning efforts with numerous awards and citations, including five *Cartoonist of the Year Walkley Awards* in Australia and four *New York Press Club Page One Awards*. He was also commended and awarded by the US Marine Corp, New York Fire Department and New York Police Department. *A Member of the Order of Australia*, he was also a *Knight Commander Order of St. Johns, Knights of Malta*.

An author and co-author of many books on politics, travel and sport, his cartoons, sketches, paintings, murals and prints have been shown worldwide. ***Rigby: A Celebration*** will be a major part during the ***G'Day USA*** and ***Australia Day*** festivities, the annual January promotion of the very best of Australia in the United States.

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