

**TONY CRAGG**

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**DESSINS**

PARIS DEBELLEYME

14 Sep 2007 - 12 Oct 2007

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Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac is pleased to announce an exhibition of drawings by sculptor Tony Cragg opening on September 15th till mid October. This group of forty new intense pencil drawings marks the first time Cragg has shown his works on paper in the gallery new Drawing Space.

The artist conceives this body of works as a discussion of things that the eye does not see - of the different ways to sense an object in space. He is not interested in depicting the solidity of the object, but rather the energy around it, the radiating molecules that spill out of and around the solid form. "I am looking at the physicality, the energy forms and waves that circulate around everything, the alternative knowledge that comes from this arena, it is fascinating and fills the space with so many invisible charges".

Tony Cragg has made drawings throughout his career as an artist. The process is direct, appealingly intensive, timeless and intimate. He occupied himself with drawing first in the late 1960s, then twenty years later, and now makes works on paper regularly both in pencil on paper, and watercolor with ink. He uses this exploration on paper as a way of searching for knowledge and sees it as a way of understanding purely graphic procedures that clarify his orientation in three dimensions.

You can work everything out through it. That is the great quality... everything is legitimate". As an artist who is fascinated with the surface texture of a sculpture, this interest in the skin has appeared in earlier drawings as almost a kind of new layer or pattern superimposed onto the form itself. In the most recent works it is not the physical itself that is of interest to Cragg, but the myriad of things that are generated from this form, the invisible properties which he catches with his pencil on paper.