### The Gallery in Redchurch St

#### **ATHLETES: ACTION: ART**

#### Rosemary Taylor - An artist retrospective

London, July 25th - August 11th 2012



Rosemary Taylor Self Portrait 40 x 55 cm

A retrospective exhibition of original paintings by the artist Rosemary Taylor will be at the Gallery in Redchurch Street, London this Summer during the 2012 Olympics.

Her paintings are powerful studies of athletes that show a fascination for the human body in disciplined movement. These sports paintings are on a large scale and feature striking contemporary images of well-known athletes. Many of these paintings have never been shown in public.

This large body of work, amounting to more than 70 oil on canvas paintings, includes an impressive collection of cricket paintings depicting the Ashes series in 1975, when England played Australia.

Rosemary was fascinated by the muscular power, speed and danger of this new generation of fast bowlers. She photographed and carefully studied the images of the cricketers to capture the action. In this technique she was inspired by David Hockney, who used a Polaroid to freeze the moving water in his iconic painting 'The Bigger Splash'.

Her style can be seen to evolve through this series of paintings, from static figures to dramatic movement at high speed, for which she developed a highly distinctive blurring technique.

During the late 1970s Rosemary turned her attention to the movement of world-class tennis players and produced a collection of 15 paintings over the next two decades. At 5' by 6' these were on an even bigger scale than the cricket paintings. The tennis players are captured in action at a point of tension in their matches and include Virginia Wade, Bjorn Borg, Lleyton Hewitt and the William sisters.

In addition to the sports paintings, her prolific collection of outstanding original work includes pool paintings, figure studies and still lives.

Born in Zimbabwe, Rosemary Taylor was educated in South Africa and left for London in the 1960s as a young woman. Her strong and formidable spirit enabled her to overcome many personal difficulties during her life. She lived in the UK, France and finally Ireland, until her death in 2004.

When Rosemary was still alive the internationally renowned art dealer Annely Juda told her 'these paintings should sell like hotcakes'. At the time she didn't want to part with them. This exhibition will give art lovers the chance to see these extraordinary paintings and the opportunity to buy the originals for the first time.

Giclées - digital reproductions on canvas - can also be bought at the Redchurch Gallery, or write to: <a href="mailto:enquiries@rosemarytaylorartist.com">enquiries@rosemarytaylorartist.com</a>

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Exhibition Dates: 25 July - 11 August 2012

## The Gallery in Redchurch St

50 Redchurch Street London E2 7DP

Exhibition Opening Times:
Monday to Saturday 10.00-18.00hrs
(except Thursday late10.00-20.00hrs)
Sunday 11.00-16.00 hrs

For more information on Rosemary Taylor her life and art go to:

www.rosemarytaylorartist.com

- Ends -

For press enquiries please contact Stephanie: <a href="mailto:press@rosemarytaylorartist.com">press@rosemarytaylorartist.com</a>

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Excess. Greig & Marsh 125 x 95 cm



Lillee III 94 x 115 cm



Australian Honey. Walker, Greig & Dickie Bird, 125 x 95 cm



Lillee and Fielder 94 x 115 cm



Venus Williams and lineswoman Australian Open 2003 182 x 211 cm



Virginia Wade Wimbledon 1979 202 x 158 cm



Pool VI 221 x 171.5 cm



Serena Williams and John McEnroe Australian Open 2003 182 x 202 cm



Lleyton Hewitt VI Australian Open 2004 170 x 216 cm



Muybridge" III 132 x 149cm