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Monochrome No.2 at Ordovas



The second iteration of *Monochrome* is presented at Ordovas on Savile Row, London, until 25th April and it's a must-see.

The exhibition centres on the formal examination of a unique colour by significant artists from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries including Yves Klein, Ed Ruscha, Jackson Pollock, Robert Rauschenberg and Dan Flavin, among other luminaries.

As artists' interest in the field of psychoanalysis grew, following the publication of Sigmund Freud's *The Interpretation of Dreams*, so did their attraction to the colour blue. Pablo Picasso (who is the subject of a fantastic exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts at the moment) as the true innovator he was, had also bloomed during his "Blue Period".

Taking centre stage in *Monochrome No.2* is one of Cy Twombly's rectangular wood and plaster sculptures, made at his home in the Italian coastal city of Gaeta in 2005. Responding to Yves Klein's IKB-drenched sponges *La Marseillaise* (ANT 138), from 1960 (another artist close to the Mediterranean sea as he was born in Nice, France), also on view in the exhibition, Twombly's piece epitomises the peculiar terrain of the mind as well as the dark blue of the Italian sky and Mediterranean sea, which probably served as inspiration for this spectacular work.

While Robert Rauschenberg and Susan Weil's 1950s blueprint's experiment dialogue with a Roy Lichtenstein black and white drawing with blue crayon colouring from 1996, the most stunning work in the exhibition surely is Ed Ruscha's painting whose five formless cerulean patches seem to conceal the words of its own title, *Hi There, My Old Friend*, 1994. Don't miss this very strong show.

