

Press Release

Tom of Finland  
*Preliminary Drawings*  
5 July – 10 August

Stuart Shave/Modern Art is pleased to announce an exhibition of drawings by Tom of Finland. This show at Modern Art is comprised of some 30 figurative pencil drawings dating from the early 1960s to the late 1980s, each made as preparatory studies for the highly finished illustrations of gay visual identity for which Tom of Finland is internationally renowned. It is the first solo exhibition of the artist's work held in Britain.

Tom of Finland was born Tuoko Laaksonen in Kaarina, Finland, in 1920. He lived and worked in Finland for the majority of his life, travelling frequently to the United States. He died at the age of 71 in Helsinki, Finland. Tom of Finland's work has been included in the exhibitions *Keep Your Timber Limber*, ICA, London (2013); *The Collectors*, Nordic and Danish Pavilions, 53rd Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy (2009); *Compass in Hand*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA (2009), travelling to IVAM, Valencia, Spain (2010), and Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany (2011); *Protest and Survive*, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2000); *Made in California*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, USA (2000); The 1991 Whitney Biennial (with Group Material), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA (1991); and the New Museum, New York, USA (1989). His work is held in the permanent collections of The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA, USA; Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY, USA; Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland; and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, USA.

Modern Art is grateful for the support of the Tom of Finland Foundation. With thanks to Sarah McCrory.

For further information, please contact Modern Art.

## List of Works

Tom of Finland

*Preliminary Drawings*

5 July – 10 August 2013

Front room (clockwise from left):

Untitled, 1974  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.5 x 21 cm  
11 5/8 x 8 1/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00018)

Untitled, 1987  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.5 x 21 cm  
11 5/8 x 8 1/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00020)

Untitled, 1988  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.7 x 20.3 cm  
11 3/4 x 8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00032)

Untitled, c. 1964  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
28.9 x 19.1 cm  
11 3/8 x 7 1/2 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00016)

Untitled, 1988  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.2 x 21.6 cm  
11 1/2 x 8 1/2 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00002)

Untitled, c. 1981  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
29.2 x 21 cm  
11 1/2 x 8 1/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00019)

Untitled, c. 1961  
undated, signed  
graphite on paper  
21 x 14.9 cm  
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00013)

Untitled, c. 1965  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
20.8 x 15 cm  
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00025)

Untitled, c. 1963  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
21 x 13.7 cm  
8 1/4 x 5 3/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00012)

Untitled, 1985  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.8 x 41.6 cm  
11 3/4 x 16 3/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00022)

Untitled, c. 1965  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
21 x 14.9 cm  
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00026)

Back room (clockwise from left):

Untitled, c.1978  
undated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.7 x 21 cm  
11 3/4 x 8 1/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00001)

Untitled, 1976  
dated, signed  
graphite on paper  
29.8 x 41.6 cm  
11 3/4 x 16 3/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00023)

Untitled, c. 1978  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
29.7 x 21 cm  
11 3/4 x 8 1/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00027)

Untitled, c. 1963  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
21 x 15 cm  
8 1/4 x 5 7/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00011)

Untitled, 1977  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
40.6 x 27.6 cm  
16 x 10 7/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00021)

Untitled, c.1982  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
41.9 x 29.7 cm  
16 1/2 x 11 3/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00006)

Untitled, 1979  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
36.7 x 29.5 cm  
14 1/2 x 11 5/8 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00017)

Untitled, 1980  
undated, unsigned  
graphite on paper  
41.9 x 29.7 cm  
16 1/2 x 11 3/4 ins  
(MA-FINLT-00008)