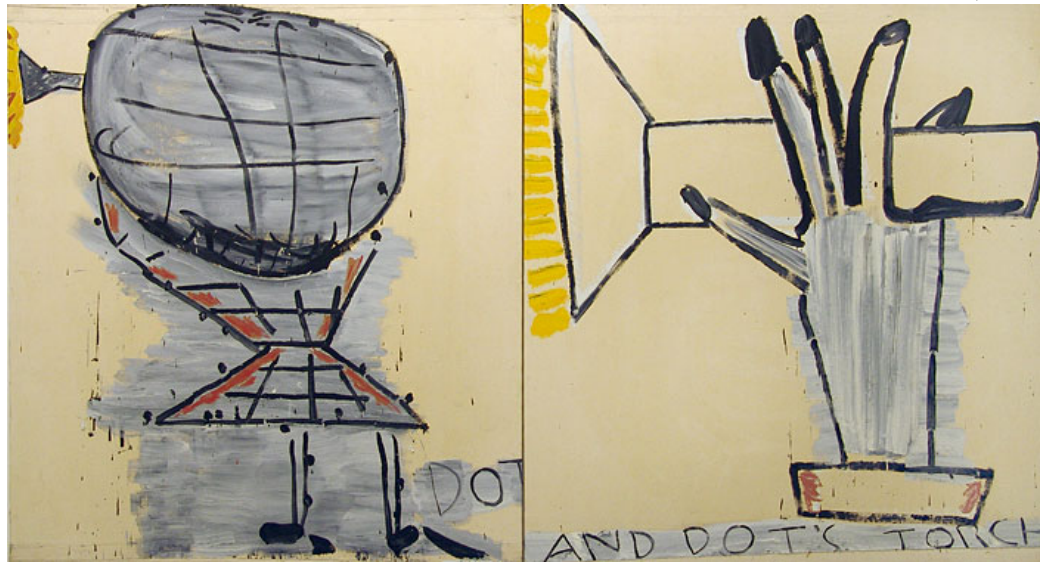


Rose Wylie Packs a Punch at Thomas Erben / artcritical

<http://artcritical.com/2010/10/18/wylie/>

October 18, 2010

Rose Wylie, DOT and Detail, 2004. Oil on canvas, 74 x 144 inches. Courtesy of Thomas Erben Gallery New York



Most viewers of Rose Wylie's show at Thomas Erben Gallery, titled "WHAT with WHAT", would want to conclude that the rambunctious, street-smart brutalism on display there is the work of an inner city kid who has been introduced with reluctance to the conventional and transportable medium of oil on canvas. Rotten luck with the guesswork. The author of these magisterially unrefined, at times gargantuan canvases, is a demure, "well spoken" English lady who resides in rural Kent: Think Miss Marple channeling Jean-Michel Basquiat. This 17-year survey is the New York debut for the septuagenarian Wylie, who shows at Union in London and was recently also included in a group show at the prestigious Timothy Taylor Gallery. But Wylie had already turned sixty when she had her first solo show anywhere. Appropriately for a late bloomer who is also "ever a beginner" in Rilke's sense, Wylie is a painter of sophisticated naiveté. There is nuance where you least expect it.

Until November 13, 526 West 26th Street, Fourth Floor, between 10th and 11th avenues, New York City, 212 645 8701