

La Galerie London  
presents  
**ROSTISLAV KUNOVSKY**

**BOOKS, VLAMINCK IN THE MOUNTAIN AND PIANOS**

The @venue, 7-9 St James Street London SW1A 1EE  
9<sup>th</sup> June - 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008

**IN THE FOREST**

5 Blenheim Crescent, London W11 (off Portobello Road)  
16<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008 (Tues-Fri 10pm to 6pm/Sat-Sun 10am to 5pm)  
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Rostislav Kunovsky is originally from the Czech Republic and has been living in Paris for the last 30 years.

This summer, some of his most important works including paintings, drawings and etchings will be on view simultaneously in two exhibition spaces.

The gallery space 5 Blenheim Crescent in Notting Hill will show **In The Forest**: paintings, drawings and etchings of wolves and wild animals in their natural habitat where animals and nature exist in a true symbiosis(**see attached article by John Berger**).

Meanwhile, the Avenue restaurant in St James will show large paintings with a variety of different themes. His paintings of **Books, Vlaminck in the Mountain and Pianos** are key works.

Kunovsky's paintings are influenced by his childhood in Moravia where daily life in the city and summers in the country near the forest clearly shaped his psyche. Artists leaving their beloved country for a permanent or definitive amount of time often have an unconscious nostalgia that defines their way of seeing. For Kunovsky, there is a sense of an identity represented through certain objects or sensations. In his master degree research Kunovsky explains the extent to which childhood memories provide inspiration to his work. He recollects as a child the impact of summers in the countryside near the forest where his grand-parents lived. The escape from the confinement of life in the city with his strict family rules gave him an absolute sense of freedom. Riding a bike alone through nature or laying down in a field were totally liberating. Books also provided a means of escape. He describes regular visits to second-hand book shops where he enjoyed the smell and feel of old books, and reading stories about pirates, travelers and wild adventures(**see attached text by Kunovsky**).

Books and summer holidays were the facilitators of his own imaginary travels and of his desire for freedom and creativity.

**Exhibitions curated and organised by Karine Giannamore - La Galerie London.**

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