



## **PRESS RELEASE: *Exiles* at Brick Lane Gallery**

*The rise of Tom de Freston is inevitable; he is the modern master of history painting.*



The exhibition *Exiles* will show recent works by the artist Tom de Freston, concentrating on his treatment of displacement and exile. The exhibition will be on show from the 6 to 12 April 2010 at the Brick Lane Gallery, London.

Tom de Freston is an exciting emerging artist who has already been the subject of significant critical and press acclaim, most recently in the wake of the exhibition *Reflections* at the Christ's Visual Arts Centre, Cambridge. The artistic importance and significance of de Freston is highlighted by critical texts by Dr. Caroline Vout, Dr. Damien Freeman and pieces by the renowned poets Ruth Padel and Jaya Savige.

The exhibition will be celebrated by a publication of poems responding to de Freston's work.

*For all their challenging and sometimes disturbing flourishes, [de Freston's] canvasses invite us to recognise ourselves in them, in all our moments of heroism and vulnerability, triumph – and failure. Embrace the pants they say. Kick off those trousers. Make yourself comfortable. Dive in.* Mike McCahill, the Sunday Telegraph

*Together and separately, the two panels for Christ's College Chapel will pose important questions for us all to answer differently, at different times. Like Rembrandt's portraits, or Goya's figures trapped in night, they ask us to think about the way we are all, in different ways, set against the dark.* Ruth Padel on an altarpiece project by de Freston.

The exhibition will be accompanied by an excited publication of poems. 'Ekphrasis' will see fifteen established and emerging poets respond to de Freston's work. It includes a special contribution by John Mole and is edited by Kiran Millwood Hargrave.

This exhibition is of extreme importance for all interested in the evolution of contemporary painting. He demonstrates an ability to draw from the traditional and historical whilst placing himself at the forefront of contemporary British painting.

Notes to the editor:

The Private View will be on 6 April at 7 pm. The exhibition is produced by Tablo Arts, curated by Pablo de Gandia and with the help and support of the Cambridge University Centre of Governance and Human Rights, The Leys and Tower Hamlets Council.

The poetry collection 'Ekphrasis' will be launched on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, at 7pm. The poetry collection is edited by Kiran Millwood Hargrave and published by Freewood publications. It includes poems by Jaya Savige, Helen Mort, Andrea Porter, Lizzy Denning, Ben Morris, John Lyons, Tamara Astor, Toby Parker Rees, Sophie Peacock, Lydia Macpherson, Jack Moser and Katy Price.

For any further information, please contact Pablo de Gandia on [pdg@tablo.co.uk](mailto:pdg@tablo.co.uk) or 07951749321  
For any further information about the artist visit [www.tomdefreston.co.uk](http://www.tomdefreston.co.uk). For the gallery see [www.thebricklanegallery.com](http://www.thebricklanegallery.com).



TABLO ARTS, 37 TEMBY CLOSE, CAMBRIDGE, CB1 9YG, WWW.TABLO.CO.UK