FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JEAN-PIERRE SERGENT'S EXHIBITION > SHAKTI-YONI: THE SMALL PAPER WORKS > 29 March - 13 April 2018

GALERIE KELLER | Selnaustrasse 15 | 8001 Zurich | Switzerland Opening night with the artist on Wednesday April 4th, 5 to 8 pm Hours: Wednesday - Friday 1-6 pm & Saturday 1-5 pm

JEAN-PIERRE SERGENT

French-American artist, he developed his repertory of artistic forms in the United States and continues to work and exhibit regularly in France and the rest of Europe and China since 2016. He is presenting during this solo exhibition at the Keller Galery in Zurich, twenty five pieces from his <u>Shakti-Yoni:</u> <u>Ecstatic Cosmic Dances</u> new series (25 x 25 cm). They are acrylic silk-screened and Indian ink painted over yellow Wang Sketching paper. Numerous videos and interviews had been realized about the work in progress of this new batch of artworks. This series will also be presented at the WOPART (works on paper fair) in Lugano, Switzerland in September 2018.

ABOUT THE SHAKTI*-YONI*: SMALL PAPER WORKS EXHIBITION

It is a work from the artist's maturity. Free of dithering, detours and regrets. It delve right into the heart of human trueness and world soul. With its rigours, its boldness, its colours, it takes the artist himself, then the viewer by rebound, into states of full power, full freedom, full consciousness, full enlightenment! At the core of Life with its main primary preoccupations and interrogations like: presence, sex, death, desire, body, memory. It's an art of experience and testimony. Sergent is revealing to people that we can exist within joy, being demiurges and masters of its own life, into sexuality, danse, spirituality and ecstasies. As he deeply stated in this text:

"These bodies of women ecstatically dancing, like the exctatict dancing Dervishes Turners, are both fixed points here, and infinite there. They drag us with them in whirling and cosmic dimensions, creating in a true sense vortices of energies towards the possibilities of other lives, other pleasures, other experiences. [...]

Their *Yonis*, moist, gushing, obscene, and wet, with gaping lips... symbols of the female sex, which in the same way in India are adorned, fed, and coated with butter, flowers, and various offerings and always pierced by the *lingam*^{*}, Herculean cock rising towards the sky...

Genitals open, offered, desiring... those female warriors are hoping for a man's cock and his cum, in such an exciting and regenerating homage danced as in Stravinsky's *Sacre du printemps*, but, in this never-ending and eternal dance, there is no need to wait for the Seasons to come back in order to revive their humongous desires...! [...]

Jerky movements, pulsing rhythmically, or arhythmically, in a despairing contemporary pornographic solitude, which still bring us back sometimes to the origin of being, primary energy, the first cries of the child brought into the world or the first orgasm. In the same way that the Water, the Sea, the Ocean, and the Universe, encompass, submerge, and nourish us like the orphans we are all today, since the Spirits and the Gods are dead; killed by those other than us!

But the artist remains optimistic and he tirelessly pays tribute to the dance ... to Nature ... to the color ... and to the feminine energy of the *Shakti-Yoni* force...!"

* Shakti is the concept or personification of divine feminine creative power, sometimes referred to as "The Great Divine Mother" in Hinduism.

* Yoni (womb, uterus, vagina, vulva or source) is a stylised representation of female genitalia representing the goddess Shakti in Hinduism The male counterpart of the yoni is the lingam. The union of the yoni and lingam represents the eternal process of creation and regeneration, the union of male and female principles, and all existence.

* Lingam is a column-like or oval (egg-shaped) symbol of Shiva.

CONTACT GALERIE : Heidi Suter I <u>www.kellergalerie.ch</u> I <u>kellergalerie@sunrise.ch</u> I + 41(0)44 202 09 63 VISUELS PRESSE : <u>Shakti-Yoni: The Small Paper Works</u>