

For Immediate Release

Kaffe Fassett

Pattern as Obsession

Vibrantly colored and imaginatively conceived, Kaffe Fassett's recent work departs from his purely decorative format into decidedly reflective compositions. Focusing on his love for pattern, the artist has utilized his trademark needlework, along with knitting and rug hooking, and enhanced their visual possibilities with collage -- buttons, beads, shells and pearls. These abstract experiments in pattern range from the intricately complex and luxuriously textured, with backgrounds of marbled cotton and hand-painted Japanese fabrics, to elegantly spare shapes, accented with collage. The spectrum culminates in the non-textile collage *Monotone*, a paradoxically rhythmic image composed of only clothespins. The show is a rich variety of disparate objects and textile media resonantly unified by Fassett's artistic vision of the universal patterning in all that is human.

Trained as a painter, the self-described "decorative artist" Kaffe Fassett discovered Scottish yarns thirty years ago and the purity and vibrancy of the colors achieved by working with these and related materials transformed his art. Fassett has made a successful and visible career designing and working in knitting, needlepoint, tapestry, rug hooking, quilting, and mosaics. He designed for a time for Missoni and is the first living textile artist to have exhibited his work at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. This will be his third exhibition in New York.

Title: *Kaffe Fassett: Pattern as Obsession*

Dates: **10 September - 26 October 2002**

Reception for the artist: **Tuesday, 24 September, 5:30 - 7:30 pm**