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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Works from the Pentti Kouri Collection 5 February – 5 March 2011

Tracy Williams, Ltd. is pleased to announce *Works from the Pentti Kouri Collection* featuring works by Lawrence Weiner, Mary Corse, and Franz West.

Lawrence Weiner's *Assuming the Position* occupies the main gallery. First exhibited at Stuart Regen Gallery in Los Angeles in 1989, this piece was included in Weiner's retrospective, *As Far As The Eye Can See*, at the Whitney Museum of American Art, which travelled to Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles and K21 Kunstasammlung, Dusseldorf from 2008 to 2009.

The south gallery is occupied by Franz West's *Paßstücke* (*BI 7*), 1999, alongside *Black Sqaure Glitter*, 1977 by Mary Corse. Unlike earlier works in the *Paßstücke* series, *Paßstücke* (*BI 7*) is not meant to be touched or handled, and features a base component that echoes the crude plaster texture of the form sitting on top. Constructed from an aluminum cast covered in plaster rather than papier-mâché, this piece is a predecessor to West's recent series of abstract painted-aluminum sculptures.

Characteristic of Corse's *Glitter* series, *Black Square Glitter*, 1977, employs metallic squares to refract light, lending the painting the ability to expand its visual field beyond the constraints of the canvas. Although static in its position, the painting provides shifting visual effects depending on the perspective of the viewer and ambient conditions, creating a direct and intimate relationship between the painting and its audience.

This selection of works represents a sampling of Kouri's dedicated interest in contemporary art. His extensive collection includes works by British sculptors such as Richard Deacon and Tony Cragg, conceptualists such as Joseph Kosuth and Daniel Buren, and YBAs such as Fiona Banner and Gary Hume, among others.

Pentti Kouri (1949 – 2009) was an international economist and venture capitalist based in New York City. In addition to being an avid collector of contemporary art, he was involved with numerous museums and academic institutions, including serving as a member of the International Council Executive Committee of the Tate, the Visiting Committee of the Department of Economics at MIT, the DIA Art Foundation board, and the President's Council of the Guggenheim Museum. A part of his personal collection was gifted to Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki in 1997.