

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Press Release

Date: Wednesday 17 June 2026

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press@southbankcentre.co.uk

Kulpreet Singh *Indelible Black Marks* 16 June - 02 August 2026

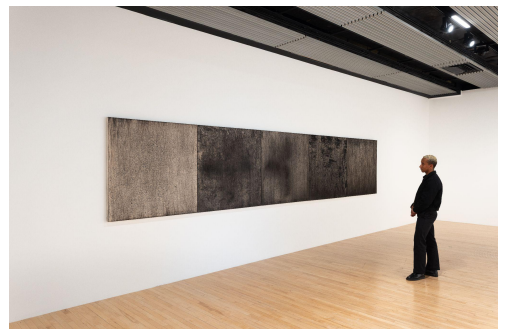


IMAGE CREDITS IN NOTES TO EDITORS

The Hayward Gallery, in partnership with the RC Foundation, Taiwan (R.O.C.), presents **Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks**. Co-presented with the Kochi-Muziris Biennale, *Indelible Black Marks* is Indian artist Kulpreet Singh's first solo exhibition in the UK and the second exhibition as part of the RC Foundation Project Space Exhibition Series for 2026, which showcases the next generation of emerging international artists.

Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks takes place in the HENI Project Space in the Southbank Centre's Hayward Gallery – a space that offers the opportunity for audiences to discover exhibitions from new artistic voices for free.

Kulpreet Singh explores the urgent link between climate change and agricultural crisis. Drawing from his life as a farmer, Singh choreographs the ritual of stubble-burning — setting fire to straw remnants to prepare fields for a new crop cycle. In his film, performers move through burning fields, dragging massive canvases behind them. A five-panel painting created with fire and stubble-ash accompanies the film. Together, the installation records the exploitation of land, foregrounding the resilience of those who tend to it.

Rachel Thomas, Roden Chief Curator of the Hayward Gallery, says: *“Singh’s Indelible Black Marks brings an urgent and profound message to our site, offering a visual and poetic comment on the climate crisis. By utilising materials tied directly to the earth—stubble ash, pesticides, and soil—his work transcends traditional boundaries to act as a witness to the long-term ecological impact of industrial farming.*

We believe our audiences will find in this work a necessary, unsettling, and beautiful reflection on our shared environmental future. It is an honour to platform such a critical global voice at this moment.”

Kulpreet Singh says: *“Presenting my work in London, particularly at the Hayward Gallery, is deeply meaningful for me. These centers are key to a global discourse on art, and to show my work here also allows me to put forth issues that are not confined to one place but resonate across the world — about land, environment and farming.*

At the core of my work is a guiding philosophy from Sikhism that feels especially relevant today: Through remembering the Divine (Naam), may one remain in high spirits (Chardi Kala), and in your will, may there be well-being for all (Sarbat da Bhala).”

The HENI Project Space is a vital part of the Southbank Centre’s free programming, introducing new international voices and providing accessible cultural experiences for all to enjoy. Since its establishment in 2007, the space has platformed an array of artists including Hicham Berrada, Thabiso Sekgala, Val Lee, Huang Po-Chih, Kate Cooper, Heecheon Kim, and Amol K Patil.

Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks is curated by Rachel Thomas, Roden Chief Curator with Ananya Jain, Curatorial Assistant. Co-presented with the Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Kulpreet Singh is a recipient of the Hayward Gallery/Kochi-Muziris Biennale (HG-KMB) Award, spotlighting emerging South Asian artists. Additional support is generously provided by the TNQ Foundation. With support from Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Rachel Verghis, Spare Rib Projects and further support from the British Council.

Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks is presented alongside **Anish Kapoor** in the Hayward Gallery. More information on the exhibition can be found [HERE](#).

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Image Credits

- Left: Installation view of *Kulpreet Singh Indelible Black Marks* at the Hayward Gallery, 2026. Photo: Rob Harris. Courtesy of the Hayward Gallery.

- Top right: Installation view of *Kulpreet Singh Indelible Black Marks* at the Hayward Gallery, *Painting 7* (2025). Photo: Rob Harris. Courtesy of the Hayward Gallery.
- Bottom right: Installation view of *Kulpreet Singh Indelible Black Marks* at the Hayward Gallery, *Painting 7* (2025). Photo: Rob Harris. Courtesy of the Hayward Gallery.

Exhibition Listing Information

Kulpreet Singh: Indelible Black Marks

Tuesday, 16 June - Sunday 2 August 2026

Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX

Free.

The Hayward Gallery opening times:

Tue – Fri, 10am – 6pm

Sat, 10am – 8pm

Sun, 10am – 6pm

Further information:

www.southbankcentre.co.uk

Twitter: [@haywardgallery](https://twitter.com/haywardgallery)

Instagram: [@hayward_gallery](https://www.instagram.com/hayward_gallery)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/haywardgallery/

About Kulpreet Singh

Born 1985 in Sangrur, Punjab, Kulpreet Singh studied Visual Art at the DLC State University of Performing and Visual Arts in Rohtak, Haryana. Raised around farmlands and having participated in the 2020–2021 Indian farmers' protest, Kulpreet arranged for several participatory artworks to be created on cotton cloth spanning upto 30 meters across, in the body entitled *Indelible Black Marks I*. In *Indelible Black Marks II* which followed, he staged a large-scale performance by repurposing the annual stubble-burning ritual, traditionally used by farmers to remove the residual weeds and pests from farmlands in India. Two back-to-back solo exhibitions at Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke in Mumbai (November 2024 and January 2025), were followed by an invitation to participate at the Kochi-Muziris Biennale (2025-26), and The Biennale of Sydney (2026). *The Extinction Archive*, an evolving body of work with over 1200 drawings so far, was presented by the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art at the India Art Fair grounds in New Delhi in 2026.

Kulpreet was a recipient of the Mrinalini Mukherjee Creative Arts Grant (2022-23), the Asia Society Future (India) Award (2026), and the Hayward Gallery/Kochi-Muziris Biennale (HG-KMB) Award (2025-26). His first UK solo exhibition will open at Hayward Gallery's HENI Project Space on June 16 and run until August 2, 2026. The artist lives and works in Patiala.

About the RC Foundation, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Founded in 1995 by Rong Chuan Chen, RC Foundation has been a visionary force in promoting Taiwanese contemporary art on the global stage. An active champion in fostering cultural and artistic exchanges, RC Foundation has been supporting artists, curators and independent art spaces from Taiwan through grants and partnerships, both locally and internationally. These long-term relationships have nurtured and enriched numerous artistic projects from different perspectives, generating invaluable connections between Taiwan's contemporary art practitioners and their global counterparts.

About the Kochi-Muziris Biennale

The Kochi-Muziris Biennale is India's first biennale of international contemporary art and one of the largest exhibitions in Asia. Organised by Kochi Biennale Foundation, a non-profit institution founded by a group of artists in 2010, the Biennale is conducted every two years in the old coastal neighbourhoods of Kochi. It draws on Kerala's rich multicultural history, layered with Portuguese, Dutch, and British colonial influences, while also invoking the West, and traders from the Far East, once exchanged goods and ideas. The Biennale seeks to revive the latent cosmopolitan spirit of the modern metropolis of Kochi and its mythical predecessor, Muziris. Its aim is to create a platform to introduce contemporary international visual art, theory, and practice to India; to showcase and encourage debate on emerging Indian and global aesthetics; and to foster dialogue among artists, curators, and the public.

About the HENI Project Space

The HENI Project Space sits within the Hayward Gallery and is committed to giving a platform to artists whose work is lesser known in the UK. Originally opened in 2007, the project space hosts exhibitions every year by both emerging and newly established artists, as well as significant expressions of broader visual culture. Tying firmly into Hayward Gallery's mission to present eye-opening visual art that inspires, pushes boundaries and speaks to global discourses, the HENI Project Space focuses on innovative forms of art making and provides a platform for presenting the latest developments in contemporary art from across the globe.

About the Hayward Gallery

The Hayward Gallery, part of the Southbank Centre, has a long history of presenting work by the world's most adventurous and innovative artists including major solo shows by both emerging and established artists and dynamic group exhibitions. They include those by Bridget Riley, Bruce Nauman, Anish Kapoor, Lee Bul, Andreas Gursky, Tracey Emin, Jeremy Deller, Kader Attia and Mike Nelson, as well as influential group exhibitions such as Africa Remix, Light Show, Psycho Buildings and Space Shifters. Opened by Queen Elizabeth II in July 1968, the gallery is one of the few remaining buildings of its style. The Brutalist building was designed by a group of young architects, including Dennis Crompton, Warren Chalk and Ron Herron and is named after Sir Isaac Hayward, a former leader of the London County Council.

About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying 11 acres along the river and its 4 venues anchor London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. We exist to present great cultural experiences that bring people together and we achieve this by providing the space for artists to create and present their best work and by creating a place where as many people as possible can come together to experience bold, unusual and eye-opening work. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. Southbank Centre is made up of the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and Hayward Gallery as well as being home to the National Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection. It is also home to six Resident Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Philharmonia Orchestra). www.southbankcentre.co.uk/



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