

# SOUTHBANK CENTRE

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## Press Release

Date: Thursday 19 November 2020

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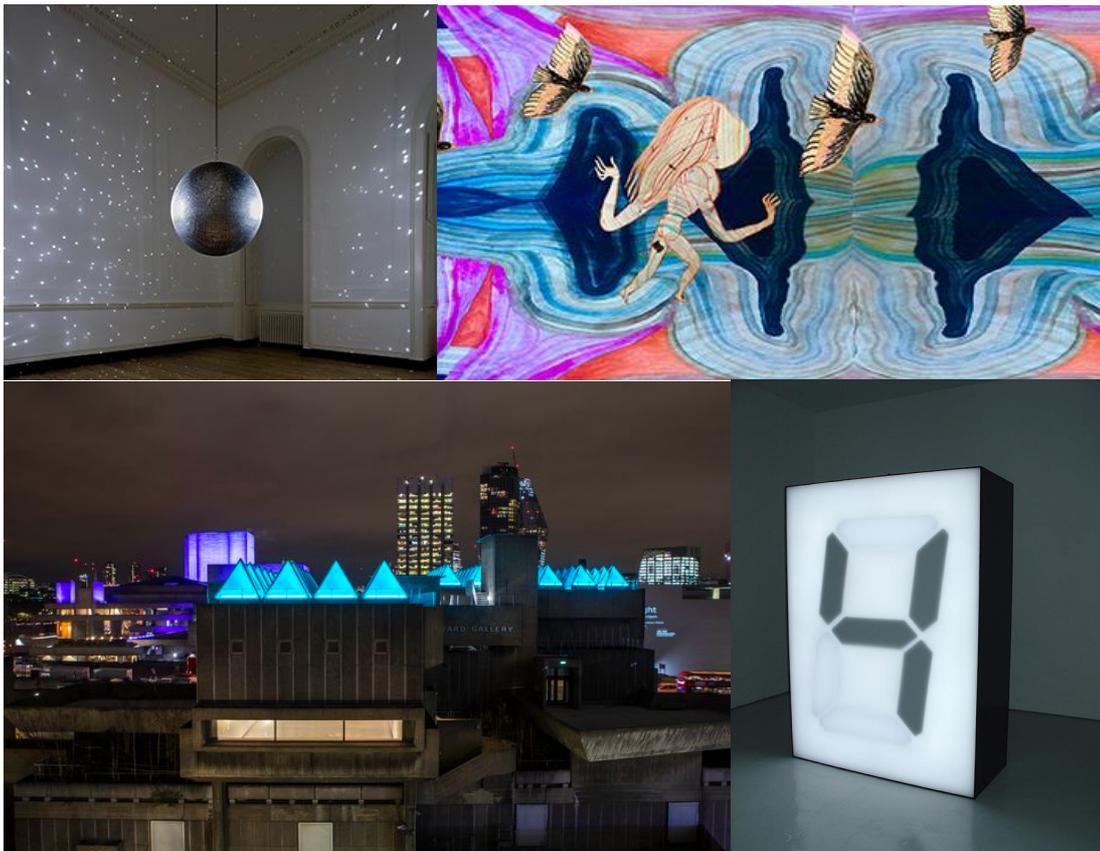
Images: downloadable [HERE](#)

Installation images: downloadable [HERE](#)

***Winter Light* is a new open-air exhibition that will animate the Southbank Centre site with luminous artworks**

## *Winter Light*

Friday 20 November 2020 - Sunday 28 February 2021



(L R:Katie Paterson, *Totality*, 2016 A 70th Anniversary Commission for the Arts Council Collection. Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London © the artist / Emma Tabot, *Birds Freedom*, 2020 An installation © the artist Courtesy the Artist, Gallery Onrust and Petra Rönck Gallery / David Batchelor, *60 Minute Spectrum*, 2018, © the artist, Photo credit: Victor Frankowski / Tatsuo Miyajima, *Counter Void S I*, 2003 © Tatsuo Miyajima; Courtesy Lisson Gallery)

This winter season, Southbank Centre presents *Winter Light*, a new free open-air exhibition that will enliven the site's iconic buildings and the Riverside Walk with luminous, playful and thought-provoking artworks during the darkest months of the year.

Featuring a range of leading international artists, *Winter Light* includes 20 artworks, new commissions and a series of poems that make ingenious use of light, colour and animation whilst touching on diverse concerns. The artworks and new commissions will start to pop-up across Southbank Centre's buildings and facades, and along the riverside, from Friday 20 November, with artworks being installed up until the new year. They will remain on display until the end of February.

At a time when we view so much of the world through digital screens, the artists in this exhibition celebrate how the medium of light can transform our physical spaces. Their artworks also explore ideas about nature, politics and society, gender, aesthetics and the act of looking.

Participating artists in the *Winter Light* free outdoor exhibition are: **Simeon Barclay, David Batchelor, James Clar, Shezad Dawood, Kota Ezawa, Navine G. Khan-Dossos, Suzie Larke, Teemu Määttänen, Tala Madani, Tatsuo Miyajima, Louiza Ntourou, David Ogle, Katie Paterson, Jini Reddy, Martin Richman, Tavares Strachan, Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum, Emma Talbot and Toby Ziegler.**

**David Ogle** works with light as a sculptural material and has been commissioned to work with the forms and natural shapes of the London plane trees on the Riverside Walk by the River Thames. A row of trees will be illuminated with glowing neon flex creating a multicoloured canopy over the heads of pedestrians.

**Martin Richman** has also been commissioned to create a new lightwork for the 5th floor balcony of the iconic Royal Festival Hall. *Reflect* suggests the rippling of the nearby River Thames and uses light, colour and movement to create a shimmering, multi-layered space visible from afar.

**Teemu Määttänen** has created a new version of his work, *NOSTE*, 2008, which loosely translates as "lift, upthrust and buoyancy" and uses projection-mapping to animate a minimalist set of rectangular columns with pulsing gradient colours. Working at an impressive scale on the south side of the Royal Festival Hall, *NOSTE* creates illusory effects that unfold over time. The artwork is presented with the generous support of The Finnish Institute and the Embassy of Finland London.

**David Batchelor's** *60 Minute Spectrum*, 2018 will once again illuminate the Hayward Gallery's pyramid rooflights and the Queen Elizabeth Hall facade with colour that subtly changes as it moves through the entire visual spectrum appearing orange, yellow, green, blue purple and pink. *60 Minute Spectrum* is part of Batchelor's ongoing exploration of the intense, synthetic colour that characterises modern cities.

Hung prominently in the Hayward Gallery foyer, **Katie Paterson's** *Totality*, 2019 is a 'mirror ball' that documents every solar eclipse recorded by humankind. Using nearly 10,000 tiny images,

Paterson's artwork reveals the beauty in the natural phenomena of our greatest source of illumination, the sun.

Large-scale videos projected onto the Royal Festival Hall will include **Emma Talbot's** animation *Birds, Freedom*, 2020 which presents a female figure navigating a landscape made up of abstract patterns and colours, and **Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum's** animation *To: the Moon*, 2014 which uses the idea of a lunar voyage to explore cosmology, mythology, history and science. Nearby, **Kota Ezawa's** *supercalifragilistic*, 2016 is an animated video that provides a light-hearted take on the flying abilities of a well-known fictional character.

**Navine G. Kahn-Dossos'** series *No Such Organisation*, 2018-2020 draws on the artist's ongoing interest in technology, surveillance and freedom of speech. A selection of images, installed in lightboxes around the site, mix a kaleidoscopic combination of geometric pattern and colour whilst also raising the politics of digital technologies.

Along Mandela Walk, **Suzie Larke** presents a suite of digital photographs from her ongoing project *Unseen*, 2018 - 2020 and on the Royal Festival Hall Terrace, visitors will see a selection of works presented in the building's front windows. **Shezad Dawood** presents *Mahakala*, 2020 a luminous work that portrays Mahākāla, a deity common to Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism, while **Tavares Strachan's** colourful neon work *WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER*, 2019 relays a hopeful message of togetherness, which resonates especially with the present time. Artist and filmmaker **Louiza Ntourou's** *Once upon a time, a time that never was and always is.*, 2019 is a mesmerising video of a single leaf falling against a glowing sky and nostalgic soundtrack, while **Simeon Barclay's** playful neon references the cartoon character Andy Capp, a working class figure who never worked, and who can be seen as a symbol of many outdated ideas.

On the east side of the Royal Festival Hall, **James Clar's** *Freefall*, 2011 depicts the illuminated outline of a person falling. Borrowing a visual technique used in animation and comic books, lines of LED light emphasise the figure's speed and motion. The river level of the Royal Festival Hall features **Tatsuo Miyajima's** *Counter Void S-I*, 2003, a monumental LCD lightbox that cycles through a numerical countdown, exploring our relationship to space and time.

Presented as a large-scale billboard facing Waterloo Bridge, **Tala Madani's** painting *A Solo*, 2019 is an eerie and enigmatic depiction of a luminous being. Like a film still, the image invites the viewer to speculate on the scene's narrative. On another billboard site in Festival Square **Toby Ziegler's** *Total Collapse (2nd version)*, 2020 presents a digitally-derived and hand finished landscape that verges on abstraction. Ziegler's large-scale 'lantern' sculpture *Slugs on the Cabbage of Bliss*, 2005 will also illuminate the windows of the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

*Winter Light* additionally features a series of five newly commissioned writings by author **Jini Reddy**, inspired by the seasonal light, which will be presented across the site.

**Cedar Lewisohn and Cliff Lauson, Curators, say:** "As the winter darkness descends, this outdoor exhibition radiates light. We have worked with a number of artists to create an uplifting experience and to provide artistic inspiration for visitors during these challenging times."

*Winter Light* is curated by Cedar Lewisohn, Curator-Site Design at the Southbank Centre and Dr Cliff Lauson, Senior Curator at the Hayward Gallery.

Information on *Winter Light* can be found [here](#). See this free outdoor exhibition if you can make it to the Southbank Centre safely.

# ENDS #

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### Listings Information:

#### *Winter Light*

Until 28 February 2021

Several locations around the Southbank Centre Site

Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX

Selected artworks from 10am. Full exhibition from dusk until 11.30pm.

**Prices:** FREE

**Teemu Määttä**'s adaptation of *NOSTE* was commissioned with the generous support of The Finnish Institute and the Embassy of Finland London.



### About the Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre and one of the UK's top five visitor attractions, occupying a prominent riverside location that sits in the midst of 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. We want to take people out of the everyday, every day.

The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 Festival of Britain. The 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 four Resident Orchestras (London Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Sinfonietta and Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment) and four Associate Orchestras (Aurora Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Chineke! Orchestra and National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain).

Further information: [www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk)