

# HAYWARD GALLERY

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## Press Release

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This press release is available in a variety of accessible formats. Please email [press@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:press@southbankcentre.co.uk)

**09 September - 12 December 2021**

### **Mixing It Up: Painting Today**

Hayward Gallery

&

### **Gerhard Richter: Drawings 1999-2021**

HENI Project Space, Hayward Gallery, Free

### ***Mixing It Up: Painting Today***



(L-R: Rachel Jones, *lick your teeth, they so clutch*, 2021, and *lick your teeth, they so clutch*, 2021, in *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* at Hayward Gallery, 2021. © Rachel Jones 2021. Courtesy of Hayward Gallery. Photo: Rob Harris; Lisa Brice, *Smoke and Mirrors*, 2020, in *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* at Hayward Gallery, 2021. © Lisa Brice 2021. Courtesy of Hayward Gallery. Photo: Rob Harris)

From 9 September through 12 December 2021 the Hayward Gallery presents *Mixing It Up: Painting Today*, an exhibition that brings together 31 contemporary painters who exploit the unique characteristics of their medium to create fresh, compelling works of art that speak to this moment.

Featuring three generations of artists (the youngest are 28 and the eldest is 87 years old), the 130 works in *Mixing It Up* reflect an increasing interest in painting as a medium in which things can be mixed up as in no other artform. As such, these paintings frequently sit in

between existing categories and genres, fashioning unexpected associations between the past and the present, and converging references from diverse sources including advertising, vernacular and documentary photography, viral memes, fashion, medical manuals and cinema, as well as art history. Using the medium as a platform for speculative thinking and unexpected conversations, they oscillate between observation and invention, depiction and allegory, illusion and materiality.

Some of the artists in the exhibition explore painting's time-travelling possibilities. Lubaina Himid examines histories of racial injustice linked to colonialism, reminding us that their consequences are still being played out today. Lisa Brice mounts a corrective to male dominated art history through her depictions of female painters at work. Mohammed Sami, who grew up in Baghdad, probes the traumatic memories that linger in the wake of military conflict.

Other artists use painting as a site of assemblage to suggest connections between things we might never normally link. Allison Katz's paintings overlay motifs into composite images that operate at the level of double entendre or riddles. Issy Wood paints an array of unsettling artifacts and antiques onto velvet, mixing up references to past and present in a manner that she describes as 'temporal gaslighting'. Vivien Zhang's paintings are dizzying kaleidoscopes that pose questions about the accelerating rate of our information age.

A number of artists in the exhibition experiment with the material possibilities of painting. Louise Giovanelli uses traditional techniques to manipulate the light-reflecting and light-absorbing qualities of different pigments and surfaces. Alvaro Barrington uses everyday materials like concrete or carpet to push the boundaries of the medium. Samara Scott takes physicality a step further, suspending materials in household liquids contained within plexiglass display cases.

*Mixing It Up: Painting Today* highlights the country's emergence as a vital international centre of contemporary painting (all of the artists in the exhibition live and work in the UK). Reflecting the international character of the UK painting scene, the participating artists come from a diverse range of backgrounds and nationalities: over a third of the participating artists were born in other places, including countries in Africa, Asia, South America and North America. *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* is also the first survey of contemporary painting in the Hayward Gallery's history in which the majority of the artists are women.

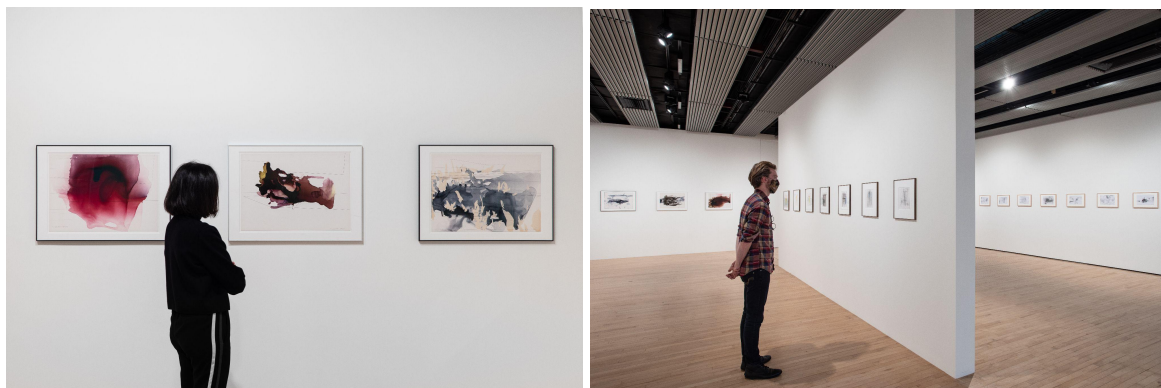
Above all, the paintings in this exhibition are resonantly ambiguous. These works invite viewers to recruit their own imaginations in working out different ways to interpret them, whilst often questioning how their social reception might shift among different audiences. Exploring fissures in conventional ways of looking and thinking, including our conceptions of gender, race and identity, they hint at different ways of thinking about the relationship between individual and collective identities, as well as between self and other.

This exhibition is generously supported by Rakuten Pay and the *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* Exhibition Supporters Group: David Zwirner, The Roden Family, Stephen Friedman Gallery, Thaddaeus Ropac, Thomas Dane Gallery, Michael G. and C. Jane Wilson, and those who wish to remain anonymous; with additional support from Roland and Jane Cowan.

The exhibition catalogue has been made possible with the support of J&M Donnelly, Alexander V. Petalas and Art of Palm collection.

Please find the full press release for *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* [HERE](#) and installation imagery [HERE](#).

## ***Gerhard Richter: Drawings 1999-2021***



Installation views of Gerhard Richter Drawings, 1999-2021 at Hayward Gallery, 2021 © Gerhard Richter, 2021. Photo Rob Harris

From 9 September to 12 December 2021, Hayward Gallery's HENI Project Space will present the most extensive exhibition of Gerhard Richter's drawings ever shown in the UK. Over the course of a career that has spanned six decades, Richter has been widely acknowledged as one of the most influential contemporary artists in the world.

Featuring 68 works on paper made between 1999 and 2021, the exhibition offers a rare opportunity to explore this intimate aspect of Richter's artistic practice. It includes several new series of drawings, created during a rich period of experimentation for the artist during 2020 and the beginning of 2021. This will be Richter's first presentation in a major London gallery since his retrospective exhibition, *Gerhard Richter: Panorama*, at Tate Modern in 2011.

The exhibition includes groups of drawings that feature varied markings in graphite and coloured pencil. In a set of rarely-seen painterly works created using coloured inks, the fluidity and unpredictability of the pools of ink - in some cases reaching right to the edges of the paper - are counterbalanced and anchored by structures of graphic lines, contrasting organic and systematic forms of abstraction. Inks have played an important role in the development of Richter's art: his earliest known works, a series of monotypes titled *Elbe* made in 1957, were also the result of experimentation with the fluid nature of ink on paper.

In addition, the exhibition includes a series of overpainted photographs, in which snapshots of a woodland are obscured by layers of paint. Demonstrating similar scraping and smearing techniques that Richter employs in his abstract paintings, these works reveal links between the two mediums, while expanding the notion of what might be considered 'drawing'.

*Gerhard Richter: Drawings, 1999 –2021* is organised in conjunction with HENI.

Please find the full press release for *Gerhard Richter: Drawings 1999-2021* [HERE](#) and installation imagery [HERE](#).

# ENDS #

Link to *Mixing It Up: Painting Today* web page [HERE](#)

Link to *Gerhard Richter: Drawings, 1999-2021* web page [HERE](#)

**Listings information:**

***Mixing It Up: Painting Today***

09 September – 12 December 2021

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

**Full price standard:** £12

Concessions available & Southbank Centre Members go free.

***Gerhard Richter: Drawings, 1999-2021***

09 September - 12 December 2021

HENI Project Space, Hayward Gallery, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX  
Free

**Further listings information:**

**Thursday 30 September**

**Teachers' Twilight Mixing it Up: Painting Today**

Primary, secondary, and SEND teachers are invited to explore the exhibition and discuss with the Schools Team at Southbank Centre how to make the most of the exhibition with their classes.

**Hayward Gallery; 5-7pm; free, ticketed**

**Friday 22 October**

**Mixing It Up: Panel Discussion 1**

This panel discussion with Somaya Critchlow, Rachel Jones and Matthew Krishanu will explore how artists make use of painting's particular characteristics, as well as its storied history, to open up the possible meanings of images, and to create works that revisit and reformulate personal and collective desires and identities.

**Level 5 Function Room, Royal Festival Hall; 7pm; £7**

**Wednesday 3 November**

**Mixing It Up: Panel Discussion 2**

This panel discussion with Allison Katz, Caragh Thuring, Issy Wood and Vivien Zhang, moderated by Ralph Rugoff, will explore the way that painters treat the canvas as a site of assemblage, a landing pad where references converge from diverse territories and time periods to create deeply ambiguous, composite images.

**Level 5 Function Room, Royal Festival Hall; 7pm; £7**

**Saturday 13 November**

**Michael Newman: Gerhard Richter's Drawings**

Join art historian and writer Michael Newman in the gallery for a discussion of Gerhard Richter's drawings.

**HENI Project Space, Hayward Gallery, 3pm; FREE, Limited capacity, first come first served**

### **Wednesday 17 November**

#### **Primary Schools Morning**

A special morning reserved exclusively for primary schools to explore the exhibition at their own pace with our Hello Hayward schools resources, and to meet an exhibition curator to find out more.

**Hayward Gallery; 11am-1pm; free, ticketed**

### **Thursday 18 November**

#### **Secondary Schools Morning**

A special morning reserved exclusively for secondary schools to meet an exhibition curator and explore the exhibition at their own pace.

**Hayward Gallery; 11am-1pm; free, ticketed**

#### **The Hayward Gallery new opening times:**

11am – 7pm, Wednesday - Saturday

10am – 6pm, Sunday

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Further information:

[www.southbankcentre.co.uk](http://www.southbankcentre.co.uk) / [customer@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:customer@southbankcentre.co.uk)

Online pre-booking is essential for *Mixing It Up: Painting Today*, including Southbank Centre Members and members of the press. ID may be requested on arrival for discounted tickets.

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

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/haywardgallery/](https://www.facebook.com/haywardgallery/)

#### **Complimentary press tickets:**

**Journalists planning to cover the exhibition will need to contact the Southbank Centre press office to arrange a ticket in advance.**

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **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, Martin Creed, Antony Gormley, Tracey Emin, Andy Warhol, Ed Ruscha, Jeremy Deller, Anish Kapoor, René Magritte, Francis Bacon and David Shrigley, as well as influential group exhibitions such as Africa Remix, Light Show, Psycho Buildings and Space Shifters. Opened by Her Majesty, The Queen 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 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).



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