



# ART PERSPECTIVE

FROM 22 JERMYN STREET

*Londoners and visitors to the Capital alike are spoilt with the quality of exhibitions. Museums and galleries are organizing exhibitions of some of the greatest Masters in the history of art ... from the Renaissance to the Contemporary. Below is a list of some of the interesting and some blockbuster exhibitions worth seeing in the future. But please check ARTFUL IDEAS for more of what's on in the Capital.*

## **Constable Portraits : The Painter and His Circle**

*National Portrait Gallery* 5 March – 14 June

This exhibition will explore the life and the works of John Constable and for the first time focus on his portraits. Images of the artist himself will be shown alongside his portraits of friends and family, interspersed with Constable's beautiful landscape paintings of the area surrounding his home. Collectively, they will provide a fascinating study of his environment, influences and way of life.

## **Kuniyoshi**

*(from the Arthur R. Miller Collection)*

*The Royal Academy* 21 March - 7 June

Utagawa Kuniyoshi is considered one of the greatest Japanese artists who, alongside Katsushika Hokusai and Utagawa Hiroshige, dominated 19<sup>th</sup> century printmaking in Japan. Featuring over 150 works, the exhibition will present Kuniyoshi as a master of imaginative design and reveal his most inventive representations including his ingenious use of the triptych.

## **Summer Exhibition 2009**

*The Royal Academy* 8 June - 16 Aug

One of the founding principles of the Royal Academy of Arts was to 'mount an annual exhibition open to all artists of distinguished merit' to finance the training of young artists in the RA Schools. Now known as the Summer Exhibition and held every year without interruption since 1769, the exhibition attracts around 10,000 works, the selection being carried out by Academicians chaired by the President.

## **Futurism**

*Tate Modern* June 12 – September 20

This exhibition will represent a significant revision of the accepted understanding of this major Italian movement and will return it to the central position it occupied in the avant-garde of the years immediately preceding the First World War. Celebrating the centenary of Filippo Tommaso Marinetti's publication of the *Founding and First Manifesto of Futurism* in February 1909, the exhibition will be a major landmark and the first large-scale showing of Futurism in Britain in 30 years. At the heart of the exhibition lie works from the groundbreaking Futurist exhibition at the Galerie Bernheim in Paris that came to the Sackville Gallery in London in 1912. Artists featured will include Umberto Boccioni, Gino Severini, Carlo Carrà, Luigi Russolo, Giacomo Balla, Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, Sonia Delaunay, Robert Delaunay, Raymond Duchamp-Villon, Natalya Goncharova, Lyubov Popova, David Bomberg, Wyndham Lewis, Christopher Richard Wynne Nevinson and Jacob Epstein.

## **Per Kirkeby**

*Tate Modern* 17 June - 6 Sept

The Gallery will present a unique survey exhibition of works by Danish artist Per Kirkeby. Spanning the past four decades, it will explore the exceptional diversity of his work by focusing on key moments in his career. Having first risen to international prominence in the '80s with his large-scale semi-abstract paintings, Kirkeby has persistently resisted the notion of being tied down to any one medium or style, working instead as a painter, sculptor, architect, printmaker, draughtsman, filmmaker and writer. The exhibition will include his Pop-inspired sculptures of the 1960s, a series of lesser-known blackboard works as well as the monumental canvases he is best known for.

## **BP Portrait Award 2009**

*National Portrait Gallery* 18 June - 20 Sept

The Portrait Award is now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year at the Gallery and the 20<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship by BP. It's the most prestigious portrait competition in the world, highlighting the very best in contemporary portrait painting. The competition and resulting exhibition aim to encourage artists to focus upon and develop the theme of portraiture in their work.

## **J.W. Waterhouse : The Modern Pre-Raphaelite**

*The Royal Academy*

27 June — 13 Sept

This major retrospective of Pre-Raphaelite artist, John William Waterhouse, will feature over 40 paintings together with sketchbooks and drawings from public and private collections worldwide. You will see how Waterhouse's paintings reflect his engagement with contemporary issues ranging from medievalism and the classical heritage to spiritualism and the New Woman. Born the year the Pre-Raphaelites declared their rebellion against the Royal Academy, Waterhouse also inherited their taste for Tennyson, Keats, and Shakespeare, and drew from classical myth as interpreted by Homer and Ovid.

## **Corot to Monet**

*National Gallery*

July 8 – 20 September

The Impressionists were indebted to a long tradition of sketching and painting outdoors. This exhibition will chart the development of open-air landscape painting up to the first Impressionist exhibition in 1874. Drawing on the Gallery's rich collection of 19<sup>th</sup> century French landscapes, it will feature all the major artists of this genre. It will open with scenes by Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot, Simon Denis and Pierre Henri Valenciennes. They were among artists who gathered in Rome in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, setting out to paint picturesque locations in the Campagna outside the city. A major part of the exhibition will then focus on the work of the Barbizon School, demonstrating how painters such as Théodore Rousseau, Jean François Millet and Narcisse-Virgilio Diaz de la Peña, captured their native scenery to great effect. It will trace the tangible influence these works had on the Impressionists as they began exploring new techniques. Monet's *The Beach at Trouville* and other early works will be displayed alongside the beach scenes of Eugène Boudin and late works by Corot.

## **Turner and the Masters**

*Tate Britain*

23 Sept - 24 Jan 2010

This exhibition will juxtapose Turner's greatest paintings alongside works by old masters and contemporaries that he hoped to imitate, rival and surpass. It will be the first exhibition to explore how Turner's responses to other artists were both acts of homage and a sophisticated form of art criticism, designed to demonstrate his understanding of great art and his ability to equal and even outshine the most celebrated exponents of the landscape tradition. Featuring around 100 works, the exhibition will include paintings by Claude, Canaletto, Ruisdael, Van de Velde, Poussin, Rubens, Rembrandt, Constable, Bonington and many others known by Turner at first hand. It will reveal the artist's debts and rivalries in an exciting and often unpredictable way and will re-establish Turner's reputation as the greatest painter of landscape in the European tradition.

## **Beyond Bloomsbury : Designs of The Omega Workshops 1913–19**

*The Courtauld Gallery*

18 June - 20 Sept

Established in 1913 by the painter and influential art critic Roger Fry, the Omega Workshops were an experimental design collective, whose members included Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and other artists of the Bloomsbury Group. Initially set up to help struggling young artists make a living, they brought the radical language of avant-garde art to domestic design in Edwardian Britain. They were a laboratory of design ideas, creating a range of objects for the home, from rugs and linens to ceramics, furniture and clothing – all boldly coloured and patterned with dynamic abstract designs. No artist was allowed to sign their work, and everything produced by the Workshops bore only the Greek letter Ω (Omega).

## **The Sacred Made Real : Spanish Painting and Sculpture 1600-1700**

*National Gallery* 21 October – 24 January 2010

This exhibition will bring together paintings and painted wooden sculptures by the great Spanish realists of the 17th century. It will provide a reappraisal of the crucial role of these hyper-realist sculptures in the development of Spanish art. Providing a unique experience, sculpture and painting will be displayed side-by-side, this will be the first major exhibition to explore this relationship. Sculptures from this era were painstakingly carved from wood, gessoed and intricately polychromed (painted in many colours). Many were polychromed by Francisco Pacheco, who taught a generation of painters, including Velázquez and Cano. In addition to important canvases by Velázquez, Cano and Zurbarán, the exhibition will feature sculptures carved by Gregorio Fernández, Juan Martínez Montañés and Pedro de Mena, and polychromed by Francisco Pacheco and Alonso Cano.

## **Kienholz, 'Hoerengracht'**

*National Gallery*

18 November – 21 February 2010

*The Hoerengracht*, by American artists Ed and Nancy Kienholz, will transform the Sunley Room into a walk-through evocation of Amsterdam's red-light district. This highly polemical tableau explores a theme that has been investigated by artists over many centuries and echoes visual traditions well established within European art. Recalling in particular the Dutch masters of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, which are strongly represented in the Gallery, *The Hoerengracht* recreates the brick walls, glowing windows and mysterious doorways of Amsterdam's claustrophobic streets. At the same time, the half-dressed, garishly lit mannequins reveal a theatre of grim sociology, filled with the most vulgar, ugly and ramshackle aspects of society. Made in their Berlin studio, this was the last major piece made by the Kienholzes before Ed died in 1994. Their work remains a major reference point for contemporary artists such as Mike Kelly, Paul McCarthy, Mike Nelson and Damien Hirst.

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