

ARTIST ROOMS

Gerhard Richter

John Hansard Gallery
12 May–18 August 2018

#jhgRichter

John Hansard Gallery, part of University of Southampton, is pleased to present ARTIST ROOMS: Gerhard Richter as the opening exhibition of its new home in Studio 144, Southampton's Cultural Quarter.

Gerhard Richter is one of the world's most celebrated living artists. From 12 May to 18 August 2018, John Hansard Gallery will present a solo exhibition that includes significant examples selected from Richter's wide-ranging practice over the past five decades.

ARTIST ROOMS: Gerhard Richter is developed in association with ARTIST ROOMS and includes additional loans from Tate and Gerhard Richter's personal collection. This exhibition draws from ARTIST ROOMS, a touring collection of over 1,600 works of modern and contemporary art by more than 40 major artists. The collection is displayed across the UK through a touring programme, supported by Arts Council England, Art Fund and Creative Scotland.

The exhibition opens with a series of works where Richter experiments with abstraction and the impact of photographic and digital reproduction. A group of four large tapestries, *Abdu*, *Iblan*, *Musa*, and *Yusuf* (all 2009), are based on Richter's *Abstract Painting (724-4)* (1990). Each tapestry reproduces a quarter of the painting, mirroring it and repeating it four times to produce Rorschach-like visual suggestions.

Abstract Painting No. 439 (1978) is presented together with its original sketch, *Oil Sketch no.432/11* (1977), that Richter photographed, projected and reproduced as a careful facsimile, four times the size. With *Abstract Painting (809-3)* (1994), Richter has pressed, squeezed and scraped paint across the surfaces to form horizontal and vertical bands that are reminiscent of out of focus imagery and photographic motion blur.

Upstairs in the Gallery, *Mirror Painting (Grey, 735-2)*, *Corner Mirror, brown-blue (737-1, 737-2)*, *Corner Mirror, green-red (737-2 A, 737-2 B)* (all 1991), create a contemplative space where the viewer is reflected, silhouetted and brought into the picture plane. Corresponding with these, in *Self-Portrait, Three Times, 24.1.90* (1990) and *Self-Portrait Standing, Three Times, 17.3.1991* (1991) Richter brings himself into the frame through a series of ghosted self-portraits within overpainted photographs of his studio.

Abstract Painting (Silicate) (880-4), *Abstract Painting (Grey) (880-3)* (both 2002) and *Abstract Painting (Skin) (887-3)* (2004) continue with Richter's consideration of patterns, visual vibrations and neutral space. Examples of Richter's re-photographed works and editions behind glass, *14.Feb.45* (2002), *Mustang Squadron* (2005) and *September* (2009), further invite the viewer into the picture plane, becoming implicit within the history represented.

48 Portraits (1971-91) is a series of photographic facsimiles of black and white paintings of famous white men from the 18th and 19th centuries that Richter created for the German Pavilion at the 36th Venice Biennale in 1972. For its presentation at John Hansard Gallery, a series of 12 conversations by leading women academics, will reflect on *48 Portraits* and consider the portraits missing from this history. John Hansard Gallery associate artist collective, Stair/Slide/Space will work directly with visitors to develop an alternative series of portraits, reflecting the rich diversity of Southampton and creating an alternative vision of history.

The exhibition culminates with a spectacular presentation of *4900 Colours* (2007) in the John Hansard Gallery's new seven-metre tall prism-shaped space that overlooks Southampton's Civic Centre and Guildhall Square below. *4900 Colours* is composed of 196 panels, each including 25 coloured squares. These panels are arranged from floor to ceiling in a manner that engulfs visitors in colour and corresponds with Richter's *Cologne Cathedral Window* (2007).

To accompany this exhibition, recent documentary films *Das Richter Fenster' [The Richter Window]* (Corinna Belz, 2011) and *Gerhard Richter Painting* (Corinna Belz, 2011) will be presented to give further insight into Richter's diverse work. There will be an audience engagement and learning programme of workshops, tours and talks running alongside the exhibition that will playfully explore Richter's practice and processes with participants, and SÓN, Southampton's professional orchestra, will present a series of musical interventions and responses to Richter's works.

ARTIST ROOMS: Gerhard Richter is curated by Woodrow Kernohan (Director, John Hansard Gallery) and Ros Carter (Head of Programme and Senior Curator, John Hansard Gallery) with Nadia Thondrayen (Exhibitions Curator, John Hansard Gallery).

For more information, please contact:

Jack Lewis, Communications Co-ordinator,
John Hansard Gallery
J.W.Lewis@soton.ac.uk
+44 (0)23 8059 2477

Notes to Editors

John Hansard Gallery

John Hansard Gallery is an internationally recognised and locally engaged contemporary art gallery in Southampton. Being part of the University of Southampton, the Gallery aims to change the world for the better through great art. To realise this the Gallery creates innovative and critically acclaimed contemporary art exhibitions, events, engagement and research projects that excite, challenge, represent and reach the widest possible public audience. Since being established in 1979 the Gallery has been located on the University's Highfield Campus. In 2018 the Gallery will relocate to the new purpose-built arts complex Studio 144 in Southampton's city centre, significantly increasing the space available for exhibitions, events and integrated programming. Learning and engagement are at the heart of the Gallery and underpin all its activities. The innovative education and public programme is accompanied by special community-focused projects, including activities for all ages and levels of experience. John Hansard Gallery is supported using public funding as a National Portfolio Organisation by Arts Council England
www.jhg.art

University of Southampton

The University of Southampton is one of the UK's leading teaching and research institutions, with a global reputation for research and scholarship across a wide range of subjects. The University combines academic excellence with an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to research, supporting a culture that engages and challenges students and staff in their pursuit of learning.
www.southampton.ac.uk

Arts at University of Southampton: Inspiring arts and culture for everyone

Arts at University of Southampton offers a wealth of inspiring cultural experiences and opportunities, showcasing emerging talent and renowned international artists. From visual arts, music and literature, to theatre and film, there's something for everyone.

The University of Southampton has rich heritage and long-standing commitment to arts and culture as an essential part of university life. The University is proud of its unique relationship with three Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations. The Nuffield Theatre opened at its Highfield Campus in 1964 and was joined by the

University's concert hall Turner Sims and John Hansard Gallery in the 1970s.

Sculpture by leading UK and international artists is displayed at Highfield and Boldrewood Campuses and exhibitions takes place at the Hartley Library's Special Collections Gallery. The University's Arts and Humanities departments present regular free public activity at its campuses and across Southampton and Winchester. The University is committed to fostering new talent and the University's Students' Union SUSU supports over 40 performing arts societies which host regular public events.

The relocation of the John Hansard Gallery to its new purpose-built home in the heart of the city's Cultural Quarter increases the University of Southampton's presence in that area, close to its Mayflower Halls and administrative offices in Guildhall Square. The opening of Studio 144 symbolises an extraordinary moment for Southampton and the University will be working closely with John Hansard Gallery, City Eye and NST to deepen public engagement, to share its research and present inspiring and accessible cultural opportunities for all.

www.southampton.ac.uk/arts

Studio 144

Studio 144, Southampton's ambitious new venue for theatre, visual art and film, opens in 2018 at the heart of the city's burgeoning Cultural Quarter. Its opening brings three acclaimed arts organisations – City Eye, John Hansard Gallery and Nuffield Southampton Theatres – together for public audiences in the heart of the city centre for the first time.

ARTIST ROOMS

ARTIST ROOMS is a touring collection of over 1,600 works of modern and contemporary art. The collection is displayed across the UK in solo exhibitions that showcase the work of more than 40 major artists, and this touring programme gives young people the chance to get involved in creative projects, discover more about art and learn new skills. Since 2009, 40 million people have visited more than 150 displays at over 75 museums and galleries.

ARTIST ROOMS is jointly owned by the National Galleries of Scotland and Tate. The collection was established through The d'Offay Donation in 2008, with the assistance of the National Heritage Memorial Fund, Art Fund, and the Scottish and British Governments. The current ARTIST ROOMS touring programme is delivered by the National

Galleries of Scotland and Tate in a partnership with Ferens Art Gallery until 2019, supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England, Art Fund and by the National Lottery through Creative Scotland. www.nationalgalleries.org/artistrooms | www.tate.org.uk/artist-rooms | www.artistrooms.org | [#ARTISTROOMS](https://twitter.com/ARTISTROOMS)

Arts Council England

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2015 and 2018, we plan to invest £1.1 billion of public money from government and an estimated £700 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

www.artscouncil.org.uk

Art Fund

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. In the past five years alone Art Fund has given £34 million to help museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections. It also helps museums share their collections with wider audiences by supporting a range of tours and exhibitions, including ARTIST ROOMS and the 2013–18 Aspire tour of Tate's Salisbury Cathedral from the Meadows by John Constable, and makes additional grants to support the training and professional development of curators. Find out more about Art Fund and the National Art Pass www.artfund.org

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com. Follow us [@creativescots](https://twitter.com/creativescots) and www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland

The ARTIST ROOMS collection is shared across the UK through



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