

Fortress House.

Rothschild & Co.

Hosted  
Exhibition.

# Welcome.

**At Rothschild & Co, we believe that art is far more than an aesthetic experience. It is a catalyst for dialogue and a vital ingredient in fostering broad cultural exchange.**

By creating platforms for artistic discovery and discourse, we aim to enrich our environment and inspire the communities we serve.

In this spirit, we are proud to present selected works from Fortress House, a distinguished international private collection generously shared with us.

Built over the past four years, the Fortress House collection comprises more than 250 works dating from 1970 to the present day, with a strong focus on Western artists from the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States.

From its inception, the collection has embraced a progressive vision, prioritizing acquisitions of works by female artists and increasingly incorporating voices from the Gulf region, North Africa, South Asia, and the diaspora. This global perspective reflects an evolving conversation between cultures and identities.

The works selected for this exhibition engage with themes that resonate deeply today: the individual's relationship with society, the pressures that shape identity, and questions of gender politics and representation.

They also confront human frailty and mortality, while drawing on art historical frameworks such as Feminism, Expressionism, and Surrealism, which bind the collection together.

These threads create a compelling narrative about how artists respond to the complexities of contemporary life.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the lenders for enabling these exceptional encounters.

We hope you enjoy this special hosted exhibition in our premises and thank you for joining us in celebrating the power of art to challenge, provoke, and inspire.

**GIOVANNA LAGUTAINE**

Managing Director

**JONATHAN LEVY**

Art Expert & Curator

# Fortress House.

**We are grateful to Rothschild & Co for their generous invitation to host an exhibition drawn from the Fortress House collection.**

The collection has been assembled with great focus by a single principal over the past four years. From the outset, our primary point of interest has been the human body: as an object of desire, a Surreal spectacle or site of resistance.

Building on a longstanding tradition in art history, the male gaze has directed many of the collection's acquisitions. Nowhere is this more overt than in the work of R. Crumb, who confesses and satirises desire with obsessive drawings of the female figure.

In response, and to a much greater degree, Fortress House has acquired works which

articulate the Feminist replies to the male gaze, including, for example, works from each decade of Kiki Smith's oeuvre. Among others, the Fortress House collection also features seminal works by Ida Applebroog, Belkis Ayón, Anne Collier, Sylvie Fleury, Koak, Ella Kruglyanskaya, Linder, Paula Rego, Cindy Sherman, Alina Szapocznikow, Sophie Thun and Gillian Wearing.

Other currents and tendencies are also present in this exhibition, including the predilection for portraiture and works addressing the human condition. The figure is predominant, but not exclusively so. A monumental work by Thomas Struth celebrates scientific ingenuity and the human ambition to make sense of the universe.

There is a noted Western bias with most works by artists from the UK, Europe or USA. In building

the Fortress House Collection, we ensured acquisitions are weighted towards female artists as a natural corrective to male dominated collections in public institutions.

More recently, the focus of the Fortress House collection has been on artists from the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. This has evolved quite organically and extends well established themes within the collection while also opening avenues to new ones - especially identity.

We welcome you to the exhibition and hope you enjoy each work as much as we do.

**HENRY LITTLE**

Director, Fortress House



Ground Floor.



**Thomas Struth**  
*ALICE, CERN, Saint Genis-Pouilly 2019*, 2019

Inkjet print  
Edition 6 of 6  
270.8 x 230 cm

Thomas Struth uses photography to examine social, cultural, and technological structures that shape contemporary life.

In rigorously composed images he invites sustained looking to reveal systems of power and beauty in everyday situations and institutional environments.

# Thomas Struth.

German (b. 1954). Lives and works in Berlin and New York.



**Kiki Smith**  
*Mary Magdalene*, 1994

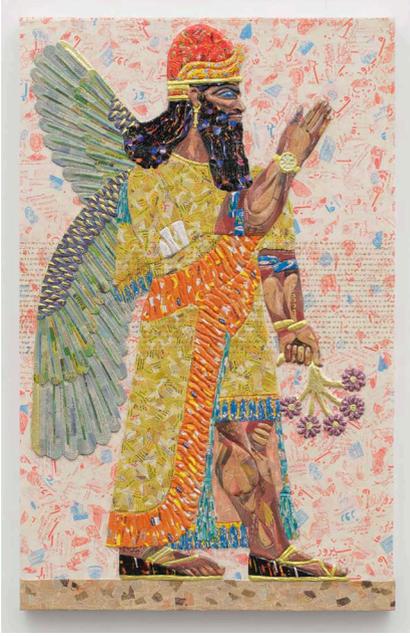
Cast silicon bronze and forged steel  
Edition 3 of 3  
152.4 x 52.1 x 54.6 cm

Kiki Smith explores the human condition through sculpture, drawing, printmaking, and installation.

Her work often engages themes of the body, nature, and spirituality, combining visceral materiality with poetic symbolism to probe intimate themes of vulnerability and resilience.

# Kiki Smith.

German-American (b. 1954). Lives and works in New York.



**Michael Rakowitz**  
*The invisible enemy should not exist (Room Z, Northwest Palace of Nimrud) Z-b-1, 2018*

Middle eastern food packaging and newspaper with glue on wooden structures

237.5 x 150 x 10 cm

Michael Rakowitz creates sculptural installations that recover lost histories and confront the politics of displacement.

Working with everyday materials and collaborative processes, he reanimates cultural artifacts and narratives erased by war, migration, and colonialism.

# Michael Rakowitz.

American (b. 1973). Lives and works in Chicago.



**Gillian Wearing**  
*Me as Artemisia Gentileschi, 2023*

Framed c-type print  
Edition 6 of 6 + 2 aps

162 x 123.2 x 3.8 cm (framed)

Gillian Wearing uses photography, video, and installation to explore identity, performance, and the tension between public and private selves.

Her work often invites participation, revealing how both literal and metaphorical masks shape the way we present and perceive truth.

# Gillian Wearing.

British (b. 1963). Lives and works in London.



Oliver Laric  
*Oceanus*, 2023

3D printed aluminium (Selective Laser Melting),  
SLS Nylon, paint, aluminium plinth  
This work is unique

153 x 93 x 55 cm

Oliver Laric investigates authorship, originality, and the fluidity of images across time and media.

Through sculpture, video, and digital platforms, he reconfigures historical forms and contemporary visual culture to question how meaning shifts through reproduction and transformation.

# Oliver Laric.

Austrian (b. 1981). Lives and works in Vienna.



# Atrium.



Sylvie Fleury  
*You Got the Silver*, 2023  
Fiberglass, car paint, jacket  
95 x 50 x 34 cm

Sylvie Fleury blends pop culture, fashion, and art history to probe themes of desire, consumerism, and gender codes.

Through sculpture, installation, and mixed media, her work transforms luxury objects and iconic symbols into sharp commentaries on value and identity.

# Sylvie Fleury.

Swiss (b. 1961). Lives and works in Geneva.



Anne Collier  
*Photographer*, 2021  
C-print  
Edition of 5 + 2 APs  
189.2 x 149.9 cm

Anne Collier uses photography to examine the circulation of images and the mechanics of looking.

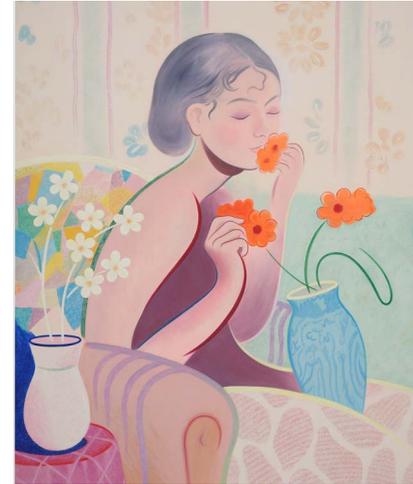
Her work isolates found photographs, album covers, and printed ephemera, reframing them to expose cultural codes and the psychology of vision.

# Anne Collier.

American (b. 1970). Lives and works in New York.



# Room 4.1



Koak  
*Communion*, 2025

Flashe, acrylic, and chalk from seven sisters on canvas

141 x 106.7 cm

Koak creates paintings and drawings that explore vulnerability, intimacy, and the complexities of identity.

Her figurative works combine fluid line and layered color to evoke psychological depth, often balancing strength and fragility within the human form.

# Koak.

American (b. 1983). Lives and works in San Francisco.



Nick Goss  
*Balcony, 2022*

Distemper, oil and screen print  
on linen

140 x 210 cm

Nick Goss creates paintings that merge memory, observation, and imagination into layered, atmospheric compositions.

His work often draws on personal and historical narratives, combining figuration and abstraction to evoke places and moments that feel both familiar and elusive.

# Nick Goss.

British (b. 1981). Lives and works in London.



Souad Abdelrassoul  
*Half a Dream Room, 2025*

Acrylic on canvas

104 x 189 x 4 cm

Souad Abdelrassoul creates paintings and mixed-media works that weave together mythology, nature, and the human body.

Her practice explores transformation and interconnectedness, using organic forms and symbolic imagery to evoke narratives of identity and belonging.

# Souad Abdelrassoul.

Egyptian (b. 1974). Lives and works in Cairo.



Corridor.



**Alexandria Smith**  
*an accumulation of many tomorrows, 2022*

Mixed media on paper in artist frame

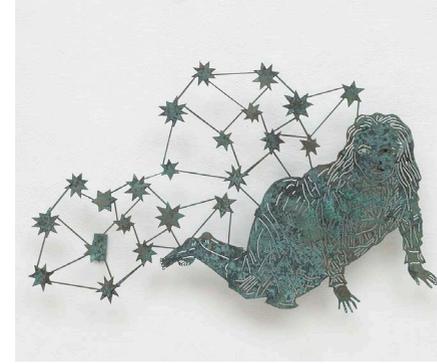
29.2 x 41.9 cm

Alexandria Smith creates paintings and mixed-media works that explore memory, identity, and transformation.

Her layered, fragmented compositions combine figuration and abstraction to evoke personal and collective narratives, often centering on Black womanhood.

# Alexandria Smith.

American (b. 1981). Lives and works in London.



**Kiki Smith**  
*Girl with Stars, 2004*

Bronze  
Edition 3 of 3 plus 1 AP

44.4 x 75.6 cm x 5.1 cm

Kiki Smith explores the human condition through sculpture, drawing, printmaking, and installation.

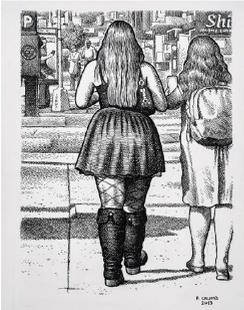
Her work often engages themes of the body, nature, and spirituality, combining visceral materiality with poetic symbolism to probe intimate themes of vulnerability and resilience.

# Kiki Smith.

German-American (b. 1954). Lives and works in New York.



**R. Crumb**  
*Untitled (Page from Art & Beauty Magazine, Number 2, 2003), 2002*  
Ink and correction fluid on paper  
35.5 x 28 cm



**R. Crumb**  
*Untitled (Page from Art & Beauty Magazine, Number 3, 2016), 2013*  
Ink and correction fluid on paper  
31.8 x 24.1 cm



**R. Crumb**  
*Untitled (Page from Art & Beauty Magazine, Number 3, 2016), 2015*  
Ink and correction fluid on paper  
32.4 x 24.7 cm

R. Crumb is a pioneering cartoonist whose work blends biting social critique with raw, idiosyncratic imagery.

Through comics and drawings, he exposes cultural absurdities and personal obsessions, creating a body of work that is both deeply satirical and intensely autobiographical.

# R. Crumb.

American (b. 1943). Lives and works in France.



**Caitlin Keogh**  
*Running Doggerel (Part 9), 2022*  
Acrylic on canvas  
182.9 x 137.2 cm



**Caitlin Keogh**  
*Running Doggerel (Part 10), 2022*  
Acrylic on canvas  
182.9 x 137.2 cm



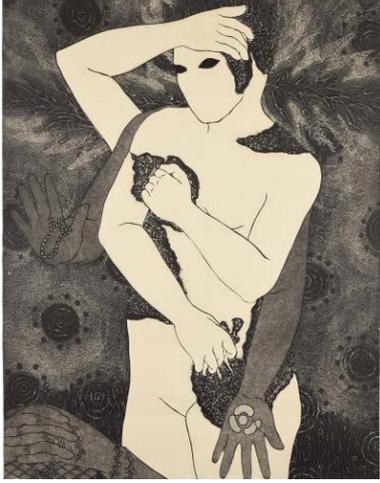
**Caitlin Keogh**  
*Running Doggerel (Part 11), 2022*  
Acrylic on canvas  
182.9 x 137.2 cm

Caitlin Keogh creates paintings and works on paper that explore language, ornament, and the body through a precise, graphic sensibility.

Her compositions often reference fashion, illustration, and art history, weaving visual and textual elements into layered narratives of identity and desire.

# Caitlin Keogh.

American (b. 1984). Lives and works in New York.



**Belkis Ayón**  
*¿Arrepentida? (Repentant?)*, 1994  
Collograph on paper  
Edition 4 of 6  
93.3 x 67.6 cm

Belkis Ayón created large-scale, monochromatic collograph prints that explored the secretive Abakuá society and its mythologies.

Her work fused symbolic imagery and haunting figures to address themes of ritual, exclusion, and collective identity, often evoking a sense of mystery and silence.

# Belkis Ayón.

Cuban (1967–1999). Lived and worked in Havana.



**Alina Szapocznikow**  
*Autoportret II*, Conceived in 1966  
and cast in 2012  
Bronze  
Edition 4 of 7  
20 x 24.6 x 10.3 cm

Alina Szapocznikow created sculptures and objects that merge bodily forms with everyday materials, transforming fragments of the human figure into uncanny, sensual, and often unsettling hybrids.

Her work confronts themes of mortality, memory, and desire, using resin, bronze, and casts to evoke the vulnerability and resilience of life.

# Alina Szapocznikow.

Polish (1926–1973). Lived and worked in Paris.



Thomas Ruff  
*a.s.b. 01*, 2001  
Edition 2 of 5  
130 x 167.9 cm

Thomas Ruff uses photography to interrogate the nature of images in the digital age.

His work spans portraiture, architectural studies, and computer-generated compositions, challenging conventions of representation and exploring how technology reshapes perception and truth.

# Thomas Ruff.

German (b. 1958). Lives and works in Düsseldorf.



# Room 4.3



Van Hanos  
*The Tourists*, 2023  
Oil on linen  
64 x 51 cm

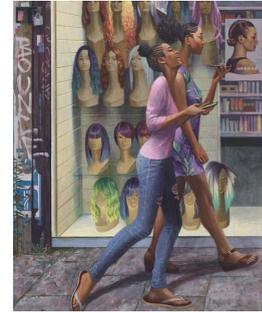
Van Hanos explores painting as a mutable language in an era saturated with images.

His practice spans photorealistic renderings, abstract compositions, and digitally influenced aesthetics, probing the tension between representation and perception.

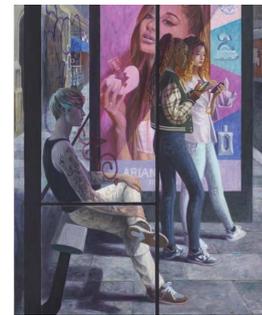
By shifting between styles and sources, Hanos reflects on how memory, technology, and cultural narratives shape the way we see and interpret reality.

# Van Hanos.

American (b. 1979). Lives and works in New York.



Benjamin Senior  
*Colour Play*, 2023  
Egg tempera on wood panel  
80 x 60 cm



Benjamin Senior  
*Thank U Next*, 2023  
Egg tempera on wood panel  
100 x 80 cm

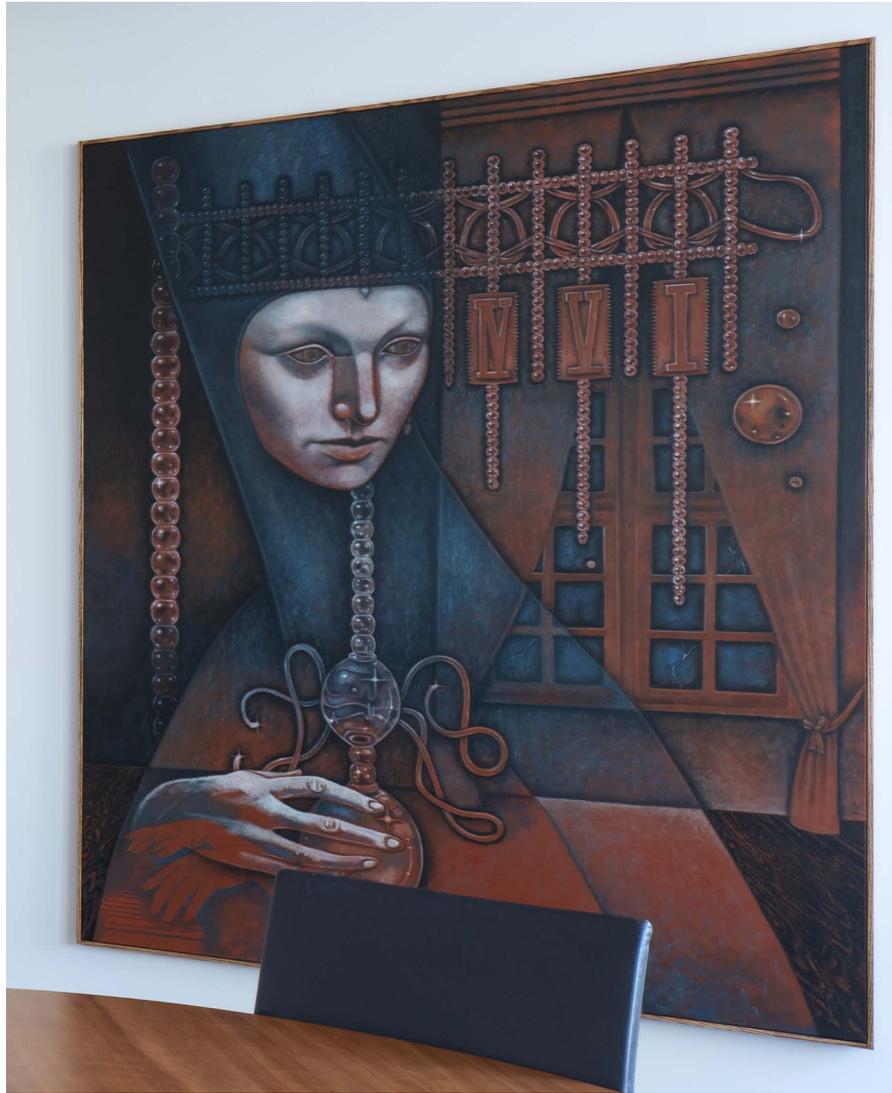
Benjamin Senior's paintings weave together figuration and pattern. He creates scenes where everyday leisure time activities become rhythmic compositions.

His meticulous surfaces and interplay of texture evoke both intimacy and design, exploring how bodies, space, and ornament coexist.

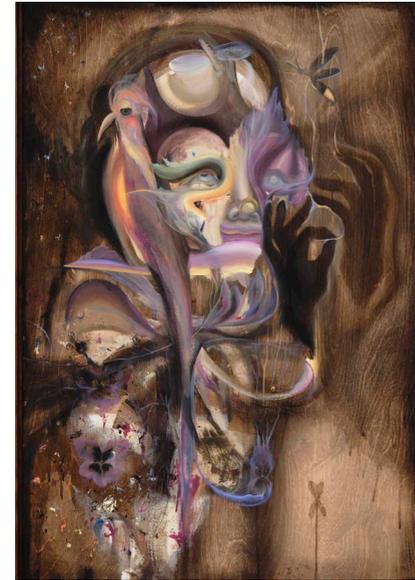
Senior's work reflects on perception and the constructed nature of pictorial harmony in contemporary painting.

# Benjamin Senior.

British (b. 1982). Lives and works in London.



# Room 4.4



Vicky Wright  
*Celestine*, 2023

Oil on panel with walnut frame

88 x 62 cm

Vicky Wright's paintings merge figuration with abstraction, often incorporating found wooden panels that carry traces of previous use.

Her layered surfaces evoke both archaeological depth and psychological tension, exploring how histories—personal, material, and cultural—are embedded in objects.

Wright's work interrogates the act of painting as a site where memory and matter converge.

# Vicky Wright.

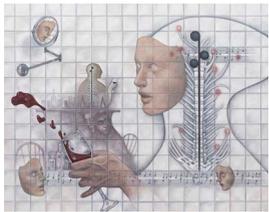
British (b. 1971). Lives and works in London.



Justin Fitzpatrick  
*The Glass Armonica (Dying at my music)*, 2024

Oil on linen, oak frame

180 x 140 cm



Justin Fitzpatrick  
*Memory of a birthday*, 2024

Oil on linen, oak frame

140 x 180 cm

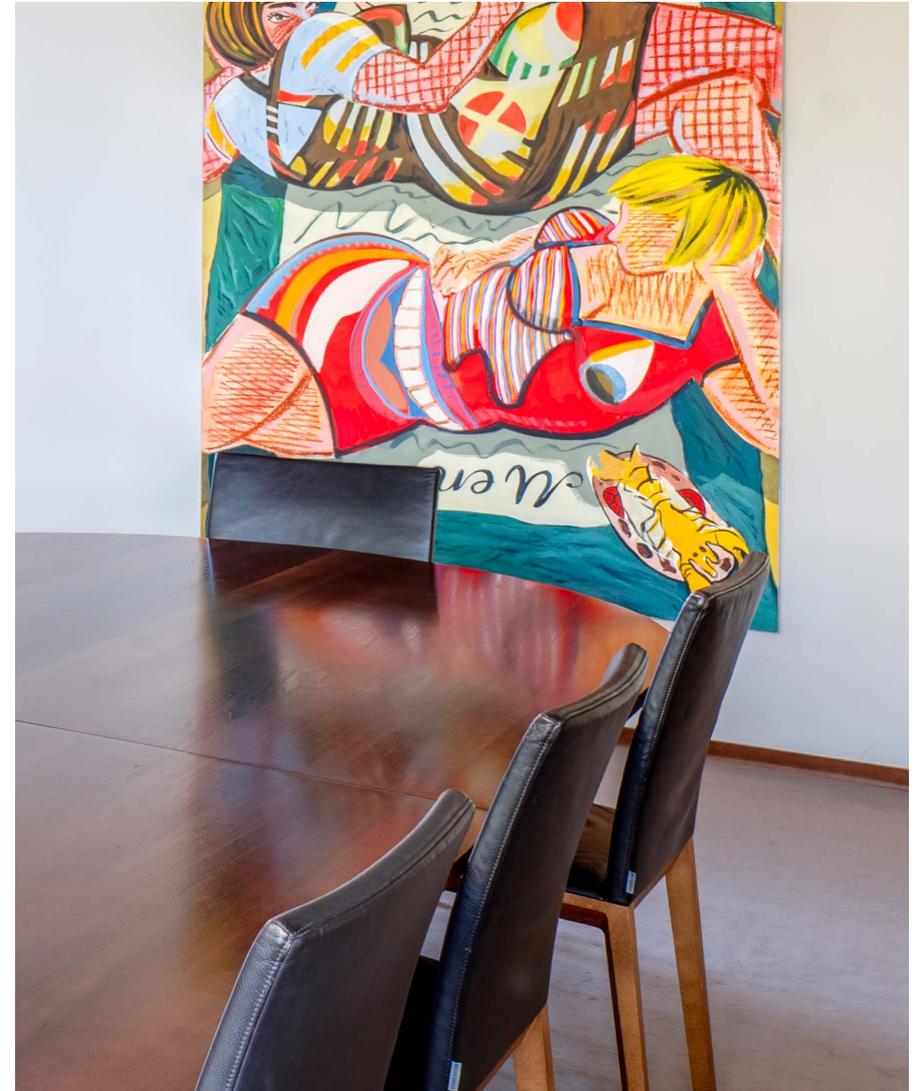
Justin Fitzpatrick's paintings and sculptural works combine surreal figuration with symbolic motifs, creating layered narratives that explore identity, desire, and cultural archetypes.

His compositions often juxtapose organic forms with architectural structures, evoking tension between the bodily and the constructed.

Through this interplay, Fitzpatrick examines how images mediate power, intimacy, and myth in contemporary visual culture.

# Justin Fitzpatrick.

British (b. 1985). Lives and works in London.



## Room 4.5



Linder  
*The Goddess Who is Permanent as Well as Temporary, 2020*

Lightbox  
Edition 1 of 3 + 1 AP  
80 x 63 x 6 cm

Linder is known for her pioneering use of photomontage, combining imagery from fashion, advertising, and erotica to critique gender norms and consumer culture.

Her work spans collage, performance, and installation, interrogating how images construct identity and desire.

Through sharp juxtapositions and layered symbolism, Linder exposes the tensions between beauty, power, and representation in contemporary society.

# Linder.

British (b. 1954). Lives and works in London.



Sara Cwynar  
*Doll Index, 1811-1950, 2023*

Archival pigment print mounted to aluminium  
Edition of 3 + 2APs  
222.3 x 152.4 cm

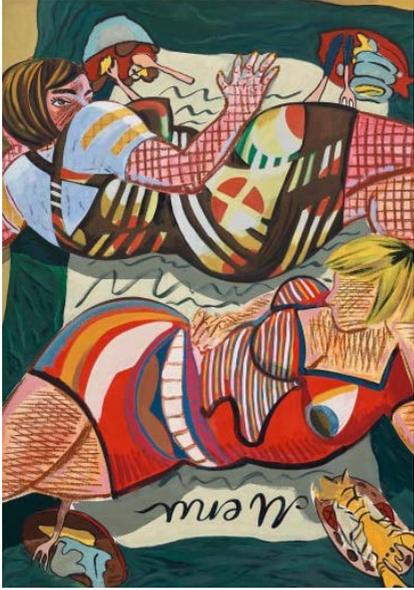
Sara Cwynar's work examines the circulation of images and objects in a consumer-driven, digital culture.

Through photography, collage and installation, she recontextualizes a range of found materials, from stock imagery to advertising, to reveal how beauty, value, and desire are constructed.

Cwynar's layered compositions probe the instability of meaning in an age of endless reproduction and mediated perception.

# Sara Cwynar.

Canadian (b. 1985). Lives and works in New York.



Ella Kruglyanskaya  
*Menu*, 2012

Signed and dated '2012 ELLA KRUGLYANSKAYA'  
(on the reverse)  
Oil and oilstick on canvas

198.1 x 142.2 cm

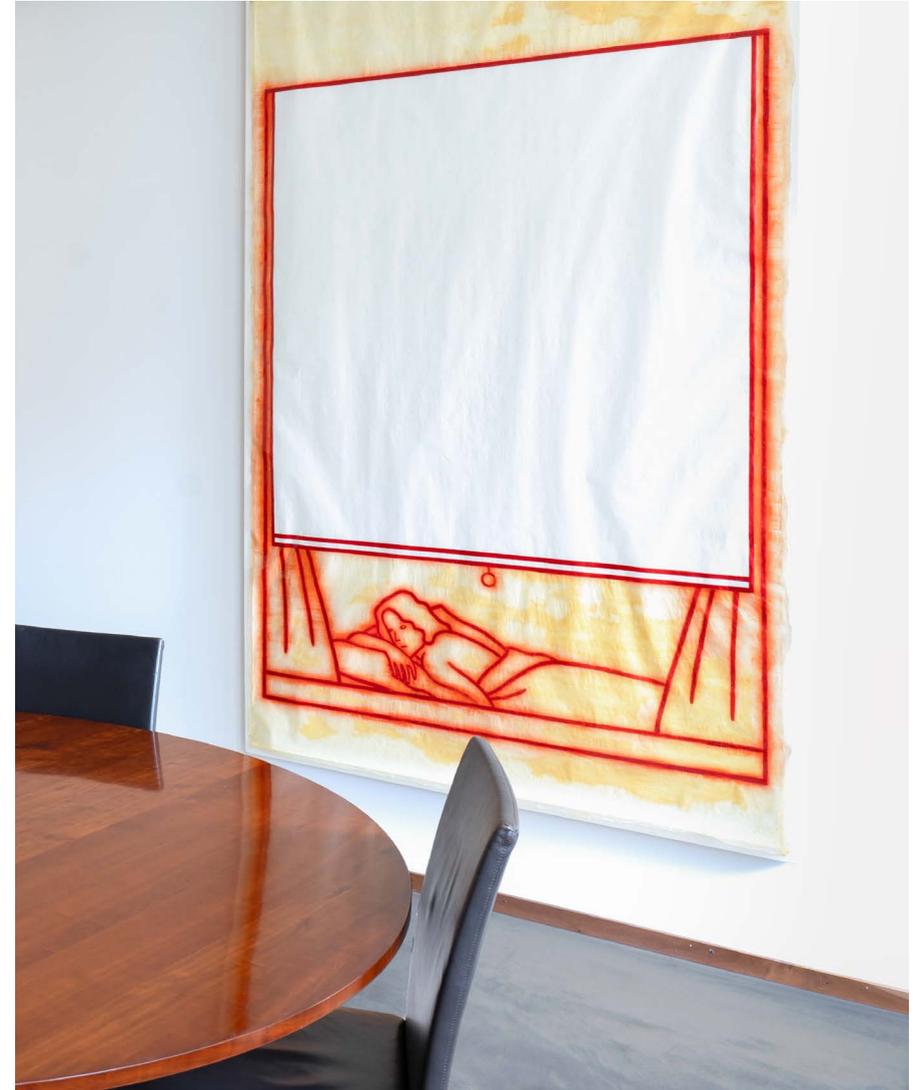
Ella Kruglyanskaya's paintings amplify the dynamics of gesture, expression, and social performance.

Her bold, graphic compositions often depict women in exaggerated poses, oscillating between humor and tension.

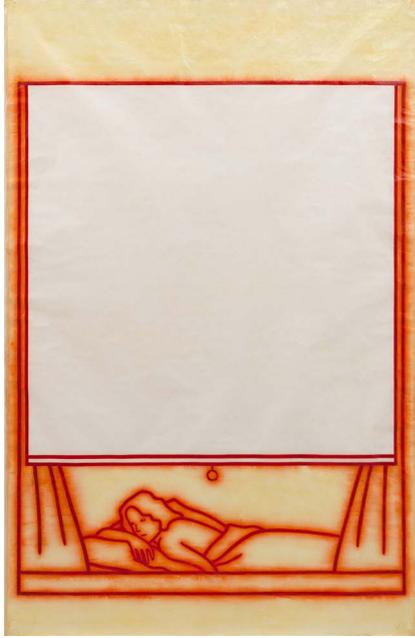
Drawing on art historical tropes and popular imagery, Kruglyanskaya explores how bodies communicate power, intimacy, and desire, transforming everyday scenes into charged theatrical spaces.

# Ella Kruglyanskaya.

Latvian (b. 1978). Lives and works in New York.



# Room 4.6



Ida Applebroog  
*Untitled (woman lying in bed)*, 1982  
Ink and Rhoplex on vellum mounted on canvas  
220.3 x 143.8 x 3.8 cm

Ida Applebroog's practice spans painting, drawing, and installation, confronting themes of power, gender, and domesticity.

Her work often employs serial imagery and text, creating fragmented narratives that expose the psychological and political structures underlying everyday life.

Through a language that moves between intimacy and critique, she examines how identity and authority are negotiated in both private and public spheres.

# Ida Applebroog.

American (b. 1929). Lives and works in New York.



Sophie Thun  
*Shifted (KJ MF MS AG F W LM AS EW)*, 2023  
Photograph and photogram on baryta paper in artist's frame  
95 x 112 cm

Sophie Thun's practice reclaims the photographic process as a site of self-reflection and labor.

Working primarily with analog techniques, she stages herself within the mechanics of image-making and exposes the physical and performative aspects of photography.

Thun's work interrogates authorship, visibility, and the materiality of the medium to challenge conventions of representation in an era dominated by digital immediacy.

# Sophie Thun.

Austrian (b. 1985). Lives and works in Berlin.



Cindy Sherman  
*Untitled Film Still #21*, 1978

Gelatin silver print  
Edition 2 of 3  
39.1 x 48.9 cm

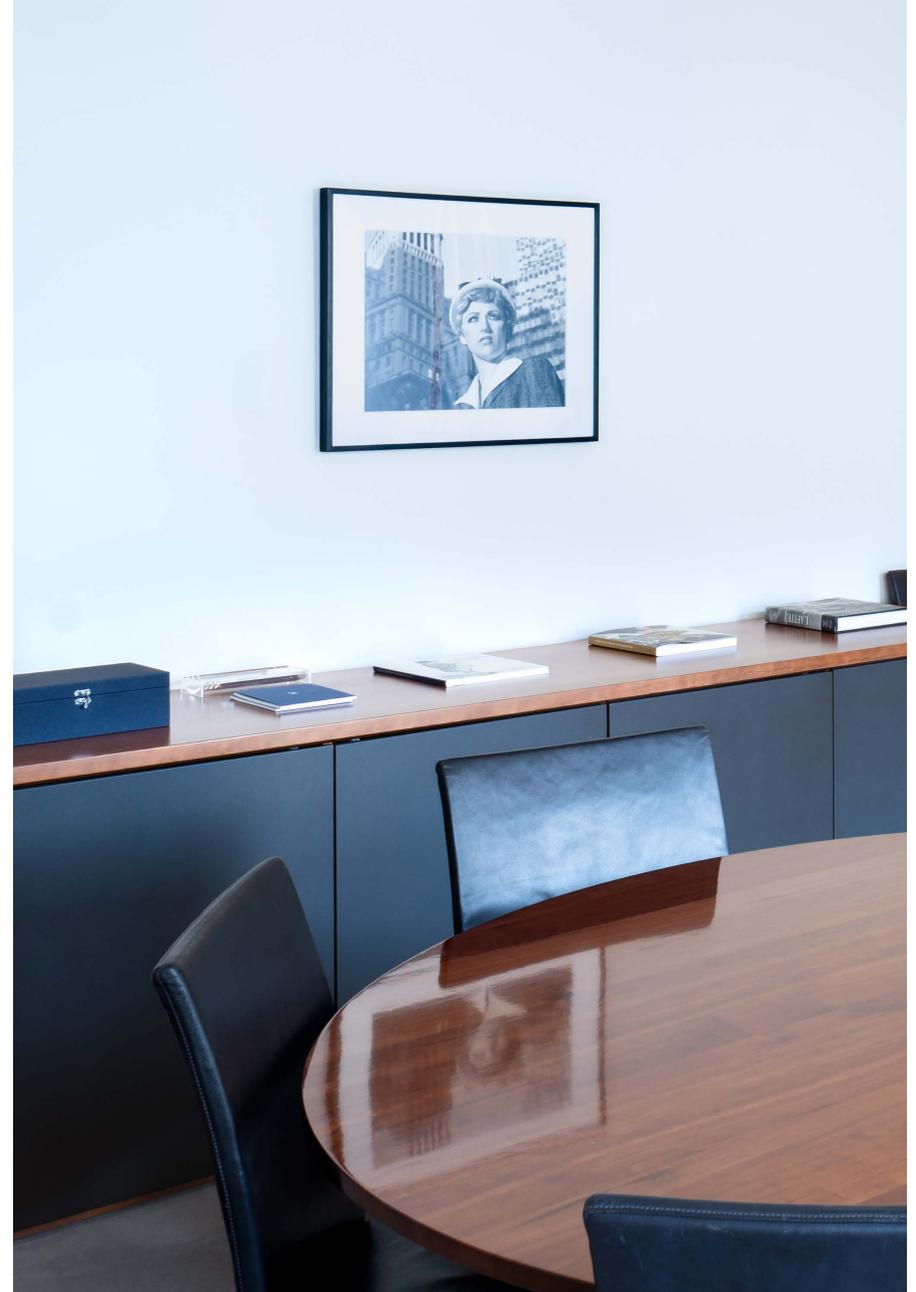
Cindy Sherman is renowned for her groundbreaking use of photography to explore identity, representation, and the construction of self.

Through staged portraits in which she transforms into various characters, Sherman interrogates cultural archetypes and the influence of media on gender and power.

Her work reveals the fluidity of persona and the performative nature of image-making in contemporary society.

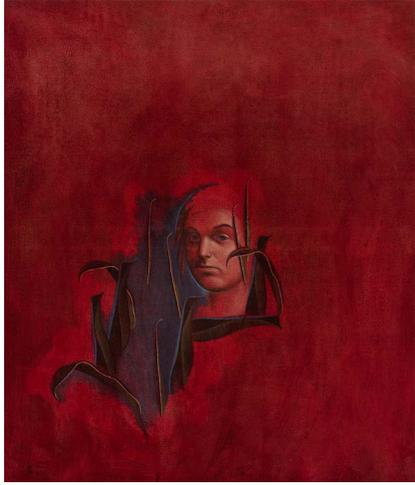
# Cindy Sherman.

American (b. 1954). Lives and works in New York.





Room 4.7



Oliver Osborne  
*Recent Painting (Thirteen Leaves)*, 2023

Oil on linen  
110 x 106 x 2.8 cm

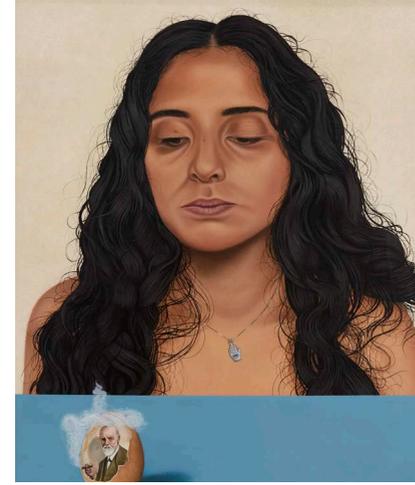
Oliver Osborne's practice combines painting and collage to explore the circulation of images and the layered nature of meaning.

He uses motifs found in cartoons or stock image libraries to create meticulously rendered compositions.

Throughout his work, Osborne examines how visual languages shift across contexts and reflects on themes of appropriation, perception, and the tension between high and low culture in contemporary art.

# Oliver Osborne.

British (b. 1985). Lives and works in London.



Glen Pudvine  
*Lucian with a Sigmund*, 2024

Oil on linen  
60 x 50 cm

Glen Pudvine's paintings fuse narrative ambiguity with a surreal sense of humor, often depicting figures in charged, dreamlike scenarios.

His work explores vulnerability, intimacy, and the absurd, using exaggerated gestures and unsettling juxtapositions to question social norms and emotional states.

Through this idiosyncratic approach, Pudvine creates images that oscillate between the familiar and the uncanny.

# Glen Pudvine.

British (b. 1989). Lives and works in London.



Lucian Freud  
*Kai*, 1991-92

Etching

Plate: 69.8 x 54.5 cm  
Sheet: 78.7 x 62.4 cm

Lucian Freud is celebrated for his uncompromising approach to figurative painting, focusing on the human body with intense psychological and physical scrutiny.

His portraits and nudes reveal flesh in all its vulnerability, often rendered through hard strokes and a visceral palette.

Freud's work unflinchingly examines identity and presence, transforming observation into a profound meditation on mortality and the materiality of life.

# Lucian Freud.

British (1922–2011). Lived and worked in London.



Paula Rego  
*Painting Him Out*, 2011

Pastel on paper

119.4 x 179.7 cm

Paula Rego's work combines narrative intensity with psychological depth, drawing on folklore, literature, and personal experience to explore themes of power, gender, and morality.

Her figurative compositions often stage unsettling scenarios, rendered with expressive detail that blurs the line between reality and imagination.

Through these charged tableaux, Rego interrogates social structures and the complexities of human desire and vulnerability.

# Paula Rego.

Portuguese (1935–2022). Lived and worked in London.



Boardroom.



Grayson Perry  
*Expulsion from Number 8*  
*Eden Close (from The Vanity of Small Differences)*, 2012

Wool, cotton, acrylic, polyester  
and silk tapestry  
Edition 6 of 6 + 2APs  
200 x 400 cm

Grayson Perry's multidisciplinary practice spans ceramics, textiles, and printmaking, blending traditional craft with incisive social commentary.

His works often feature vivid imagery and autobiographical elements, addressing themes of identity, class, and cultural norms with humor and provocation.

Through this interplay of ornament and critique, Perry challenges hierarchies of taste and explores the narratives that shape contemporary life.

# Grayson Perry.

British (b. 1960). Lives and works in London.

# Thank you.

