

LUCIAN FREUD Early Works 1940-1958

9 October - 12 December 2008



Dead Heron, 1945 © Lucian Freud

A major loan exhibition of early works by Lucian Freud (born 1922) will be held at Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert, 38 Bury Street, St James's, London SW1 from 9 October – 12 December 2008. The earliest paintings, from 1940, were completed when the artist was only 17. Many of the paintings in the exhibition are from private collections and not normally available to be seen by the public.

With the support of the artist, the exhibition will be curated by the artist's assistant and model for the past fifteen years, the painter David Dawson, with help from Catherine Lampert, who most recently selected the Freud retrospective which opened in Dublin in June 2007.

This will be the first exhibition devoted entirely to the artist's early work since 1997 with all works on loan from private or public collections worldwide, and several being shown publicly for the first time. Highlights include oil portraits such as *Woman with Tulip* (1945), *Portrait of a Man (John Craxton)* 1946, *Girl in a Blanket* (1953), *A Woman Painter* (1954) and the self-portrait *Man at Night* (1947) as well as the still lifes *Cacti and Stuffed Bird* (1943), *Dead Heron* (1945), *Lemon Sprig* (1946) and *Still Life with Aloe* (1949).



The aim of the exhibition will be to follow the evolution of Freud's vision in the early years from the period of, in the artist's words, "maximum observation", when he proceeded solely "by staring at my subject matter and examining it closely", to the period from 1954 when he wanted to deliberately "free myself from this way of working".

The selection will focus on comparisons between certain works, both stylistically and through subject matter. During these years Freud spent time in Greece, Paris, Ireland and Scotland as well as Paddington. The varying quality of light registered in these luminous works relates to his exploration of interior life, a pursuit that continues in the paintings that engage Freud today.







Woman with a Tulip, 1945



Portrait of a Man (John Craxton), 1946

Publication

The catalogue will illustrate all 32 works exhibited as well as rarely seen archive photographs. It also features two essays by Catherine Lampert; *Notes on the Pictures and Times* and *Notes on the Subjects*.

Notes to Editors

Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert is among the leading specialists in museum-quality Modern and Contemporary British art. Based in London, with an office in New York, the gallery focuses solely on British artists with an international reputation, such as Frank Auerbach, Francis Bacon, Patrick Caulfield, Lucian Freud, Gilbert and George, Barbara Hepworth, Patrick Heron, David Hockney, Howard Hodgkin, Leon Kossoff, Eduardo Paolozzi and Bridget Riley. The gallery has recently held a number of loan exhibitions including a retrospective of Gerald Laing's work from the 1960s, drawings from the 1940s by Barbara Hepworth and drawings from the collection of the Henry Moore Foundation.

Title: Lucian Freud: Early Works 1940-1958

Address: Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert, 38 Bury Street, St James's, London

SW1Y 6BB

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7839 7600 (HH-H)

Website: <u>www.hh-h.com</u>

Dates: 9 October – 12 December 2008

Opening Hours: Monday-Friday, 10am – 6pm

Saturday, 11 - 4pm Sunday, Closed



Woman with a Tulip, 1945

Oil on plywood

9 x 5 inches; 22.8 x 12.7 cm



Portrait of a Man (John Craxton), 1946

Oil on canvas

9.5 x 7.5 inches; 24 x 19 cm

Freud spent time in Greece, Paris, Ireland and Scotland as well as Paddington. The varying quality of light registered in these luminous works relates to his exploration of interior life, a pursuit that continues in the paintings that engage Freud today.

BIOGRAPHY:

Lucian Freud was born in Berlin in December 1922, and came to England with his family in 1933. He studied briefly at the Central School of Art in London and at Cedric Morris's East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing in Dedham. His first solo exhibition was at the Lefevre Gallery in London in 1944. In the summer of 1946 he went to Paris before going onto Greece for several months. Since then he has lived and worked in London.



EXHIBITION HOURS:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5.30pm, Saturday, 11am-4pm.

Fully illustrated colour catalogue to accompany exhibition.

Admission is free.

For press information or jpeg images please contact Iona Sale, IONA PR, 01451 832 268, 07721 030 825 or iona@ionapr.com or for exhibition information please contact James Holland-Hibbert on 020 7839 7600 or info@hh-h.com

Publication

The catalogue will illustrate all works exhibited. It also includes three major historic texts; two interviews from 1967 with Maurice de Sausmarez and David Sylvester respectively, and 'Perception is the Medium' (1965), which is a manifesto-style text in which Riley sets out her artistic position with the clarity for which all her writing since has become famous.

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The gallery participates in major international fairs, including Frieze Masters, Art Basel and Masterpiece. In recent years, the gallery has held loan exhibitions of Eduardo Paolozzi, Richard Smith, Peter Lanyon, David Hockney, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson, Bridget Riley and Gerald Laing.

Title: Bridget Riley: Works 1960-66

Address: Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert, 38 Bury Street, St James's, London

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and

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Dates: May 23 – July 13, 2012 Opening Hours: Monday-Friday, 10am – 6pm

Saturday-Sunday, Closed