

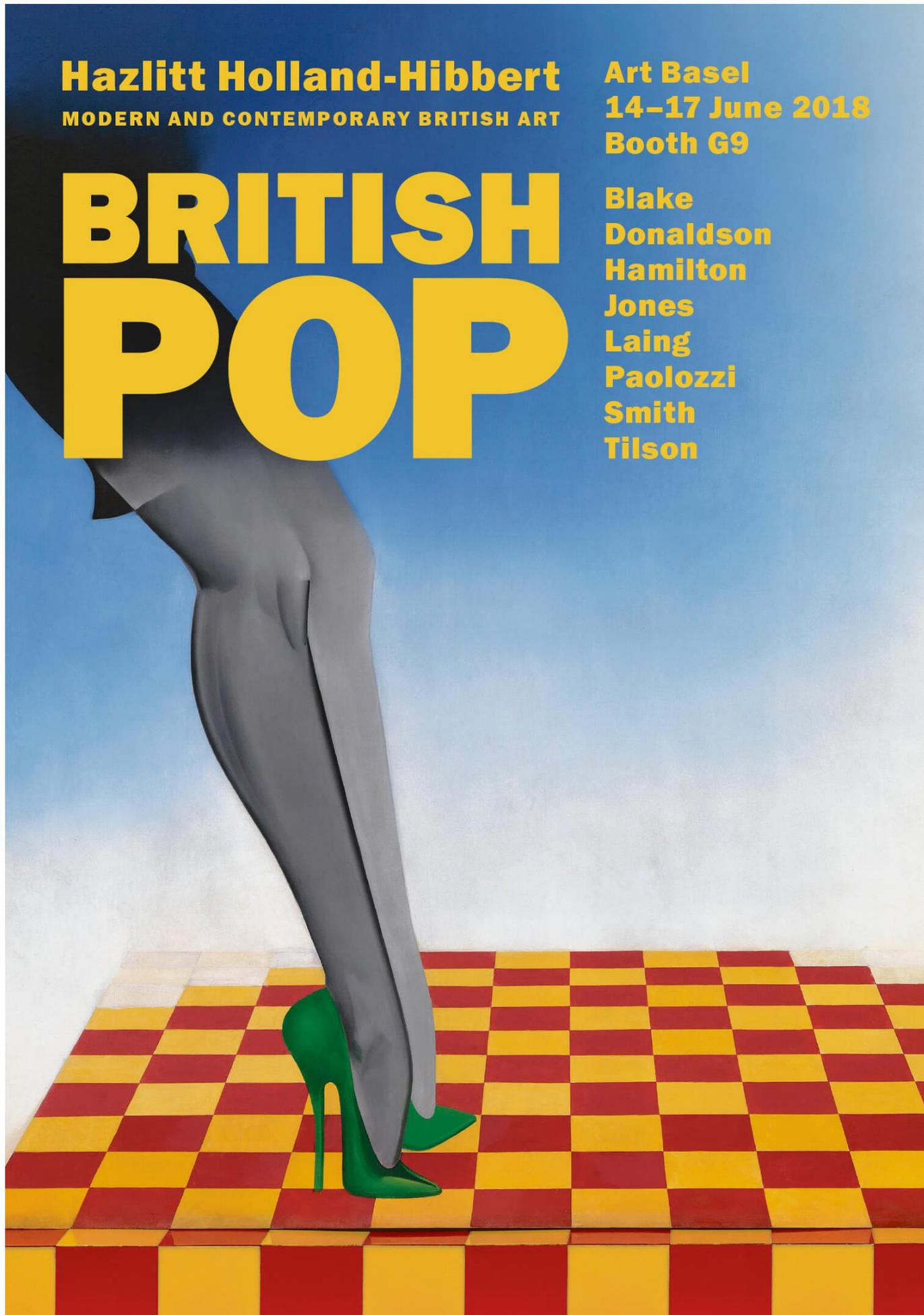
Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY BRITISH ART

BRITISH POP

**Art Basel
14-17 June 2018
Booth G9**

**Blake
Donaldson
Hamilton
Jones
Laing
Paolozzi
Smith
Tilson**



Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert at Art Basel 2018

BRITISH POP

Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert will be exhibiting at this year's Art Basel important work by the leading British Pop artists, including **Eduardo Paolozzi**, **Richard Hamilton**, **Richard Smith**, **Joe Tilson**, **David Hockney**, **Allen Jones**, **Antony Donaldson** and **Gerald Laing**. Highlights on the stand will include a rare and unusually early, large scale 1948 collage by **Paolozzi**; two important works by **Allen Jones** – *Male and Female Composition*, painted in Larry River's studio in New York's Chelsea Hotel in 1964, and *You Dare* (1967), one of his three dimensional 'step' paintings; a 1965 memorabilia portrait by **Peter Blake**; a Ben-Day dot *Navy Pilot* painting by **Gerald Laing**; and a work from **Richard Smith's** iconic series of cigarette packet paintings (to be included in a forthcoming loan show *Richard Smith: Uptown/Downtown Paintings 1959-63* at Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert in November 2018).

The work of these artists reflects the radical and progressive character of art being produced in Britain during the 1950s and 60s and Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert are proud to present a selection by the leading proponents of this movement which, though perhaps more often associated with the Warholian glitz and glamour of 1960s New York, did in fact find its earliest voice in Britain a decade earlier.

In the aftermath of World War II, Britain embarked upon the rebuilding of its razed cities and the societies so profoundly affected by conflict. Amid the chaos and deprivation, there arose a remarkable group of young artists united in their determination to take the art of the nation forward in an entirely new direction. Under the aegis of **Eduardo Paolozzi** and **Richard Hamilton**, now recognised as among the earliest exponents of British Pop, this group carved a fresh identity for British art. Through a series of influential lectures and ambitious exhibitions held at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) and the Whitechapel Gallery in London, they together shaped a new aesthetic that better encapsulated the experience of living in such a rapidly changing, post-war Britain.

Artists such as **Peter Blake**, **Richard Smith**, **Allen Jones**, **David Hockney** and **Gerald Laing**, first sought inspiration in the prosperous, consumerist paradise advertised across the Atlantic. They looked upon the exotic visual imagery of the 'American dream' with a sense of longing and repackaged it for British consumption albeit laced with a very distinctive sense of wit and irony. Everything from toasters to cars, confectionery and beauty products, was splashed across the glossy pages of magazines or touted on television by glamorous models; a lurid and optimistic vision of the future that proved impossibly alluring to a younger generation of British artists still dependent on rations in a country bankrupted by war. The British Pop artists borrowed liberally from the marketing language of post-War Americana and, in so doing, instigated a shift away from the traditional parameters of what constituted art. The move was further facilitated by new techniques such as collage and commercial screen printing, which broke down previously established distinctions between art and design, mass production and individuality, and popular and high culture.

From establishing Pop Art in Britain to introducing new digital technologies at the end of the Twentieth Century, these artists helped to visualise the modern world, leaving a cultural footprint that has not been equalled since.

Notes for Editors:

James Holland-Hibbert is Director of Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert, the leading specialist in museum-quality modern and contemporary British art. Based in London, with an office in New York, the gallery focuses on British artists with an international reputation, such as Frank Auerbach, Francis Bacon, Anthony Caro, Lucian Freud, Gilbert & George, Barbara Hepworth, David Hockney, Howard Hodgkin, Leon Kossoff, Gerald Laing, Henry Moore, Ben Nicholson, Bridget Riley, Sean Scully, Stanley Spencer and many more.

In recent years, the gallery has held loan exhibitions of Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Bridget Riley, Gerald Laing, David Hockney, Peter Lanyon, and the ground-breaking show *Lucian Freud: Early Works 1940-58*.

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Art Basel 2018 Information
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Messe Basel
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Fair Dates: Tuesday 12 - Sunday 17 June 2018
VIP Preview Days: Tuesday 12 June (11am - 8pm) and Wednesday 13 June (11am - 8pm)
Vernissage: Wednesday 13 June (4pm - 8pm)
General Access: Thursday 14 June - Sunday 17 June (11am - 7pm, daily)

Image: Allen Jones, *You Dare*, 1967, oil on canvas plus aluminium steps with plastic tiles, 90 x 60 inches

Media Enquiries

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