

For issue: 17 April 2018

Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds

Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK

22 June – 2 September 2018

Media View: Thursday 21 June 2018, 10am – 1pm

#vanessawinship @barbicancentre

Important note: The exhibition *Dorothea Lange: Politics of Seeing*, situated in the lower galleries of Barbican Art Gallery, is on at the same time as *Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds* on show in the upper galleries. The ticket gains entry to both exhibitions.

Opening 22 June 2018, Barbican Art Gallery is proud to present the first major UK solo exhibition of British contemporary photographer **Vanessa Winship**. The recipient of the prestigious Henri Cartier-Bresson Award in 2011, Winship's poetic gaze explores the fragile nature of our landscape and society, how memory leaves its mark on our collective and individual histories. Winship's oeuvre captures the 'transition between myth and the individual', revealing deeply intimate photographs that often appear to avoid specific contexts or any immediate political significance. The exhibition brings together an outstanding selection of more than 150 photographs, many of which have never been seen before in the UK, as well as a collection of unseen archival material. **Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds** is part of the Barbican's 2018 season, **The Art of Change**, which explores how the arts respond to, reflect and potentially effect change in the social and political landscape.

Vanessa Winship said: *"I'm delighted to have the opportunity to be able to show what I've been doing these last years to an audience in my home country; to introduce older works, but also to have the possibility, for the first time, to reveal something of the new".*

Jane Alison, Head of Visual Arts, Barbican said: *"It is a real pleasure to stage the first major show of Vanessa Winship's work in the UK at Barbican Art Gallery. Highly regarded and firmly established within photographic circles, this much overdue exhibition will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce Winship's photography to a wider public, as well as to showcase a great body of her powerful, and also deeply poetic work, from early prints to more recent projects completed for the exhibition. As part of The Art of Change, and staged alongside the first UK retrospective of Dorothea Lange, this promises to be a stellar summer of two photographic greats".*

Vanessa Winship's practice focusses on the junction between 'chronicle and fiction, exploring ideas around concepts of borders, land, memory, desire, identity and history'. Living and working in the region of the Balkans, Turkey and the Caucasus for more than a decade her epic series **Imagined States and Desires: A Balkan Journey** (1999–2003) and **Black Sea: Between Chronicle and Fiction** (2002–2006) investigate notions of periphery and edge on the frontiers of Eastern Europe, displaying the human condition through a vulnerable, yet intentionally incomplete, narrative. Capturing fragmentary images of collective rituals, means of transport and leisure activities, she presents a frieze of the human landscape in these regions, expressing society's relationship to the terrain while remaining remote from any precise geo-political or historical events.

Also on display is the formal yet strikingly intimate series **Sweet Nothings** (2007), portrait photographs of school girls from Turkey's eastern borderlands. The series of portraits, produced in an almost serial manner by Winship, draws the viewer's attention to the individual features of the girls, particularly the affectionate messages or 'sweet nothings' which are embroidered on their lace collar or bodice of their uniforms. By photographing repetitious and formal portraits she emphasises the girls as individuals, 'unified by many things including their history, their position in society, and the fact that they are little girls from a rural place'.

Vanessa Winship is perhaps best known for winning the prestigious Henri Cartier-Bresson Award in 2011 which enabled her to undertake a new photographic series in the United States. Set upon the backdrop of the economic recession and decline of the American Dream, **she dances on Jackson** (2011–2012) explores the basic human connection between people while tracing the history of violence that characterises the country, from California to Virginia, New Mexico to Montana, and still impacts the population today. Following the great photography masters including Walker Evans, Robert Adam and Robert Frank, Winship sensitively navigates the engrained scars of neglect which

has transformed the once prosperous landscape. Winship includes timeless scapes of the American terrain depicting the lasting effects of a crumbling civilisation, resonating with the landscapes of her hometown estuary and discussing concepts of periphery and edge expressed in her series *Humber* (2010).

Turning to the eastern-European state of Georgia in her series *Georgia: Seeds Carried by the Wind* (2008–2010) Winship explores a country whose people celebrate the lush beauty of their land, but are also inherently melancholic due to the memory of conflict and weight of the post-Soviet economic collapse. Beside photographs of neglected Soviet sculptures, studies of contemporary Georgian people and photographs of funerary pictorial portraits are presented in colour for the first time in Winship's oeuvre.

To coincide with the exhibition, Winship has conceived a new and ongoing photographic series, *And Time Folds* (2014-ongoing). Shown for the first time at Barbican Art Gallery this body of work combines black and white and colour photography with found objects to create a thought-provoking departure from her previous series.

Vanessa Winship was born in Barton-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire in 1960. Her recent solo exhibitions include, *Vanessa Winship* at Fundación MAPFRE, Spain (2014), touring to additional venues in Spain, France and Italy – Sala de Exposiciones de San Benito, Valladolid, Spain (2014), Fondazione Stellite, Milan, Italy (2014/15), El Centro Andaluz de La Fotografía, Almería, Spain (2015), Espacia de las Artes Tenerife Spain (2015), Le Galerie château d'eau, Toulouse, France (2015), and Centro de Arte La Regenta, Gran Canaria, Spain (2016); *Georgia: Seeds Carried by the Wind*, Third Floor Gallery Cardiff, UK (2013); *she dances on Jackson*, Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, France (2013); *Sweet Nothings* and *Black Sea: Between Chronicle and Fiction*, Side Gallery, Newcastle (2008/09). She was included in a recent group show *The Grain of the Present* (2018) at Pier 24, San Francisco, USA. Vanessa Winship has won several major photography awards including Henri Cartier-Bresson Award (2011) for *she dances on Jackson*; Godfrey Argent Prize, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK (2008) and 2nd prize Taylor Wessing Portrait Prize, National Portrait Gallery, UK (2009) for *Georgia: Carried by the Wind*; and the Iris d'Or Sony World Photography Award (2008) for *Sweet Nothings*.

Notes to Editors

Press Information

For further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact:

Ann Berni, Senior Communications Manager +44 207 382 7169, ann.berni@barbican.org.uk

Lily Booth, Communications Officer +44 207 382 6162, lily.booth@barbican.org.uk

Bréifne Ó Conbhúí, Communications Assistant +44 207 382 7254, breifne.oconbhui@barbican.org.uk

Full press pack available online from the Barbican Newsroom:

Links to all documents can be found in the 'Downloads' box on the top right-hand side of the page from www.barbican.org.uk/vanessawinshipnews

Public Information

#vanessawinship @barbicancentre

Barbican Art Gallery and Gallery Shop, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS, London
0845 120 7550, www.barbican.org.uk/artgallery

Opening Hours:

Saturday to Wednesday, 10am–6pm (last entry 5.30pm walk up, 5pm online)

Thursday and Friday, 10am–9pm (last entry 8.30pm walk up, 8pm online)

Bank holidays: 12-6pm (last entry 5.30pm walk up, 8pm online)

Ticket Prices

Standard: £13.50 **Membership Plus:** Unlimited free entry + guest **Membership:** Unlimited free entry
Corporate Membership: Unlimited free entry + guest **Young Barbican** (14 -25s): £5 (no booking fee)
Concessions: £11 **Students/14-17:** £9 **Art Fund Members:** £11 **Under 14s:** Free

Please note that your ticket for *Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds* will also gain you entry to *Dorothea Lange: Politics of Seeing*, exhibited on the ground floor of the main gallery.

Important Notes

Young children need to be supervised at all times

Large bags, rucksacks and luggage are not permitted in the gallery. All bags are subject to search. Food and drink are not permitted.

Exhibition

Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds, 22 June to 2 September is curated by Barbican Art Gallery and designed by Mary Duggan Architects.

Exhibited in the gallery at the same time is *Dorothea Lange: Politics of Seeing*, the first ever UK retrospective of the American documentary photographer Dorothea Lange (1895–1965). The exhibition charts Lange's outstanding photographic vision including her legendary images of the devastating impact of the Great Depression on the American population, as well as rarely seen photographs of the internment of Japanese-Americans during the Second World War.

Also coinciding with *Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds*, is the sixth of the changing foyer displays *The Hull of a Large Ship* (18 May – November 2018) which explores the Barbican Art Centre original drawings with contributions by five architecture practices.

Catalogue

The exhibition, *Vanessa Winship: And Time Folds*, is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue by MACK with an essay by esteemed academic **David Chandler**.

Price: £35.00 ISBN: 978-1-912339-09-9

Events

A rich programme of talks and events accompanies the exhibition. Check the website for full listings: www.barbican.org.uk/artgallery

Barbican Art Gallery Shop

In addition to the official exhibition catalogue the Gallery Shop also features a wide selection of the featured photographers' books and other related titles plus prints, stationery, postcards, photographic gifts and more. The best of the Barbican Shop ranges can be found online at www.barbican.org.uk/shop

The Art of Change at the Barbican 2018

The Art of Change presents bold artistic responses to vital global issues including feminism, climate change and human rights, while providing a platform for voices currently underrepresented in the arts. The season includes world-class music, theatre, dance, film, visual arts and learning and runs throughout 2018. barbican.org.uk/whats-on/series/the-art-of-change

Barbican Art Gallery and The Curve

Our visual arts programme embraces art, architecture, design, fashion, photography and film. Many of our exhibitions explore the interconnections between disciplines, periods and cultures, and aim to imagine the world in new ways. Designers, artists and architects are our collaborators in this process.

We invest in the artists of today and tomorrow; The Curve is one of the few galleries in London devoted to the commissioning of new work. Through our activities we aim to inspire more people to discover and love the arts. Entrance to The Curve is free. Through Young Barbican we offer £5 tickets to 14-25 year olds for our paid exhibitions, children under 14 are free.

Our exhibitions are complemented by comprehensively researched catalogues and a full range of public events. We develop engaging online content for audiences and offer special tours for schools. In partnership with renowned museums and art galleries, many of our exhibitions travel to reach both national and international audiences.

About the Barbican

A world-class arts and learning organisation, the [Barbican](#) pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does. Over 1.1 million people attend events annually, hundreds of artists and performers are featured, and more than 300 [staff](#) work onsite. The architecturally renowned centre opened in 1982 and comprises the Barbican Hall, the Barbican Theatre, The Pit, Cinemas One, Two and Three, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, foyers and public spaces, a library, Lakeside Terrace, [a glasshouse conservatory](#), conference facilities and three restaurants. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

The Barbican is home to Resident Orchestra, [London Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Orchestra, [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#); Associate Ensembles the [Academy of Ancient Music](#) and [Britten Sinfonia](#), Associate Producer [Serious](#), and Artistic Partner [Create](#). Our Artistic Associates include [Boy Blue Entertainment](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), Deborah Warner, [Drum Works](#) and [Michael Clark Company](#). The [Los Angeles Philharmonic](#) are the Barbican's International Orchestral Partner, the [Australian Chamber Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble at Milton Court and [Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra](#) are International Associate Ensemble.

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