

**Michael Clark**

**First major exhibition announced for 2020**

**Barbican Art Gallery**

**12 June – 30 August 2020**

**Media View: Thursday 11 June 2020, 10am – 1pm**

#MichaelClark @barbicancentre

*The exhibition has been recognised with a commendation from the Sotheby's Prize 2019.*



Michael Clark, *Because We Must*, 1987 © Photography by Richard Haughton

Next year, the Barbican will stage a major summer exhibition in the Art Gallery exploring the work of choreographer and dancer **Michael Clark**. 2020 marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year of Michael Clark Company's ongoing collaboration with the Barbican as an Artistic Associate. This unprecedented presentation of Clark's work establishes his radical presence in British cultural history and explores his inimitable combination of classical and contemporary influences such as ballet and punk.

Looking back to his meteoric rise as a young choreographer in the 1980s, the exhibition presents a comprehensive vision of Clark's career to date and explores his unique multi-disciplinary approach that incorporates a wide range of subcultural influences. Film, photography and material from Clark's practice are presented together with his legendary collaborations across visual arts, music, fashion and film. New commissions include **Charles Atlas** revisiting the acclaimed *Hail the New Puritan* (1986) which featured **Leigh Bowery** and **The Fall**, along with work by **Sarah Lucas**, **Wolfgang Tillmans**, **Cerith Wyn Evans**, **Peter Doig**, **Silke Otto-Knapp**, **Duncan Campbell** and others.

Michael Clark was born in Scotland in 1962. He trained at the Royal Ballet School in London before joining Ballet Rambert in 1979, working primarily with Richard Alston. The first presentation of his own choreography was in 1982 at London's Riverside Studios, where he became resident choreographer, and in 1984 Michael Clark and Company was launched. In 2005 Clark became an Artistic Associate of the Barbican.

**ENDS**

## Notes to Editors

### Press Information

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### Press images available online from the Barbican Newsroom

A link to the image sheets can be found in the 'Downloads' box on the top right-hand side of the page from: [www.barbican.org.uk/MichaelClarkNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/MichaelClarkNews)

### Opening Hours

Sunday - Wednesday 10am – 6pm

Thursday - Saturday 10am – 9pm

Bank Holiday Mondays: 10am – 6pm

Media view: Tuesday 11 June 2020, 10am – 1pm

### Ticket Prices

Tickets will go on sale at the start of 2020. Please keep an eye on the website for further information.

Standard: Monday – Friday, £15

Standard: Saturday & Sunday, £17 (including Bank Holidays)

Members Free; Members Plus Free + guest;

Young Barbican £5; Concessions £11–15

Under 14s Free

### Exhibition

Michael Clark is at Barbican Art Gallery from 12 June to 30 August 2020. The exhibition will tour to Tramway, Glasgow (2021).

### Catalogue

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue designed by A Practice for Everyday Life.

### Events

An events programme including tours and talks will accompany the exhibition. More details to follow.

### The Sotheby's Prize, 2019

This exhibition was recognised with a commendation from the Sotheby's Prize 2019, which, in its third year, continues to celebrate curatorial excellence and champion the work of innovative institutions who strive to break new ground by exploring overlooked or under-represented areas of art history. Launched in May 2017, the Sotheby's Prize offers an annual sum of up to \$250,000 to recognise curatorial excellence and help facilitate exhibitions that challenge our understanding of art today.

The Sotheby's Prize is awarded by a jury consisting of Connie Butler, Chief Curator at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles; Donna de Salvo, Senior Adjunct Curator at Dia Art Foundation, in New York; Emilie Gordenker, Director of Mauritshuis in The Hague, Director Designate of the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam; Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair of Arts Council England; and Allan Schwartzman, co-creator of the Prize, chair of the jury, and Chairman and Executive Vice President of Sotheby's. Please find more information [here](#).

### **Barbican Newsroom**

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communication team's contact details are listed on our website at [www.barbican.org.uk/news](http://www.barbican.org.uk/news)

### **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 and free admittance for under 14s.

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 a 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 1, 2 and 3, Barbican Art Gallery, a second gallery The Curve, public spaces, a library, the 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](#), [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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