

## Barbican Art Gallery 2020 Exhibition Programme

### [Into the Night: Cabarets and Clubs in Modern Art](#)

Until 19 January 2020, Barbican Art Gallery

Last few weeks



*Into the Night: Cabarets and Clubs in Modern Art* explores the social and artistic role of cabarets, cafés and clubs around the world. Spanning the 1880s to the 1960s, the exhibition presents a dynamic and multi-faceted history of artistic production. The first major show staged on this theme, it features both famed and little-known sites of the avant-garde – these creative spaces were incubators of radical thinking, where artists could exchange provocative ideas and create new forms of artistic expression. *Into the Night* offers an alternative history of modern art that highlights the spirit of experimentation and collaboration between artists, performers, designers, musicians and writers such as **Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Loïe Fuller, Josef**

**Hoffmann, Giacomo Balla, Theo van Doesburg and Sophie Taeuber-Arp**, as well as **Josephine Baker, Jeanne Mammen, Aaron Douglas, Jacob Lawrence, Ramón Alva de la Canal and Ibrahim El-Salahi.**

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/IntoTheNightNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/IntoTheNightNews)

### [Trevor Paglen: From 'Apple' to 'Anomaly'](#)

[\(Pictures and Labels\) Selections from the ImageNet dataset for object recognition](#)

Until 16 February 2020, The Curve

Free admission

Last few weeks



Barbican Art Gallery has commissioned the artist Trevor Paglen to create a new work for The Curve. Paglen's practice spans image-making, sculpture, investigative journalism, writing and engineering. Among his primary concerns are learning to see the historical moment we live in, exposing the invisible power structures that underpin the reality of our daily lives and developing the means to imagine alternative futures.

For the exhibition, Paglen has installed approximately 30,000 individually printed photographs pinned in a complex mosaic of images along the length of the curved wall. Taking as a starting point ImageNet: one of the most widely shared, publicly available collection of images, which is also used to train artificial intelligence networks, Paglen queries the content of images chosen for machine learning. ImageNet contains more than fourteen-million images organised into more than 21,000 categories or "classes". In most cases, the connotations of image categories and names are uncontroversial i.e. a "strawberry" or "orange". Others are classified under "debtors", "alcoholics" and "bad persons". These definitions, if used in AI, suggest a world in which machines will be able to elicit different forms of judgement against humankind.

Paglen's new work is part of the Barbican's 2019 season, *Life Rewired*.

For information and images please visit: <http://www.barbican.org.uk/TrevorPaglenNews>

***Masculinities: Liberation through Photography***

20 February – 17 May 2020, Barbican Art Gallery

Media View: Wednesday 19 February 2020, 10am – 1pm



Barbican Art Gallery will stage *Masculinities: Liberation through Photography*, a major group exhibition that explores the ways in which masculinity is experienced, performed, coded and socially constructed as expressed and documented through photography and film from the 1960s to the present day. The exhibition brings together over 300 works by over 50 pioneering international artists, photographers and filmmakers such as **Laurie**

**Anderson, Richard Avedon, Rineke Dijkstra, Rotimi Fani-Kayode, Peter Hujar, Isaac Julien, Annette Messager, and Catherine Opie** alongside a lesser-known and younger generation of artists including **Cassils, Sam Contis, George Dureau, Karen Knorr, Elle Pèrez, Paul Mpagi Sepuya, Hank Willis Thomas, Karlheinz Weinberger** and **Marianne Wex** among others.

With ideas around masculinity undergoing a global crisis and terms such as 'toxic' and 'fragile' masculinity filling endless column inches, the exhibition will chart the representation of masculinity in all its myriad forms, rife with contradiction and complexity. Touching on themes of patriarchy, power, queer identity, race, sexuality, class, female perceptions of men, heteronormative stereotypes, and fatherhood, the works in the exhibition present masculinity as a largely unfixed performative identity shaped by cultural, political and social forces, with photography and film central to the way in which masculinity is shaped and understood.

*Masculinities: Liberation through Photography* is part of *Inside Out*, the Barbican's year-long programme exploring the relationship between our inner lives and creativity.

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/MasculinitiesNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/MasculinitiesNews)

***Toyin Ojih Odutola: A Countervailing Theory***

26 March – 26 July 2020, The Curve

Media View: Wednesday 25 March 2020, 10am – 1pm

Free Admission



Barbican Art Gallery presents the first-ever UK commission by Nigerian-American artist **Toyin Ojih Odutola**, a site-specific installation for The Curve. An epic cycle of new work unfurls across the 90-metre long gallery, exploring an imagined ancient myth conceived by the artist. Renowned conceptual sound artist **Peter Adjaye** has created an immersive soundscape in response to Ojih Odutola's series, which evolves in dialogue with the narrative.

Working exclusively with drawing materials, including pastel and charcoal, Ojih Odutola's works often take the form of monumental portraits, which retain a remarkable intimacy despite their scale. She approaches the process of drawing as an investigative practice, through which to explore an intense engagement with mark-making and its potential for meaning. Ojih Odutola recognises that the pen is 'a writing tool first', playing with the idea that drawing can be a form of storytelling. She proposes speculative fictions through her practice, inviting the

viewer to enter her vision of an uncannily familiar, yet fantastical world. Working akin to an author or poet, she often spends months creating extensive imaginary narratives, which play out through a series of works to suggest a structure of episodes or chapters. Drawing on an eclectic range of references, from ancient history to popular culture to contemporary politics, Ojih Odutola encourages the viewer to piece together the fragments of the stories that she presents.

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/ToyinOjihOdutolaNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/ToyinOjihOdutolaNews)

### [Michael Clark](#)

12 June – 30 August 2020, Barbican Art Gallery

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



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.

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/MichaelClarkNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/MichaelClarkNews)

### [Jean Dubuffet](#)

30 September 2020 – 17 January 2021, Barbican Art Gallery

Media View: Tuesday 29 September 2020, 10am – 1pm



This major exhibition of the French artist **Jean Dubuffet** (1901-1985) spans more than four decades in the studio and is the first in the UK in over 50 years – celebrating one of the most powerful and provocative voices in the postwar avant-garde. Drawing from international collections and featuring rarely exhibited pieces, this show will highlight Dubuffet's radicalism as he experimented with materials and aimed to create what he described as 'an art that is directly plugged into our current life,

that immediately emanates from our real life and our real moods'.

Dubuffet was one of the first to be interested in 'Art Brut' – a phrase he coined, which literally translates as 'raw art'. He was gifted a copy of Hans Prinzhorn's influential *Artistry of the Mentally Ill* (1922) and began corresponding with untrained artists, but it was not until

1945 that he visited a number of psychiatric hospitals and after learning more, began to collect the work of patients. The exhibition will centre around a gallery dedicated to Dubuffet's collection, demonstrating how its return in 1962 from a ten year period of loan to the US contributed to a major shift in his practice. Continuing with significant bodies of work including the 'Hourloupe' cycle and 'Coucou Bazar', the exhibition champions Dubuffet's spirit, which has made him such an important influence for artists working since.

*Jean Dubuffet* is part of *Inside Out*, the Barbican's year-long programme exploring the relationship between our inner lives and creativity.

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/JeanDubuffetNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/JeanDubuffetNews)

### [Shilpa Gupta](#)

Autumn 2020, dates tbc, The Curve

Free Admission



A site-specific installation in The Curve from the acclaimed Mumbai-based artist for her first solo show in a London institution. Shilpa Gupta's practice poetically explores physical and ideological boundaries and how, as individuals, we come to feel a sense of isolation or belonging.

Solo exhibitions of Gupta's work have been held at the Contemporary Art Center in Cincinnati, Arnofini in Bristol, OK Centrum in Linz and Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Arnhem; Gupta has also participated in biennales in Berlin, Kochi, Lyon, Gwangju, Havana, Yokohama and Liverpool. Her work has been presented in displays at the MoMA, New York; Tate Modern, London; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the New Museum, New York; and the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebaek.

*Shilpa Gupta's* installation is part of *Inside Out*, the Barbican's year-long programme exploring the relationship between our inner lives and creativity.

For information and images please visit: [www.barbican.org.uk/ShilpaGuptaNews](http://www.barbican.org.uk/ShilpaGuptaNews)

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### Notes to Editors

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#### Public Information

Barbican Art Gallery, London, 0845 120 7550, [www.barbican.org.uk/artgallery](http://www.barbican.org.uk/artgallery)

For more information on Barbican membership please visit;

<https://www.barbican.org.uk/membership>

### Image Credits



In order of appearance;

1. Aaron Douglas, *Dance*, c. 1930, Collection of Dr Anita White © Heirs of Aaron Douglas/VAGA at ARS, NY and DACS, London 2019
2. Trevor Paglen: *From 'Apple' to 'Anomaly'*, Installation view, © Tim P. Whitby / Getty Images
3. Sunil Gupta, *Untitled 22* from the series *Christopher Street*, 1976, Courtesy the artist and Hales Gallery. © Sunil Gupta. All Rights Reserved, DACS 2019
4. Toyin Ojih Odutola, *Semblance of Certainty* from *A Countervailing Theory*, (2019) © Toyin Ojih Odutola. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York
5. Michael Clark, *Because We Must*, 1987. © Photography by Richard Haughton
6. Jean Dubuffet, *Paysage aux argus*, (Landscape with Argus), 1955, Collection Fondation Dubuffet. © Fondation Dubuffet, Paris / DACS, London, 2019. Image courtesy of Fondation Dubuffet, Paris.
7. Shilpa Gupta, Photo by Shrutti Garg

## 2020 at the Barbican

### Inside Out

*Inside Out* is the Barbican's year-long programme exploring the relationship between our inner lives and creativity.

Throughout 2020, *Inside Out* will showcase the work of artists who have found pioneering ways to articulate their innermost thoughts, feelings and desires, and how this can help us to better understand ourselves and empathise with each other's experience of the world.

The programme will interrogate themes such as identity, self-expression and how we shape our private selves in a world in which we are more socially connected than ever. It will highlight courageous artists and individuals who have challenged society's definition of them, including those that have found ways to express themselves during times of censorship.

[www.barbican.org.uk/inside-out](http://www.barbican.org.uk/inside-out)

### Barbican Art Gallery Shop

In addition to the official exhibition catalogue the Gallery Shop also features a wide selection of books and other related titles, prints, stationery, postcards, gifts and more. The best of the Barbican Shop ranges can be found online at [www.barbican.org.uk/shop](http://www.barbican.org.uk/shop)

### 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 attend for 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](http://www.barbican.org.uk) 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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