
GENERATIONS

CONNECTING ACROSS TIME AND PLACE

PRESS RELEASE

East Wing Galleries, Somerset House

Press Preview: Friday 7 June 2019, 9-10 am

Exhibition Dates: Saturday 8 June - Thursday 3 July 2019

Free Admission



Donald Rodney, *In the House of My Father*, 1997. Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London © the Estate of Donald G Rodney

- ✦ **GENERATIONS: Connecting Across Time and Place** explores how intimate relationships and collective histories affect an individual's sense of self.
- ✦ The exhibition brings together twelve contemporary artists selected from the Arts Council Collection and LUX. Five of whom are Turner Prize nominees.
- ✦ During the closure of The Courtauld Gallery for a major refurbishment project, Courtauld Connects, The Courtauld Institute's MA Curating the Art Museum student exhibition will be held in Somerset House's East Wing Galleries from 8 June till 3 July 2019.
- ✦ The exhibition is part of the Somerset House summer programme, which celebrates the rich contribution of different cultures to Britain, and invites visitors to explore issues of identity, representation and perception in our society.
- ✦ **#GENxCourtauld**

From baby boomers to millennials, to generation X, Y and Z, society is obsessed with what makes one generation different from the last. Yet, people all share collective pasts and presents. For the 12th year of The Courtauld Institute's MA Curating the Art Museum programme, the students are pleased to announce their summer exhibition *GENERATIONS: Connecting Across Time and Place*. Relocating from the familiar walls of The Courtauld Gallery, this year's exhibition is held in the East Wing Galleries of Somerset House and gathers the work of twelve UK-based contemporary artists. Some artists consider the stories, memories and even genes that we inherit from our families. Others confront more distant generations, showing the continuing importance of historical figures and events.

ARTISTS

Hurvin Anderson
Appau Jnr Boakye-Yiadom
Helen Cammock
Alejandra Carles-Tolra
Mona Hatoum
Susan Hiller
Lubaina Himid
Hardeep Pandhal
Joanna Piotrowska
Kathy Prendergast
Donald Rodney
Lucy Skaer

The artists selected span different generations themselves, and are represented by works created from the 1980s to the present day. This exhibition includes works by Hurvin Anderson, Helen Cammock, Mona Hatoum and Hardeep Pandhal and showcases a variety of media ranging from photography to sculpture, painting and video. In *Cotton.com*, a series of 85 patterned oil paintings, Lubaina Himid imagines conversations between enslaved plantation labourers and Manchester millworkers. Lucy Skaer's sculpture *Leonora (The Tyrant)* interrogates the colonial trading histories of exporting tropical hardwood and Pacific mother-of-pearl to England. On a more intimate level, Donald Rodney's photograph *In the House of My Father* addresses the artist's battle with sickle cell anaemia, a hereditary disease. The work depicts Rodney's hand holding a miniature house made of his own skin.

The conversations established between these works will invite visitors to reflect upon how individual and collective identities are formed. The exhibition explores the memories we cherish and the histories we confront. What is to be gained by returning to these personal and collective experiences time and time again? Do we need to confront our difficult histories to help make sense of our present identities?

The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of Christian Levett, founder of the Musée d'Art Classique de Mougins and Minerva Magazine, and by the Arts Council Collection and LUX.

TALKS & EVENTS

Curator Tours

Every Monday at 1pm
Free, no booking
required

Artists in Conversation:

**Appau Jnr Boakye-
Yiadom and Hardeep
Pandhal**

Thursday 20 June,
6:30-8:30pm
The Courtauld Institute
of Art, Vernon Square
Free, booking required

Artist Talk: **Alejandra Carles-Tolra**

Saturday 22 June, 4pm
In the exhibition
Free, no booking
required

Poetry Reading: **Raymond Antrobus**

Sunday 23 June, 4pm
In the exhibition
Free, no booking
required

CONTACTS

For further information please contact:

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Free Admission

Address:

East Wing Galleries, Ground floor, Somerset House, Strand, London
WC2R 0RN

Opening Hours:

Saturday - Tuesday 10:00 - 18:00

Wednesday - Friday 11:00 - 20:00

Find Us:

Facebook: /macurating

Instagram: @macurating

Twitter: @macurating

Website: courtauld.ac.uk/macurating2019/



NOTE TO EDITORS

The Courtauld Institute of Art

The Courtauld Institute of Art is the world's leading university for art history, conservation and curating with an exceptional art collection and Gallery at its heart. It is a global centre of excellence for education and research in wall paintings conservation. Operating from central London, the capital of the art world.
<https://courtauld.ac.uk/>

MA Curating the Art Museum is now in its twelfth year. Martin Caiger-Smith, Head of Programme, says: 'Curating is a broad, complex and competitive field, and the year-long programme is an intensive learning experience. This high-profile public exhibition is the culmination of the year, and a great opportunity to learn by doing.'
<https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/ma-curating-the-art-museum>

The Arts Council Collection

The Arts Council Collection is a national loan collection of British art from 1946 to the present day. With over 8,000 works and more than 1,000 loans made to over 100 venues a year, it is seen by millions of people in public spaces from galleries and museums to hospitals, libraries and universities. Representing one of the most important collections of British modern and contemporary art in the world, it includes work from Francis Bacon, Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore to Lucian Freud, Antony Gormley and Grayson Perry. The Collection supports and promotes British artists by acquiring art at an early stage of their careers. The Arts Council Collection is managed by Southbank Centre, London and includes the Sculpture Centre located at Longside, Yorkshire Sculpture Park.
www.artscouncilcollection.org.uk

LUX

LUX is an international arts agency that supports and promotes artists' moving image practices and the ideas that surround them. Founded in 2002 as a charity and not-for-profit limited company, the organisation builds on a long lineage of predecessors (The London Film-Makers' Co-operative, London Video Arts and The Lux Centre) which stretch back to the 1960s.
www.luxscotland.org.uk

Courtauld Connects

The Courtauld is undergoing a major redevelopment project, *Courtauld Connects*, which will transform teaching and learning, Gallery and social spaces. As part of this project our teaching and learning facilities have temporarily relocated to Vernon Square Kings Cross, the most vibrant new quarter in London. The Courtauld Gallery is now closed while we undertake this major transformation project. Combined with a programme of national and international activities and partnerships, this project will transform The Courtauld both as a physical place and a cultural force. It is the most ambitious development programme since we moved to Somerset House in 1989. This project will revitalise our interior, refurbish our Galleries and Conservation studios, establish new spaces for public learning, create global digital resources and create new links and improved accessibility between our Institute and collections. This phase will deliver increased gallery spaces and open up our historic Great Room. Visitor experience will be enhanced by our new welcoming entrance and café spaces and a dedicated Learning Centre.
connects.courtauld.ac.uk

Somerset House

One of the city's most spectacular and well-loved spaces, Somerset House is a new kind of arts centre in the heart of London, designed for today's audiences, artists and creatives – an inspirational community where contemporary culture is imagined, created and experienced. From its 18th Century origins, Somerset House has played a central role in society as a place where culture and collective understanding of the world is shaped and defined. In 2000, it began its reinvention as a cultural powerhouse and home for arts and culture today, creating unique and stimulating experiences for the public, bringing them into direct contact with ideas from the greatest artists, makers and thinkers of our time. Their distinctive and dynamic year-round programme spans the contemporary arts in all its forms, from cutting-edge exhibitions and installations to annual festivals, seasonal events in the courtyard. As well as welcoming over 3 million visitors annually, Somerset House houses the largest and most diverse creative communities in the country. In 2016 we launched Somerset House Studios – a new experimental workspace connecting artists, makers and thinkers with audiences. Currently housing over 80 artists and Makerversity (a community of over 250 emergent makers), the Studios are a platform for the development of new creative projects and collaboration, promoting work that pushes bold ideas, engages with urgent issues and pioneers new technologies.
www.somersethouse.org.uk