

towner art gallery



January – May 2019

townereastbourne.org.uk

   @townergallery

Figure Study II: Joe Hill curates the Towner Collection

26 January – 28 April 2019

Gallery 1, Free

Our new Director, Joe Hill, curates a personal response to Towner's renowned collection. His diverse selection spans a period of one hundred years and, rather than presenting a themed selection, Joe aims to examine how the selection process itself can further an individual's understanding of place, perception and aspiration through its collections.

The title for the show is taken from a Francis Bacon painting that belongs to Joe's home town, the former mining and textiles community of Batley in West Yorkshire. The town currently sits in the top 10% of the most deprived communities in England and Wales. Bacon's *Figure Study II* is on long-term loan to the National Museum of Scotland and the painting (and the collection as a whole) has not been shown in the town in Joe's lifetime. The loss of the town's gallery in the early 1980s to a now derelict shopping centre means it is unlikely the town's residents will have an opportunity to see the collection or know of its existence. Joe only became aware of the provenance of the painting whilst installing it an exhibition at Camden Arts Centre, London in 2010.

Joe is interested in understanding how this collection could have played a role in developing a new post-industrial identity for the area and contributed to the aspiration and sense of pride amongst its younger population. It has left him feeling strongly that public collections have an important role to play in developing this sense of place and identity. During his time at Towner, Joe and the team would like the people of Eastbourne and the surrounding area to have an opportunity to get to know their collection through a new series of displays selected by a range of invited guests and groups.

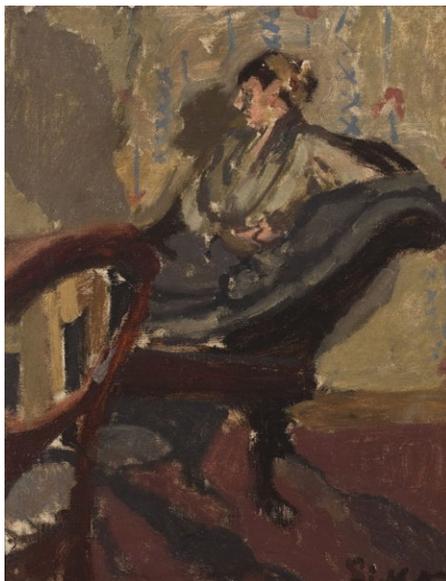


Figure Study II includes work by artists such as Eileen Cooper, Holly Downing, Elisabeth Frink, Richard Hamilton, Patrick Heron, Peter Lanyon, Victor Pasmore, John Piper, Walter Sickert and Thomas Joshua Cooper.

Curator's Walk and Talk

Sat 23 Feb / 2.00pm / Free

Join our Director Joe Hill for an informal tour of the exhibition.

Collections: Relevance and Value

Fri 26 Apr / 2.00pm / Free

In conversation, Grant Scanlon, Senior Curator at Huddersfield Museum, Towner's Head of Collections, Sara Cooper, Collections Curator, Karen Taylor and Director, Joe Hill will discuss the relevance of an expanding contemporary and historic art collection and the value Towner places on it.

The Weather Garden: Anne Hardy curates the Arts Council Collection

17 February – 2 June 2019

Gallery 2, Free

British artist Anne Hardy curates the Arts Council Collection in Towner's eighth and final exhibition as part of the Arts Council Collection National Partners Programme 2016-19. Anne Hardy's work derives from places she calls 'pockets of wild space' – gaps in the urban space where materials, atmospheres, and emotions gather – using what she finds there to manifest sensory and unstable installation works that fully immerse you. Hardy brings this approach to her selection for Towner, envisioning the gallery space as a shifting, impermanent landscape, a meditative environment shaped by local weather data, which has been translated into gently fluctuating light.

The Weather Garden encompasses over thirty artworks in a diverse range of media that are engaged with material, physical action, and sensuality. Artists include: Roger Ackling, Claire Barclay, Becky Beasley, Appau Jnr Boakye-Yiadom, Claude Cahun, Lynn Chadwick, Alice Channer, Lygia Clark, Thomas Joshua Cooper, Jane Coyle, Hubert Dalwood, Rita Donagh, Barry Flanagan, John Gibbons, Shirazeh Houshiary, Kim Lim, Sarah Lucas, Lucia Nogueira, Madeleine Pledge, Ima-Abasi Okon, Margaret Organ, Karin Ruggaber, Veronica Ryan, Seb Thomas, Edward Weston and Cathy Wilkes.



artscouncilcollection.org.uk

Left: Walter Sickert, *Nina Hamnett on Sofa*, undated. Towner Collection

Above: Sarah Lucas, *Nud Cycladic 7*, 2010. Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London © the artist. Purchased with the assistance of the Art Fund



Artists in Conversation

Sat 16 Feb / 5.00pm / £5 (£4 conc. & members)
Artists Anne Hardy and Carey Young discuss their exhibitions with members of our curatorial team, followed by a Q&A.

John Cage's *Ryoanji* performed by LCO

Sat 16 Feb / 8.00pm / Free
A trio of musicians from London Contemporary Orchestra will perform John Cage's *Ryoanji* live at Towner. This piece, by one of the most influential composers of the twentieth century, was inspired by the zen rock garden at the Ryoanji Temple in Kyoto, Japan.

Curator's Walk and Talk

Thu 28 Mar / 2.00pm / Free
Join Towner Curator, Noelle Collins, for an informal tour of the exhibition.

Carey Young: Palais de Justice

17 February – 2 June 2019

Gallery 3, Free

Towner presents the first UK exhibition of Carey Young's *Palais de Justice* (2017) which was filmed surreptitiously at the Palais de Justice in Brussels, an enormous and ornate 19th Century courthouse designed to depict law in terms of the sublime. Contradicting the familiar patriarchal culture of law, Young's camera depicts female judges and lawyers at court. Sitting at trial, directing proceedings or delivering judgments, female judges are seen through a series of circular windows in courtroom doors. Always shooting without permission, Young subtly builds a counter-narrative: a legal system seemingly centred on, and perhaps controlled by women, as if male presence may be optional or unnecessary in this particular future. Young's camera becomes implicated, either caught within reflections, or through becoming noticed by some of her subjects. The windows and the camera's lens

are suggested as an interwoven series of oculi, in which we watch justice as performance and are ourselves implicated as witnesses and voyeurs. The piece considers the complex relationships between lenses, surveillance and ideas of framing or being framed, which are at the core of the law-related work Young has been developing for more than a decade.

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Below: Carey Young, still from *Palais de Justice*, 2017. Single-channel HD video (from 4K); 16:9, colour, quadraphonic sound; 17 mins 58 secs. ©Carey Young. Courtesy Paula Cooper Gallery, New York



Ravilious Gallery and Collection Library

Opens 26 January*



Since the 1930s, Towner has developed one of the largest public collections of work by Eric Ravilious (1903–1942) as well as extensive archive materials. The Ravilious Gallery and Collection Library, supported by Eastbourne Arts Circle, is a new dedicated space presenting changing exhibitions of works by Eric Ravilious selected from Towner's extensive collection of his work. The new gallery also houses a library of books on artists in Towner's Collection, providing a free to access research area.

Supported by Eastbourne Arts Circle



Eastbourne Arts Circle Talks

For dates and more information on these popular talks please see eastbourneartscircle.org.uk

*Please note the Ravilious Room will be closed from 7 – 25 January in preparation for the opening of this new space.

Draw Me In

5 April – 2 June 2019



Creative responses to artworks in our collection by children and young people from across Sussex. Formerly known as our Annual Schools Exhibition, this year the opportunity is open to all local groups. Twelve artists and their works have been chosen by teachers and artists as inspiration for new collaborative art. Ranging from sculpture to animation, the exhibition explores drawing as medium and message.

Collection work on display alongside children's responses includes Elizabeth Magill, Ceal Floyer, Ursula Mommens, Elisabeth Frink, Rachel Cohen and Elizabeth Blackadder.

Join us to celebrate the thriving creativity in our community with an opening party on Thursday 4 April, 4.00pm–6.00pm. Everyone's invited!

Find out more at towner.gallery/drawmein
[@townerlearning](https://twitter.com/townerlearning) #DrawMeIn

With thanks to the Williams Charitable Trust

Evan Roth: Red Lines

26 January – 28 April 2019



Red Lines is Artangel's first networked artwork: available free to anyone, anywhere. A network of mesmerising video landscapes is streamed free to your home or workplace in this pioneering new project by artist Evan Roth. Roth has travelled to coastal sites around the world where the cables that make the internet possible emerge from the sea. Filmed in infrared, the same spectrum in which data is transmitted online, the videos reveal another side of the internet, one that moves at the speed of weather, wind, and tide.

Red Lines can be experienced by anyone, anywhere in the world. Experience it at Towner from 26 January – 28 April or find out how to join the network at your home or workplace at artangel.org.uk/project/red-lines

For over 30 years Artangel has produced extraordinary art in unexpected places across the UK and around the world.

Artangel

Above: Detail from Evan Roth, *Red Lines* (2018). An Artangel commission.

The Living Collection: Towner Art Gallery at London Art Fair

16 – 20 January 2019, Business Design
Centre, Islington, London



In our role as Museum Partner for London Art Fair 2019, Towner will present *The Living Collection*, a new display at the entrance to the fair celebrating the gallery's rich heritage of collecting, exhibiting and championing contemporary art for almost a century.

Demonstrating the strength of the Towner Collection as an active, evolving body of contemporary art, the exhibition will feature modern and contemporary works by Eric Ravilious, Edward Bawden, John Nash, William Nicholson, Duncan Grant, William Gear, Gertrude Hermes, Tirzah Garwood and Wolfgang Tillmans as well as a specially commissioned wallpaper by Becky Beasley. Towner will also curate a series of talks and panel discussions which will take place at the fair.

For tickets and info visit londonartfair.co.uk

LONDON ART FAIR

Above: Edward Bawden, *The Boy, Eric Ravilious in his Studio at Redcliffe Road, 1929*. ©The Estate of Edward Bawden. Towner Collection

Learning

Our learning programme enables everyone to benefit from arts and culture at Towner. We offer workshops and projects for all ages, created with artists, both in the gallery and community. From providing free space for local groups such as Eastbourne Sketchers and Blue Monkey Network, to partnerships with schools and colleges, family holiday workshops, and supporting mental health recovery. This year we are bringing all of these activities together, along with some exciting new opportunities and relaunching as **Art School** in our ground floor studios. Get involved! Look out for our Art School programme, join us on Saturday 16 February from 6.00pm at our launch or contact Marina Castledine, Head of Learning for details: marina.castledine@townereastbourne.org.uk

Tours and Talks

Art Store Tours

Sundays 6 & 20 Jan, 3 & 17 Feb, 3, 17 & 31 Mar, 14 & 28 Apr, 12 & 26 May, 9 & 23 Jun / 12 noon / £6 (£5 conc. & members)

Go behind the scenes and enjoy a fascinating introduction to Towner's impressive art collection. From the original Victorian bequest to Eric Ravilious, no two tours are the same.

Private Art Store Tours

£7 per person (minimum charge £35)

We offer private art store tours at the time of your choice, ideal if you're planning an outing for a large group, a visit with friends, or are looking for an unusual gift for an art lover. Contact towner@townereastbourne.org.uk

Perspectives on... Works in Preparation

Sat 2 Feb / 11.00am / £6 (£5 conc. & members)

Towner's Collection includes several preparatory works on paper by artists who used them as drafts to plan their final pieces. Our conservator Corinne Farmer will explore drawings by a range of artists, including Duncan Grant, Elizabeth Frink

and Eric Ravilious, to provide a fascinating insight into the creative and technical process behind a completed work.

Perspectives on... The Berwick Church Murals

Sun 14 Apr / 2.00pm / £6 (£5 conc. & members)

One of the hidden treasures in Towner's art store is our collection of sketches produced by Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell in preparation for their murals in Berwick Church. Our specialist guide Terry Henson will talk about the background to the commissioning of the murals and the creative process involved.

Towner Cinema

Towner Cinema returns with another jam packed season of new releases, restored classics and one-off events. Our Screen Classics partnership with University of Sussex continues, we look forward to a special event hosted with the Overnight Film Festival, and we present an LGBT History Month special with Eastbourne Rainbow and Bourne Out.

Meet up for a drink in the Cinema Bar before the film or enjoy one in the comfort of the cinema. Bar opens 45 minutes before the first screening of the day. towner.gallery/film

Booking

Unless otherwise stated, we recommend booking tickets in advance for films and events online at townereastbourne.org.uk, by calling 01323 434670, or at the Welcome Desk. All talks last one hour unless otherwise stated. Event info is correct at time of going to print, check our website for up to date info and last minute additions.

Visitor Information

Free Admission

Tuesday – Sunday 10.00am–5.00pm
Bank Holiday Mondays 10.00am–5.00pm

Towner Art Gallery
Devonshire Park
College Road
Eastbourne BN21 4JJ
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towner@townereastbourne.org.uk
townereastbourne.org.uk
   @townergallery / @townerlearning

Mailing List

Receive information about our exhibitions, events and private views:
towner.gallery@mailinglist

Travel and Parking

Walk/Cycle: We are a 10 min walk from Eastbourne station. Follow signs to Devonshire Park. Secure bike racks to the front of the building.

Bus: The 3 (local service) and 12A (Brighton) stop near the Winter Gardens on Carlisle Rd.

Train: Direct to Eastbourne from London (1hr 25 min), Brighton (35 min) and throughout the South East.

Car: College Rd car park is pay and display and has designated spaces for blue badge holders. For more info on getting to Towner car free from wherever you are visit towner.gallery/carfree

Accessibility

We have a lift to each floor and a wheelchair can be provided. See our website for more info or call us to discuss specific needs. Towner supports the  Access All Areas scheme.

Café

Our café bar is open from 10.00am–4.30pm serving top quality coffee, homemade cakes and light lunches.

Shop

Take home gifts, books, prints and stationery influenced by our collection and exhibitions, or shop online at shop.townereastbourne.org.uk

Membership

Support our work and enjoy invitations to private views, free entry to ticketed exhibitions and discounts in our café and shop. Join now at towner.gallery/members

Legacies

Remembering Towner in your will is a wonderful way to make a lasting impact on future generations' enjoyment of the gallery. All gifts make a real difference and are free of inheritance tax. To discuss your wishes confidentially, email clare.dobson@townereastbourne.org.uk or call 01323 434663.

Volunteer

If you enjoy interacting with people and have an enthusiasm for art then we'd love to hear from you. Contact volunteer@townereastbourne.org.uk

Venue Hire

Our spaces, including the Towner Auditorium, are available to hire for daytime and evening events. To find out more, call 01323 434679 or email roomhire@townereastbourne.org.uk

Conservation Services

Undertaken by our fully accredited conservator Corinne Farmer, ACR. To book a free consultation email corinne.farmer@townereastbourne.org.uk