

TRANSMITTER / RECEIVER

The Persistence of Collage

A new touring exhibition from the Arts Council Collection

Opening mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art

22 July – 6 November 2011

The new Arts Council Collection touring exhibition *Transmitter/Receiver* traces some of the uses of collage in British art from the first influences of the Parisian avant-garde, in the early work of **Ben Nicholson** and British Surrealists **Eileen Agar** and **Roland Penrose**, through to present day practitioners such as **Steve Claydon**, **David Noonan** and **Idris Khan**. Bringing together over 50 works it includes traditional collage on paper, alongside painting, sculpture, film and slide projections, all drawn from the Arts Council Collection. After premiering at **mima** it tours to The New Art Gallery, Walsall (4 May – 1 July 2012); Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln (August – October 2012) and Tullie House, Carlisle (16 March – 12 May 2013).

Collage as a medium has existed and been used for centuries, whether as the assembly of materials to make artworks or the gathering of memorabilia or objects to form a scrapbook. As an art form it was made famous by the Cubist collages of Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso. This exhibition covers British works from 1930s to the present day and explores how collage has arguably become the default medium of the twenty-first century – it is now commonplace to sample, appropriate, mix and mash materials from across a vast range of media and assimilate these elements to articulate one's own vision. The exhibition title comes from the words of the French critic Nicholas Bourriaud - we are no longer either passive *receivers* or authoritative cultural *transmitters*, but potentially both simultaneously.

Transmitter/Receiver shows the diversity of approaches and themes addressed by artists through the medium of collage, from the bold experimentation in breaking down the barriers of high art in the first half of the 20th century, to the increasingly political critique of the commercial world by **Richard Hamilton** and **Eduardo Paolozzi** in 1950s & 1960s. In the 1970s, Feminist artists such as **Linder** used collage to rebel against the advertising industry's casual commodification of the female image, while artists such as **John Stezaker** felt the need to jolt his viewer out of a passive acceptance of the relentless barrage of visual material. Recently artists such as **Steven Claydon** and **Idris Khan** have appropriated film techniques of cutting and splicing to create complex video collages.

The exhibition is accompanied by a small publication priced at £5.00. Visitors to the exhibition can take away labels for selected works to insert into the book, in the style of a scrapbook.

Artists include: Linder, Eileen Agar, David Batchelor, Ian Breakwell, Marc Camille Chaimowicz, Patrick Caulfield, Steven Claydon, Michael Craig-Martin, Kate Davis, The Hackney Flashers, Richard Hamilton, Margaret Harrison, Susan Hiller, Laurence Kavanagh, Peter Kennard, Idris Khan, Camilla Løw, David Mach, Ben Nicholson, David Noonan, Chris Ofili, Eduardo Paolozzi, Toby Paterson, Sir Roland Penrose, Grayson Perry, Jo Spence, John Stezaker, Tony Swain, Mark Titchner, Armando Andrade Tudela, Martin Westwood.

The Arts Council Collection

The Arts Council Collection is one of Britain's foremost national collections of post-war British Art. As a collection 'without walls', it has no permanent gallery; it can be seen on long term loan to museums, galleries, schools, hospitals, colleges and charitable associations and in touring exhibitions and displays at home and abroad. It is also, importantly, the most widely circulated and easily accessible collection of its kind, with nearly 8000 works available for loan. It is run by Southbank Centre on behalf of Arts Council England.

Established in 1946 to promote and enrich knowledge of contemporary art, the Collection continues to acquire works by artists, many at an early stage of their career, living and working in Britain and to foster the widest possible access to modern and contemporary across the UK. It includes work by Francis Bacon, Tracey Emin, Lucian Freud, Antony Gormley, Barbara Hepworth, David Hockney, Anish Kapoor, Henry Moore, Bridget Riley and Wolfgang Tillmans. Recent exhibitions of works from the Collection, created in collaboration with Hayward Touring, include *Unpopular Culture: Grayson Perry curates from the Arts Council Collection*, and *Now Showing I & II*. In 2009 the Arts Council Collection launched the *Flashback* series which showcases world-renowned British artists whose works were acquired early on by the Collection, including Bridget Riley (2010) and Anish Kapoor (2011). In December 2006 access to the Collection was further enhanced when www.artscouncilcollection.org.uk was launched.

Exhibition details:

Address: mima Middlesbrough Institute of
Modern Art
Centre Square, Middlesbrough TS1 2AZ
www.visitmima.com

mima opening times
Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat
10.00am–4.30pm
Thurs 10.00am–7.00pm
Sun 12noon–4.00pm
Closed Mon

Please note that mima is now closed on
Bank Holidays.

Admission: Free

Tel: 01642 726713

For further PRESS information please contact Sarah Ragsdale, Tel: 020 7921 0887 or sarah.ragsdale@southbankcentre.co.uk or Helena Zedig, Tel: 020 7921 0847 or helena.zedig@southbankcentre.co.uk

Notes to Editors:

Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, occupying a 21-acre site that sits in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. The site has an extraordinary creative and architectural history stretching back to the 1951 *Festival of Britain*. Southbank Centre is home to the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and the Hayward Gallery as well as The Saison Poetry Library and the Arts Council Collection.

mima Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art

mima is one of the UK's leading galleries for modern and contemporary art and craft. The landmark building designed by Erick van Egeraat Architects is situated in the heart of Middlesbrough. mima opened to international critical acclaim in January 2007. Hosting temporary exhibitions of fine art and craft from 1900 to the present, mima showcases work by internationally acclaimed artists. Exhibitions change throughout the year and admission is free. mima is a partner of Tate, and exchanges programmes, ideas and skills with the Plus Tate network of visual arts organisations. www.visitmima.com

Plus Tate

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