

# Artlyst

## Towner Art Gallery To Exhibit Living Collection At London Art Fair

January 6, 2019

### Towner Art Gallery To Exhibit Living Collection At London Art Fair



6 January 2019 • Share —

The London Art Fair has partnered with Eastbourne's Towner Art Gallery to present The Living Collection, an exhibition that celebrates the gallery's rich heritage of collecting, exhibiting and championing contemporary art for almost a century. This will be a highlight during the 2019 edition of LAF.

***We share a mutual ambition to showcase the most exciting developments in modern and contemporary art - Sarah Monk LAF Director***

Founded in 1923 with a bequest of 22 paintings by Alderman John Chisholm Towner, the Collection today features a wealth of important twentieth-century British artists as well as a significant collection of national and international contemporary art and moving image artworks. As the gallery moves towards its centenary in 2023, the collection will play an important role in interpreting the last hundred years of regional history and be used as a catalyst to talk about the future.



Frances Hodgkins Flatford Mill 1930 Collection of Towner Gallery Collection

Towner's exhibition at London Art Fair 2019 will showcase a selection of works that are significant to the history of the gallery and its collection, and will look at the way it has been shaped by its dedicated and innovative curators, who have sought to promote and support the most significant living artists of their time.

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. This selection will not only highlight the role of Sussex as 'The Artists' County', a place of inspiration which has nurtured artists and makers, but will also champion key figures from its history that promoted radical thinking and inspired social change throughout the twentieth century. To celebrate their exhibition at London Art Fair 2019, Towner is commissioning a new wallpaper artwork responding to the collection by Paul Hamlyn Awards for Artists 2018 recipient, Becky Beasley, which will form the backdrop of Towner's display at the Fair.

Joe Hill, Towner's new Director since March 2018, said: "We are delighted to be the Official Museum Partner for the 2019 London Art Fair. It is a brilliant opportunity to showcase the work of Towner at one of the largest events on the cultural calendar, and as the gallery moves towards its centenary celebration, it is an ideal moment to highlight some of the important artworks that have been significant in its development. At a time when all galleries and museums are re-examining their role in a changing political and social landscape, it is essential that we look to our collections to interpret our context and develop new creative conversations for the future with artists, audiences and communities."

Sarah Monk, Director of London Art Fair, said: "It is a privilege to be welcoming Towner as our Museum Partner in 2019 at such an exciting time for the Fair, as we launch our refreshed identity, and for the gallery as they approach their centenary in 2023. We share a mutual ambition to showcase the most exciting developments in modern and contemporary art both celebrating the past and championing the future and bring outstanding regional collections to a national and international audience." Towner's Chairman, broadcaster David Dimbleby, said: "We are excited to be the Museum Partner for the London Art Fair. It gives us a chance to show what we do at Towner: a contemporary art gallery commissioning and showing new work by both British and international artists alongside our own extensive collection of mainly twentieth-century art. This allows our curators and staff to explore different combinations of exhibitions and events with an energy that entices new audiences to come through our doors. As Trustees, nothing thrills us more than to hear of visitors enthusing about the unexpected delights Towner offers. I hope after seeing us at the fair you will come to Eastbourne and experience the gallery for yourself."





Eric Ravillious, The Bedstead, 1939. Towner Collection

**Top Photo Detail: Wolfgang Tillmans 'End Of Land I' Image Courtesy Towner Gallery Collection and Maureen Paley London**

[Read More](#)

**For a limited time only, book your tickets for only £11 (plus a £1.75 booking fee), receiving a 30% discount on a standard day pass. To claim this offer, enter ARTLYST at the online checkout.**

***London Art Fair 2025: 22 - 26 January***

[Source](#)