Summary of Exhibitions

“Things of Beauty Growing”: British Studio Pottery
September 14–December 3, 2017

The Yale Center for British Art presents the first major survey of British studio pottery ever organized in the United States. Bringing together nearly 150 ceramic objects—including vases, bowls, chargers, and monumental forms, as well as a range of historic works from China, Japan, and Korea—“Things of Beauty Growing”: British Studio Pottery traces the evolution of the vessel form, which has defined the ceramic medium from the turn of the twentieth century to the present. This exhibition demonstrates that the story of studio pottery is a global one—as these pots and potters have traveled between England, continental Europe, Asia, Africa, and beyond. It also underlines that studio pottery is an ongoing practice, and the display includes works created especially for the occasion by contemporary makers, as well as drawing from distinguished private and public collections in the United States and the United Kingdom.

The Paston Treasure: Microcosm of the Known World
February 15–May 27, 2018

This spring, the Center will present an exhibition dedicated to the enigmatic masterpiece The Paston Treasure (ca. 1663) in its North American debut. Organized in partnership with the Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery, UK, The Paston Treasure: Microcosm of the Known World will explore the world of the Pastons—a landowning family of Norfolk famous for their medieval letters—through a display of 140 objects from more than fifty international institutional and private lenders. This exhibition will include five treasures from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that appear in the painting: a pair of silver-gilt flagons, a Strombus shell cup, two unique nautilus cups, and a perfume flask with a mother-of-pearl carcase, which will be gathered together for the first time in more than three centuries. A host of other objects, many with Paston provenance, will tell the story of collecting within the family from the medieval period until the moment of the making of the painting. This exhibition will subsequently travel to the Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery, where it will be on view from June 23 to September 23, 2018.
Celia Paul
Spring 2018

The Center will present an exhibition of work by the contemporary British artist Celia Paul (b. 1959) in spring 2018, the first in a series of three successive exhibitions curated by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Hilton Als. This exhibition, specially selected by Als in collaboration with the artist and a deeply personal testament to their transatlantic friendship, will focus on Paul’s recent works, which will explore intimacy and inwardness.

Als’s subsequent installments at the Center will feature works of Lynette Yiadom-Boakye in 2019 and Peter Doig in 2020. Following the final exhibition, the Center will publish a volume of Als’s personal reflections on the three artists.

Salt and Silver: Early Photography, 1840–1860
June 28–September 9, 2018

Next summer, the Center will present an exhibition devoted to salted paper prints, one of the earliest forms of photography and a British invention. Salt and Silver: Early Photography, 1840–1860 will feature more than one hundred seldom displayed salt prints on loan from the Wilson Centre for Photography in London, providing visitors with an opportunity to see some of the earliest photographs in the world.

The exhibition will survey the first twenty-five years of photography’s evolution through the salted paper process—pioneered by the English scientist and scholar William Henry Fox Talbot (1800–1877) and unveiled in Britain in 1839—examining how, for a short but significant time, Talbot’s scientific and artistic breakthrough created a new visual experience that inspired generations of photographers. The display will bring together more than forty of its practitioners, including David Octavius Hill (1802–1870), Roger Fenton (1819–1869), and Robert Adamson (1821–1848), and trace their networks and geographical reach from England into Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, India, and North America.
SUMMARY OF EXHIBITIONS

George Shaw: A Corner of a Foreign Field
September 27–December 30, 2018

In fall 2018, the Center will present the first comprehensive museum exhibition dedicated to the work of one of Britain’s leading contemporary painters, George Shaw (b. 1966). This will be the artist’s first solo show in the United States. Organized in collaboration with the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and the Anthony Wilkinson Gallery in London, George Shaw: A Corner of A Foreign Field will survey the career of the Turner Prize-nominated artist from 1996 to present, featuring nearly seventy paintings, more than sixty drawings, and numerous prints, together with a range of sketchbook and notebook materials. The exhibition also will include several new works created especially for this display.

ABOUT THE YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART
The Yale Center for British Art houses the largest collection of British art outside the United Kingdom. Presented to the university by Paul Mellon (Yale College, Class of 1929), the collection reflects the development of British art and culture from the Elizabethan period onward. The Center’s collections include more than 2,000 paintings, 250 sculptures, 20,000 drawings and watercolors, 40,000 prints, and 35,000 rare books and manuscripts. More than 40,000 volumes supporting research in British art and related fields are available in the Center’s Reference Library. In May 2016, the Center reopened to the public following the completion of a multiyear project to conserve its iconic Louis I. Kahn building.

Visit the Center online at britishart.yale.edu.

PRESS CONTACTS
Yale Center for British Art
Ronnie Rysz: +1 203 436 3429 | ronnie.rysz@yale.edu
Kristin Dwyer: +1 203 432 2856 | kristin.dwyer@yale.edu