Summary of Exhibitions 2019–20

*Photographs | Contemporary Art: Recent Gifts and Acquisitions*
June 20–September 8, 2019

The role of the donor-collector is not always the first thing that occurs to a museumgoer seeking inspiration in the Center’s galleries. This exhibition shines appreciative light on the importance donors play in evolving the Center’s collections, building on the foundational gift of Paul Mellon (Yale College, Class of 1929). The lively and varied installation gives a tantalizing peek of the Center’s growing contemporary art and photography holdings via gifts, promised gifts, and recent purchases.

This exhibition focuses on contemporary art, broadly defined as works made in roughly 1970 to the present day. An exciting presentation of photography highlights the earliest years of the practice, starting in the 1840s, and recent works made by artists working in the photographic medium today—with and without cameras. The savvy visitor will encounter delightful and intriguing connections between old and new.

*Peterloo and Protest*
August 16–December 1, 2019

The year 2019 marks the bicentenary of the Peterloo Massacre, when an armed and mounted militia attacked a large but peaceful demonstration for political reform in St. Peter’s Field in Manchester, leaving over a dozen dead and hundreds injured. This exhibition commemorates this defining event in British political history. Using objects drawn from the Center’s collections and others, the display also examines later public protests and demonstrations in Britain and elsewhere until 1969.
SUMMARY OF EXHIBITIONS 2019–20

Unto This Last: Two Hundred Years of John Ruskin
September 5–December 8, 2019

The year 2019 marks the bicentenary of the birth of the great nineteenth-century artist and critic John Ruskin. By presenting selections from the Center’s rich collection of Ruskin’s drawings and publications, with significant loans from the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and other institutions, this exhibition positions Ruskin as a pioneering ecological thinker, social reformer, educator, and preservationist. Bringing together an array of diverse materials, including paintings, drawings, literary manuscripts, mineral samples, and memorabilia, the exhibition highlights Ruskin’s impact in his own time and his enduring significance today.

The Hilton Als Series: Lynette Yiadom-Boakye
September 12–December 15, 2019

This focused exhibition of works by Lynette Yiadom-Boakye (b. 1977) is the second in the series of three successive exhibitions, curated by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Hilton Als, devoted to contemporary women artists from Britain and the Commonwealth. Selected by Als in collaboration with Yiadom-Boakye and the Center, this display highlights recent paintings by the London-based artist, focusing on her portrait-like studies of characters drawn from the world of fiction, found images, and imagination.
Migrating Worlds: 
The Art of the Moving Image in Britain
October 10–December 29, 2019

*Migrating Worlds* brings together work by eight of Britain’s leading film and video artists in the first exhibition at the Yale Center for British Art dedicated exclusively to the moving image.

Featuring Theo Eshetu (b. 1958), Isaac Julien (b. 1960), Rosalind Nashashibi (b. 1973), Charlotte Prodger (b. 1974), Zina Saro-Wiwa (b. 1976), Zineb Sedira (b. 1963), John Smith (b. 1952), and Alia Syed (b. 1964), *Migrating Worlds* foregrounds work that addresses the relationship between people and place, especially the effects of dislocation incurred by the movement of peoples, both forced and elective. Through a common emphasis on nature and its landforms, whether urban topography, wilderness, or the surfaces and depths of the seas, these artists address questions of identity and place, exploring the colonial exploitation of peoples and the environment, and their contemporary legacies in our ceaselessly changing world.

Contemporary Designer Bookbindings from the Collection of Neale and Margaret Albert
January 16–March 29, 2020

Featuring the work of designer bookbinder George Kirkpatrick (b. 1938), one of the most imaginative artists represented in the collection of Neale and Margaret Albert, the display also includes exemplars by some of the most talented designer binders working today, such as Susan Allix, Hannah Brown, Gabrielle Fox, Michael Wilcox, and Robert Wu. Many of these bindings were especially commissioned by Neale Albert (Yale JD 1961), who is an active supporter of this often underappreciated aspect of the book arts. He was elected in 2014 as an honorary fellow of Designer Bookbinders, the principal society in Great Britain devoted to artistic bookbinding. All of the books included in the exhibition are a promised gift to the Center from Neale and Margaret Albert.
SUMMARY OF EXHIBITIONS 2019–20

**Victorian Radicals: From the Pre-Raphaelites to the Arts and Crafts Movement**  
February 13–May 10, 2020

Showcasing the work of Ford Madox Brown, Edward Burne-Jones, William Holman Hunt, John Everett Millais, William Morris, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and Elizabeth Siddall, among others, this display represents the spectrum of avant-garde practices of the Victorian period. These artists’ attention to detail, use of vibrant colors, and engagement with both literary themes and contemporary life are illustrated through a selection of paintings, drawings, and watercolors presented alongside superb examples of decorative art.

The exhibition is organized by the American Federation of Arts and Birmingham Museums Trust.

**Art in Focus: Women at Yale**  
April 13–August 30, 2020

In conjunction with Yale University’s yearlong celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of coeducation in Yale College and the 150th anniversary of women students at Yale, the topic of this spring’s *Art in Focus* is British female artists. The student curators for the exhibition include Emma Gray, SY ’21; Sunnie Liu, JE ’21; Annie Roberts, SY ’21; Christina Robertson, SM ’22; and Olivia Thomas, MC ’20.

*Art in Focus* is an annual initiative by members of the Center’s Student Guide Program, providing Yale undergraduates with curatorial experience and an introduction to all aspects of exhibition practice.
Bill Brandt/Henry Moore
June 25–September 13, 2020

In the history of British sculpture and photography, Henry Moore (1898–1986) and Bill Brandt (1904–1983) are recognized as chief exponents of their respective fields. Their work and careers have been understood specifically through a British lens: Moore for making sculpture an art for modern Britain, and Brandt for his distinctive visual record of the British. Near contemporaries, Moore and Brandt first met during the Second World War, when each produced an independent body of work depicting people sheltering in the London Underground. Moore’s “shelter drawings” and Brandt’s photographs of the shelters now rank among the most iconic works in the artists’ oeuvres.

This exhibition begins with these wartime works, considering their production in the larger visual culture of the war, and examines the intersecting artistic preoccupations of the two artists in the postwar period and through the 1980s.

Marking Time: Objects and Temporality in Britain, 1600–1800
October 29, 2020–February 28, 2021

How do we measure the days of our lives? Marking Time considers that profound question in the context of early modern Britain. This period witnessed extraordinary social transformations, many of which had to do with time itself and the way it was understood. The exhibition explores that theme, focusing on an extraordinary private collection of fine and decorative artworks, each of which bears a specific commemorative date. It marked a moment that was important, for reasons personal or professional, private or public, religious or secular.

Taking inspiration from these artifacts, the exhibition and its related publication are structured around the stages of life in early modern Britain. It begins with objects related to birth, then progresses through youth, courtship and marriage, setting up a household, establishing professional and public roles, and, finally, the certainty of death and the attempt to assure legacy.
SUMMARY OF EXHIBITIONS 2019–20

ABOUT THE YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

The Center houses the largest collection of British art outside the United Kingdom, encompassing works in a range of media from the Elizabethan period to the present day. It offers exhibitions and programs year-round, including lectures, concerts, films, symposia, tours, and family events. Visit the Center online at britishart.yale.edu, and connect on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube @yalebritishart. #YCBA

PRESS CONTACTS

YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

April Swieconek: +1 203 432 2853 | april.swieconek@yale.edu
Ronnie Rysz: +1 203 436 3429 | ronnie.rysz@yale.edu

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