

Exhibition Guide

24 April – 4 May 2015

Giovanni Anselmo
Fiona Banner
David Batchelor
Christiane Baumgartner
Martin Creed
Ian Davenport
Richard Deacon
Ding Yi
A K Dolven
Marcel Dzama
Semyon Faibisovich
Matias Faldbakken
Bernard Frize
Ryan Gander
Antony Gormley
Arturo Herrera
Carmen Herrera
Roger Hiorns
Lee Bul
Elizabeth Magill
Beatriz Milhazes
François Morellet
Dennis Oppenheim
Julian Opie
Cornelia Parker
Giuseppe Penone
Imran Qureshi
George Shaw
Amikam Toren
Zhang Enli

Artists for Ikon **Second Floor Galleries**

This exhibition is the culmination of Ikon's 50th anniversary celebrations. *Artists for Ikon* previews works donated for a major art auction, taking place at Sotheby's in July. It is generously supported by some of today's most important artists, all of whom have exhibited at Ikon or are included in anticipation of future projects.

The proceeds will lay the foundations for Ikon's 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund, dedicated to the gallery's artistic programme and the commissioning of new art works, providing the opportunity for established artists to support the artists of the future.

The art works presented here use a wide range of media and styles, from the landscape and figurative painting of Elizabeth Magill, Hurvin Anderson and George Shaw, to the pure abstraction of Carmen Herrera, François Morellet and Ian Davenport. Those looking for urban context, colour and contemporary pop imagery will not be disappointed by the work of Ding Yi, David Batchelor and Julian Opie, whilst Lee Bul and Dennis Oppenheim, through sculpture, convey a preoccupation with architecture. Neon installations by Fiona Banner (*Ampersand*) and Martin Creed (*Work No. 671, FRIENDS*) sit alongside a seminal slide projection by Giovanni Anselmo.

The spirit of Duchamp lives on in the use of readymades by Matias Faldbakken (*Untitled, CarTrunk #1*), Amikam Toren (*Armchair Paintings*) and Cornelia Parker (*Alter Ego* series). The nature of the human body is explored by Antony Gormley and the wonderfully sensuous drawings of Giuseppe Penone, in contrast to the more overtly social and political propositions that inform the powerful paintings of Imran Qureshi and Semyon Faibisovich.

We are delighted to include two new works created especially for this exhibition – Marcel Dzama’s dream-like figurative drawing on piano paper, entitled *Ikon* (2015), and Beatriz Milhazes’ vibrant abstract collage, *O Hippie* (2014). Looking to the future, Fiona Banner and Roger Hiorns show work in anticipation of their forthcoming projects with Ikon.

Artists for Ikon is supported by Alycidon Capital Limited and Sotheby’s.

Support Ikon

To make a donation to Ikon’s 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund please visit www.ikon-gallery.org or call 0121 248 0708.

Visit the Resource Room where you can find a selection of books, audio and film.

Stay in touch

Subscribe to our e-bulletin at www.ikon-gallery.org and find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Ikon Gallery
Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HS
0121 248 0708
www.ikon-gallery.org

Printed on recycled paper.
Ikon Gallery Limited trading as Ikon.
Registered charity no. 528892.

Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

 **Birmingham City Council**

Associated Events

An Introduction to Buying Contemporary Art

Tuesday 28 April, 6.30–7.30pm – FREE

Where do you begin if you want to start collecting contemporary art? Ikon hosts this introductory event for those interested in buying art, with speakers including Mark Doyle, Head of Collector Development North, Contemporary Art Society, Connal Orton, Collector and Jonathan Watkins, Ikon Director.

Organised in collaboration with the New Art WM – Art Market Project. Places are free but should be booked. Please visit www.ikon-gallery.org to book online or call Ikon on 0121 248 0708.

Robert Groves

Golden Years

4 February – 4 May 2015

Ikon Reception, Ground Floor

On 5 April 1965 Ikon opened the doors of an octagonal glass-walled kiosk in the BullRing shopping precinct. Now to celebrate the 50th anniversary, there is a constellation of small golden paintings (c. 1965) by founding artist Robert Groves in Ikon’s reception area. They still shine with a luminosity derived from the superimposition of thin layers of oil and lacquer on hardboard. The works reflect the artist’s strong interest in Middle Eastern and South Asian culture, leading him to collect icons and in turn suggest the name ‘Ikon’ for the gallery.

“The whole point is that Ikon is not just for us.”

Robert Groves, Founder Artist, 1965