

collect



Presented
by the
Crafts Council

Press Release - Immediate

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COLLECT, THE INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR FOR CONTEMPORARY OBJECTS, RETURNS TO THE SAATCHI GALLERY IN FEBRUARY 2017



October 2016, London – Collect, the leading international art fair for contemporary objects, returns to the Saatchi Gallery in February 2017 with a new look and a dynamic programme. Presented by the [Crafts Council](#), [Collect](#) offers an unrivalled opportunity to see and buy exceptional contemporary craft by artists and makers represented by leading British and international galleries.

Collect will fill all three floors of the Saatchi Gallery from **2-6 February 2017**, returning for its 13th edition with a fresh vision and revitalised look and feel. Collect profiles the exceptional skill and intellectual rigour behind modern craft – from works in ceramics, glass, metal, wood and textiles to makers working in non-traditional materials with experimental techniques. At a time of unprecedented interest in craft, Collect connects the passion of collecting and the energy of making with a heightened awareness of design.

Works will be exhibited in a contemporary gallery setting during the five-day event, with a programme that includes a series of talks featuring leading craft thinkers, an exclusive preview of the latest acquisitions to the Crafts Council Collection ahead of a national tour, and an expanded Collect Open – a dedicated showcase for concept-driven experimental craft.

Commenting on Collect 2017, Rosy Greenlees, Executive Director of the Crafts Council said: *“We are delighted to announce the return of a bigger and better Collect for 2017. Collect will present outstanding presentations of contemporary craft from world-leading artists, represented by over 30 gallerists, with many engaging events and exhibitions running over the five-day fair, including some surprising installations which will challenge perceptions of what craft is and can be. The public interest in craft is huge and growing - the value of the thriving UK craft market is £3.4bn.”*

GALLERIES

Returning galleries as well as a selection of new international galleries have been selected for the 13th edition of Collect in 2017. The gallery selection panel comprises a group of experts in the field of contemporary craft and design including designer and maker Tord Boontje, Dr. Antonia Boström, Keeper of European Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics, and Glass at the V&A Museum, designer and maker Peter Ting, gallery owner Sarah Myerscough, and Annie Warburton Creative Director of the Crafts Council.

New galleries for Collect 2017 include Galerie Michel Giraud (France), Køppe Contemporary Objects (Denmark), Maison Parisienne (France) and Sokyo Gallery (Japan). Over 30 galleries will represent the works of hundreds of artists from the UK, France, Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Japan, Korea, and the USA.

Sarah Myerscough Gallery has exhibited at Collect since the first fair 2003. Sarah Myerscough commented: *“I have exhibited at Collect since its inception and witnessed its hand in establishing a serious market for contemporary craft. It has always been a beautifully presented, high-quality fair that has invited the best British and international galleries to exhibit. Because of all of these factors, the fair has ultimately helped to breakdown hierarchies between other disciplines such as fine art.”*

COLLECT OPEN

Alongside the gallery, Collect Open will showcase concept-driven and experimental craft works selected by a panel led by designer Faye Toogood. Collect Open offers a unique opportunity for artists to challenge traditional perceptions of craft and design. Installations by 15 makers including Shelley James, Soojin Kang and Malene Hartmann Rasmussen have been selected.

Artist Shelley James has been selected to exhibit at Collect Open, where she will launch three new sculptures that extend her fascination with five-fold symmetry. Shelley James said, *“Collect has become the international benchmark for makers – the quality of the work, the buzz of conversations with visitors from around the world and the venue itself are inspiring. Just to be there is a real honour.”*

The ESSEX TAPESTRIES BY GRAYSON PERRY

The Crafts Council is delighted to announce an exciting new acquisition to its national collection of contemporary craft: a pair of tapestries by Grayson Perry which will form a special presentation at Collect.

The *Essex House Tapestries: the life of Julie Cope* (2015) were made as part of a suite of works for *A House for Essex*, designed by Grayson Perry and FAT Architecture. They tell the story of an imaginary woman, Julie, an Essex Everywoman whose biography Perry has written in a long poem which also provides a social history of Essex since the Second World War. The Crafts Council has commissioned a special audio recording and visualisation of *The Ballad of Julie Cope* which will form part of the presentation at Collect.

This significant acquisition has been made possible with support from the [Art Fund](#), [Victoria Miro Gallery](#), and Crafts Council Patrons.

COLLECT AUCTION

The Collect Auction will feature works donated by a number of high profile makers and artists, to raise funds to transform the Crafts Council's public space and create a new home for craft in London. The silent auction will feature five high profile makers and it will open online in the lead-up to the fair and close on Wednesday evening during an exclusive private view.

OFFICIAL ONLINE PARTNER

[Artsy](#) will be Collect's official online partner, providing a comprehensive online guide to works and exhibitors at Collect in 2017. Artsy's preview of Collect will be published on 26 January 2017, with an exclusive first look for press and VIPs on 25 January.

SPONSORSHIP

The Crafts Council is delighted to announce Collect sponsorship by [Dinesen](#), one of world's leading providers of extraordinary plank floors and other exclusive solutions with wood. Collect 2017 will showcase the versatility and magnificence of Dinesen wood through the creation of a Dinesen environment within the top floor refectory; in harmony with existing stunning Dinesen flooring found throughout the Saatchi Gallery. The partnership underlines the importance of materiality within contemporary design. www.dinesen.com.

CRAFTS COUNCIL EXHIBITION

A new Crafts Council exhibition will celebrate the rich history of innovative and inspiring Crafts Council exhibitions, presenting a display of selected posters from our archive alongside [Collection](#) objects from the featured exhibitions. This display will link other Crafts Council Collection objects with these seminal moments and highlight our ambitions for future exhibitions and acquisitions.

TALKS

A lively talks and events programme will inspire and encourage debate on contemporary craft with leading voices from the worlds of craft, design, architecture, fashion and art.

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PRESS ENQUIRIES

For further information, interviews and images, please contact:
Tomorrow PR
Pia Malling Cappuccini or Amy Dollamore
pia@tomorrowpr.co.uk | amy@tomorrowpr.co.uk
+ 44 (0) 207 249 7409

For general enquires please contact collect@craftscouncil.org.uk or +44 (0) 207 806 2500

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Opening times are as follows:
Thursday 2 February 12pm-6pm
Friday 3 February 11am-6pm

Saturday 4 February 11am-6pm
Sunday 5 February 11am-6pm
Monday 6 February 11am-4pm

Private View
Thursday 2 February 10am-12pm

Location

Saatchi Gallery
Duke of York's HQ
King's Road, London
SW3 4RY

Tickets

[Book](#) before 30 November to get a one-day ticket for £14 (normally £18) and a two-day ticket for £21 (normally £27). All tickets include:

- a free hands-on Guide with floorplan
- event listings and editorial essays to guide you around the show
- free entry to talks
- an opportunity to subscribe or renew subscription to Crafts magazine with 7 issues for the price of 6 offer

About Collect

Collect is the leading international art fair for contemporary objects presented by the Crafts Council. From 2- 6 February it provides a unique opportunity to see and buy museum-quality works by leading craft masters. With exciting new features, Collect showcases the finest examples of contemporary craft presented by galleries from around the world and is supported by a dynamic programme of talks and events. Experience Collect - you will be astonished by what craft is and can be.

Award-winning architects Mowat and Company have re-imagined the layout of Collect, introducing exciting new feature areas and improving the journey around the fair. Esteemed graphic design studio Spin has produced a new brand and identity.

About the Crafts Council

Founded in 1971 and incorporated by Royal Charter, the Crafts Council is Britain's national agency for contemporary craft. Through exhibitions, publications, education programmes, and curating the national Collection, we champion the UK's foremost makers and present contemporary craft in new ways, challenging perceptions of what craft is and can be. The [Crafts Council](#) is a charity. Its work is made possible by the support of trusts and foundations, individual patrons, and corporate sponsors, and through public funding by Arts Council England.

Insert image: Dalmore Plains Tanami & Discovery Well vessels by Pippin Drysdale, Twenty16 Console table by Nest Design, both represented by Joanna Bird Contemporary Collections. Photography by Angela Moore, styling by Despina Curtis.

Dinesen Art Fund_



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