

Exhibition: *David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*

On view: April 15–July 29, 2018

Location: BCAM, Level 3 | Nathanson Galleries



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(Los Angeles—February 28, 2018) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is pleased to present the U.S. premiere of *David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*. On view April 15–July 29, 2018, this exhibition features recent portraits that revisit a genre that has been a major part of the artist’s long career. Vibrant and full of life, these paintings, which Hockney considers a single body of work, were executed between 2013 and 2016 in the artist’s Hollywood Hills studio. The exhibition provides insight into the artist’s life, his connections to the art world, and the people who have crossed his path recently.

For each portrait Hockney asked the sitter for a commitment of three days, which the artist has described as “a 20-hour exposure.” The portraits are painted on canvases of the same size (48 × 36 inches), with each subject seated in the same chair against a similar backdrop. Among the portraits are those of John Baldessari, Stephanie Barron, Douglas Baxter, Celia Birtwell, Dagny Corcoran, Edith Devaney, Larry Gagosian, Frank Gehry, Peter Goulds, Ayn Grinstein, Barry Humphries, Rita Pynoos, Joan Agajanian Quinn, Sir Norman Rosenthal, Jacob Rothschild, and Benedikt Taschen, which are joined by portraits of Hockney’s studio and home staff, children of friends, and Hockney’s siblings John and Margaret.

David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life is organized by the Royal Academy of Arts in London in collaboration with LACMA. The exhibition opened in London at the Royal Academy in 2017, and traveled to Venice and Bilbao. The LACMA presentation, the only U.S. showing of the work, is organized by Stephanie Barron, the museum’s senior curator of modern art.

“This exhibition marks the return of David’s work with painting on canvas and portraiture—long an important facet of his celebrated career,” said Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and

Wallis Annenberg Director. “In 1988 LACMA initiated Hockney’s first large retrospective and now thirty years later it is so meaningful to present a new body of work featuring David’s personal circle.”

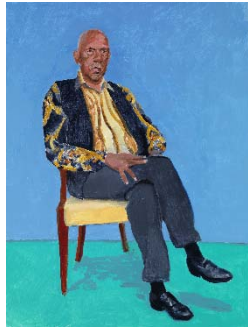
Stephanie Barron, senior curator of modern art, shares, “As one of the sitters whose portrait is included in the exhibition, I had the chance to witness Hockney’s painting process very closely over the course of three days. He observed me closely, worked confidently, quickly, and silently, and managed within the first two hours to capture my pose, clothing, and spirit. Hockney’s mastery of portraiture comes through in this remarkably intimate series in which each subject sat in the same chair, in front of the same curtain. Looking at them together we see how marvelously Hockney has captured the individual personalities of his varied subjects.”

Born in Bradford, England, in 1937, David Hockney began his career in the 1960s in London, as part of the emerging British Pop art scene. In 1964 he visited Los Angeles for the first time, and in 1979 he moved to L.A., where he established a studio practice. David Hockney’s work has been the focus of numerous LACMA exhibitions, including *David Hockney: A Retrospective* (1988); *David Hockney: A Drawing Retrospective* (1996); *David Hockney Portraits* (2006); and an installation of a multi-screen film, *David Hockney: Seven Yorkshire Landscape Videos, 2011* (2011). His iconic painting *Mulholland Drive: The Road to the Studio* (1980) has long been a hallmark of LACMA’s collection, and more than 200 of Hockney’s paintings, prints, drawings, photographs, and films are in the museum’s permanent collection.

About the Exhibition and Highlights

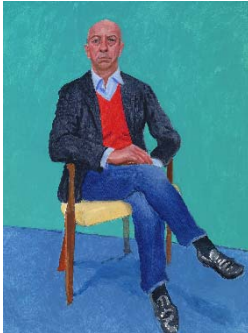
David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1 Still-life is arranged chronologically by the date of each portrait. This 82 paintings in the series are considered to be a single body of work and were executed between 2013 and 2016 in the artist’s Los Angeles studio. In each portrait the subject is seated in the same yellow upholstered chair against a vivid blue background, and all the portraits were all painted in acrylic on 48 × 36” canvases. Each portrait was painted over a period of two or three days, which is indicated in the title of each painting.

Highlights include:



Dr. Leon Banks, 12th, 13th, 15th November 2013

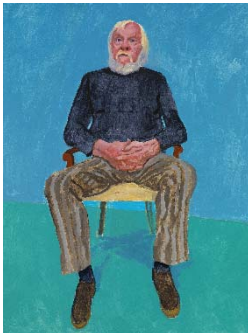
Los Angeles–based pediatrician and collector. Banks and Hockney have known each other since the early 1960s.



Benedikt Taschen, 9th, 10th, 11th December 2013

“Benedikt is a publisher. He lives just nearby, ten minutes away.”

—David Hockney



John Baldessari, 13th, 16th December 2013

Los Angeles–based conceptual artist. Hockney describes painting this portrait: “I remember his mouth and it didn’t move much. Normally he’s animated. You’ve always to find out how you animate a face.”



Stephanie Barron, 7th, 8th, 9th January 2014

Senior Curator and Department Head of Modern Art at LACMA. Barron and Hockney have known each other for nearly forty years.



Barry Humphries, 26th, 27th, 28th March 2015

Actor and comedian who performs as Dame Edna Everage.



Margaret Hockney, 14th, 15th, 16th August 2015

The artist's sister.



Rufus Hale, 23rd, 24th, 25th November 2015

Eleven-year-old son of artists Tacita Dean and Matthew Hale, and the youngest sitter in the group. After Hockney had completed this portrait, Rufus pointed out that he had forgotten to paint the eraser on the pencil.

Catalogue

David Hockney: 82 Portraits and 1-Still-life

The exhibition catalogue's authors include Tim Barringer (with an essay titled "Enigma Variations: Hockney and the Portrait"); Edith Devaney (in conversation with David Hockney); and David Hockney

\$45.00 | Available in-store or online at thelacmystore.org

Credit

This exhibition was organized by the Royal Academy of Arts, London, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

This exhibition is sponsored by Phillips.

All exhibitions at LACMA are underwritten by the LACMA Exhibition Fund. Major annual support is provided by Kitzia and Richard Goodman, with generous annual funding from Jerry and Kathleen Grundhofer, Lauren Beck and Kimberly Steward, the Judy and Bernard Briskin Family Foundation, Louise and Brad Edgerton, Edgerton Foundation, Emily and Teddy Greenspan, Marilyn B. and Calvin B. Gross, David Schwartz Foundation, Inc., and Lenore and Richard Wayne.

About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, mirroring Los Angeles's rich cultural heritage and uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of over 135,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of art history from new

and unexpected points of view. A museum of international stature as well as a vital cultural center for Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collection with the Greater Los Angeles County and beyond through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over 1.5 million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions more through community partnerships, school outreach programs, and creative digital initiatives. LACMA's main campus is located halfway between the ocean and downtown, adjacent to the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and the future home of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. Dedicated to serving all of Los Angeles, LACMA collaborates with a range of curators, educators, and artists on exhibitions and programs at various sites throughout the County.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Image captions:

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(Left): David Hockney, *Earl Simms, 29th February, 1st, 2nd March 2016* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
(Center Left) David Hockney, *Celia Birtwell, 31st August, 1st, 2nd September 2015* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
(Center) David Hockney, *Gregory Evans, 1st, 2nd, 3rd December 2013* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
(Center Right) David Hockney, *Julie Green, 11th, 12th, 13th January 2015* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
(Right) David Hockney, *Frank Gehry, 24th, 25th February 2016* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt

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David Hockney, *Benedikt Taschen, 9th, 10th, 11th December 2013* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *John Baldessari, 13th, 16th December 2013* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *Stephanie Barron, 7th, 8th, 9th January 2014* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *Fruit on a Bench, 6th, 7th, 8th March 2014* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *Barry Humphries, 26th, 27th, 28th March 2015* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *Margaret Hockney, 14th, 15th, 16th August 2015* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt
David Hockney, *Rufus Hale, 23rd, 24th, 25th November 2015* from *82 Portraits and 1 Still-life*, acrylic on canvas (one of an 82-part work), collection of the artist, © David Hockney, photo by Richard Schmidt

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