

Kate Gordon



Artistry in residence

Get your contemporary art and design fix at the latest London shows

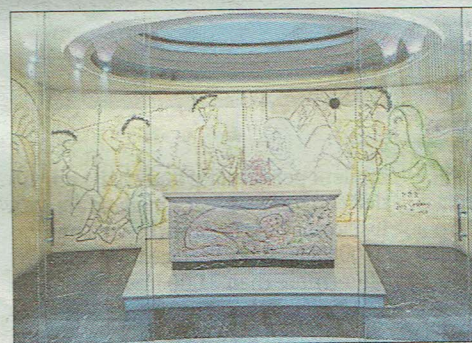
BY DESIGN AT THE SOANE

"DESIGN can be found in everything we touch, see and hear," says textile designer Luke Irwin, who is collaborating with Sir John Soane's Museum, below, in *By Design*, a lecture series.

Leading designers including Sir David Adjaye, Es Devlin, Edmund de Waal and Olga Polizzi will discuss one object that has inspired or informed their careers; conversations will be held with either design critic Alice Rawsthorn or BBC Arts Editor Will Gompertz. Owen Hopkins, curator of the museum, wants to connect contemporary debate with art, architecture and design.

Talks will be in the library dining room which can host 60 people. Book early for November's discussion with designer Martino Gamper, best known for his project 100 Chairs in 100 Days.

● soane.org/whats-on/talks; Sir John Soane's Museum, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

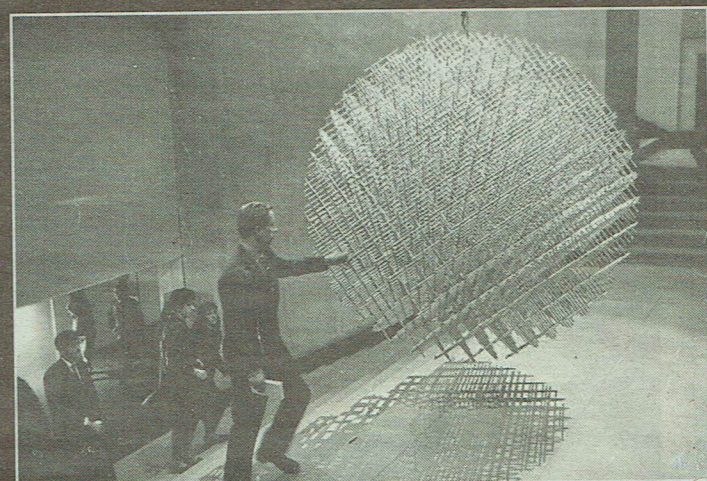


A CHANCE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

ENJOY a moment of peace at London's very own Notre Dame — the Notre Dame de France church just off Leicester Square — and see the chapel, above, created by Jean Cocteau, the only chapel with his artwork outside of France.

Commissioned by the French Ambassador in 1959, the artist was offered blank walls to create religious murals for this French Catholic church, rebuilt after being destroyed in the Second World War. If you look closely, you'll see the self-portrait he included within the Crucifixion scene on the left of the chapel. Also see the Aubusson tapestry above the church's main altar, designed by Dom Robert, a Benedictine monk.

The church welcomes all, serving the West End community and inviting and advising refugees of any nationality at its Saturday sandwich service for the homeless. In winter it shelters up to 15 people, relying on donations to continue its work. ● ndfchurch.org; Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, WC2.



SCULPTURES LIGHTER THAN AIR

IF THERE is one commercial show guaranteed to please every age group right now, it has to be *Suspension* at Mayfair gallery **Olivier Malingue** in New Bond Street. Ring the doorbell for access to this first-floor gallery, almost directly opposite Sotheby's, and enjoy 100 years of abstract hanging sculpture.

When **Marcel Duchamp** first saw **Alexander Calder's** sculptures, he gave the word "mobile" to these works, which fasten to the ceiling and move according to air currents. You'll see pieces by Duchamp and Calder, plus work by **Man Ray** and **Tomás Saraceno** among the 30 artists on view in this beautifully curated show. The gallerist will make the works, spin, rotate or ring out to the great pleasure of children and adults alike. Our personal favourite is *Sphere*, left, by **François Morellet**, which almost shimmies when it moves.

● *Suspension — A History of Abstract Hanging Sculpture 1918-2018* is at **Olivier Malingue**, 143 New Bond Street, WC1 (oliviermalingue.com).



DRAWING THE LINE

TRUE to its name, **Drawing Room** in Elephant & Castle contains the only library dedicated to contemporary drawing in Europe. The gallery specialises in drawing, from exhibitions to a highly anticipated biennial online auction with details of next year's participants soon to be announced.

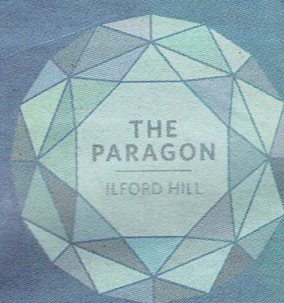
Drawing Room enjoys the support of major artists including **Grayson Perry**, **William Kentridge** and last year's Turner Prize winner **Lubaina Himid**, who want to keep this non-profit space free and open to all. They donate drawings for the biennial online auction, with prices ranging from £250 to £10,000.

The online shop sells a lot of original art, so you can buy something unique. Or simply visit the next exhibition, which includes **Claudette Johnson's** *Seated Figure I*, 2017, above, and drawings by **Picasso**, **Ingres**, **Freud** and **Hockney**, who all enjoyed the challenge of conveying character in just a few lines.

● CLOSE: *Drawn Portraits*, Nov 22-Feb 3 at **Drawing Room**, 1-27 Rodney Place, SE17 (drawingroom.org.uk).



STOP PRESS: why not sign up any 16 to 25-year old you know, for free, to Tate's new *Collective* initiative? It offers entry for just £5 to any Tate ticketed show and would make a terrific present. Exhibitions range from £18 to £20 so this is a significant discount. ● shop.tate.org.uk/collective-register



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