

DRAWING ROOM

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www.drawingroom.org.uk

Graphic Witness

18 May – 9 July 2017

To witness is to have observed, either as a participant, as a bystander or remotely; to create a graphic response to this act of witnessing is to reconstruct this experience in the immediate aftermath or at a later point in time. Drawing is particularly suited to representing evidence as it is a legible medium; to look closely at a drawing is to trace the history of its making and in this sense each drawing acts as its own witness. When photography is unavailable or inappropriate, drawing can act as witness, and produce subjective commentary on injustice. Often less explicit than photographs, drawings can prompt a more wide-ranging debate about miscarriages of justice and conflict, and act as tools to prompt social change.

Graphic Witness brings together artists working from the 1930s to today, and features new work made for the exhibition. Each artist produces consciously political art in response to particular situations, and the work is characterised by figurative representations of people and actions. Eschewing naturalism and reportage, the artists develop drawing modes that question accepted histories and speculate on alternative socio-political trajectories. Throughout the exhibition, we find the artists returning to the same image over and over again, to build evidence, as commentary, and to stimulate change for the better. Drawing is used to mediate acts of observation, archival material, the canon of art history, orally transmitted stories and documentary evidence of the effects of war and incarceration.

Graphic Witness is related to a chapter of the same name by Kate Macfarlane (curator and co-director, Drawing Room) commissioned for *The Companion to Contemporary Drawing* edited by Kelly Chorpening and Rebecca Fortnum to be published by Wiley Blackwell in 2018.

Exhibition supporters:



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

LIST OF WORKS

Starting on the short wall straight ahead, and then working clockwise

1. Nancy Spero

Crematorium Chimney, 1968
Gouache & ink on paper
90.1 x 58.4 cm

In Vitrine

'One Arm Out', from 'War Series' (1966-68)
Gouache and ink on paper
13 x 23cm

Figure (source unknown)
Hand-printing and gouache on paper
35 x 30cm

'Gorgon Head and Tongue', ('Codex Artaud' period) 1969-70
Gouache, ink and gold paint on paper
9 x 8.5cm

'Head' from 'War Series' (1966-68). Cut-out for 'Maypole/Take No Prisoners' (2007)
Hand-printing on paper
22 x 19cm

'Fleeing Vietnamese Holding Child' (1980s)
Hand-printing on paper
50 x 17cm

Private collection, London

2. Beatriz González

Las Delicias 6, 1998
Charcoal on paper
46.8 x 32.3 cm

Las Delicias 9, 1998
Charcoal on paper
31.8 x 47 cm

Las Delicias 5, 1998
Charcoal on paper
33 x 31.5 cm

Las Delicias 7, 1998
Charcoal on paper
46.7 x 31.7 cm

Las Delicias 8, 1998
Charcoal on paper
32 x 47 cm

Las Delicias 4, 1998
Charcoal on paper
32.2 x 31.8 cm

Courtesy Galeria Casas Riegner, Bogotá

3. Nidhal Chamekh

Studying Circles, 2015
Graphite on wood-free paper
240 x 300 cm

#icare, 2016
Pencil, ink and felt pen on cotton paper
23 x 30cm

Study of the Habitat of Fortune, 2016
Pencil and ink on cotton paper
23 x 30cm

Collection Patrick Heide

4. Leon Golub

We Can Disappear You #2, 2001
Ink and acrylic on linen
63.5 x 45.7 cm

This Could Be You #14, 2001
Acrylic on linen
53.3 x 18.7 cm

In Vitrine

Study for 'Vietnam' paintings (1972-74)
Pencil on paper
25 x 17cm

Figure studies for paintings, 1970/80s
Pencil on paper
Various dimensions: 17 x 22cm; 27 x 19.5cm; 20 x 27.5cm; 18 x 27cm

Study for painting *Napalm IV* (1969)
Pencil on paper
16 x 22cm

Private collection, London

5. Mounira Al Solh

Are you pretending to be Jesus? 2017
Oil, acrylic, black ink and charcoal on canvas
170 x 217 cm

Courtesy the artist & Sfeir-Semler Gallery Hamburg / Beirut

6. Lorna Simpson

Bed Green (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Perspective 1 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Orange 1 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

3 Chairs Orange (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Black 8 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Orange 5 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Plywood Green 1 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Plywood Perspective (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Typewriter Green (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Glass Booth Green (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Orange 4 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Plywood Green (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Green 2 (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Brick Green (Interrogation series), 2008

Graphite and ink on paper
27.94 x 21.59 cm

Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth

7. Eugenio Dittborn

Nine Survivors (Three Stains), Airmail Painting No. 182, 1986 – 2011

Paint and photo silkscreen on kraft paper
203 x 154 cm

On loan from Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne. Presented by the Art Fund under Art Fund International. Acquired 2012

8. George Grosz

The Lecture (aka Letter to an Anti-Semite), 1935

Pen and ink and watercolour on paper, 82.5 x 72 cm

The Interrogation, 1938

Watercolour and ink on paper
73 x 83 cm

On loan from Ben Uri Collection, London

9. Catherine Anyango Grünewald

Live, moments ago. The Death of Michael Brown 9.8.2014, 2015
Hand-drawn animation

The slow death of a woman in Aleppo, 2017
Hand-drawn animation

Bad Dream: The Death of Walter Scott, 4.4.2015, 2017

Pencil on paper
76 x 111 cm

Courtesy the artist

10. Erik van Lieshout

Untitled, 2014

Charcoal, acrylic & ink on paper
206 x 150 cm

Untitled, 2014

Charcoal & vinyl on paper
182 x 150 cm

Courtesy the artist and Anton Kern Gallery, New York

11. Andrea Bowers

Fascist police (Inside Eastside 1968 no.14, pg 7), 2015

Graphite on paper
62 x 43.5 cm

Badass Girls (May Day, Los Angeles 2014), 2015

Graphite on paper 62 x 43.5 cm	(Japanese ink on linen 195 x 300 cm	Pencil on paper 33 x 24 cm
<i>By All Means Necessary (La Causa, Vol. I, No. 3, September 1969, L.A. pg. 7), 2015</i>	Courtesy the artist	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #134), 2007</i>
Graphite on paper 53.5 x 31.2 cm	13. Rirkrit Tiravanija	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm
<i>Migration Is Beautiful I (May Day, Los Angeles 2013), 2015</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #151), 2007</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #154), 2007</i>
Graphite on paper 43 x 61.5 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm
<i>Made in U.S.A. (La Raza, Vol. IV, No. 2, December 1968, L.A. cover page), 2015</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #180), 2007</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #167), 2007</i>
Graphite on paper 42.5 x 43 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm
<i>Migration Is Beautiful II (May Day, Los Angeles 2013), 2015</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #3), 2007</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #57), 2007</i>
Graphite on paper 43 x 61.5 cm	Pencil on paper 21 x 29.7 cm, 24 x 33 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm
<i>Beware Gringo (La Raza, Vol. I, No. 14, July 1968, L.A. pg. 2), 2015</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #136), 2007</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #68), 2007</i>
Graphite on paper 81.3 x 35.7 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	Pencil on paper 33 x 24 cm
Courtesy the artist and Kaufmann Repetto, Milan/New York	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #158), 2007</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #81), 2007</i>
12. Joy Gerrard	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm
<i>Protest Crowd, (Womens March, Chicago, January 21, 2017), 2017</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #78), 2007</i>	Work courtesy the artist and neugerriemschneider, Berlin
Ink on paper, mounted on aluminium 40cm x 58 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	
<i>Protest Crowd, (BLM, Oakland, July 08, 2016), 2017</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #179), 2007</i>	
Ink on paper mounted on aluminium, 40cm x 58 cm	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	
<i>Protest Crowd, Chicago, USA, Trump Rally (2016), 2017</i>	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #128), 2007</i>	
	Pencil on paper 24 x 33 cm	
	<i>Untitled 2007 (Demonstration Drawing #33), 2007</i>	

Graphic Witness Events

Curator's tour of Graphic Witness

Wed 17 May 2017, 6:00pm – 6:30pm (Drawing Room)

Protest Crowds and Precarious Freedom, a lecture by Joy Gerrard

Fri 19 May, 6:30pm – 8:00pm (Camberwell College of Arts)

The talk by artist **Joy Gerrard** will explore her practice which investigates protest crowds and occupation of urban spaces, archiving media images from the Trump Resistance, Occupy movement, Arab Risings and many more. Exploring the historical and iconographic qualities of these images, her studio-based work (re)presents them in detailed pen and ink drawings, and more recently large ink works on canvas.

Artists in Protest: Researching Artistic Engagement with Conflict and Injustice

Thu 15 June 2017, 6:30pm – 8:00pm (Drawing Room)

Visual presentations of academic papers including 'On the Drawings of Andrea Bowers' by curator and writer **Hannah Ellul**; 'Protest Drawings' by artist **Joy Gerrard**; and 'Nancy Spero: The War Series' by art historian **Rachel Warriner**.

Tickets: £5 to non-members

Drawing: Collecting, History and Practical Advice

Mondays 19 & 26 June, Tuesday 4 July, 7pm – 8.30pm (Various locations)

Presentations from art historians, collectors, and curators, as well as experts in conservation, framing and collection management, including **Eugenio Re Rebaudengo** (Founder of ARTUNER), **Katharine Stout** (Deputy Director, ICA, London), **Andrew Renton** (Professor of Curating at Goldsmiths), **Mark Darbyshire** (Framer and Fine Art Fabricator), and Drawing Room Co-Directors **Mary Doyle** and **Kate Macfarlane**.

Tickets: £210 (or £80 for each session)

Nidhal Chamekh: The Life of Images

Mon 19 June 2017, 10:30am – 1:00pm (Drawing Room)

Artist **Nidhal Chamekh** leads a drawing masterclass, demonstrating drawing styles and his montage technique, with opportunities for participants to work with pen, pencil and ink.

Tickets: £20 / £16

Drawing as Graphic Witness

Tue 20 June 2017, 6:30pm – 8:00pm (Drawing Room)

Artist **Mounira Al Solh** and **Nidhal Chamekh** and curators **Amal Khalaf** and **Kate Macfarlane** discuss how drawing can provide evidence of injustice, create powerful commentary and prompt social change.

Tickets: £10 / £8

Events info and booking at www.drawingroom.org.uk/events 20% off all events for Network members