

FELIX & SPEAR

Modern British and Contemporary Art

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DAVID REDFERN: *PAINTINGS 1972-1991*

24 February – 17 March 2018

Opening Reception: Friday 23rd February 6-8pm

Ealing, London W5, January 23, 2018 – Felix & Spear Gallery is pleased to present ‘David Redfern: Paintings 1972-1991’, a review of his paintings from bygone days, or are they?

“All the paintings in this exhibition have been dusted off from years of studio storage. They have survived because they are important, mostly to me, but when I looked at them closely again and considered their historical context I realised that nothing changes much. The work I produce now looks very different and uses alternative materials, but the relationship to everyday events and socio/political/scientific concerns remain constant. What happens is that I get older and store more stuff in the studio.”

David Redfern, 2018

ABOUT DAVID REDFERN

David Redfern was born in Staffordshire in 1947. He was awarded his first degree at Reading University from 1965 to 1969 followed by a post-graduate qualification from The Slade School of Fine Art, University College London. In 1971 he joined the staff at the newly opened Serpentine Gallery in Kensington Gardens as a Gallery Assistant and worked there until 1984. The gallery was supported by direct grant from the Arts Council of Great Britain and during its summer programme showed work by



January 6th, oil on canvas, 1975, 105 x 183cm

young and emerging artists from every region of the UK. One of his tasks was to project thousands of slides of artists' work for the Selection Committee who chose work from an open submission. Those who were successful brought their work down to London and Redfern and colleagues helped install and explain contemporary art to a, quite often, sceptical public. It was a great opportunity to debate and discuss the issues of the day with artists from all over the country. From 1984 to 2011 Redfern worked at Croydon College, working both part and full time on their art and design courses, from teaching to managing several programmes. The contact and discourse with both young and mature art students on a more formal basis was equally satisfying and developmental. In 2000 he was elected to The London Group, an artists' collective established in 1913 by the likes of Walter Sickert, Jacob Epstein, Harold Gilman and Henri Gaudier-Brzeska. Shortly afterwards he was asked to take on the role of Archivist which he did with great relish. Many years of research in the Tate Archive resulted in the publication of "The London Group: a history 1913 – 2013" on the occasion of the groups' 100th anniversary. Throughout his life he has sought to travel and learn from other cultures, especially the United States, Russia, China and New Zealand. He has been



Smash the Front, oil on perspex on canvas, 1978, 59 x 119cm

included in exhibitions in the Hayward Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, Royal Academy Summer Shows and provincial galleries including Southampton, Wolverhampton, Birmingham and Cardiff amongst others. The Arts Council Collection, Southampton City Art Gallery and Wolverhampton Art Gallery as well as private patrons have purchased his work.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Address: **Felix & Spear, 71 St Mary's Road, London W5 5RG**

Exhibition Opening Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10.30am – 6.00pm, Saturday 11.00am – 3.00pm

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Cameron Amiri 020 8566 1574 / info@felixandspear.com

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