

HEART OF GOLD: LEADING CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS DONATE ARTWORKS TO SUPPORT THE AORTIC CENTRE TRUST

FEATURING WORKS BY:

ALEXANDRE DA CUNHA | SIR ANTONY GORMLEY | RACHAEL HOWARD | ISAAC JULIEN CBE
SIR ANISH KAPOOR | JEFF KOONS (DONATED BY ANTHONY D'OFFAY) | RICHARD LONG | SARAH LUCAS
TIM NOBLE & SUE WEBSTER | GRAYSON PERRY CBE RA | KEITH TYSON
NOT VITAL (DONATED BY THADDAEUS ROPAC)

TO BE OFFERED AS PART OF SOTHEBY'S FRIEZE WEEK CONTEMPORARY ART DAY AUCTION

04 OCTOBER 2019



L-R: Grayson Perry, *Hideously Expensive Bauble by Name Brand Artist*, 2019 (est. £18,000-25,000); Anish Kapoor, *Untitled*, 2018 (est. £100,000-150,000); Not Vital, *Heart*, 2007 (est. £6,000-8,000)

18 September 2019, London: This October, Sotheby's Frieze Week sale of Contemporary Art will be underscored by twelve generously donated works from leading contemporary artists and galleries, each of which will be sold for the benefit of a new national charity, the Aortic Centre Trust (A.C.T.). A.C.T.'s goal is to promote awareness of, research into and expertise in diseases of the aorta. Aortic diseases are common, frequently fatal conditions that receive little in the way of public attention. Highlights of the auction include a bespoke representation of Grayson Perry's childhood toy, Alan Measles, atop an aortic-inspired body, alongside further donations from Rachel Howard, Antony Gormley, Anish Kapoor, Jeff Koons, Sarah Lucas and Grayson Perry.

The sale comes ten years after Sotheby's first collaborated with Aortic Centre Trustee and Consultant Cardiac Surgeon Dr. Jullien Gaer, and art adviser Polly Robinson Gaer, in an auction to benefit the pioneering work of Harefield Hospital. In this new collaboration, the collection of contemporary works will be sold to mark the public launch of the new Trust.

Dr. Jullien Gaer, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon and Trustee, explains: *“There is a reason why those of us who work in the field refer to the aorta as the orphan organ: most people don't know where their aorta is nor what it does and yet it is the main artery of the body through which, quite literally, all of life flows. Compared to the aorta, pretty much everything else is small print. In the UK, about 5000 deaths a year are attributable to aortic diseases and this is almost certainly a significant underestimate. Many patients present too late, having to undergo complex, risky, emergency surgery and yet, detected early enough, most aortic conditions can either be prevented or managed at low risk. We are delighted to be working with these wonderful artists and Sotheby's to raise awareness of this important problem.”*

Contributing Artist Grayson Perry said: *“I've been in awe of Jullien's work for nearly a decade, having first had the privileged and very humbling opportunity to watch him perform open heart surgery in 2009. What Jullien and his fellow surgeons are able to accomplish is astonishing and absolutely critical, and we must do what we can to ensure the continued evolution of this work, and the work of all those at the Aortic Centre Trust who are changing lives every day.”*

Oliver Barker, Chairman of Sotheby's Europe, adds: *“We are proud to support the essential work of The Aortic Centre Trust, and we are grateful to the Contemporary artists and galleries who have generously contributed their works. The pieces will be offered as part of our Frieze Week Contemporary Art auctions and we're looking forward to channeling part of the excitement and anticipation of the week into a cause which will, quite literally, save lives.”*

Please find a selection of images to download [here](#).

Exhibition: September 28 – October 3 (opening times vary)

Auction: Contemporary Art Day Auction, October 4, 10.30am

Address: 34-35 New Bond Street, W1S 2RT

MISSION STATEMENT FROM THE AORTIC CENTRE TRUST

The aorta is the artery through which blood is distributed around the body by the pumping of the heart. Diseases of the aorta cause 5,000 deaths per annum, the same number as die from brain tumours. Many of those 5000 patients don't even reach hospital.

On the other hand, planned surgery for aortic aneurysms carries a low risk with a very high success rate. Treated early enough, pretty much every one of those 5000 deaths is preventable.

The Aortic Centre Trust raises funds to create Aortic Centres across the UK, multi-disciplinary teams of doctors and associated healthcare professionals comprising surgeons, cardiologists, radiologists & geneticists with a specialist interest in the prevention, detection and management of aortic diseases.

An Aortic Centre is one in which all of the contemporary treatments for aortic disease are available under one roof. For any given patient, the aortic centre will take care of their aortic disease at every stage.

<https://www.aorticcentrctrust.co.uk/>



L-R: Antony Gormley, *Hold*, 2018 (est. £10,000-15,000); Keith Tyson, *Wall Drawing: Feb 10: Running Up that Hill*, 2010 (est. £4,000-6,000); Sarah Lucas, 2020, 2019 (est. £50,000-70,000). Courtesy Sarah Lucas, Sadie Coles Gallery HQ Image: Julian Simmonds; Richard Long, *Untitled*, 2015 (est. £8,000-12,000)

Sotheby's has been uniting collectors with world-class works of art since 1744. Every year, Sotheby's auctioneers offer their services for charity auctions across the world, with more than £100 million raised with the help of Sotheby's London team since 2012 alone. Sotheby's has previously sold Contemporary works benefitting charities including (Red), WWF, ArtAngel, Whitechapel, NSPCC, Serpentine Gallery, Parasol Unit, Human Rights Watch, Peer Gallery, The Legacy List and the ICA.