

What is a Portrait? An exploration of representation and abstraction in portraiture

Tuesday 2 May 2017, 10.00 — 13.20, National Portrait Gallery, London

Chaired by Imogen Gibbon, Chief Curator and Deputy Director Scottish National Portrait Gallery, National Galleries of Scotland

Programme

This seminar coincides with the *Howard Hodgkin: Absent Friends* exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. As much of Hodgkin's portrait oeuvre can be described as non-mimetic, this prompts the question of what constitutes and characterises the genre more widely, and how that definition has evolved in artistic practice in the last century. Each of the invited speakers will in turn address the question of what, from their professional perspective, is requisite in a portrait. The presentations and chaired discussion are intended to consider the philosophical questions of representation, identity, and artistic freedom within portraiture generally, and the specific challenges and opportunities non-mimetic portraiture offer when displayed in public collections.

10.00—10.30 **Registration and refreshments, Boardroom**

10.30—10.40 **Welcome from Imogen Gibbon**, chairperson

10.40—11.00 **Professor Joanna Woodall**, The Courtauld Institute of Art

11.00—11.20 **Richard Cork**, art critic, historian, broadcaster and curator

11.20—11.40 **Luke Dodd**, independent curator and editor

11.40—12.10 **Refreshments, Boardroom**

12.10—12.30 **Meghan Goodeve**, Senior Learning Manager, The Hepworth Wakefield

12.30—12.50 **Humphrey Ocean RA**, artist

12.50—13.20 **Chaired discussion and close**

All delegates will be welcome to visit the *Howard Hodgkin: Absent Friends* exhibition on the day of the seminar.

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Please see separate booking form to reserve your place



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