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Richard Serra Drawings – an online discussion

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Richard Serra Drawings – an online discussion

12 October at 6:30pm BST

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Live streaming 12 Oct 2021 6.30pm BST

About this event

Richard Serra has long been acclaimed for his large-scale, site-specific sculptures. But throughout his career, the foundation for the artist's work has lain in the direct and intimate practice of drawing: 'I like to draw,' Serra has said, 'It is an activity I rely on, a dependency of sorts.' To coincide with 'Richard Serra Drawings' (until 17 December) at Ordovas in London, Apollo and Ordovas are delighted to present a live-streamed discussion at 6:30pm BST on Tuesday 12 October that will explore how, for Serra, drawing has consistently been a way of thinking – of achieving a creative solitude and of testing ideas about scale, monumentality and perception.

Join speakers Pilar Ordovas, Martin Gayford and Isabel Seligman for a discussion that will set Serra's own selection of 19 of his drawings in the context of his groundbreaking artistic achievements, examining the relationship between his drawing and sculpture, and exploring his sense of the viewer and of himself as an artist as well as the intense materiality of his works. The discussion will be moderated by Apollo former editor Thomas Marks.

About the speakers

Pilar Ordovas founded her eponymous gallery, dealing in the best of 20th century and contemporary art with a museum-quality exhibition programme in London and New York, in 2011. Grounded in 25 years of specialist experience, the gallery has organised exhibitions in conjunction with a number of leading institutions, including The Courtauld and Dulwich Picture Gallery in London, and the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. Previously Pilar worked for 13 years at Christie's, where she was International Director and Deputy Chairman, Post-War and Contemporary Art in Europe, and two years as a Director of Gagosian Gallery, London.

Martin Gayford is art critic of the Spectator and the author of biographical studies of Michelangelo, John Constable, Vincent van Gogh. In 2016 he published *A History of Pictures*, co-written with David Hockney and has also written *A Bigger Message*, a volume of conversations with Hockney. He sat for portraits by both Hockney and Lucian Freud, the latter experience being the subject of his book *Man with a Blue Scarf* (2010). His other publications include *Rendez-Vous with Art*, co-authored with Philippe de Montebello, a two-volume study of Freud, a survey of painting in London after the Second World War entitled *Modernists and Mavericks* and *The Pursuit of Art*, a collection of travels and interviews. In November 2020, he published *Shaping the World: Sculpture from Prehistory to Now*, co-written with Antony Gormley. His latest book is *Spring Cannot Be Cancelled*, co-written with David Hockney, 2021.

Isabel Seligman is the Monument Trust Curator of Modern and Contemporary Drawing at the British Museum. Her recent exhibitions and publications include *Lines of Thought: Drawing from Michelangelo to now* (Thames and Hudson, 2016), *Pushing Paper: Contemporary drawing from 1970 to now* (Thames and Hudson, 2019) and contributions to *The American Dream: Pop to the present* (Thames and Hudson, 2017). She was involved with the Bridget Riley Art Foundation project to encourage artists and art students to engage with the Prints and Drawings collection at the British Museum, and is currently working on a project to research and acquire drawings by emerging British artists supported by an Art Fund New Collecting Award.

Thomas Marks is a writer and art critic. He recently stepped down as editor of *Apollo*, one of the world's leading art magazines, having held the post since 2013. He has contributed to numerous publications, among them *Prospect*, *Literary Review* and the *TLS*, and has written widely on historical and contemporary art. Marks is a trustee of Art UK (artuk.org), the cultural education charity that exists to open up the UK's public art collections to global audiences through digitisation and storytelling. He holds a doctorate on Victorian poetry and architecture from the University of Oxford and was a founding editor of *The Junket*, an online magazine for essays, fiction and poetry that ran from 2011-16.