



ART & PHILANTHROPY / ART

Bacon, Freud and Kitaj lead a London show in New York

Pilar Ordovas draws out the crisscross of connections between a leading group of painters



Man in a Blue Shirt, 1965, by Lucian Freud

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A group of preeminent artists who worked in London – including Michael Andrews, **Francis Bacon**, Lucian Freud, **David Hockney**, RB Kitaj and Leon Kossoff – will take centre stage in **New York** this winter at a new exhibition at **Ordovas** gallery from November 3 until January 18. *London Painters* puts self-portraits, portraits and London city scenes in the spotlight, showcasing these artists' commitment to form in the face of abstraction and conceptual art.



Self-Portrait, 2002, by Lucian Freud

Many of the works on view – some on loan and many for sale (from \$46,000) – illustrate the ways these artists shared their subjects and their lives. Both Bacon and Freud painted portraits of Bacon's lover George Dyer, and included in the exhibition is *Man in a Blue Shirt, 1965*, one of two portraits that Freud drew of Dyer. Andrews' *Portrait of Jane*, a painting of Lady Willoughby de Eresby, is paired here with Freud's *Woman with Fair Hair-Portrait II*, which depicts the subject some 30 years earlier.

Friends Frank Auerbach and Kossoff – both lovers of thick, boldly applied oil paint, and who worked in the same studio after Kossoff passed his Camden space to Auerbach in the 1950s – have London landscapes on display: *The Pillar Box III, 2010-2011*, and *Stormy Summer Day, Dalston Lane* from 1975. Elsewhere, Kitaj's *The Neo-Cubist, 1976-1987*, depicts the artist's closest friend, David Hockney, in all his bespectacled glory. A special inclusion also sees Freud's haunting *Self-Portrait* from 2002, which has only been exhibited once before in the inaugural [Met Breuer](#) exhibition, *Unfinished: Thoughts Left Visible*, in 2016.