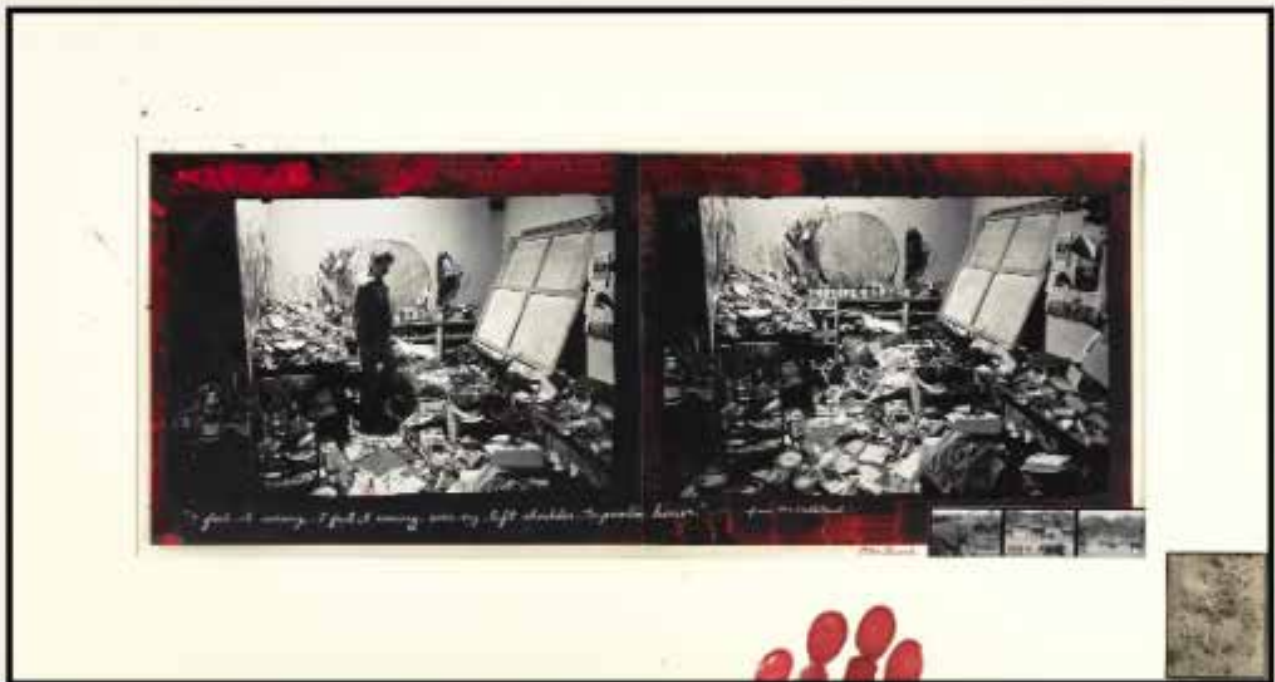


ARTS

10 top galleries — and what you can buy at them

Next Monday, shops and commercial galleries reopen. Rachel Campbell-Johnston picks the best from round the country — and gives you a fantasy shopping list



Francis Bacon at Work, 7 Reece Mews, London

PETER BEARD

Rachel Campbell-Johnston

Monday April 05 2021, 12.01am, The Times

On-screen looking is simply not on a par with the living encounter. From next Monday our commercial galleries will be reopening. Don't wait another month for the public museums to do the same (on May 17). Britain's independent art spaces frequently put on top-quality shows. What's more, being smaller and more intimate, they can offer a more intense experience than the massive blockbuster. Better yet, if you find yourself falling in love with an artwork you won't have to make do with the gift shop postcard.

Wild Life at Ordovas, London W1

(020 7287 5013, ordovasart.com), from April 12 to July 16

This exhibition looks at Francis Bacon's friendship with the photographer Peter Beard. Bacon not only captured Beard's impossibly beautiful face in three painted triptychs, but found inspiration in his powerful images of slaughtered game. Beard, in return, photographed Bacon.

Buy Photograph of Francis Bacon at Work, 7 Reece Mews by Peter Beard, £72,000. Think your home is a bit of a lockdown mess? Take a look at Bacon's studio and feel relieved that it hasn't yet come to that.