



Exhibition curated by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

and

Assisted by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

Exhibition design by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

Lighting design by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

Exhibition contractors

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

Exhibition guide design by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story

Supported by

Barbara Hepworth, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story



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This guide and the
exhibition texts are
available in large print

Cover:

Gillian Carnegie 1967–2011–12

Oil paint on canvas

Margot and George Greig

Photo: Lothar Schnepf, courtesy

Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne

Five Contemporary Artists

The artists in *Painting Now* – Tomma Abts, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story – have each developed distinctive approaches to painting. Their works' critical potential emerges not just from traditional qualities of observation and subjective expression, but also from different explorations of the physicality of painting itself often realised through a deliberate construction of image.

This exhibition does not attempt to identify a new movement, tendency or group of artists. Nor is it an overarching survey. However, subtle overlaps and affinities that can be drawn out of the varied work of these five artists start to offer a range of answers to the proposition of what painting might mean now, especially at a time when specific properties of painting are shared across artforms.

This exhibition has been made possible by the provision of insurance through the Government Indemnity Scheme. Tate would like to thank HM Government for providing Government indemnity and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Arts Council England for arranging the indemnity.

Simon Ling makes landscape paintings in the open air directly in front of his motif where his subject matter is found in nondescript urban or rural landscapes. He also constructs tableaux, which he then paints in his studio as a form of still life composition. While these studio constructions are wholly artificial, his landscape paintings depict places that might seem mundane or banal, where categories of artifice and nature shift – London Zoo, scrubland, or most recently the buildings around Old Street in London. By painting streetscape images Ling is not undertaking a project of straightforwardly observing and recording the shops and office buildings, but instead follows an approach to painting for which perception is central. For Ling, looking is not a process of passive observation but always an involving and unique act. The act of painting being an event about time and emotional connection and response – between him, the material of paint, the motif and what results as a painting.

Simon Ling, born 1968

Old Street, 2012

Oil paint on canvas

Courtesy greengrassi, London

© Simon Ling

Photo: Marcus Leith. Courtesy greengrassi, London

The subject of Catherine Story's paintings can be located in the strangeness of looking at things and what happens when this is translated through painting. This process entails a shift in register between material and dimensions and can be played out equally through sculpture and painting, which often exist alongside each other with no stated hierarchy of process. Questions of materiality and dimensionality also ground her long-held interest in both cinema and cubism. This, however, is not just a matter of subject or motif but more profoundly a concern with the circulation and transference of images through different ways of seeing – for instance, from the film set to the screen y2f()JT -8.4 fes th.1(t t)0am so 8.7(m s)-7.9(e)-1.5(n)-8.4(c)-

Information

Exhibition dates:

12 November 2013– 9 February 2014

Exhibition hours:

10.00–18.00 daily

Photography and mobile phones
are not allowed in the exhibition

Events

Event dates:

Contemporary Painting in Context

Friday 13 December, 8.30–17.30

8.30–10.00 Tate Britain,

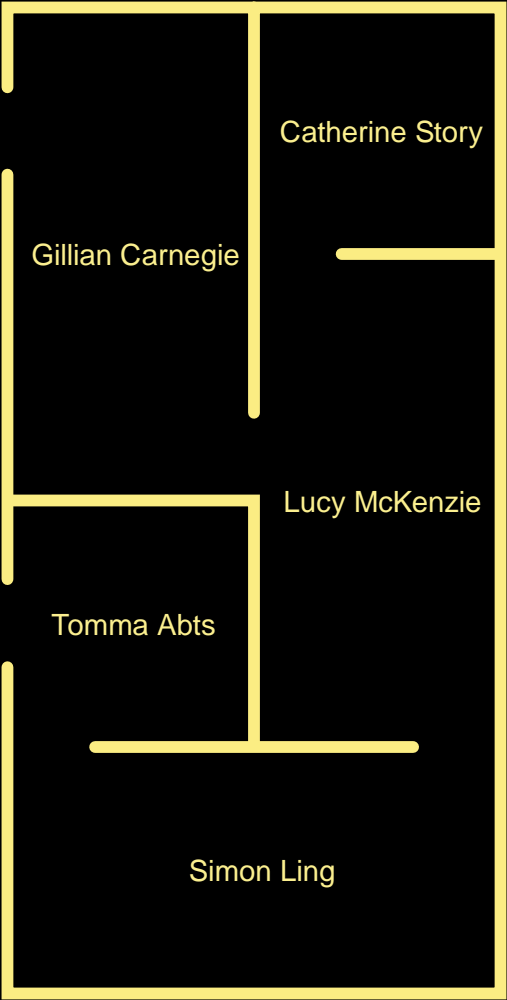
view the exhibition

11.00–17.30 The Paul Mellon Centre

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Gillian Carnegie

Catherine Story

Lucy McKenzie

Tomma Abts

Simon Ling

