

**DAVID HOCKNEY RA: A BIGGER PICTURE
MAIN GALLERIES**

21 January 2012 - 9 April 2012



BNP PARIBAS
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In January 2012 the Royal Academy of Arts will present the first major exhibition in the UK to showcase David Hockney's landscape work. Vivid paintings inspired by Yorkshire landscape, many large in scale and created specifically for the exhibition, will be shown alongside related drawings and films. Through a selection of works spanning fifty years, this new body of work will be placed in the context of Hockney's extended exploration of and fascination with landscape.

Highlights will include three groups of new work made since 2005, when Hockney returned to live in Bridlington, showing an intense observation of his surroundings in a variety of media. The exhibition will reveal the artist's emotional engagement with the landscape he knew in his youth, as he examines on a daily basis the changes in the seasons, the cycle of growth and variations in light conditions. The exhibition will take the visitor on a journey through Hockney's world.

The exhibition will address the various approaches that David Hockney has taken towards the depiction of landscape throughout his career. Past works from national and international collections will include *Rocky Mountains and Tired Indians*, 1965 (Acrylic on Canvas), *Garrowby Hill*, 1998, (Oil on Canvas) and the ambitious (Oil on 60 Canvases) *A Closer Grand Canyon*, 1998. **David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture** will also highlight the artist's vast knowledge and research of the old masters and their techniques.

Hockney's involvement with the depiction of space is traced in this exhibition from the 1960s, through his photocollages of the 1980s and the *Grand Canyon* paintings of the late 1990s, to the recent paintings of East Yorkshire, many of which have been made *en plein air*. He has always embraced new technologies; recently he has used the iPhone and iPad as tools for making art. A number of iPad drawings and a series of new films produced using eighteen cameras will be displayed on multiple screens, providing a spellbinding visual experience.

Born in Bradford in 1937, David Hockney attended Bradford School of Art before studying at the Royal College of Art from 1959 to 1962. Hockney's stellar reputation was established while he was still a student; his work was featured in the exhibition *Young Contemporaries*, which heralded the birth of British Pop Art. He visited Los Angeles in the early 1960s and settled there soon after. He is closely associated with southern California and has produced a large body of work there over many decades. David Hockney was elected a Royal Academician in 1991.

ORGANISATION

David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture has been organised by the Royal Academy of Arts, London, in collaboration with the Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao and the Museum Ludwig, Cologne. The exhibition has been curated by the independent curator Marco Livingstone and Edith Devaney, the Royal Academy of Arts.

CATALOGUE

David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue. A number of essays, including an introduction by Marco Livingstone will explore the artist's engagement with landscape painting in the context of Hockney's illustrious career. Writers as notable as Margaret Drabble, Tim Barringer, Martin Gayford, Xavier Salomon and David Hockney himself address the artist's place in the landscape tradition, his recent video works and his delight in new technologies.

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT

Ludovic de Montille, Chairman of the BNP Paribas Group in the UK said: "David Hockney is one of the most influential British artists of the twentieth century and this important exhibition of landscape work showcases his evolution and his renewed creativity. BNP Paribas, the bank for a changing world, has selected creativity as one of its four core values and as such, is particularly proud to support this exciting and vibrant exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts - *David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture*."

ABOUT BNP PARIBAS

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* Rated AA by Standard & Poor's i.e. third rating level on a scale of 22.

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ABOUT WELCOME TO YORKSHIRE

Welcome to Yorkshire is the Destination Management Organisation for Yorkshire, tasked with growing the visitor economy of the county. Welcome to Yorkshire works with VHEY (Visit Hull and East Yorkshire) to promote East Yorkshire, the current home of David Hockney and the inspiration for most of the works in *David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture*. Hockney's relationship with Yorkshire embraces his birthplace in Bradford, the Yorkshire Wolds, the inspiration for much of his current work and his present home in Bridlington on the Yorkshire Coast.

DATES

Open to public: Saturday 21 January – Monday 9 April 2012
10am – 6pm daily (last admission 5.30pm)
Late night opening: Fridays until 10pm (last admission 9.30pm)

ADMISSION

£14 full price; £13 registered disabled and 60 + years; £9 NUS / ISIC cardholders; £4 12–18 years and Income Support; £3 8–11 years; 7 and under free. RA Friends go free.

TICKETS

Tickets for *David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture* are available daily at the RA. To book tickets in advance please tel: 0844 209 0051 or visit www.royalacademy.org.uk. Groups of 10 or more are asked to book in advance; please telephone 020 7300 8027, fax: 020 7300 8084 or email: groupbookings@royalacademy.org.uk

IMAGES

Publicity images for *David Hockney RA: A Bigger Picture* can be obtained from Picselect, the Press Association's image service for press use. Please register at www.picselect.com and once registered go to the Royal Academy of Arts folder in the Arts section of Picselect.

For public information please print 020 7300 8000 and www.royalacademy.org.uk
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