

Newlands House Gallery presents
From The Real: Liliane Tomasko and Sean Scully

The first time in the UK the artist couple present their respective practices side by side
The UK premier of Sean Scully's black square paintings, glass sculpture and return to figurative painting
24 July to 10 October 2021



Left image: Liliane Tomasko, *Hung out to Dry*, 2016. Courtesy of the artist.
Right image: Sean Scully, *Black Square Night*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist.

Opening 24 July, Newlands House Gallery in Petworth presents *From The Real: Liliane Tomasko and Sean Scully*, exhibiting the two practices of the artist couple side by side for the first time in the UK. Liliane Tomasko and Sean Scully deal with Abstraction through distinctly different approaches despite sharing living spaces and environment. Where Scully draws on his personal biography to inform his art, Tomasko focuses on the universal experience of the domestic, both presenting an emotional journey of light and pigment.

For more than 20 years, the Swiss-born Tomasko (1967) has focused on everyday domestic scenes from her life, a figurative starting-point that becomes increasingly abstracted. Included in this exhibition is an ongoing body of painting that explores themes of sleep, dreams and the unconscious. Tomasko starts by capturing moments with polaroid photography, then transcribes them into drawing, followed by painting that is dynamic in its abstraction. Each step erases interpretable details, losing its connection to the original source - like a process of Chinese whispers. Tomasko's final works are motivated by intuition and spontaneity, creating large gestural paintings on paper and canvas.

Born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1945 and now living between New York and Germany, Scully is considered to be one of the most important abstract painters working today. Drawing on European traditions, Scully is credited with reinvigorating abstract painting. On view for the first time in the UK are Scully's most recent works including his *Black Square* series (2020) and *Madonna* paintings (2018) that came out of a recent return to figuration. Also on view will be three sculptures

by the artist. Over the past two decades Scully has revisited his sculptural practice, working predominantly in steel and stone to create powerful structures that assert their materiality. This exhibition will be the first opportunity to see Scully's sculpture in Murano glass in the UK, affirming his prodigious artistic range.

Presented in the historic market town of Petworth, in Newlands House Gallery's Georgian building, the exhibition offers residents and summer visitors alike an opportunity to intimately engage with 42 works of art, including six paintings on paper, three sculptures and one video work. The exhibition runs from 24 July to 10 October 2021.

Coinciding with the exhibition, Thames & Hudson will publish *On the Line: Conversations with Sean Scully*, a collection of conversations between Sean Scully and art critic Kelly Grovier on 16 September 2021.

-ENDS-

For further information and images, please contact Scott & Co:

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Exhibition dates:

24 July - 10 October 2021

Address:

Newlands House Gallery
Pound Street, Petworth, West Sussex
GU28 0DX, United Kingdom

About Newlands House

Newlands House is a new gallery inspired by the historic associations of Petworth and Sussex with great artists, writers and designers from times past. Running in parallel with exhibitions dedicated to modern and contemporary art, photography and design, the gallery's annual cultural programme plans to build on the heritage of Petworth and the town's reputation for excellence in music, literature and antiques. In 2020, the gallery opened to great acclaim with two inaugural exhibitions, a tribute to Helmut Newton, a survey of top works by designer, architect and artist Ron Arad and solo show dedicated to Joan Miró.

Newlands House occupies a spacious Grade II listed Georgian townhouse and adjacent coach house in Petworth, West Sussex, in the heart of the South Downs. Spanning 7,500 square feet, the building was originally built for Dr. Newlands in the 18th century and was most recently occupied by an antiques and interiors shop, Augustus Brandt Antiques. Petworth boasts one of the country's largest art collections, housed in the National Trust's Petworth House and Park, and sits at the centre of Sussex's burgeoning cultural scene, spanning museums, art centres, festivals, vineyards, nature trails and stately homes.

The gallery's exhibition programming is steered by artistic advisor Maya Binkin.

Instagram: [@newlands.house.gallery](https://www.instagram.com/newlands.house.gallery)

Facebook: [newlandshouse.gallery](https://www.facebook.com/newlandshouse.gallery)

Website: [newlandshouse.gallery](https://www.newlandshouse.gallery)

Opening times (current):

10 - 5pm from Wednesday - Saturday

11 - 4pm Sunday

Admission: £12.50

50% Student discount on weekdays and 50% discount for NHS workers.

How to get there:

Newlands House is approximately 60 miles from London, accessible via train (one and a half hours approximately).

The closest train station is Pulborough, which is a 20-minute bus drive or a 10-minute car drive to the gallery.

Facilities:

Parking: ticketed parking facilities nearby

Liliane Tomasko's abstract paintings employ a distinctive, bold lyricism, with an equally unabashed sense of colour. The artist often begins with a study of the personal effects of everyday domesticity such as bedding or clothing to create work that suggests a gateway into the realms of sleep and dreaming; delving into the gulf between what we understand as the 'conscious' and 'subconscious.' Recent paintings display an increasing vitality and assertiveness, articulating an abstraction that is rooted in the physical realm but attempting a departure from it. Intense colour, subtle tone, shadows and painterly gesture are woven together in such a way that space comes in and out of focus, suspending one's perception of them and emulating the clarity or lack thereof of dreams and memories.

Liliane Tomasko was born in 1967 in Switzerland and lives and works in Tappan, New York, and in Königsdorf near Munich. Her work has been shown in institutions and museums worldwide, such as Château La Coste, France 2019; Museo MATE, Lima 2018/19; Rockland Center for the Arts, New York State 2018; Kunstwerk. Klein Collection, Eberdingen 2017; at Fundación Bancaja, Valencia 2016; at Lowe Art Museum, Miami; at Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix; at Kunsthalle Rostock (2015); at IVAM, Valencia with a follow-up at Casall Solleric in Palma de Mallorca 2011. In 2017, Kunsthalle Krems included her in the essential survey "Abstract Painting Now" together with Gerhard Richter, Katharina Grosse, Charline von Heyel, Christopher Wool and others. In 2020, she was part of the annual exhibition at the Royal Hibernian Academy in Dublin. The Kunstmuseum Unser Lieben Frauen in Magdeburg will host a solo exhibition with the artist this year.

Tomasko's work is represented in the collections of international museums and institutions, including K20/K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Dusseldorf; Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, Munich; Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich; Kunstwerk. Klein Collection, Eberdingen; Staatliche Kunsthalle, Karlsruhe; Albertina, Vienna; Kunstmuseum Bern; Vontobel Bank, Zurich; Hilti Art Foundation, Schaan; Hôtel des Arts, Centre Méditerranéen D'Art, Toulon; Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin; IVAM-Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, Valencia; Lowe Art

Museum, Miami; Try-Me Collection, Richmond, Virginia; VMFA Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia, among others.

Sean Scully is one of the most important painters of his generation, whose work is held in major museum collections around the world. While known primarily for his large-scale abstract paintings, comprised of vertical and horizontal bands, tessellating blocks and geometrical forms comprised of gradated and shifting colours, Scully also works in a variety of diverse media, including printmaking, sculpture, watercolour and pastel. Having developed a style over the past five decades that is uniquely his own, Scully has cemented his place in the history of painting. His work synthesises a thoroughly international collection of influences and personal perspectives – ranging from the legacy of American abstraction, with inspiration from the likes of Mark Rothko and Jackson Pollock, and that of European tradition, with nods to Henri Matisse and Piet Mondrian, as well as references to classical Greek architecture. While monumental in scale and gesture, Scully's work retains an undeniable delicacy and sincerity of emotion.

Sean Scully was born in Dublin in 1945 and raised in South London. Wanting to be an artist from an early age, Scully attended evening classes at the Central School of Art in London from 1962 to 1965, and enrolled full time at Croydon College of Art, London from 1965 until 1968. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Newcastle University in 1972. He was awarded the Frank Knox Fellowship to Harvard University in 1972, where he visited the United States for the first time. In 1975, he moved to New York full-time. Today, he lives and works between New York and Bavaria. With a career that spans more than five decades, he has received numerous accolades and has been the subject of multiple touring exhibitions. In 2014, he became the first Western artist to have a career-length retrospective in China. *Follow the Heart: The Art of Sean Scully 1964 – 2014* included over 100 paintings and travelled from Shanghai to Beijing. Scully was named a member of the Royal Academy of Arts in London in 2013, and has twice been shortlisted for the Turner Prize. He has received honorary degrees from institutions such as the Massachusetts College of Art, Boston; the National University of Ireland, Dublin; Universitas Miguel Hernandez, Valencia; Burren College of Art, National University of Ireland; Newcastle University, UK, among others. A series of essays and conversations between Scully and the esteemed art critic Arthur Danto was published by Hatje Cantz in 2014, and a collection of Scully's own writing, selected speeches and interviews, *Inner*, was released in 2016.

Sean Scully's work is in the permanent collections of numerous important institutions including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; The National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada; Tate Modern, London; Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; De Pont Museum of Contemporary Art, Tilburg; Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; Albertina, Vienna; and Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China, among many others.

Maya Binkin is the Artistic Director at Newlands House Gallery. Binkin is a contemporary art expert working internationally as a writer, curator, and art consultant. She has worked in artistic institutions of note such as The Royal Academy of Arts in London and the Serpentine Gallery before joining Newlands House Gallery. She is a contributor to The Art Newspaper, Forbes Magazine, and Artuk.org and is the founder of The Art Pilgrim, a guide to modern and contemporary art destinations around the world. She has curated several exhibitions in London, Tel Aviv and Spain, including the upcoming exhibition *London Calling* which will be opening in

Valencia in June 2021. She holds a Masters in Contemporary Art from Sotheby's Institute and a BA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins.