

ART

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

Unifying creative endeavour with a defiant and prescient political message, the Royal Academy of Arts has launched the most comprehensive UK exhibition to date of modern Ukrainian art. Encompassing 65 works, the sprawling show, which runs until October 13, reflects the country's splintered and complex identity, highlighting the vibrant amalgamation of encounters – a fusion of Ukrainian, Polish, Russian and Jewish elements – that shaped a distinctive cultural profile formed during war, famine and political turmoil. From cubo-futurist experiments to the imposition of socialist realism, the RA platforms three decades of artistic expression that helped define a nation.

Burlington House



DAVID BURLIUK, 'CARNAGE', 1921
NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF UKRAINE
IMAGE © THE BURLIUK FOUNDATION



THE BODY AS MATTER

A tripartite survey of the sculptural practices of Alberto Giacometti, Bruce Nauman and Pablo Picasso at Gagosian offers viewers a radical re-evaluation of anatomical representation. Running until July 26 and curated by the esteemed art historian Richard Calvocoressi, this landmark show is the first to consider sculpture by these three artists in unison, revealing how each pushed the genre in new directions in response to personal and collective preoccupations. From Picasso and his cubist deployment of fractured perspectives to Giacometti's fragile postwar stick figures – alienated and powerless in the face of human and natural suffering – to Nauman's explorations of the human condition through contemporary culture and technology, all three pushed sculpture beyond the physical into new dimensions of creative and existential inquiry.

20 Grosvenor Hill

SUMMER OF ART

A timely show on Ukrainian modernism and a fascinating sculptural retrospective kickstart Mayfair's summer art calendar

WORDS WILL MOFFITT

LORNA ROBERTSON

Known for her vibrant and enigmatic paintings inspired by everyday ephemera and memories – clippings from vintage magazines and fashion photography, as well as scraps and samples of patterns and textiles – Lorna Robertson has garnered critical and commercial interest with a solo show in Edinburgh and group shows in London, New York and Los Angeles. Running until August 3, the Glasgow-born artist's first London solo show at Alison Jacques platforms a spate of new works that sit somewhere between abstraction and figuration. These paintings and works on paper operate on the cusp of nostalgia, memory and fantastical narratives that contain no beginning, end or certainty. Playful and poignant, Robertson's paintings provide bursts of bright colour and form in an all too grey British summer.

22 Cork Street



LORNA ROBERTSON, 'NORTHEN', 2021
IMAGE © ALISON JACQUES, LONDON © LORNA ROBERTSON