



Dora Carrington, *Iris Tree on a Horse, c.1920s* © THE ESTATE OF DORA CARRINGTON

A Spirit Inside

The Lightbox, Chobham Road
Woking, Surrey, GU21 4AA
www.thelightbox.org.uk
September 23, 2023 to January 14, 2024

29 works by women and non-binary artists across a diversity of mediums, including sculpture, paintings, film and collage, feature in this new exhibition, drawn from two of the UK's leading art collections - The Women's Art Collection and The Ingram Collection. *A Spirit Inside* brings together works spanning over 100 years, exploring how women artists have grappled with the notion and sense of 'spirit', the themes range from internal contemplation to external expression.

The featured artists range from historic greats to important contemporaries, such as Barbara Hepworth, Leonora Carrington, Miriam Schapiro, Man Fung Yi, Perminder Kaur and Olivia Bax.

The genesis of the exhibition stems from a 1920 letter that Dora Carrington wrote to a friend, neatly explaining her reluctance to marry: "To marry him would not make it any better, because one cannot change a spirit inside one".

RB Kitaj: London to Los Angeles

Piano Nobile 96/129 Portland Road,
London W11 4LW
October 25, 2023 to January 26, 2024

Despite hailing from Ohio, Kitaj spent most of his career working and living in the UK and studying at Ruskin School in Oxford and the Royal College of Art. During his lifetime he became friends with a host of mighty cultural figures – his peer group included David Hockney, Frank Auerbach and Leon Kossoff - and rose to the highest ranks of some of Britain's highest artistic institutions, including the Royal Academy of Arts and an advisory role to the Arts Council. He was even invited for a weekend at Sandringham by the then Prince Charles. Kitaj's life and career can be seen as one of both celebrated adopted Englishman and distrusted American outsider.



This exhibition, the first major retrospective of Kitaj in the UK for a decade, features over 40 paintings, pastels and drawings and covers all major periods of his work, from student days at the Royal College of Art, to his final contemplative years in Los Angeles.

It includes rarely seen works, some of which have not been on public display for over fifty years, as well as a broad selection of lesser-known paintings from Kitaj's LA period, allowing them to be re-discovered in the context of his enduring and extraordinary career, from beginning to end.

Kitaj's friends and contemporaries could also be his subjects, and his drawing of David Hockney, *D.H. in Hollywood* (1971), will be exhibited in public for the very first time.

The exhibition, sixty years after Kitaj's very first show, will include the first major catalog on Kitaj's work for ten years, incorporating essays and explanations from fellow artists and friends, as well as never-before-seen correspondence revealing his personal responses to the highs and lows of his career.

Above: R.B. Kitaj, *Dominie (Ninth Street), 1978-79.* Left: Kitaj in the studio

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