

# PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

## PITZHANGER MANOR & GALLERY OPENS WITH A MAJOR SOLO EXHIBITION BY ANISH KAPOOR

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery opens with an exhibition by Anish Kapoor, initiating a new series of ambitious public exhibitions at the gallery. The exhibition brings together a group of sculptures by Kapoor that create a dynamic dialogue between sculpture, architecture and viewer. Set in the context of Sir John Soane's country home, Kapoor's use of material and form echo Soane's complex use of mirrors and light to double and dissolve space. From 1800 to 1804 Sir John Soane designed and built Pitzhanger Manor; the building has now undergone a major conservation and restoration project to return it to Soane's original design and reopens to the public on 16 March 2019. The Anish Kapoor exhibition will run from 16 March to 18 August 2019 with Coutts, Sir John Soane's bank, as Principal Partner.

The exhibition includes a number of new works that articulate and develop the form and surface of the mirror. Sculptures range from large-scale wall works to the freestanding stainless-steel sculpture *Non-Object (Sphere 1998 -2013)*, which funnels visitors' perspective out of the gallery space and towards the original parkland to Pitzhanger, now Walpole Park. These works reinvent the mirror's physical and psychological qualities through a variation of form, colour, and scale, disrupting our preconceptions of the world within which we live.

In his catalogue essay to accompany the exhibition, artist and architectural designer Mark Pimlott observes, "There is the world in which one stands, and there is another world, which is around the corner of the mirror, around the edges of sight, where one's reflection does not appear; a world that one cannot entirely perceive, but which one knows is there, both identical and possibly entirely different from one's own." Kapoor's work shifts perspective; the periphery of the object opens a liminal space, that is experienced both internally and physically.

Within the newly restored space, the geometry of Kapoor's *Red to Blue*, (2016) echo the gallery's three skylights, while the two round forms of *Glisten Eclipse* (2018) delve into the corner of the room, mapping and surveying from a different vantage point. The most recent work in the exhibition *Untitled* (2018) pulls the viewer in and disorientates all sense of self and surroundings. The concave and convex surfaces of the work create a solidity that is fluid and uncertain. Kapoor observes, "they seem to be active, to be in various states of becoming."

Clare Gough, Director of Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust said, "We are delighted that Anish Kapoor will launch Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery's ambitious new exhibition programme. The exhibition will fascinate and inspire visitors to Pitzhanger and encourage visitors to look at Soane's design and architecture in a new light."

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Anish Kapoor (b.1954 in Mumbai) has lived and worked in London since the early 1970s. Considered one of the most influential sculptors of our time, his evolving sculptural language has constantly challenged the way we view the world. Major large-scale commissions include *Marsyas* (2002), for the Turbine Hall at Tate Modern, *Cloud Gate* (2004) in Chicago's Millennium Park, *Leviathan* at the Grand Palais, as part of Monumenta (2011) and *Orbit*, (2012) in the Queen Elizabeth Park, London.

Recent solo exhibitions include Serralves Museum and Park, Porto, Portugal, (2018); *Descension*, The Public Art Fund, Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York, (2017); *Parque de la Memory*, Buenos Aires, (2017); *Museum of Contemporanea*, Rome, (2016); *Museum Universitario Arte Contemporáneo*, UNAM, Mexico City, (2016); *Château de Versailles*, France (2015); *Martin–Gropius–Bau*, Berlin, (2013), *The Royal Parks and the Serpentine Gallery* (2011). Kapoor opens a solo show this April at *CorpArtes*, Chile (2019).

Peter Flavel, CEO of Coutts, said: "Coutts is proud to have supported the arts and luminary artists for three centuries. As principal partner for the Anish Kapoor exhibit, we are delighted to support Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, and to continue our legacy of contributing to the rich cultural life of the UK.

Clare Gough added: "We are thrilled to have Coutts as Principal Partner for our inaugural exhibition. With their long history of supporting the arts and their connection with Soane as their former client, there is a wonderful synergy between our institutions."

The reopening of Pitzhanger marks the completion of a £12-million conservation and restoration project led by Ealing Council working together with Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust, which now manages the site.

In tandem with his presentation at Pitzhanger Manor, Anish Kapoor will also present a solo exhibition at Lisson Gallery London in May (15 May - 22 June), and will take over both of Lisson's New York spaces this Autumn.

ENDS

Principal Partner:



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## NOTES TO EDITORS

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery will open to the public on Saturday 16 March 2019.

For all **PRESS** enquiries, please contact Belinda Bowring at Rees & Co [belinda@reesandco.com](mailto:belinda@reesandco.com) or call +44 (0)20 3137 8776

For all other enquiries, please contact [pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk](mailto:pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk)

To be kept up to date with the latest news, sign-up to the Pitzhanger newsletter at [www.pitzhanger.org.uk](http://www.pitzhanger.org.uk)

Instagram: @pitzhanger Twitter: @pitzhanger

Facebook: Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery #pitzhanger

More information about the building project at Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery can be found in a series of short videos, available on Youtube and Vimeo.

## Listings Information

Address: Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, Walpole Park, Ealing, London, W5 5EQ

Nearest Station: Ealing Broadway (Central & District lines, plus Great Western Main Line from Paddington. Elizabeth line from 2019.)

Open: Tuesday to Sunday, plus Bank Holidays Tuesday – Friday and Sunday 10am – 4.30pm  
Saturday 10am – 3pm

Anish Kapoor at Pitzhanger Gallery will run from 16 March – 18 August 2019.

Tickets will allow access to Pitzhanger Manor and the exhibition. Information for ticket sales will be provided on Pitzhanger's website [www.pitzhanger.org.uk](http://www.pitzhanger.org.uk) and social media channels.

Full price £7, Concessions (incl. visitors with access needs and students) £4.50; Free entry for under 18s, Friends of Pitzhanger, and Ealing Residents (on Tuesdays and Sunday mornings).

## ABOUT PITZHANGER MANOR & GALLERY TRUST

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust has taken ownership of Pitzhanger on a long-term lease from Ealing Council and is responsible for the Manor, Gallery, the newly built restaurant Soane's Kitchen and the surrounding gardens as they are opened to the public. The Trust's aim is to enhance Pitzhanger, inspiring visitors with art, architecture and design and nurturing creativity and inspiration for all within an extensive outreach and events programme. Pitzhanger will offer visitors a chance to celebrate Sir John Soane's genius and influence as a designer, juxtaposing his architecture with a programme of ambitious contemporary art exhibitions. The Trust has been leading the fundraising campaign for the project and is now embarking on the final

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stages to secure £500,000 to cover the remaining building works and ongoing maintenance costs. The conservation and renewal of Pitzhanger has been generously supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Ealing Council and Arts Council England as well as other generous donors.

### ABOUT SIR JOHN SOANE

Sir John Soane (1753-1837) is one of Britain's most visionary architects. Still widely influential on architects and artists today, Soane is celebrated for his idiosyncratic take on the neoclassical style and his mastery of natural light. Soane began his career in 1768 as an apprentice to George Dance the Younger when he worked with Dance on an extension to the then Georgian Pitzhanger Manor. He then embarked on his Grand Tour in 1778, which had an enduring impact on all his subsequent work. He became Architect and Surveyor to the Bank of England in 1788. Soane bought Pitzhanger in 1800, demolished most of the existing manor house apart from the Dance Wing, and designed and built a new house sitting in 28 acres of parkland as his country estate. The legacy of Soane's distinctive buildings, teachings and collections has influenced generations of artists, architects and designers.

### ABOUT COUTTS

Coutts is a private bank with three centuries of experience, providing customised solutions for its clients. Headquartered in London, Coutts is part of the Commercial & Private Banking Division of the Royal Bank of Scotland. For further information please visit [Coutts.com](http://Coutts.com)

### ABOUT EALING COUNCIL

Pitzhanger Manor is owned by Ealing Council and has been leased on a long-term basis to Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust. Ealing Council took the decision in 2012 to invest in this major cultural destination in the borough, and to ensure the borough is a great destination for tourists and visitors from near and far.