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Press Release

For Immediate Release: 6 March 2025

J'Accuse...! Sculptures by Nicole Farhi

19 March – 15 June 2025

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ



Nicole Farhi in her studio with the busts. Photo by © Iona Wolff, 2025

Ealing, London: Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery is pleased to announce a new exhibition of sculpture by artist and designer Nicole Farhi. Farhi will display 25 hand-sculpted ceramic busts, each depicting victims of miscarriages of justice across multiple countries around the world over the past 125 years. Running from 19 March to 15 June 2025, the exhibition portrays victims whose wrongful convictions have shaped legal history.

The exhibition takes its name from *J'Accuse...!* — Émile Zola's famous open letter that exposed the wrongful conviction of Captain Alfred Dreyfus in France in 1898. Inspired by Dreyfus's case, Farhi has spent the past two years researching and sculpting figures from around the world who have been unjustly accused, from Timothy Evans, whose wrongful execution helped abolish capital punishment in Britain, to Andrew Malkinson, who spent 17 years in prison before his conviction was overturned in 2023, leading to the resignation of Helen Pitcher, Chair of the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

J'Accuse...! invites visitors to consider the people behind these cases. Each bust, crafted with personal care, offers a portrait of an individual who endured years, even decades, of wrongful imprisonment, some faced torture, some lost their lives.

A celebrated designer turned full-time sculptor, Nicole Farhi CBE is widely known for her eponymous fashion brand but has dedicated the past two decades to her artistic practice. Having trained under Jean Gibson and Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, she has exhibited at Gainsborough's House and The Harley

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Gallery. Farhi, a member of the Royal Society of Sculptors, has often focused on the human form, and *J'Accuse...!* marks a new focus — one that uses portraiture to depict the victims behind cases that have made legal and political history.

Nicole Farhi said: *"This latest series, which explores miscarriages of justice, is the most personal and deeply felt of all. These are the men and women to whom irrevocable wrong was done. The only thing anyone can now do is look them in the eye, see them plain, and commit them to memory. Not forgetting them is the greatest service we can offer."*

Clare Gough, Director of Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, said: *"Nicole Farhi's work focuses on the people behind the headlines whose lives have been shaped by injustice. Pitzhanger provides a space where visitors can reflect on these important stories."*

Exhibition Highlights

Among the 25 busts included in *J'Accuse...!* are:

- Alfred Dreyfus (France, 1859–1935) — The Jewish army officer whose trial became a symbol of anti-Semitic persecution.
- Timothy Evans (UK, 1924–1950) — Wrongfully executed in 1950, leading to the abolition of capital punishment.
- Andrew Malkinson (UK, b.1966) — Spent 17 years in prison before DNA evidence proved his innocence.
- Lena Baker (USA, 1900–1945) — An African-American woman executed in 1945 and posthumously pardoned 60 years later.
- Sakae Menda 免田栄 (Japan, 1925–2020) — The first person in Japan to be freed from death row after 12,599 days (34 years) in prison, on a wrongful conviction.

Public Programme & Special Events

J'Accuse...! will be accompanied by a programme of public events, including:

- A conversation between Nicole Farhi and celebrated solicitor, advocate, and writer Anthony Julius. Julius is Deputy Chairman of Mishcon de Reya and is best known for representing Diana, Princess of Wales, in her divorce and Deborah Lipstadt in a landmark libel suit brought against her by Holocaust denier David Irving — later dramatised in the film *Denial* (2016), written by Farhi's husband, David Hare. The date and tickets to be announced soon.

For more information about the exhibition and accompanying events, visit pitzhanger.org.uk/nicole-farhi

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For media enquiries, images, or interview requests, please contact:

Pitzhanger Press Office—aston.law@pitzhanger.org.uk and press@pitzhanger.org.uk

Lucinda MacPherson PR—lucinda.macpherson@gmail.com

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Listing Information

J'Accuse...! Sculptures by Nicole Farhi

Date: 19 March – 15 June 2025

Artist

Nicole Farhi

Supported by

Mishcon de Reya

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Address: Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ

8-minute walk from Ealing Broadway Station (Elizabeth, Central, District Lines & National Rail)

Opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday 10am–5pm, including Bank Holidays (First Thursday of the Month: 10am–8pm)

Admission:

£12 Standard / £6 Students / FREE Under 16

FREE for Members

Pay-what-you-can for Ealing Borough residents every first Thursday of the month 5–8pm, and every Sunday 10am–noon

The admission ticket includes visit to Sir John Soane's historic house.

Notes to editors

About Nicole Farhi

Nicole Farhi studied art and fashion in Paris in the late 1960s. Her career as a fashion designer took off so quickly that she put art aside and concentrated on fashion. However, twelve years later, having started her own business and feeling restless, she decided she wanted to return to making art. She trained with Jean Gibson (1935–1991) throughout the 1980s and was mentored by Sir Eduardo Paolozzi (1924–2005) after meeting in 1985.

For over 30 years, Farhi had to fit sculpting around fashion. In 2012, two years after the Nicole Farhi label was sold, Farhi showed her last collection and then was free to walk away from fashion to sculpt full-time. Her debut exhibition was at the Bowman Gallery, London in 2014 and since then, she has gone on to have several successful solo exhibitions including at The Fine Art Society, Edinburgh and London; Beaux Arts, London; CCA Galleries International, Jersey, and museum exhibitions at Gainsborough's House, Sudbury in 2019 and Harley Gallery, Welbeck in 2023. Farhi is a member of the Royal Society of Sculptors.

About Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, built 1800–1804, is the historic country home of one of the most remarkable English architects, Sir John Soane. Pitzhanger's mission is to promote Soane's legacy,

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inspiring visitors with art, architecture, and design and nurturing creativity for all. The museum celebrates not only Soane's lasting influence as a designer, but also combines his architecture with a programme of ambitious contemporary art exhibitions across the house and contemporary gallery. Pitzhanger runs an extensive learning outreach and events programme. Pitzhanger reopened in spring 2019 following a major £12-million conservation and restoration project to return the Manor to Soane's original design, with support from NLHF, ACE, Ealing Council, and other generous donors.

About Sir John Soane

Sir John Soane (1753–1837) was one of Britain's most visionary architects, and one of the very few of his time to have come from a working-class background. His buildings are celebrated for their idiosyncratic take on the neoclassical style and mastery of natural light. Soane bought Pitzhanger in 1800. He demolished most of the existing manor house apart from the Dance Wing and from 1800 to 1804, designed and built a new house as his country estate sitting in 28 acres of parkland. The legacy of Soane's distinctive buildings, teachings, and collections has influenced generations of artists, architects, and designers.

About Mishcon de Reya

Mishcon de Reya is an independent law firm, which now employs over 1400 people with more than 650 lawyers offering a wide range of legal services to companies and individuals. The firm has grown rapidly in recent years, showing more than 40% revenue growth in the past five years alone.

With presence in London, Oxford, Cambridge, Singapore and Hong Kong (through its association with Karas So LLP), the firm services an international community of clients and provides advice in situations where the constraints of geography often do not apply.

The work the firm undertakes is cross-border, multi-jurisdictional and complex, spanning seven core practice areas: Corporate; Dispute Resolution; Employment; Impact; Innovation; Private; and Real Estate.

Sharing with you selected highlights from our exciting programme of exhibitions in 2025

Artist	Date	Description
Alison Watt: <i>From Light</i>	5 March – 15 June 2025	A major solo exhibition featuring new paintings exploring light and shadow, inspired by the architecture and emotional depth of Sir John Soane's Pitzhanger Manor.
Perminder Kaur	June – September 2025	A solo exhibition of Perminder Kaur's colourful sculptures that incorporate a language of toys and clothes from childhood, creating installations that are both inviting and disquieting.
Prem Sahib	June – September 2025	A solo exhibition in the manor house by Prem Sahib, featuring works that explore the intersection of public and private spaces through pared down sculptural interventions.
Howard Hodgkin	September 2025 – February 2026	A retrospective showcasing the vibrant and emotionally charged print practice of Howard Hodgkin, depicting moments and memories through bold, abstract forms.

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Current Exhibitions:

- *Language of the Physical: Katherine Gili Sculpture*

The exhibition remains on view at Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery until 9 March 2025.

Image Sheet

Please download high-resolution images from [the Press Kit](#).



Nicole Farhi, 2023. Photo by Iona Wolff.

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Nicole Farhi, *Albert Dreyfus*, 2023. Ciment fondu and acrylic



Nicole Farhi, *Andrew Malkinson*, 2023. Ciment fondu and acrylic



Nicole Farhi, *Timothy Evans*, 2023. Ciment fondu and acrylic

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Nicole Farhi, *Lena Baker*, 2023. Ciment fondu and acrylic



Nicole Farhi, *Sakae Menda*, 2023. Ciment fondu and acrylic



Front façade of Pitzhanger Manor. © Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery. Photo by Andy Stagg