

Homage 10 x 5 - Blake's Artists

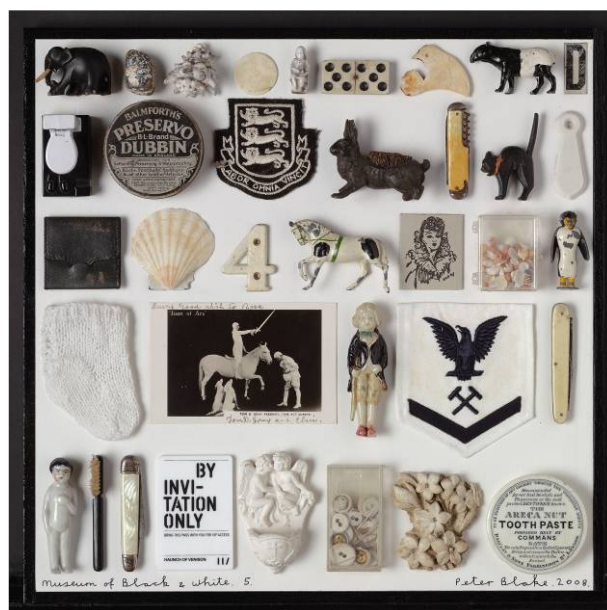
An exhibition by
Sir Peter Blake

Waddington Galleries

Private View:
16 Nov, 6 to 8pm

Exhibition runs:
17 Nov to 11 Dec

A major exhibition of works by **Peter Blake** in homage to his favourite artists



© Peter Blake, *Homage to Mark Dion: Museum of Black & White No.5*, 2010, collage with found objects

“One of the really original British Artists of the last century; a visionary of a kind.” Jonathan Jones

Waddington Galleries is happy to announce Peter Blake's new one-man exhibition. It is entitled *Homage 10 x 5 - Blake's Artists* and consists of fifty works that are a homage to ten artists who have interested and excited Blake during his career: Joseph Cornell, Sonia Delaunay, Mark Dion, Damien Hirst, Henri Matisse, Jack Pierson, Robert Rauschenberg, Kurt Schwitters, Saul Steinberg, and H.C. Westermann.

Peter Blake is an inveterate collector of everything from pop culture to found objects and seaside detritus; he has drawn on this magpie-like hoard to produce ten series of work; each consists of five pieces dedicated to each artist, taking the artist's style and working with it to create a work of his own.

The results are full of gentle humour. Blake salutes Saul Steinberg with a series that includes the three-dimensional *Parade for Steinberg*, in which The Simpsons, The Smurfs, Rupert Bear and friends promenade past the artist. “A cleaned-up Rauschenberg” is how Blake describes the board-game collages he has made in honour of Robert Rauschenberg. His tribute to H.C. Westermann is a collection of death ships and galleons populated by miniature gangs engaged in pitched battle, such as farmers against punks, cowboys against indians, soldiers versus characters from Disney and knights fighting people being frightened in ‘B movies’.

Talking about the exhibition, Blake says: “These pieces are my nod of appreciation, a way of saying thank-you to artists whose work I like. It began with *Appropriating Jack Pierson*. I liked Pierson's work and wanted one for myself, so decided to make my own”. Inspired by Pierson's response to this first collage, which Pierson called “spooky” in its accuracy, Blake made more *Homages to Pierson*, five of which will be in the exhibition.

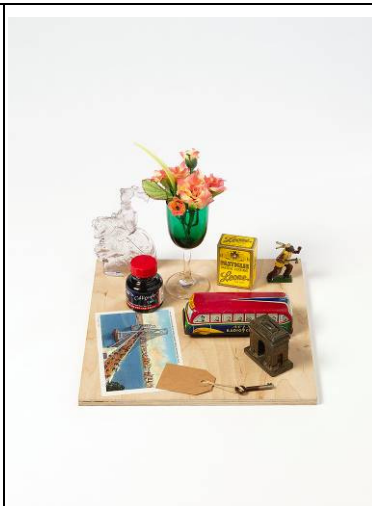
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Other collage-based series include *Museums of Black and White* in homage to Mark Dion; five delicate and tiny works in appreciation of Sonia Delaunay's abstract book jackets; a collection of coloured paper *decoupages* that reference Matisse's *The Snail*; and the *Butterfly Man* collages, based on Damien Hirst, in which Blake has laid butterfly images onto vintage postcard landscapes, enlarged to incredible detail using Giclée Print.

Five years after Peter Blake announced his retirement, he is as active as ever. *Homage 10 x 5 – Blake's Artists* comes hot on the heels of his curation of this year's *Museum of Everything* exhibition in Primrose Hill, in which some of his vast collection amassed over a lifetime will be on display. The fifty pieces exhibited at Waddington Galleries show the uses to which he has put his collecting. It is an opportunity to see Blake's more sculptural compositions and collages, and to appreciate again the energy and lightness of touch he brings to his work.



© Peter Blake, *Homage to Joseph Cornell: Birds*, 2010, collage with found objects



© Peter Blake, *Homage to Saul Steinberg: Still Life*, 2010, found objects



© Peter Blake, *Homage to Robert Rauschenberg: Children's Games 1*, 2010, collage with found objects

Address: Waddington Galleries
11 Cork Street
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Opening Hours: 10am to 6pm Monday to Friday
10am to 1:30pm Saturdays

Tube: Green Park/Piccadilly Circus

Prices: Free

Editor's Notes

Peter Blake

Born in 1932 in Dartford, Kent, Sir Peter Blake studied at Gravesend School of Art before being accepted into the Royal College of Art, London. He graduated in 1956, having completed his National Service, and received the Leverhulme Research Award to study popular art whilst travelling to Holland, Belgium, France, Italy and Spain. Following this, Blake taught for a number of years in various London art schools, including St. Martins School of Art and the Royal College of Art, all the while working and exhibiting.

Blake's first one-man exhibition was held in 1962 at the Portal Gallery; solo shows followed at the Robert Fraser Gallery (1965) and at Leslie Waddington Prints (1969). Since the early '70s, his work has been exhibited regularly in one-man shows throughout the world, including the Nishimura Gallery, Tokyo (1988) and the Govinda Gallery, Washington D.C. (1992). A comprehensive exhibition of his work was held as early as 1969 at the City Art Gallery, Bristol. Subsequent Retrospectives were held in 1973 at the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, touring to Hamburg and Brussels and at the Tate Gallery (1983). In 1994 he was made the Third Associate Artist of the National Gallery, London. He was elected a member of the Royal Academy of Arts in 1981, and was knighted in 2002. In 2007 the Tate Liverpool held a major retrospective of Peter Blake's work which toured to Museo de Bellas Artes de Bilbao in 2008.

Waddington Galleries

Waddington Galleries deals in modern and contemporary works of art - painting, sculpture and works on paper.

A substantial inventory is held of work by major twentieth-century artists including Patrick Caulfield, John Chamberlain, Jean Dubuffet, Robert Indiana, Henri Matisse, Fausto Melotti, Henry Moore, Ben Nicholson, Pablo Picasso, Francis Picabia, Robert Rauschenberg and John Wesley. Waddington Galleries represents a number of contemporary artists from Great Britain, Europe, and North America including Peter Blake, Ian Davenport, Axel Hütte, Peter Halley, Mimmo Paladino, Kenny Scharf, Antoni Tàpies, Joe Tilson and William Turnbull, and the estates of Josef Albers, Craigie Aitchison, Milton Avery, Barry Flanagan, Al Held and Patrick Heron.

Regular one-man exhibitions of gallery artists are interspersed with shows of work from inventory.

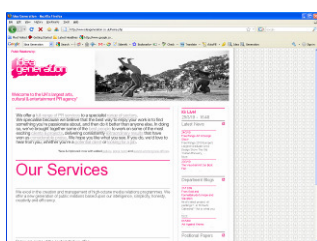
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www.waddington-galleries.com

For:

- Information on Waddington Galleries
- Information on the exhibition