

# DAVID AUSTEN

David Austen works as a painter, sculptor, printmaker and filmmaker. Whatever the medium, the elements of his work come together as if part of a strange but wonderful story which reveal a dark, yet endearing vision of the world. His paintings on flax canvas, delicate watercolour and gouache works on paper, suspended objects and staged scenarios borrow from film noir and 19th Century literature creating a bittersweet, psycho-sexual world inhabited by strange and lovelorn characters.

In recent years, Austen has made two large groups of etchings which seem like strange storyboards for these fractured tales, and which in turn have led to the making of works in film. His first, *Smoking Moon* (shown at both Camden Arts Centre and the British Film Institute) was followed by *Crackers*, commissioned for his most comprehensive solo exhibition to date at Milton Keynes Gallery (2007). In 2009, Austen was the Stanley Picker Fellow at Kingston University where he wrote and directed his first feature length film *End of Love*. Austen's films have been exhibited widely at locations including the Locarno Film Festival, Switzerland; the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; the Edinburgh International Film Festival and the curated film programme at Art Basel Miami Beach.

In 2012, Austen's film, *The Gorgon's Dream*, was premiered at the Edinburgh International Film Festival and his work was selected for the curated film programme at Art Basel Miami Beach 2013. In 2014, Austen curated the group touring exhibition *The Naked's*. For the 2016 edition of Art Basel Miami Beach Ingleby Gallery presented a dedicated exhibition of work by David Austen including significant new bodies of work including *Silence Beach; The light that fell upon us burned, night flowers* and *Naked's*. *Underworld*, a major survey exhibition exploring the breadth of David Austen's artistic practice was presented by Dundee Contemporary Arts in Spring, 2019.

## Biography

1960	Born in Harlow, Essex, UK
1982-85	Royal College of Art, London, UK
1978-81	Maidstone College of Art, Kent, UK
2009	Stanley Picker Fellow, Kingston University, Kingston upon Thames, UK

Lives and works in London

## Solo Exhibitions / Selected Projects

2023	Forthcoming: Ingleby, Edinburgh
2021	<i>The Last Trapeze Artist</i> , David Totah, New York, USA
2019	<i>Underworld</i> , Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee, Scotland, UK
2018	<i>The Drowned</i> , Matt's Gallery, London, UK <i>The stars above the ocean... the ocean beneath the stars</i> , David Totah Gallery New York, USA
2016	<i>The light that fell upon us burned</i> , Ingleby Gallery at Art Basel Miami Beach
2015	Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Cogliandrino (MACC), Italy
2013	<i>Smoking Moon</i> , film screening as part of Art Basel Miami Beach film programme, Miami, USA <i>Billboard for Edinburgh</i> , public art project, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

- 2012 *The Gorgon's Dream*, The Burns Monument, with Ingleby Gallery and the Edinburgh International Film Festival, Edinburgh, UK and at Rob Tufnell, London, UK
- 2011 *David Austen | Papillion*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 2010 *Smoke Town* and *End of Love*, Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, UK
- 2009 *David Austen – My love, I have been digging up my own bones in the garden again*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Man Smoking*, Schiavo Mazzonis Gallery, Rome, Italy  
*The End of Love*, Stanley Picker Gallery, Kingston University, Kingston upon Thames, UK
- 2008 *David Austen & Man Ray*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2007 Milton Keynes Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK (cat. illus)  
*Glitter*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Crackers*, film screening, Locarno Film Festival, Italy
- 2006 *Smoking Moon*, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK  
*GREEN ELECTRIC MORNING*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK (cat. illus)
- 2005 *Froth on the Daydream*, Wimbledon School of Art, London, UK
- 2004 *Darkland*, PEER, London, UK (cat. illus)  
Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 2003 *Hard Times*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2001 Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
Annandale Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
*Edge of the World*, Christ Church Mansion, Ipswich, UK  
Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 2000 *Happy City*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 1999 Galerie Marianne Hollenbach, Stuttgart, Germany
- 1998 Inverleith House, Edinburgh, UK  
Slewe Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1997 Anthony Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK  
Mead Gallery, Warwick, UK (cat. illus)  
Galerie Marianne Hollenbach, Stuttgart, Germany
- 1994 Anthony Reynolds, London, UK
- 1993 Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 1992 Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK
- 1991 Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 1990 Frith Street Gallery, London, UK (cat. illus)
- 1989 Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
Castle Museum & Art Gallery, Nottingham, UK (cat. illus)
- 1988 Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK (cat. illus)  
Arnolfini, Bristol, UK

- 1987           Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
- 1986           Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK (cat. illus)

### Group Exhibitions

- 2022           *The World We Live In*, a UK touring exhibition by the Arts Council Collection with sites including Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery, Glynn Vivian, Swansea, and Levinsky Gallery, Plymouth
- 2021           *The Drawing Biennial 2021*, Drawing Room and Cromwell Place, London, UK  
*Everything Else is Everything Else*, MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK  
*Crocodile Cradle*, PEER, London, UK  
*The Gorgon's Dream*, TOTAH, New York, USA
- 2020           *The Shadow*, TOTAH, New York, USA  
*Summer/Winter exhibition*, Royal Academy, London, UK
- 2019           *The Aerodrome: An exhibition dedicated to the memory of Michael Stanley*, IKON Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*IX Bienal de Jafre*, El Museo de las palabras, Girona, Spain
- 2018           *Jacob's Ladder*, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK  
*TWENTY*, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK
- 2017           *These Rotten Words*, Chapter, Cardiff, UK
- 2016           *Cosmic Connections*, TOTAH, New York, USA
- 2015           *Songs For Someone Who Isn't There*, Sarah Hardie EAF Performance, Edinburgh, UK
- 2014           *The Naked*, The Drawing Room, London UK (co-curator) touring to De La Warr Pavilion, East Sussex  
*Slow Learner*, Timothy Taylor Gallery, London  
*Abstract Drawing*, Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2013           *Once upon a time and a very good time it was...*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*On Paper*, Centro de Artes Visuales Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain  
*Just what is it that makes today's homes so different, so appealing?*, New Art Centre, Salisbury, UK  
*Drawing Biennial 2013*, Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2012           *Language Games. An Introduction to The Art of Our Times*, Centro de Artes Visuales Fundación Helga de Alvear, Cáceres, Spain  
*With An Apple I Will Astonish*, Large Glass, London, UK  
*Working on the Inside*, Tannery Arts @ the Drawing Room, London, UK  
*Summer Exhibition*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*The Artist's Imprint*, Emma Hill Fine Art Eagle Gallery, London, UK
- 2011           *Ill Fare The Land*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Artists for Kettle's Yard*, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
*Watercolour*, Tate Britain, London, UK  
*One Another*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 2009           *On The Lonely*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*No Shoes on the Carpet*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2008           *Better Than Grey a Serious Consideration of Colour*, Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, Suffolk, UK  
*The Archer and The Goat*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Conversations*, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
*At Home*, Voewood Projects, High Kelling, Norfolk, UK

- Order Desire Light*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
*100 Years, 100 Artists, 100 Works of Art*, A Foundation, London, UK
- 2007 *ArtProjx at Greenland Street*, A Foundation, Liverpool, UK  
*La vida privada – Coleccion Josep Civit*, Centro de Arte y Naturalexia – Fundació Bèulas, Huesca, Spain  
*The Secret Theory of Drawing*, Model Arts & Niland Gallery, Sligo, Ireland & Tannery Arts, London, UK
- 2006 *A Handful of Dust*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Flip: A Drawing Exhibition*, Chung King Project, Los Angeles, US: in association with The Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2005 *Edition*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*The Hardest Thing to Draw is a Kiss*, The Gallery, Wimbledon School of Art, London, UK (curated by David Austen)  
*Miradas y Conceptos*, MEIAC, Badajoz, Spain  
*Who's Afraid of Red, Yellow and Blue?* Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*In Focus*, Emma Hill Fine Art, The Eagle Gallery, London, UK  
*Remarkable*, Andrew Mummery Gallery, London, UK
- 2004 *10 Years*, Slewe Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
*John Moore's Exhibition 23*, The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK  
*Painting*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*See it...Read it, Art with Words*, from the Arts Council Collection, Draiocht, Dublin, Ireland  
*Chromophiles*, Galleri Bouhlou, Bergen, Norway
- 2003 *Exodus* (curated by David Austen), Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK  
*The Collection of an Invisible Man*, Laing Art Gallery, London, UK  
*Independence*, South London Gallery, London, UK
- 2002 *Abstraction*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*3 x 2*, The Nunnery, London, UK  
*Artaid*, Bloomberg Space, London, UK
- 2001 *Yellow*, Galerie Kempfer, Munich, Germany
- 2000 *Y2K*, Archimede Staffolini Gallery, Cyprus  
*Blue*, The New Museum at Walsall, Walsall, UK
- 1999 Commission for the British Embassy, Cairo, Egypt  
*John Moores Exhibition 21*, Liverpool, UK
- 1998 *Book*, Djanogly Art Gallery, Nottingham, UK  
*Source / Chanzo*, National Museum, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- 1997 *Marks and Traces*, Sandra Gering Gallery, New York, USA  
*Antechamber*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
*A Cloudburst of Material Possessions*, Purdy Hicks Gallery, London, UK  
*Slewe Gallery*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1996 Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Take it From Here*, Sunderland Museum and Art Gallery, Sunderland, UK  
*In Passing*, The Tannery, London, UK  
*Absolute Vision: New British Painting in the 1990's*, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, UK
- 1995 *The Contemporary Art Society Collection*, Buttler Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland  
*Cirrus Gallery*, Los Angeles, USA  
*Made in L.A.*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, USA
- 1994 *Recent Publications - Editions and Monoprints*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 1993 *Painters' Prints*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

*WaterCOLOUR*, Curwen Gallery, London, UK  
*Strictly Painting*, Cubitt Street Gallery, London, UK  
*Moving into View*, Recent British Painting, Royal Festival Hall, London, UK  
*Spit in the Ocean*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK

- 1992 *Whitechapel Open*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK  
*Poiesis*, Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*New Voices: Recent Painting For The British Council Collection*, Centre de Conference Albert Borshette, Brussels, Belgium (Catalogue, illus)  
*Twelve Stars*, Arts Council Gallery, Belfast, UK; City Arts Centre, Edinburgh, UK; Barbican Centre, London, UK (Catalogue, illus.)
- 1991 *New Editions*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
*Whitechapel Open* co-selector, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK
- 1990 *Mind the Gap*, Espace Culturel Graslin, Nantes, France(cat. illus)  
Ciento, Barcelona, Spain  
*Poiesis*, Graeme Murray Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
David Beitzel, New York, USA  
*The Theory and Practice of the Small Painting*, curated by Tony Godfrey, Anderson O'Day Gallery, London, UK  
*British Art*, Zellweger, Basel, Switzerland  
*Broadgate Art Project*, London, UK
- 1988 *Object and Image: Aspects of British Art in the 1980's*, City Museum and Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent, UK  
*Vanitas*, Norwich School of Art, Norwich, UK (cat. illus)  
*Atlas 3*, Nigel Greenwood Gallery, London, UK
- 1987 *Riverside Open*, Riverside Studios, London, UK  
*On a Plate*, Franham College of Art and Serpentine Gallery, London, UK (cat. illus)
- 1986 *Between Identity and Politics: A New Art*, Gimpel Fils, London, UK and touring to:  
Gimpel and Weitzenhoffer, New York, USA (catalogue, illus)  
*Works on Paper*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Canvass: New British Painting*, John Hansard Gallery, Southampton, UK and the Exhibition Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK  
*New Art*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK
- 1985 *Royal College of Art Degree Show*, London, UK (cat. illus)  
*Young Masters*, Solomon Gallery, London, UK (cat. illus)  
*New Art 2*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Riverside Open*, Riverside Studios, London, UK

## **Selected Collections**

UBS Art Collection  
The Tate Gallery, London, UK  
The British Council, UK  
Arts Council of England, UK  
Government Art Collection, UK

## **Publications**

- 2019 *Underworld*, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee, Scotland  
2018 *The Drowned*, Matt's Gallery  
2017 *Tempest Of Stars*, Jean Cocteau, with drawings by David Austen, Enitharmon Editions, London, UK  
2016 *The Light that Fell upon us Burned*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
2015 *Twilight - A Wall of Gouaches*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

- 2014 *The Naked*s, The Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2012 *The Roundel, 100 Artists Remake a London Icon*, Art/Books Publishing, London, UK
- 2011 *David Austen, The Gorgon's Dream*, LemonMelon, London, UK
- 2010 *David Austen: END OF LOVE*, Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, UK
- 2007 *David Austen*, Milton Keynes Gallery, Buckinghamshire, UK
- 2006 *GREEN ELECTRIC MORNING*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2005 *Froth on the Daydream*, David Austen, Broken Glass, UK
- 2004 *Stood Up*, David Austen and Rupert Thomson, Peer, London, UK
- 2001 *Objects and Images from the Edge of the World*, Wolsey Art Gallery, Ipswich, UK
- 1997 *David Austen*, edited by Mead Gallery, Warwick Art Centre, Coventry, UK
- 1992 Jean Cocteau: *Tempest of Stars*, Illus. By David Austen, Enitharmon Editions, London, UK
- 1990 *David Austen*, Frith Street Gallery, London, UK
- 1989 *David Austen*, edited by Marco Livingstone, Art Random monograph, Kyoto Shoin, Japan