

# RICHARD FORSTER

A key starting point for Richard Forster's practice is a documentary approach to time, process and sense of place. In his most recent exhibitions, he has constructed sequences of works that act as a calendar of activity, and a form of storytelling that circumnavigates the gallery architecture. Forster has nurtured his drawing from formative years he describes as an 'anxious teenager alienated in an English suburban bedroom'. While his intimate and compulsive attention to detail could be categorised and mistaken for photo-realism, Forster prefers to use more ambiguous categories such as the 'nearly-photo-realistic' or the 'photocopy-realistic', in an attempt to extend the reading of the work towards the meanings inherent to the medium of drawing, and the particular subject-matter of his choosing.

Forster's earlier sculptural works offered a counterpoint to this flow of drawing process, deliberating on the often theatrical nature of presenting work in public situations. The last few years have seen a consolidation of drawing as his primary activity, and a rigorous conceptualisation both to his subject-matter and to its point and mode of address.

Forster's major solo exhibition *Modern* was held at Ingleby Gallery in 2014 and was accompanied by a new hardback publication with essay by Claire Gilman, Curator at The Drawing Centre, New York. *Modern* was then presented at The Whitworth Gallery, Manchester in 2015. The solo exhibition *Levittown* was presented at De La Warr Pavilion, East Sussex in the Spring of 2016 a body of work examining the cultural legacy of postwar American suburbia.

## Biography

1970	Born in Saltburn-by-the Sea, Cleveland, UK
1993-1995	M.A. Visual Theories, University of East London, UK
1989-92	B.A. (Hons) Fine Art, Manchester Polytechnic, Manchester, UK

Lives and works in Darlington, UK

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019	<i>Notes on Architecture</i> , The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, USA <i>Notes on Architecture</i> , Timothy Taylor Gallery, London, UK
2018	<i>Levittown</i> , Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, USA <i>Levittown</i> , De La Warr Pavillion, Bexhill, UK
2015	<i>Modern</i> , Whitworth Museum & Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
2014	<i>Modern</i> , Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
2012	The Flag Foundation, New York, USA
2011	<i>Fast and Slow Time</i> , Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesbrough, UK
2008	<i>Untitled 9-64 (Seascapes)</i> , Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK MOT International, London, UK
2007	<i>Richard Forster &amp; Richard Artschwager</i> , Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
2006	Jerwood Artist's Platform, Cell Project Space, London, UK

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2021 *Drawing Out*, DE LEÓN, Bath, UK
- 2018 *TWENTY*, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK  
Summer Exhibiton, Royal Academy, London, UK
- 2016 *Take Two*, The Photographers Gallery, London, UK  
*and per se and: parts VII & VIII*, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK
- 2015 *Small Worlds*, The New Art Gallery Walsall, Walsall, UK  
*Resistance & Persistence*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*The Triumph of Love: Beth Rudin DeWoody Collects*,  
Norton Museum, Palm Beach, USA
- 2014 *Und Heir: Dingens*, Gallery Adamski, Berlin, Germany  
*Dark Matter*, Galleri Tom Christoffersen, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Summer Show*, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, USA  
*Drawn to the Real*, Allan Cristea Gallery, London, UK  
*Year After Year. Opere su carta dalla UBS Art Collection*, Galleria d'Arte Moderna di Milano, Milan,  
Italy
- 2013 *personal, political, mysterious*, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, Texas, USA  
*ik wordt*, Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium  
*Richard Forster & Ewan Gibbs*, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, Texas, USA
- 2012 *Slow Looking: Contemporary Drawing*, the Tate Modern, London, UK  
*Drawn from Photography*, DePaul Museum, Chicago, USA  
*Art on Paper*, Weatherspoon Art Museum, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, USA
- 2011 *Graphite*, Gallery North, Northumbria University, Northumbria, UK  
*Drawn from Photography*, The Drawing Center, New York, USA  
*A Travelling Gallery Exhibition*, various locations, with the City Art Centre, Edinburgh, UK
- 2010 *Deliberations from a Collector*, Centre for Recent Drawing, London, UK  
*Make Room – Interventions into the Garman Ryan Collection*, New Art Gallery, Walsall, UK  
*Sweet Disorder*, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK  
*The Tower of Babel / In and Out of Place*, 176 Zabłudowicz Collection, London, UK
- 2009 *A Work a Day*, MOT International, London, UK  
*Obsession: Contemporary Art from the Lodeveans Collection*, University of Leeds Art Gallery,  
Leeds, UK
- 2008 *Northern Art Prize*, Leeds Art Gallery, Leeds, UK  
*MONOCHROME – Drawings and Prints*, Rabley Contemporary Drawing Centre, Wiltshire, UK
- 2007 *Richard Artschwager, Richard Forster*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Working Things Out*, Spike Island, Bristol, UK  
*The Opposite of Vertigo*, The Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2006 *The Opposite of Vertigo*, Burren Annual, Ireland  
*Daisychain* (curated by Bruce Haines) MOT, London, UK  
*Blue Star, Red Wedge* (curated by Workplace Gallery), Glasgow International, Glasgow, UK
- 2005 *Yes, No* (Richard Forster, Eva Weinmayr), Vane, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- 2004 *Some Versions of Light*, The Telephone Repeater Station, North Yorkshire, UK (curated by  
Greville Worthington)  
*A Thing About Painting*, Platform, London, UK

- 2003 *Look to this Day*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK
- 2002 *Gatsby*, The New Lansdowne Club, London, UK (curated by Lali Chetwynd)  
*Matt Calderwood, Richard Forster, Alexis Harding, Peter Harris*, Collective Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2001 *Richard Forster, Richard Woods*, Waygood Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
*The (Ideal) Home Show*, Gimpel Fils Gellery, London, UK (curated by Jackie Halliday)
- 2000 *Paint Too*, Northern Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sunderland, UK (curated by Elle Carpenter)
- 1998-99 *Plug-in painting one: Work for a council flat*, Sali Gia, London, uk  
*Plug-in painging two: Office in a big town*, 33 Great Sutton Street, London, UK

### **Selected Public Collections**

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA  
 Tate, London, UK  
 The Flag Foundation, USA  
 Zabłudowicz Collection, UK  
 Government Art Collection, UK  
 Lodeveans Collection, UK  
 New Art Gallery, Walsall, UK  
 Rhode Island School of Design, USA  
 UBS, UK  
 Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK

### **Selected Publications**

- 2014 *Modern*, Richard Forster, Claire Gilman, Richard Ingleby, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2013 *VITAMIN D2*, Claire Gilman, Phaidon, London, UK
- 2011 *Fast and Slow Time*, Colm Toibin, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art and Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Drawn from Photography*, Claire Gilman, Lynne Tillman, Drawing Center, New York, USA
- 2008 *Richard Forster*, Michael Bracewell, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Northern Art Prize 2008*, Northern Art Prize and Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds, UK
- 2006 *Richard Forster*, Sally O'Reilly, Jerwood Artists Platform, London, UK
- 2004 *Some Versions of Light*, Greville Worthington  
*Workplace: Richard Forster*, JJ Charlesworth, Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK  
*Richard Forster*, JJ Charlesworth, Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK