

LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

LUCIAN FREUD AND THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY: A DEEP DIVE INTO PORTRAITURE MASTERY

LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY IS A PHRASE THAT RESONATES DEEPLY WITH ART ENTHUSIASTS AND HISTORIANS ALIKE. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY IN LONDON, RENOWNED FOR SHOWCASING PORTRAITS OF INFLUENTIAL FIGURES IN BRITISH HISTORY, HAS LONG HELD A SPECIAL PLACE FOR THE WORKS OF LUCIAN FREUD. KNOWN AS ONE OF THE MOST COMPELLING AND INTENSE PORTRAIT PAINTERS OF THE 20TH CENTURY, FREUD'S CONNECTION WITH THE GALLERY OFFERS A FASCINATING LENS THROUGH WHICH TO EXPLORE HIS ARTISTIC LEGACY AND THE EVOLVING NATURE OF PORTRAITURE ITSELF.

WHO WAS LUCIAN FREUD?

BEFORE DELVING INTO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY RELATIONSHIP, IT'S ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTAND WHO LUCIAN FREUD WAS. BORN IN 1922, FREUD WAS A BRITISH PAINTER CELEBRATED FOR HIS UNFLINCHING, OFTEN RAW DEPICTIONS OF THE HUMAN FORM. GRANDSON OF SIGMUND FREUD, THE FATHER OF PSYCHOANALYSIS, LUCIAN FREUD CARVED HIS OWN NICHE IN THE ART WORLD BY FOCUSING INTENSELY ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL REALITY OF HIS SUBJECTS.

UNLIKE TRADITIONAL PORTRAITURE WHICH OFTEN IDEALIZES ITS SUBJECTS, FREUD'S PAINTINGS ARE MARKED BY A STARK HONESTY AND BRUTAL INTIMACY. HIS WORKS REVEAL THE VULNERABILITY, COMPLEXITY, AND EVEN THE IMPERFECTIONS OF THOSE HE PAINTED. THIS APPROACH REVOLUTIONIZED PORTRAIT PAINTING, MAKING HIM A CENTRAL FIGURE IN CONTEMPORARY BRITISH ART.

LUCIAN FREUD AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY HAS A RICH COLLECTION THAT AIMS TO CAPTURE THE FACES AND STORIES THAT HAVE SHAPED BRITISH HISTORY. FREUD'S PORTRAITS, WITH THEIR PENETRATING INSIGHT INTO CHARACTER AND EMOTION, ALIGN PERFECTLY WITH THIS MISSION. OVER THE YEARS, THE GALLERY HAS HOSTED EXHIBITIONS AND DISPLAYED SEVERAL OF FREUD'S WORKS, OFFERING VISITORS A CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE HIS UNIQUE STYLE FIRSTHAND.

KEY EXHIBITIONS FEATURING LUCIAN FREUD

ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE EXHIBITIONS WAS THE 2012 RETROSPECTIVE TITLED "LUCIAN FREUD PORTRAITS," WHICH SHOWCASED OVER 70 WORKS SPANNING HIS ENTIRE CAREER. THIS EXHIBITION WAS PIVOTAL BECAUSE IT HIGHLIGHTED NOT JUST HIS FAMOUS NUDES AND FIGURE STUDIES BUT ALSO HIS PORTRAITS OF NOTABLE INDIVIDUALS FROM THE REALMS OF ART, LITERATURE, AND SOCIETY.

VISITORS TO THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY DURING THIS EXHIBITION COULD WITNESS HOW FREUD'S STYLE EVOLVED OVER DECADES—FROM THE RELATIVELY SMOOTHER BRUSHWORK OF HIS EARLY CAREER TO THE THICKLY TEXTURED, ALMOST SCULPTURAL APPLICATION OF PAINT IN HIS LATER YEARS. THE EXHIBITION ALSO UNDERScoreD FREUD'S COMMITMENT TO SPENDING LONG HOURS WITH HIS SUBJECTS, SOMETIMES FOR YEARS, TO CAPTURE AN AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATION.

SIGNIFICANT PORTRAITS IN THE GALLERY'S COLLECTION

THE GALLERY HOLDS PORTRAITS OF SOME OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL FIGURES PAINTED BY FREUD, INCLUDING:

- **SIR LUCIAN FREUD BY FRANK AUERBACH** – NOT A PAINTING BY FREUD HIMSELF BUT A TESTAMENT TO HIS INFLUENCE IN THE ART COMMUNITY.

- **Portrait of David Hockney** – An intimate depiction of the fellow artist and a close friend.
- **Kate Moss** – One of Freud's later portraits, capturing the supermodel with his characteristic intensity.

These portraits exemplify Freud's ability to convey not just the physical likeness but the psychological essence of his subjects, making them invaluable to the Gallery's narrative of British identity and culture.

THE ARTISTIC STYLE OF LUCIAN FREUD: WHY HIS PORTRAITS STAND OUT

To appreciate the Lucian Freud National Portrait Gallery connection fully, understanding Freud's artistic style is crucial. His approach to portraiture is often described as both intimate and confrontational. Here are some hallmark features of his style:

1. THICK IMPASTO AND TEXTURAL RICHNESS

Freud's paintings are notable for their thick layers of paint that add a sculptural quality to his portraits. This technique, known as impasto, allows the surface of the painting to mimic the texture of skin, wrinkles, and flesh, enhancing the tactile experience for the viewer.

2. UNVARNISHED REALISM

Unlike many portrait artists who aim to beautify their subjects, Freud was committed to portraying them with raw honesty. Every blemish, fold, and imperfection was carefully rendered, reflecting his belief in the truthful representation of the human form.

3. PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPTH

Freud's portraits often evoke a sense of psychological tension. His subjects seem to reveal their inner complexities, vulnerabilities, and even discomfort. This emotional depth invites viewers to engage with the portrait on a more profound level.

VISITING THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY: EXPERIENCING LUCIAN FREUD'S LEGACY

If you're planning a visit to the National Portrait Gallery and have an interest in Lucian Freud, here are some tips to enhance your experience:

- **Check Current Exhibitions:** The Gallery frequently rotates its displays, so it's worth visiting their website or contacting them to see if any Freud works are currently on show.
- **Take a Guided Tour:** Many tours focus on portraiture and often include insights into Freud's paintings, providing a richer understanding of his technique and themes.
- **Explore Related Collections:** Alongside Freud, the Gallery features portraits from other British masters, allowing you to compare styles and appreciate the evolution of portrait art.

- **USE AUDIO GUIDES:** THESE OFTEN INCLUDE COMMENTARY ON THE EMOTIONAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT BEHIND FREUD'S PORTRAITS, DEEPENING YOUR APPRECIATION.

WHY LUCIAN FREUD'S WORK CONTINUES TO CAPTIVATE

THE ENDURING APPEAL OF LUCIAN FREUD'S PORTRAITS LIES IN THEIR PROFOUND HUMANITY. IN A WORLD OFTEN OBSESSED WITH POLISHED IMAGES AND SUPERFICIAL BEAUTY, FREUD'S PAINTINGS REMIND US OF THE COMPLEXITY BENEATH THE SURFACE. HIS WORKS ARE NOT JUST PICTURES BUT PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES THAT INVITE EMPATHY AND REFLECTION.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, BY PRESERVING AND SHOWCASING FREUD'S PORTRAITS, PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN KEEPING THIS LEGACY ALIVE. IT OFFERS A SPACE WHERE VIEWERS CAN CONFRONT THE RAW TRUTHS OF HUMAN EXISTENCE THROUGH THE LENS OF ONE OF BRITAIN'S GREATEST ARTISTS.

THE IMPACT ON CONTEMPORARY PORTRAITURE

LUCIAN FREUD'S INFLUENCE EXTENDS BEYOND HIS LIFETIME, INSPIRING CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS TO EMBRACE AUTHENTICITY AND EXPLORE THE NUANCES OF HUMAN IDENTITY. HIS DEDICATION TO SLOW, DELIBERATE OBSERVATION CHALLENGES THE FAST-PACED CONSUMPTION OF IMAGES TODAY, ENCOURAGING A DEEPER CONNECTION BETWEEN ARTIST, SUBJECT, AND VIEWER.

FINAL THOUGHTS ON LUCIAN FREUD AND THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

EXPLORING THE LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY RELATIONSHIP IS MORE THAN JUST ADMIRING BEAUTIFUL PAINTINGS; IT'S ABOUT ENGAGING WITH A POWERFUL NARRATIVE ON IDENTITY, VULNERABILITY, AND ARTISTIC INTEGRITY. WHETHER YOU'RE AN ART LOVER, A STUDENT, OR A CASUAL VISITOR, THE EXPERIENCE OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE HUMAN CONDITION REFLECTED THROUGH THE EYES OF ONE OF THE 20TH CENTURY'S MOST COMPELLING PAINTERS.

NEXT TIME YOU FIND YOURSELF AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, TAKE A MOMENT TO SEEK OUT FREUD'S PORTRAITS. LET THE THICK BRUSHSTROKES, INTENSE GAZES, AND TEXTURED FLESH DRAW YOU INTO A CONVERSATION THAT TRANSCENDS TIME AND PLACE—ONE THAT SPEAKS DIRECTLY TO THE HEART OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO WAS LUCIAN FREUD AND WHY IS HE SIGNIFICANT TO THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY?

LUCIAN FREUD WAS A BRITISH PAINTER KNOWN FOR HIS INTENSE AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY PENETRATING PORTRAITS. HIS WORK IS SIGNIFICANT TO THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO CONTEMPORARY PORTRAITURE, SHOWCASING THE DEPTH OF HUMAN CHARACTER AND EMOTION.

ARE THERE ANY LUCIAN FREUD EXHIBITIONS CURRENTLY AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY?

AS OF 2024, THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY OCCASIONALLY FEATURES LUCIAN FREUD'S WORKS IN SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS. IT IS BEST TO CHECK THEIR OFFICIAL WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS LUCIAN FREUD PORTRAITS DISPLAYED AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY?

SOME OF LUCIAN FREUD'S MOST FAMOUS PORTRAITS THAT HAVE BEEN DISPLAYED AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY INCLUDE HIS PORTRAITS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II, LEIGH BOWERY, AND HIS SELF-PORTRAITS, WHICH HIGHLIGHT HIS DISTINCTIVE STYLE AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INSIGHT.

HOW DOES LUCIAN FREUD'S STYLE DIFFER FROM OTHER PORTRAIT ARTISTS FEATURED AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY?

LUCIAN FREUD'S STYLE IS CHARACTERIZED BY THICK IMPASTO, INTENSE REALISM, AND A FOCUS ON THE RAW PHYSICALITY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPTH OF HIS SUBJECTS, WHICH SETS HIM APART FROM OTHER PORTRAIT ARTISTS WHO MAY EMPHASIZE IDEALIZATION OR FORMAL COMPOSITION.

CAN VISITORS SEE LUCIAN FREUD'S WORKS ONLINE THROUGH THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S COLLECTION?

YES, THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY OFFERS AN ONLINE COLLECTION WHERE VISITORS CAN VIEW HIGH-QUALITY IMAGES OF LUCIAN FREUD'S PORTRAITS ALONG WITH DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT EACH WORK.

WHAT IMPACT DID LUCIAN FREUD HAVE ON BRITISH PORTRAIT ART AS REFLECTED BY THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY?

LUCIAN FREUD HAD A PROFOUND IMPACT ON BRITISH PORTRAIT ART BY CHALLENGING TRADITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS AND EMPHASIZING A RAW, HONEST PORTRAYAL OF HIS SUBJECTS. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY REFLECTS THIS INFLUENCE BY FEATURING HIS WORKS PROMINENTLY AND HIGHLIGHTING HIS ROLE IN MODERNIZING PORTRAITURE.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LUCIAN FREUD AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY: A PROFOUND EXPLORATION OF HUMAN PSYCHE

LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY EXHIBITIONS REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT CONFLUENCE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPTH AND ARTISTIC MASTERY. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S COMMITMENT TO SHOWCASING THE WORKS OF LUCIAN FREUD OFFERS VISITORS AN INTIMATE LOOK AT ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PORTRAIT PAINTERS OF THE 20TH CENTURY. FREUD'S COMPELLING DEPICTIONS TRANSCEND MERE REPRESENTATION, DELVING INTO THE COMPLEXITIES OF IDENTITY, VULNERABILITY, AND CORPOREALITY, MAKING HIS PORTRAITS INDISPENSABLE TO THE NARRATIVE OF MODERN ART.

UNDERSTANDING LUCIAN FREUD'S ARTISTIC LEGACY

LUCIAN FREUD, GRANDSON OF THE FAMED PSYCHOANALYST SIGMUND FREUD, CARVED HIS OWN LEGACY WITH A STYLE MARKED BY INTENSE OBSERVATION AND UNFLINCHING HONESTY. HIS PORTRAITS REVEAL A FASCINATION WITH THE HUMAN BODY AND PSYCHE, OFTEN RENDERING SUBJECTS WITH RAW, TEXTURED BRUSHSTROKES THAT EXPOSE BOTH PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL LAYERS. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, BY INCLUDING FREUD'S WORK IN ITS COLLECTION AND EXHIBITIONS, HIGHLIGHTS THIS DISTINCTIVE APPROACH, WHICH CHALLENGES TRADITIONAL PORTRAITURE CONVENTIONS.

THE GALLERY'S PRESENTATION OF FREUD'S PAINTINGS OFFERS A NUANCED VIEW OF HIS TECHNIQUE AND THEMATIC PREOCCUPATIONS. UNLIKE CONVENTIONAL PORTRAITURE, WHICH OFTEN IDEALIZES SUBJECTS, FREUD'S WORK EMBRACES IMPERFECTIONS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY. THIS APPROACH INVITES VIEWERS TO CONFRONT THE REALITIES OF HUMAN EXISTENCE THROUGH THE LENS OF ART.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S ROLE IN SHOWCASING FREUD'S WORK

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY ACTS AS A CRUCIAL PLATFORM IN CONTEXTUALIZING FREUD'S CONTRIBUTION WITHIN THE BROADER SCOPE OF BRITISH ART HISTORY. BY CURATING EXHIBITIONS DEDICATED TO HIS OEUVRE, THE GALLERY ENSURES THAT AUDIENCES APPRECIATE NOT ONLY THE AESTHETIC QUALITIES BUT ALSO THE CULTURAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS PORTRAITS.

THE GALLERY'S EXHIBITIONS OFTEN FEATURE A RANGE OF FREUD'S PORTRAITS, FROM INTIMATE STUDIES OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS TO COMMISSIONED WORKS OF NOTABLE FIGURES. THIS DIVERSITY UNDERSCORES HIS VERSATILITY AND ENDURING RELEVANCE. MOREOVER, THE GALLERY SUPPLEMENTS THESE VISUAL EXPERIENCES WITH INSIGHTFUL COMMENTARY, ARCHIVAL MATERIALS, AND INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS, ENRICHING VISITORS' UNDERSTANDING OF FREUD'S METHODOLOGY AND INFLUENCE.

LUCIAN FREUD'S PORTRAITURE: TECHNIQUES AND THEMES

FREUD'S PORTRAITURE IS RENOWNED FOR ITS METICULOUS ATTENTION TO FLESH, TEXTURE, AND FORM. HIS APPLICATION OF THICK IMPASTO AND LAYERED BRUSHWORK CREATES SURFACES THAT ARE ALMOST TACTILE, INVITING CLOSE SCRUTINY. THIS TECHNIQUE, COMBINED WITH HIS CHOICE OF SUBJECTS OFTEN CAUGHT IN MOMENTS OF VULNERABILITY OR INTROSPECTION, PRODUCES WORKS THAT ARE PSYCHOLOGICALLY CHARGED AND VISUALLY COMPELLING.

EXPLORATION OF HUMAN VULNERABILITY

ONE OF THE DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS OF FREUD'S PORTRAITS IS THEIR UNVARNISHED PORTRAYAL OF HUMAN VULNERABILITY. UNLIKE THE IDEALIZED, SANITIZED DEPICTIONS COMMON IN PORTRAITURE, FREUD'S CANVASES REVEAL THE SITTER'S PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL REALITIES. THIS RAW HONESTY CAN BE UNSETTLING BUT ALSO DEEPLY EMPATHETIC, OFFERING A PROFOUND MEDITATION ON THE NATURE OF SELF AND OTHER.

COMPARISONS WITH CONTEMPORARY PORTRAIT ARTISTS

WITHIN THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S BROADER COLLECTION, FREUD'S WORK STANDS OUT FOR ITS INTENSITY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPTH. WHEN COMPARED WITH CONTEMPORARIES SUCH AS FRANCIS BACON OR FRANK AUERBACH, FREUD'S PORTRAITS ARE LESS ABSTRACT YET EQUALLY CHALLENGING. HIS FOCUS ON THE HUMAN BODY'S TANGIBLE PRESENCE CONTRASTS WITH BACON'S DISTORTED FIGURES AND AUERBACH'S EXPRESSIVE BRUSHSTROKES, POSITIONING FREUD UNIQUELY WITHIN POST-WAR BRITISH ART.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL VALUE

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S EXHIBITIONS OF LUCIAN FREUD'S WORK PROVIDE A MULTIFACETED EXPERIENCE THAT APPEALS TO BOTH ART AFICIONADOS AND CASUAL VISITORS. THROUGH CAREFULLY CURATED DISPLAYS, THE GALLERY OFFERS INSIGHT INTO FREUD'S CREATIVE PROCESS, HIS RELATIONSHIPS WITH HIS SUBJECTS, AND THE SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT OF HIS WORK.

INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS AND DIGITAL ACCESS

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCESSIBILITY AND ENGAGEMENT, THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY INCORPORATES INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS SUCH AS AUDIO GUIDES, MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATIONS, AND DIGITAL ARCHIVES. THESE TOOLS ENABLE VISITORS TO EXPLORE FREUD'S TECHNIQUE AND THEMATIC CONCERNS IN GREATER DEPTH, ENHANCING APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND PUBLIC LECTURES

THE GALLERY ALSO ORGANIZES LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS THAT DELVE INTO FREUD'S ARTISTIC PHILOSOPHY AND LEGACY. THESE INITIATIVES FOSTER DIALOGUE BETWEEN ARTISTS, SCHOLARS, AND THE PUBLIC, ENRICHING THE CULTURAL DISCOURSE SURROUNDING PORTRAITURE AND CONTEMPORARY ART.

CHALLENGES AND CRITIQUES OF FREUD'S PORTRAITURE

WHILE WIDELY CELEBRATED, LUCIAN FREUD'S PORTRAITURE HAS NOT ESCAPED CRITIQUE. SOME VIEWERS FIND HIS UNFLINCHING REALISM CONFRONTING, QUESTIONING WHETHER HIS PORTRAYALS VERGE ON THE INVASIVE OR EXPLOITATIVE. ADDITIONALLY, THE INTENSE FOCUS ON PHYSICALITY AND SOMETIMES STARK NUDITY RAISES DEBATES ABOUT THE BOUNDARIES OF PORTRAITURE AND ARTISTIC REPRESENTATION.

HOWEVER, THESE CONTROVERSIES OFTEN UNDERScore THE POWER OF FREUD'S WORK TO PROVOKE THOUGHT AND EMOTION, REINFORCING HIS STATUS AS A TRANSFORMATIVE FIGURE IN MODERN ART. THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY'S EXHIBITIONS DO NOT SHY AWAY FROM THESE DISCUSSIONS, INSTEAD USING THEM AS A PLATFORM TO EXPLORE THE ETHICAL AND AESTHETIC DIMENSIONS OF PORTRAITURE.

LUCIAN FREUD NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY: A CULTURAL TOUCHSTONE

IN PRESENTING LUCIAN FREUD'S PORTRAITS, THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY CONTRIBUTES SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE PRESERVATION AND INTERPRETATION OF BRITISH CULTURAL HERITAGE. FREUD'S ART, WITH ITS PROFOUND PSYCHOLOGICAL INSIGHT AND TECHNICAL VIRTUOSITY, CHALLENGES AND ENRICHES OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN IDENTITY.

THE GALLERY'S COMMITMENT TO EXHIBITING FREUD'S WORK ENSURES THAT NEW GENERATIONS CONTINUE TO ENGAGE WITH HIS LEGACY, FOSTERING APPRECIATION FOR A PAINTER WHOSE PORTRAITS REMAIN AS RELEVANT AND COMPELLING TODAY AS WHEN THEY WERE FIRST CREATED. THROUGH THIS ONGOING DIALOGUE BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT, THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY CEMENTS ITS ROLE AS A VITAL INSTITUTION IN THE WORLD OF ART AND PORTRAITURE.

[Lucian Freud National Portrait Gallery](#)

lucian freud national portrait gallery: Lucian Freud Lucian Freud, Sarah Howgate, Michael Auping, John Richardson, 2012 A selection of portraits by the realist painter.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: Lucian Freud National Portrait Gallery (Londres)., 2012

lucian freud national portrait gallery: Lucian Freud Lucian Freud, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Sarah Howgate, Michael Auping, National Portrait Gallery (Great Britain), John Richardson, 2012 A survey of portraits by the realist painter.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: Lucian Freud Lucian Freud, Sarah Howgate, David Hockney, 2012 This beautifully illustrated book features fifty of Lucian Freud's portraits and figure paintings, offering an excellent introduction to the work of one of the most innovative figurative artists of the 20th century. Arranged chronologically and ranging over seven decades, from the early 1940s to Freud's death in July of 2011, the book features Freud's portraits of subjects including Kitty Garman and Lady Caroline Blackwood, both of whom were married to the artist; his mother, Lucie Freud; friends and colleagues Martin Gayford and David Hockney; and more formal portraits of subjects including Andrew Parker Bowles and Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza. In his essay, critic Martin Gayford discusses Freud's standing as an artist and his place in art history and offers personal

insights into the artist's life and approach to portraiture. Artist and longtime friend David Hockney gives a revealing account of his own experience sitting for a portrait by Freud. An illustrated chronology and previously unpublished documentary photographs place Freud's works within the context of his remarkable biography. An ideal introduction to Freud's work, *Lucian Freud: Painting People* offers an excellent survey of an artist considered one of the world's greatest realist painters.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: *Lucian Freud's Sketchbooks* , 2016-08-16 Presented here is a selection of previously unpublished images from Freud's sketchbooks, now in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery, London.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: *A Painter's Progress* David Dawson, 2014-10-07 For nearly twenty years David Dawson was Lucian Freud's assistant, companion, and model. Freud moved in rarefied, powerful circles and was tenacious about protecting his privacy. He also carefully avoided distraction. With few exceptions, he wanted only those he knew well, like the late Bruce Bernard, to photograph him. David Dawson, however, was in a unique position, and as Freud became comfortable in the presence of Dawson's camera, photographing became part of the daily ritual of the studio. These photographs reveal in a most intimate way the subjects and the stages of paintings in progress. Few artists, if any, have had their lives and their work recorded over such a length of time. Despite Freud's sense of privacy, his circle was wide. Among those who regularly visited Freud were figures from the art world, including art historian John Richardson, and painters David Hockney, and Frank Auerbach, along with model Kate Moss and friends such as the Duke of Beaufort. The book begins in Freud's old studio in Holland Park and then records the artist in his eighteenth-century house in Kensington, the first floor of which was his final studio. Dawson also photographed Freud on his visits to look at masterpieces in various museums in New York, Amsterdam and Madrid. The book ends with views of the rooms in which Freud's own extraordinary collection of paintings was hung. It is the only record of the house itself before the dispersal of the art on his death, but ultimately, the photographs create an intimate portrait of the man. The final images in this book are of the hanging of Freud's work in his posthumous London exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. Haunting and fascinating, this is a revelatory document about one of our most important and influential painters.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: *The Lives of Lucian Freud: Fame* William Feaver, 2021-01-19 The first biography of the epic life of one of the most important, enigmatic and private artists of the 20th century. Drawn from almost 40 years of conversations with the artist, letters and papers, it is a major work written by a well-known British art critic. Lucian Freud (1922-2011) is one of the most influential figurative painters of the 20th century. His paintings are in every major museum and many private collections here and abroad. William Feaver's daily calls from 1973 until Freud died in 2011, as well as interviews with family and friends were crucial sources for this book. Freud had ferocious energy, worked day and night but his circle was broad including not just other well-known artists but writers, bluebloods, royals in England and Europe, drag queens, fashion models gamblers, bookies and gangsters like the Kray twins. Fierce, rebellious, charismatic, extremely guarded about his life, he was witty, mischievous and a womanizer. This brilliantly researched book begins with the Freuds' life in Berlin, the rise of Hitler and the family's escape to London in 1933 when Lucian was 10. Sigmund Freud was his grandfather and Ernst, his father was an architect. In London in his twenties, his first solo show was in 1944 at the Lefevre Gallery. Around this time, Stephen Spender introduced him to Virginia Woolf; at night he was taking Pauline Tennant to the Gargoyle Club, owned by her father and frequented by Dylan Thomas; he was also meeting Sonia Orwell, Cecil Beaton, Auden, Patrick Leigh-Fermor and the Aly Khan, and his muse was a married femme fatale, 13 years older, Lorna Wishart. But it was Francis Bacon who would become his most important influence and the painters Frank Auerbach and David Hockney, close friends. This is an extremely intimate, lively and rich portrait of the artist, full of gossip and stories recounted by Freud to Feaver about people, encounters, and work. Freud's art was his life—my work is purely autobiographical—and he usually painted only family, friends, lovers, children, though there were exceptions like the famous small portrait of the Queen. With his later portraits, the

subjects were often nude, names were never given and sittings could take up to 16 months, each session lasting five hours but subjects were rarely bored as Freud was a great raconteur and mimic. This book is a major achievement, a tour de force that reveals the details of the life and innermost thoughts of the greatest portrait painter of our time. Volume I has 41 black and white integrated images, and 2 eight-page color inserts.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: The Face of Britain Simon Schama, 2016-08-16 Author of a number of celebrated works, including the bestselling *The Story of the Jews* and *Citizens: A Chronicle of the French Revolution*, Simon Schama's latest book fuses history and art to create a tour de force of narrative sweep and illuminating insight. Using images from works—paintings, photographs, lithographs, etchings, sketches—found in London's National Portrait Gallery, *The Face of Britain* weaves together an account of their composition, framed by their particular moment of creation, and in the process unveils a collective portrait of nation and its history. Portraits, Schama writes, have always been made with an eye to posterity. Commissioned to paint Winston Churchill in 1954 Graham Sutherland struggled with how to capture the savior of Great Britain honestly and humanely. Schama calls the portrait, initially damned, the most powerful image of a Great Briton ever executed. Annie Leibovitz's photograph of a nude John Lennon kissing Yoko Ono, taken five hours before his murder, bears a weight of poignancy she could not possibly have anticipated. Hans Holbein's preparatory sketch for a portrait of Henry VIII depicts an unstoppable engine of dynastic generation. Here are expressions from across the centuries of normalcy and heroism, beauty and disfigurement, aristocracy and deprivation, the familiar and the obscure—the faces of courtesans, warriors, workers, activists, playwrights, the high and mighty as well as pub-crawlers. Linking them is Schama's vibrant exploration of how their connective power emerges from the dynamic between subject and artist, work and viewer, time and place. Schama's compelling analysis and impassioned evocation of these works create an unforgettable verbal mosaic that at once reveals and transforms the images he places before us. Lavishly illustrated and written with the storytelling brio that is Schama's trademark, *The Face of Britain* invites us to look at a nation's visual legacies and find its reflection.

lucian freud national portrait gallery: The Art of Rivalry Sebastian Smee, 2016-08-16 Pulitzer Prize-winning art critic Sebastian Smee tells the fascinating story of four pairs of artists—Manet and Degas, Picasso and Matisse, Pollock and de Kooning, Freud and Bacon—whose fraught, competitive friendships spurred them to new creative heights. Rivalry is at the heart of some of the most famous and fruitful relationships in history. *The Art of Rivalry* follows eight celebrated artists, each linked to a counterpart by friendship, admiration, envy, and ambition. All eight are household names today. But to achieve what they did, each needed the influence of a contemporary—one who was equally ambitious but possessed sharply contrasting strengths and weaknesses. Edouard Manet and Edgar Degas were close associates whose personal bond frayed after Degas painted a portrait of Manet and his wife. Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso swapped paintings, ideas, and influences as they jostled for the support of collectors like Leo and Gertrude Stein and vied for the leadership of a new avant-garde. Jackson Pollock's uninhibited style of "action painting" triggered a breakthrough in the work of his older rival, Willem de Kooning. After Pollock's sudden death in a car crash, de Kooning assumed Pollock's mantle and became romantically involved with his late friend's mistress. Lucian Freud and Francis Bacon met in the early 1950s, when Bacon was being hailed as Britain's most exciting new painter and Freud was working in relative obscurity. Their intense but asymmetrical friendship came to a head when Freud painted a portrait of Bacon, which was later stolen. Each of these relationships culminated in an early flashpoint, a rupture in a budding intimacy that was both a betrayal and a trigger for great innovation. Writing with the same exuberant wit and psychological insight that earned him a Pulitzer Prize for art criticism, Sebastian Smee explores here the way that coming into one's own as an artist—finding one's voice—almost always involves willfully breaking away from some intimate's expectations of who you are or ought to be. Praise for *The Art of Rivalry* "Gripping . . . Mr. Smee's skills as a critic are evident throughout. He is persuasive and vivid. . . . You leave this book both nourished and hungry for more about the

art, its creators and patrons, and the relationships that seed the ground for moments spent at the canvas.”—The New York Times “With novella-like detail and incisiveness [Sebastian Smee] opens up the worlds of four pairs of renowned artists. . . . Each of his portraits is a biographical gem. . . . The Art of Rivalry is a pure, informative delight, written with canny authority.”—The Boston Globe

lucian freud national portrait gallery: *The Derek Williams Collection at the National Museum of Wales* National Museum of Wales, Mark L. Evans, 1989

lucian freud national portrait gallery: LUCIAN FREUD , 2026

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