

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A SERIES OF LONDON FIRSTS AS PADDINGTON SQUARE ANNOUNCES MAJOR PUBLIC ARTS PROGRAMME

First permanent public works in London from Ugo Rondinone, Pae White and Catherine Yass, alongside a rotating outdoor arts site for The Showroom, launching with Kathrin Böhm



Catherine Yass, Tanner Lane permanent public art commission at Paddington Square - study 2021

London, 21 October 2021 – **Paddington Square**, London's new quarter for work, retail and dining at the heart of Paddington's regeneration, has today announced a major programme of public art commissions, comprising first London permanent public works by internationally renowned artists **Ugo Rondinone**, **Pae White** and **Catherine Yass**. The artworks will be unveiled with the full opening of Paddington Square next year.

A site-specific 5-metre bronze sculpture by Ugo Rondinone will provide a bold new focal point for the millions of visitors travelling between Praed Street and Paddington station each year. Pae White will suspend a large and experiential installation that caps four levels of shops and restaurants both above and below ground, opening out onto a new public piazza and framing the entrance to the new landmark 14 storey workspace designed by Renzo Piano Building Workshop.

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Catherine Yass will take over a 24-metre-long wall of the neighbouring St Mary's Hospital to deliver a large-scale collaborative photographic installation featuring and celebrating NHS workers.

Partnering with **The Showroom**, a public contemporary art space based nearby Paddington Square, the programme will see the creation of a new series of collaborative murals at Tanner Lane, situated between Paddington Square and St Mary's Hospital. The commissioned murals will each be in-situ for one year at a time, providing a rotational site for temporary public artworks, each responding to the overarching theme of 'care'. Artist **Kathrin Böhm** will launch the series in 2022, followed by **Rhea Dillon** in 2023 and **Long Distance Press (Adam Shield and Thomas Whittle)** in 2024. Created through collaborative processes, the mural cycle creates a new context for The Showroom's programme in Paddington, allowing a wide audience of visitors, workers and local residents to enjoy and engage with contemporary art practice.

The public art programme at Paddington Square has been led by developer Sellar and London-based curatorial agency Lacuna, with the aim of delivering a diverse and dynamic arts programme for the public and community to enjoy, engaging with the best local, UK and international talent. As a major public gateway to London, Paddington Square will provide locals and visitors with a unique cultural experience, bringing internationally-renowned and emerging UK-based artists, working across different disciplines, to the streets of the capital to be enjoyed as part of a daily commute or as a weekend visit.

A jury of leading experts were brought in to support the selection of the artists involved including Lucy Zacaria, Head of Arts at Imperial Charity Trust; Eleanor Pinfield, Head of Art on Underground; Shumi Bose, Curator at RIBA and Senior Lecturer in Architecture, Central Saint Martins; Andrea Schlieker, Head of Collections, Tate Britain; Edwin Heathcote, Architecture & Design Critic at the Financial Times; Elvira Dyangani Ose, Artistic Director of Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) and former Director of The Showroom; and Joost Moolhuijzen, Project Architect and Director, Renzo Piano Building Workshop.

Each of the artist commissions will be site-specific to Paddington Square, and sit at four locations on and around the Renzo Piano-designed building, directly adjacent to Paddington Station. The pieces will enliven the building itself, nearby spaces and a new large-scale public square, providing focal points both for those who work at Paddington Square and the many millions of visitors who will pass through annually.

The Paddington Square art programme will also mark the inauguration of an open-air Paddington Art Walk, which will incorporate other public artworks in the neighbourhood. Additional major new works planned for Paddington include Spencer Finch's *A Cloud Index*, housed within the 120-metre long roof canopy of the new Crossrail entrance to Paddington Station, due to open in the first half of 2022.

Paddington Square appointed artists:

Ugo Rondinone: Swiss-born and New York-based, Ugo Rondinone is a mixed-media artist. His scope of work ranges across painting, sculpture, drawing, photography and video. He is

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widely known for his large-scale land art sculpture, particularly *Seven Magic Mountains* - seven totems consisting of large stones, stacked 32 feet high and painted in fluorescent colours. His sculpture *Liverpool Mountain* is currently on show outside Tate Liverpool until 2023. Ugo is also a poet, collector and curator.



Ugo Rondinone - *Seven Magic Mountains*, 2016 Photo: Gianfranco Gorgoni

Pae White: Pae White is an American multimedia artist, who explores different material forms to create a diverse body of work that focuses on the ephemeral nature of everyday life. Her work blurs the boundaries between fine and applied arts, architecture and design. Met with widespread critical acclaim throughout her career, her work has been included in the 2009 Venice Biennale, the 2010 Whitney Biennial and the 2017 National Gallery of Victoria Triennial. Major public works on permanent display include pieces at LAX Airport (Los Angeles) in 2015 and Brandenburg Airport (Berlin) in 2012.



Pae White - 2017 National Gallery of Victoria Triennial - Photo © Sean Fennessy

Catherine Yass: Nominated for the Turner Prize in 2002, London-based artist Catherine Yass is widely recognised for her distinctive photographic and film-based work, and particularly her

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wall-mounted light boxes. Catherine's art features a range of subjects, from portraits to vacant urban spaces, performances to monuments. Her work at Paddington Square will continue her exploration between public buildings and their occupants, as well as the documentation of human movement in time and space. Important solo exhibitions include Lighthouse at Galerie Lelong, New York and a mid-career retrospective at De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea. Her work is in collections around the world including Tate, Arts Council England and Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art.

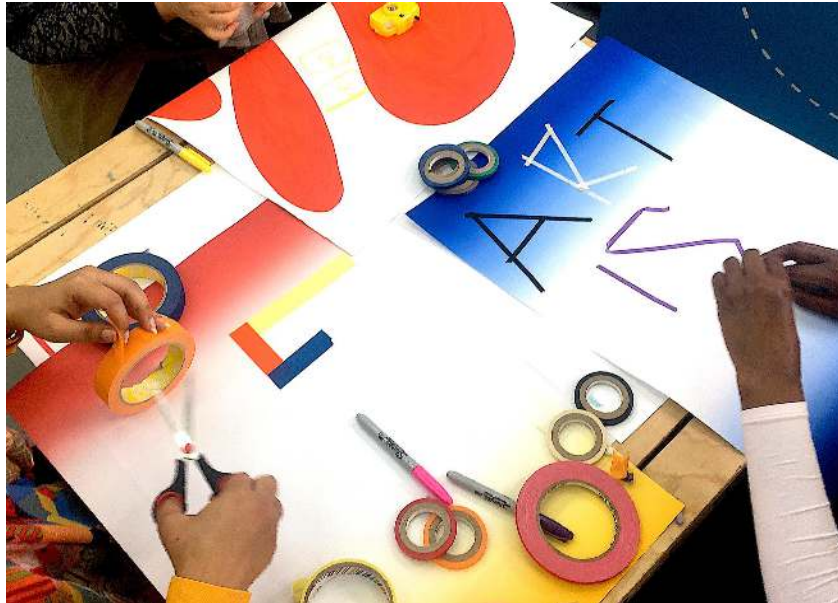


Catherine Yass - Split Sides, 2003

The Showroom: Launching at Tanner Lane in 2022, **Kathrin Böhm** responds to the theme of care by asking, 'why do we care about art?'. Böhm explored individual responses to this question through collaborative poster-making workshops throughout July-October 2021. The first mural at Tanner Lane will be designed by Böhm to project this chorus of voices, through a process of assimilating and responding to the assemblage of statements created by each workshop contributor. Commissions by **Rhea Dillon** and **Long Distance Press (Adam Shield and Thomas Whittle)** will follow, each collaborating with others to create new works reflecting the theme. **Rhea Dillon** is an artist who examines and abstracts her intrigue of the 'rules of representation' as a device to undermine contemporary Western culture, and what constitutes as the ontology of Blackness versus the ontic. **Long Distance Press** acts as a publishing house, artist project, zine factory, exhibition space, commissioning body and *IMAGE DRUM*, between London and Edinburgh. Making print-based artworks involving analogue and digital printing methods, they will respond to the unique history of Tanner Lane, the site of a former Royal Mail sorting office designed by Sir Henry Tanner. The link to postal communication as a mode of connectivity will create a key entry point for Long Distance Press, exploring translations from analogue to digital print production; and from intimate scales to the architectural.

Established in 1983, The Showroom is a public contemporary art space focused on collaborative approaches to cultural production. The Showroom seeks to challenge the boundaries of what art can be, and how it can be a tool for a wide range of audiences. Their programme focuses on collaborative and process-driven approaches to production, be that art works, exhibitions, events, discussions, publications, knowledge or relationships. Through major collaborative commissions and smaller projects, they work with artists and other

practitioners who have not previously had significant exposure in London, often introducing international artists to the UK; working in partnership with individuals and organisations within their networks, both locally and abroad.



Kathrin Böhm, Tanner Lane Wall Workshop, The Showroom, July 2021. Photo courtesy of the artist and The Showroom, London

James Sellar, CEO of Sellar, said *"Art and design has the capacity to elevate conversations, to inspire us and create moments of joy, offering points for interaction and reflection. In this spirit we are delighted to be presenting a world-class public art programme, to be enjoyed by the millions who will work in Paddington Square, visit its shops and restaurants, or pass through its public square.*

Working with a highly talented and experienced curatorial team and jury, we have selected artists that represent a series of firsts for Paddington, for London and for the UK. It is a very exciting time for the area, with Paddington Square opening next year, and we're looking forward to the public being able to visit and enjoy the works."

Stella Ioannou (Director) & Jade Niklai (Associate Curator), Lacuna, said: *"The Paddington Square public art programme acts as a conversation starter: to demonstrate and inspire the power, beauty, potential and responsibility of curating art in the public realm. Our curatorial approach takes its cues from the vision of Sellar, together with Renzo Piano Building Workshop's architectural ambition to bring one of London's biggest transport gateways to life through public spaces and contemporary art. Lacuna conducted extensive research into the neighbourhood, working with local communities and engaging with a diverse set of stakeholders, greatly enriching our curatorial approach and the development of these landmark commissions with leading international artists. While lockdown presented us with new challenges, it also allowed us to develop novel methods for critical engagement with the evolving cultural conversation, which visitors will see borne out in the final works as they are unveiled in 2022."*

PADDINGTON SQUARE

Paddington Square is the cornerstone of a new Paddington. Conceived by developer Sellar, a light-filled crystalline building designed by award-winning architect practice Renzo Piano Building Workshop will sit at the centre of the new development. Paddington Square will present 14 floors of bright, beautifully designed and flexible workspace with a focus on wellbeing, four floors of shopping, bars, restaurants and cafes, a new Bakerloo Line entrance for the London Underground, west London's highest rooftop dining experience and a 1.35-acre public square, providing a striking new arrival experience for Paddington Station.

Paddington Square is a development by Sellar on behalf of Great Western Developments Ltd, a joint venture between Hotel Properties Limited and Anchorage View Pte. Ltd.

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Full Paddington Square Art Programme Jury:

- Shumi Bose, Curator, RIBA and Senior Lecturer in Architecture, Central Saint Martins
- Kay Buxton, Executive Director, The Paddington Partnership
- Stephen Feeke, Art Consultant, Great Western Developments Ltd.
- Edwin Heathcote, Architecture & Design Critic, The Financial Times
- Elvira Dyangani Ose, Artistic Director of MACBA, Barcelona and former Director of The Showroom, London.
- Joost Moolhuijzen, Project Architect and Director, RPBW
- Scott Murdoch, Founding Partner, CWM
- Eleanor Pinfield, Head of Art on Underground, Transport for London
- Andrea Schlieker, Director of Exhibitions and Displays, Tate Britain
- James Sellar, CEO, Sellar
- Simon Todd, Director, Crestbridge
- Lucy Zacaria, Head of Arts, Imperial Charity Trust
- John Zamit, Chairman, SEBRA

Paddington Square Art Programme Curatorial Team:

- Stella Ioannou, Director, Lacuna
- Jade Niklai, Associate Curator, Lacuna

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Conceived by Sellar and designed by Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the main building will create a super-connected urban destination and new cultural encounters in central London. It will feature 14 floors of bright, flexible workspace at its heart, with four floors of shops, dining, wellbeing and leisure, West London's highest rooftop restaurant, a new Bakerloo line station entrance and 1.35 acres of new art and design-led civic space.

It connects the major local landmarks of Paddington Station and St Mary's Hospital, and sits at the intersection of West London's famed waterways, natural spaces and green travel routes. The nearby Grand Union Canal and confluence of public transport options make the area one of the most efficient, connected and accessible hubs in the city. Paddington is just four minutes from the West End and 15 minutes from Heathrow Airport, with National Rail serving routes to the west of England and the Elizabeth Line set to bring cross-London travel times down significantly. It is set to complete in 2022.

www.paddingtonsquare.co.uk

Sellar is a design-led London developer focused on transforming spaces into thriving, sustainable communities. It conceives, develops and delivers innovative and high-quality mixed-use projects, challenging conventional approaches to place making.

Sellar is renowned for its role in creating and realising London's tallest building, The Shard, and is currently delivering some of the most ambitious regeneration projects in London, including the the London Bridge regeneration area, schemes in Canada Water, Camden, the City and the large-scale Paddington Square and station redevelopment project.

Sellar's approach is driven by a vision to create buildings with a legacy for future generations, delivering inspiring places to live, work and visit, and championing design, wellbeing and sustainability.

www.sellar.com

Lacuna is led by Director Stella Ioannou and is partnering on the Paddington Square public art programme with Associate Curator, Jade Niklai. Together Stella and Jade bring to the project exemplar curatorial and project management skills in art, architecture and design and continue to build Lacuna's practice in realising contemporary public art projects.

Sculpture in the City (2010-) is Lacuna's signature project and central London's ambitious urban sculpture park realised through the City of London Corporation's public realm strategy and delivered in partnership with the city's arts community and local businesses. This summer sees the launch of the 10th edition of the project, which has showcased 130 artworks by 113 contemporary artists, attracting over 400,000 unique visitors each summer.

lacuna-projects.com

The Showroom: Established in 1983, The Showroom is a public contemporary art space focused on collaborative approaches to cultural production within its locality and beyond. The Showroom seeks to challenge the boundaries of what art can be, and how it can be a tool for a wide range of audiences. Their programme focuses on collaborative and process-driven

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approaches to production be that art work, exhibitions, events, discussions, publications, knowledge and relationships. Through major collaborative commissions and smaller projects, they work with artists and other practitioners who have not previously had significant exposure in London, often introducing international artists to the UK; and working in partnership with other individuals and organisations within their networks, both locally and abroad.

www.theshowroom.org

Great Western Developments Ltd. is a joint venture between Hotel Properties Limited (“HPL”) and Anchorage View Pte. Ltd. (“AVPL”).

HPL is a niche property developer of premium residential and commercial properties in prime locations. HPL has successfully established a distinctive track record in delivering best in class luxury developments including The Met in Bangkok, the Cuscaden Residences in Singapore and Holland Park Villas in London. HPL also specialises in hotel ownership, management and operation and has interests in 36 hotels spanning 15 countries, operating under international brands including Four Seasons, Six Senses, Como, Marriott and Hilton.

AVPL is a privately held property investment and development company, established in Singapore.