

Press release 29 May 2013

Jeremy Deller's British Pavilion exhibition 'English Magic' to tour national venues in 2014

English Magic, Jeremy Deller's exhibition for the British Pavilion at the 55th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia, will undertake a national tour in 2014, visiting three museums and galleries in London, Bristol and Margate. The tour, supported by the Art Fund, is the first of its kind for a British Pavilion exhibition, and will enable the public to see the British Council-commissioned work, adapted specially for each venue.

English Magic reflects the roots of much of Deller's work, focusing on British society – its people, icons, myths, folklore and its cultural and political history. He weaves together high and low, popular and rarefied, to create unique and thought-provoking work.

The British Pavilion is commissioned and managed by The British Council, Visual Arts Department, who have been presenting the best of British Art at the Venice Biennale since 1938. Before Deller, artists such as Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Francis Bacon, Lucian Freud, Anthony Caro, Bridget Riley, Anish Kapoor, Rachel Whiteread, Chris Ofili, Gilbert & George, Tracey Emin, Steve McQueen and most recently Mike Nelson, have represented Britain at this prominent international event.

The Art Fund's core work of helping museums to acquire works of art is closely related to its wider commitment to enabling increasing numbers of people to see and experience art across the UK. This year sees support for a national tour of Grayson Perry's tapestries *The Vanity of Small Differences*, owned jointly by the Arts Council and British Council Collections, and the continuation of the national tour of the Artist Rooms collection, owned by Tate and the National Galleries of Scotland. In addition to the Deller tour, further partnerships are envisaged for 2014.

Jeremy Deller's English Magic venues

1 June – 24 November 2013, British Pavilion, Venice Biennale

Late January – end March 2014, William Morris Gallery, London Borough of Walthamstow Forest

April – September 2014, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery

September – December 2014, Turner Contemporary, Margate

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Notes to Editors

About the Art Fund

The Art Fund is the national fundraising charity, helping museums to buy and show great art for everyone. Over the past 5 years we've given £24m to help over 200 museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections, from ancient sculpture and treasure hoards to Old Master paintings and contemporary commissions. We also support a range of programmes which promote museums and their collections to wider audiences, including the national tour of the ARTIST ROOMS collection, the Art Fund Prize which rewards and celebrates Museum of the Year, and our Art Guide, a pioneering smartphone app offering the most comprehensive guide to seeing art across the UK. We are independently funded, the majority of our income coming from 95,000 members who, through the National Art Pass, enjoy free entry to over 220 hundred museums, galleries and historic houses across the UK, as well as 50% off entry to major exhibitions.

Find out more about the Art Fund and the National Art Pass at www.artfund.org.

The press office can be reached on 020 7225 4888.