

PRESS RELEASE

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UNDER EMBARGO until 10.30 on 22.1.20

Artists launch Art Fund campaign to save Prospect Cottage, Derek Jarman's home & garden, for the nation

- *Art Fund launches £3.5 million public appeal to save famous filmmaker's home*
- *National Heritage Memorial Fund, Art Fund and Linbury Trust give major grants in support of innovative partnership with Tate and Creative Folkestone*
- *Leading artists Tilda Swinton, Tacita Dean, Jeremy Deller, Michael Craig-Martin, Isaac Julien, Howard Sooley, and Wolfgang Tillmans give everyone the chance to own art in return for donations through crowdfunding initiative*

www.artfund.org/prospect



Derek Jarman at Prospect Cottage. Photo: © Howard Sooley

Today, Art Fund director Stephen Deuchar announced the launch of Art Fund's £3.5 million public appeal to save and preserve Prospect Cottage in Dungeness, Kent, the home and garden of visionary filmmaker, artist and activist, Derek Jarman, for the nation.

Art Fund_

Art Fund needs to raise £3.5m by 31 March 2020 to purchase Prospect Cottage and to establish a permanently funded programme to conserve and maintain the building, its contents and its garden for the future. Major grants from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, Art Fund, the Linbury Trust, and private donations have already taken the campaign half way towards its target. Art Fund is now calling on the public to make donations of all sizes to raise the funds still needed.

Through an innovative partnership between Art Fund, Creative Folkestone and Tate, the success of this campaign will enable continued free public access to the cottage's internationally celebrated garden, the launch of artist residencies, and guided public visits within the cottage itself. Creative Folkestone will become custodians of Prospect Cottage, oversee its long-term care and run these programmes. Jarman's important archive from the cottage, including his sketchbooks and plans for the garden, will be entrusted to Tate and made available for public access at Tate Britain.

Without Art Fund's appeal, Prospect Cottage is at risk of being sold privately, its contents dispersed, and artistic legacy lost.

Deuchar launched the campaign with the support of Tilda Swinton, Tacita Dean, Jeremy Deller, Michael Craig-Martin, Wolfgang Tillmans, and Creative Folkestone director Alastair Upton and Tate director Maria Balshaw.

Leading artists have come together to create limited edition works of art as rewards for public donations on Art Fund's crowdfunding site www.artfund.org/prospect. They include prints, objects and works of art by artists including Michael Craig-Martin, Tacita Dean, Jeremy Deller, Isaac Julien, Howard Sooley, and Wolfgang Tillmans, ranging from £25 to £1,250.

After Jarman purchased the cottage in 1986, it quickly became a source of inspiration and a creative hub where his parallel artistic practices and collaborators came together. Today it represents the most complete distillation of his pioneering creativity across film, art, writing and gardening: from his 1990 film *The Garden* starring Tilda Swinton, to his journal, *Modern Nature*, and from poetry etched in the glass, to driftwood sculptures and the remarkable garden he created on the shingle beach.

More than 25 years after his death, Prospect Cottage continues to be a site of pilgrimage for people from all over the world who come to be inspired by its stark beauty and by Jarman's legacy. The cottage and its contents are now being sold following the death in 2018 of Keith Collins, Jarman's close companion in his final years, to whom he bequeathed the cottage.

Stephen Deuchar, Art Fund director, said, 'Prospect Cottage is a living, breathing work of art, filled with the creative impulse of Derek Jarman at every turn. It's imperative we come together to save the Cottage, its contents and its extraordinary garden as a source of creative inspiration for everyone. My heartfelt thanks to the National

Heritage Memorial Fund, Linbury Trust and my own trustees for leading the way in so supportively committing funds, and to the many artists who are helping us reach a wider public through our crowdfunding initiative. But so far we're only halfway there, so I call on everyone to make a donation, large or small, to help us secure, preserve and maintain Prospect Cottage, forever.'

Tilda Swinton, actor, said, 'My excitement about this vision for Prospect Cottage lies in its projected future as an open, inclusive and encouraging machine for the inspiration and practical working lives of those who might come and share in its special qualities, qualities that, as a young artist, I was lucky enough to benefit from alongside Derek and so many of our friends and fellow travellers.'

Alastair Upton, Creative Folkestone director, said, 'We are delighted to be working alongside Art Fund and Tate, to save Prospect Cottage. As its custodians, we will conserve, maintain and nurture Prospect Cottage as well as establish a residency programme for artists, writers, gardeners, activists and more to continue the legacy of Derek Jarman for future generations. Creative Folkestone are dedicated to opening up the opportunities for creativity to flourish and Prospect Cottage will help us to inspire people from across Kent, the UK and beyond.'

Maria Balshaw, Director, Tate, said, 'Prospect Cottage and garden is a work of art as much as a place, and it gives us a remarkable insight into Jarman's life, work and friendships. Bringing some of the most fragile objects into Tate's archives protects this artistic legacy for future generations and we know they will be of huge interest to researchers and the public. We are also committed to ensuring Jarman's powerful artistic legacy remains in the extraordinary environment of Dungeness and are delighted to be working with the Art Fund and Creative Folkestone to secure its long-term future.'

René Olivieri, Interim Chair of the National Heritage Memorial Fund, said: 'A striking place of creativity on the Dungeness landscape, Prospect Cottage and its garden are a vital part of Derek Jarman's artistic legacy and can now become a treasured part of the nation's heritage. The compelling story of the cottage, its internationally renowned garden and the significant collection held within its walls meant we at the National Heritage Memorial Fund felt it imperative to award £750,000 to help save Prospect Cottage for the nation.'

Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair of Arts Council England, said 'The Arts Council welcomes this initiative to ensure the long term preservation and public access to this site. Creative Folkestone, an Arts Council supported organisation with a strong track record in this area, is ideally placed to become custodians of Jarman's iconic cottage. For the first time, members of the public will not only be able to visit but will also be offered the opportunity to look inside the cottage and artists, creatives and film makers- alike will be given the chance to take part in a residency programme. This programme will breathe life into this remarkable building that has become a shrine to so many in the creative community.'

Tacita Dean, artist, said 'Prospect Cottage became a place of pilgrimage not by design but rather by the sheer force of what Derek Jarman represented to so many of us. Derek found solace and community in this weatherworn place and harvested its harsh beauty to make his beloved garden

and his books, films and paintings. In so doing, he gave us a part of his discovery and infectious spirit of creative adventure, which we now have the opportunity to protect and cherish for future generations.'

Isaac Julien, artist and Art Fund trustee, said 'Derek Jarman was an inspiration for an entire generation. When I curated his solo show *Brutal Beauty* at the Serpentine Gallery in 2008 and Tilda Swinton, Colin MacCabe and I created the film *Derek*, our aim was to preserve and reintroduce his legacy to a new audience. Prospect Cottage is a work of art that has become a national treasure. As an artist and Art Fund trustee, I am incredibly excited and moved by the campaign to make Prospect Cottage and its garden Jarman's most iconic artwork - one to inspire the next generation as he did mine.'

Artist Jeremy Deller said, 'Derek Jarman was an inspirational provocateur in the cultural life of Britain, and a great role model for any artist looking to cause a bit of trouble. I'm happy to now be working with other artists to give people a chance to own a work of art in return for a donation to help save this special place, Prospect Cottage.'

Public appeal

www.artfund.org/prospect

Art Fund needs to raise a total of £3.5m by 31 March 2020 to purchase Prospect Cottage and to establish a permanently funded programme to conserve and maintain the building, its contents and its garden for the future. Funds raised to date include major grants of £750,000 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, £500,000 from Art Fund, £250,000 from the Linbury Trust and several private donations.

Art Fund is calling on the public to donate to the campaign via its crowdfunding platform Art Happens: www.artfund.org/prospect

Leading artists have given rewards for donations to the appeal, as follows:

- Jeremy Deller enamel badge of a scallop shell and set of stickers inspired by Jarman's life for £25.
- Howard Sooley set of four Prospect Cottage photographic prints plus a book signed by the artist for £60.
- Michael Craig-Martin's digital print depicting Prospect Cottage for £100.
- Wolfgang Tillmans' limited edition print created in response to Prospect Cottage for £650.
- Tacita Dean's *Chalk Fall* (limited edition of 35) printed in support of Prospect Cottage for £1,000.
- Isaac Julien's *Dungeness (Prospect Cottage)* boxed set of five prints (limited edition of 35) for £1,250.

Donations can be made at www.artfund.org/prospect

Follow the campaign @artfund #SaveProspectCottage

Programme

Creative Folkestone, Kent's leading arts organisation, will become the custodians of Prospect Cottage, running a residency programme for artists, academics, writers, gardeners, filmmakers, and others interested in Jarman and his work. The selection and the management of these will be overseen by Creative Folkestone, with support by Art Fund and Tate, to mirror the remarkable breadth of Jarman's artistic practice, a huge range of creative activity. The garden will be sensitively restored to recover its vibrancy during Jarman's lifetime. And for the first time, members of the public will also be able to see inside the cottage through a programme of guided visits.

Archive

A huge range of archive material is contained within the cottage, forming a collection specific to Dungeness with considerable potential to deepen our understanding of the man and his work. At Tate, the Prospect Cottage archive will be kept in optimum conditions and made publicly available for the first time. The material includes Jarman's notebooks, sketchbooks, letters, drawings and photographs, including the notebook he used when working on his final feature film *Blue*. Other highlights include the BAFTA he was awarded in 1992 for outstanding British contribution to cinema, his personal SLR and Super 8 cameras, and an address book in which he illustrated each entry with collaged photographs of his friends. The cottage also contains documents covering Jarman's personal life, activism, painting and filmmaking, alongside his library of books covering subjects from Victorian art to medieval alchemy, quantum physics and occult philosophy.

Images:

<https://artfund.getbynder.com/web/affb8cae2dfcbd0/derek-jarman-s-prospect-cottage---press/>

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Notes to Editors

About Art Fund

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. In the past five years alone Art Fund has given £34 million to help museums and galleries acquire works of art for their collections, and also helps museums share their collections with wider audiences by supporting a range of tours and exhibitions, as well as making grants to support the training and professional development of curators. Art Fund is independently funded, with the core of its income provided by 151,000 members who receive the National Art Pass and enjoy free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic places across the UK, as well as 50% off entry to major exhibitions and subscription to Art Quarterly magazine. In addition to grant-giving, Art Fund's support for museums includes Art Fund Museum of the Year (won by St Fagans National Museum of History in 2019) and a range of digital platforms. Art Fund is known for running public appeals when a work of art is under threat, including the Wedgood Collection (2014), Van Dyck's final self-portrait (2014), and the Armada Portrait of Elizabeth I (2016). Find out more about Art Fund and the National Art Pass at artfund.org

About Creative Folkestone

Creative Folkestone is a visionary arts charity dedicated to producing and enabling the very best creative activity that has transformed Folkestone and East Kent and continues to do so. Working collectively, Creative Folkestone make the town a better place to live, work, play and visit. Creative Folkestone believe that everyone is creative, and that creativity has the power to change people and places for the better. With this passion at its heart, Creative Folkestone enables people's creativity to flourish, enriching the town and those who live in or visit it. Established in 2002 with the help of founding funder The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust and formerly known as Creative Foundation, Creative Folkestone has a remarkable record of success and looks after five projects: Folkestone Artworks, Folkestone Book Festival, Creative Quarter, Folkestone Triennial and Quarterhouse. Stephen Deuchar is a member of the board of trustees. Through all these projects Creative Folkestone enable people to get creative. creativefolkestone.org.uk

About Tate Archive

This year marks 50 years since Tate Archive first opened. Located in the Hyman Kreitman Reading Rooms at Tate Britain, the archive collects and makes accessible an unparalleled range of material relating to the history of British art. It now holds over 1,000 archive collections, from letters, diaries and sketches to photographs, films and audio recordings, as well as unique personal items owned by artists and art world figures. Over 65,000 of these items have been digitised and are freely accessible online. The archive also stages regular displays in the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Archive Gallery at Tate Britain, as well as hosting school visits, running public talks and lending to exhibitions across the UK and around the world.

About the National Heritage Memorial Fund

The National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) was set up in 1980 to save the most outstanding parts of our national heritage, in memory of those who have given their lives for the UK. It will receive £5 million of Government grant in aid in 2019/20 www.nhmf.org.uk. Follow us on Instagram: @NationalHeritageMemorialFund #MemorialFinerThanStone

About the Linbury Trust

The Linbury Trust is an independent grant-making Trust established in 1973 by Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, and his wife Anya, Lady Sainsbury CBE. The Trust has awarded almost £200m in grant funding across the world, supporting a wide variety of compelling and exciting projects in the fields of arts, heritage and culture; the natural environment; and social and medical welfare.

Derek Jarman biography

Derek Jarman, (born 31 January 1942, Northwood, Middlesex, England—died 19 February 1994, London, England) was a filmmaker, stage designer, diarist, artist, gardener, activist, author, and one of the most influential figures in twentieth-century British culture. He was educated at the University of London and at the Slade School of Art in the early 1960s and was part of a group of young painters, including Patrick Procktor and David Hockney. As early as 1967, Jarman was hired to produce set designs for *Jazz Calendar* by Frederick Ashton at the Royal Ballet and in 1971 the set for Ken Russell's *The Devils* followed by *Savage Messiah* (1972) and *The Rake's Progress* (1982).

Jarman's first films were experimental Super 8mm shorts. His first full-length feature film *Sebastiane*, a queer telling of the martyrdom of St Sebastian, was released in 1976, followed by selected films *Jubilee* (1978), *The Angelic Conversation* (1985), *Caravaggio* (1986), *The Garden* (1990), and *Edward II* (1991). Figures such as Tilda Swinton, Toyah Willcox, Julian Sands, Joanna Hogg, Sean Bean and John Maybury had their first opportunities under Jarman's direction. *Blue* (1993), which was made when Jarman was nearly blind, featured an unchanging plain blue screen and a spoken narrative of the director's own thoughts and feelings about his battle with AIDS.

After establishing an international reputation as a film director, Jarman continued painting, making his first 'black' painting in 1980, by scratching through a layer of black in order to uncover selectively a ground of gold leaf. Jarman's 1984 retrospective (London, ICA) demonstrated his increasingly political stance, characterised by anti-Thatcherism and a preoccupation with social disintegration, which culminated in his 1987 film *The Last of England*. His solo exhibitions include Sarah Bradley's Gallery, London (1978); Edward Totah Gallery, London (1982); ICA, London (1984); Richard Salmon Ltd., London (1987) and Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester (1994). He was shortlisted for the Turner Prize in 1986, primarily for his achievements as a filmmaker, and in particular for *Caravaggio*. *Caravaggio's* life and art were a source of inspiration and his research led to the creation of volumes of sketchbooks, storyboards, and paintings.

Jarman was the author of several books, including a collection of poetry *A Finger in the Fishes Mouth*, two volumes of memoirs *Modern Nature* and *Smiling in Slow Motion* and two treatises on his work in film and art *The Last of England* (also published as *Kicking the Pricks*) and *Chroma*.

Other notable published works include film scripts (*Up in the Air*, *Blue*, *War Requiem*, *Caravaggio*, *Queer Edward II* and *Wittgenstein: The Terry Eagleton Script/The Derek Jarman Film*), a study of his garden at Dungeness, *Derek Jarman's Garden*, and *At Your Own Risk*, a celebration of gay sexuality. Jarman is also known for exploring and developing the new 'pop video' form. His collaborators included The Smiths, Marianne Faithfull, Bob Geldof, Marc Almond, Pet Shop Boys and Suede. He also directed the Pet Shop Boys' 14-date 1989 tour.

Jarman was outspoken about homosexuality, his public fight for gay rights, and his personal struggle with AIDS. In 1986, he was diagnosed as HIV positive and discussed his condition in public. This diagnosis transformed Jarman's practice and led to a new kind of activism as he worked to raise awareness of AIDS. His move to Prospect Cottage came shortly after his HIV diagnosis and the garden he built and lived in became a refuge for calm and creation in the face of his uncertain future. After his death in 1994, Prospect Cottage was authentically maintained by his companion, Keith Collins.

Prospect Cottage

Derek Jarman bought Prospect Cottage while visiting Dungeness, Kent, in 1986. He was at the peak of his creative powers - and it was here where he was to film *The Garden*, write the book *Modern Nature* and create a celebrated garden - but was also suffering terribly following his HIV diagnosis and subsequently AIDS-related illness. The cottage quickly became a source of inspiration, a sanctuary, a locus for collaborations with fellow artists, and a creative hub where his artistic practices came together.

Prospect Cottage is filled with over 40 works of art by Derek Jarman (and also by friends such as Maggi Hambling, John Maybury, Richard Hamilton and Gus Van Sant) as well as props from films such as *Caravaggio* and *The Tempest*. It has been lovingly cared for and preserved since his death.

The garden Derek Jarman created from the shingle beach at Prospect Cottage is internationally renowned. It is a garden without boundaries, planted by him with the help of Howard Sooley and filled with objects and sculptural arrangements crafted from the rocks and driftwood found washed up on the shore.