

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

DISOBEDIENT BODIES: JW ANDERSON CURATES THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

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MAJOR NEW EXHIBITION OPENS

EXPLORING THE HUMAN FORM WITHIN ART, FASHION AND DESIGN

DISOBEDIENT BODIES: JW ANDERSON CURATES THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

18 MARCH – 18 JUNE 2017

FREE ADMISSION

hepworthwakefield.org/disobedient-bodies

#DisobedientBodies

Disobedient Bodies: JW Anderson curates The Hepworth Wakefield sees one of the world's most innovative and critically acclaimed contemporary fashion designers responding to Wakefield's impressive collection of modern British art. This is the first in a new series of exhibitions at the award-winning gallery, curated by key figures from creative fields outside the visual arts, from fashion and music to film and literature.

As his starting point for the exhibition, Anderson was drawn to early works by Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore from the 1920s and 1930s that represented the human body in radical new ways. These increasingly abstracted, yet defiantly figurative sculptures led to an exhibition exploring how the human form has been reimaged by artists and designers across the 20th and 21st centuries.

The exhibition gathers together a personal selection of more than 100 objects spanning art, fashion, ceramics and design in a series of unexpected and irreverent groupings. Using fabric from JW Anderson's archive, 6a architects have transformed the David Chipperfield-designed galleries into a series of rooms that are designed to conjure an intimate social gathering.

Sculptures by artists including Jean Arp, Louise Bourgeois, Lynn Chadwick, Naum Gabo, Alberto Giacometti, Barbara Hepworth, Sarah Lucas, Henry Moore, Magali Reus and Dorothea Tanning are brought into direct dialogue with fashion pieces by designers such as Christian Dior, Jean Paul Gaultier, Rei Kawakubo of Commes des Garçons, Helmut Lang, Issey Miyake and Vivienne Westwood.

At the centre of the exhibition, Anderson has created an installation comprising a forest of oversized jumpers, which invites visitors to transform their own bodies into abstract forms. The physical experience of interacting with materials, silhouettes and shapes is an important element of Anderson's vision for the exhibition.

An introductory gallery presents Henry Moore's masterpiece *Reclining Figure* (1936), a highlight of Wakefield's Collection, against a series of photographs by Jamie Hawkesworth. The Thinleys series is a

creative collaboration between Hawkesworth and Anderson that the pair have returned to annually exploring different fabrics each time – knit (2015), fur (2016) and cotton (2017) – turning the human form into sculptural shapes that have interesting parallels with many of the artworks shown throughout the exhibition.

Jonathan Anderson said: “This is a rare and exciting opportunity for me to bring together pieces of art and fashion that have long inspired my own creative work and to see what happens when these objects rub up against each other. I want the exhibition to mirror the speed and unexpected encounters that characterise the way in which we consume images today, as well as being a space in which to explore ideas of gender and identity that have been an ongoing part of my creative practice.”

Simon Wallis, Director of The Hepworth Wakefield said: “We are absolutely delighted to be working with one of the world’s most talented contemporary fashion designers and a leading architectural practice to show our collection in an unconventional and innovative way. This ambitious exhibition was born out of Jonathan’s genuine and long-standing passion for modern art twinned with his experiments with non-gendered clothing. This very personal interpretation will entice visitors to enjoy our outstanding collections in a very different context and get inspired by the cross-pollination inherent in the creative process.”

Disobedient Bodies: JW Anderson curates The Hepworth Wakefield is on display from 18 March to 18 June 2017.

Logistics partner:

The exhibition is supported by: **Litestructures** and **The Block**



NOTES TO EDITORS

A fully illustrated book published by InOtherWords with introductory essay by Vogue’s Sarah Mower will accompany the exhibition. RRP £30. Special in-gallery exhibition price £25.

An edition of 20 unique fabric box frames combining archive fabric from JW Anderson with photographs of the human form will be available for £550 each.

EVENTS

On Saturday 3 June, 10am – 5pm The Hepworth Wakefield will hold a day of performance, discussion, workshops and creative activities inspired by the exhibition.

Hepworthwakefield.org/art-fashion-dance

ABOUT JW ANDERSON

Jonathan Anderson was born in Northern Ireland in 1984 and studied menswear at the London College of Fashion. He established his label JW Anderson in 2008 with a menswear collection. In 2010 he launched a capsule collection for women, quickly achieving critical acclaim and commercial success. JW Anderson is regarded as one of London’s most forward thinking brands, with a unique design aesthetic that offers a modern interpretation of masculinity and femininity. In 2013 investment by LVMH Moët Hennessy further cemented JW Anderson’s status as a rising, new generation brand. In the same year Jonathan was appointed Creative Director of Loewe and works on both brands in tandem. JW Anderson has evolved into

an internationally renowned and award-winning brand. Awards include British Fashion Award for 'Emerging Talent, Ready-to-Wear' (2012), 'The New Establishment Award' (2013) and 'Menswear Designer of the Year' (2014). He was also the first designer to win both womenswear and menswear designer in the same year at the British Fashion Awards (2015).

ABOUT 6a ARCHITECTS

6a architects was founded by Tom Emerson and Stephanie Macdonald in 2001 after meeting at the Royal College of Art and has become one of the leading architectural practices in the UK. The practice has developed a reputation for award-winning contemporary art galleries, educational buildings, residential projects and for working in sensitive historic environments. The practice has won several major architectural competitions and international awards including the Eric Schelling Medal for Architecture in 2012. Recent projects include the critically acclaimed extension to the South London Gallery (New London Architecture Award 2011 and Civic Trust Award Commendation 2012), and Raven Row, a contemporary art gallery in Spitalfields, East London (a RIBA Award in 2011 and nominated for the Stirling Prize), The Fashion Galleries at the V&A (2012), and a collaboration with fashion designer Paul Smith to design a cast iron façade in Mayfair, London (Civic Trust Award 2014). Current projects include a new building for Churchill College in Cambridge, a photography studio for Juergen Teller and the expansion of MK Gallery in Milton Keynes.

ABOUT THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The Hepworth Wakefield is an award-winning art gallery in the heart of Yorkshire, set within Wakefield's historic waterfront, overlooking the River Calder. Designed by the acclaimed David Chipperfield Architects, the gallery opened in May 2011 and has already welcomed over 1.7 million visitors. Named after Barbara Hepworth, one of the most important artists of the 20th century who was born and brought up in Wakefield, the gallery presents major exhibitions of the best international modern and contemporary art. It also is home to Wakefield's art collection – an impressive compendium of modern British and contemporary art – and has dedicated galleries exploring Hepworth's art and working process.

The Hepworth Wakefield is funded by Wakefield Council and Arts Council England.

Travel Partner: Grand Central Rail

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield WF1 5AW

Tuesday – Sunday; 10am – 5pm.

Closed Mondays (except Bank and local school holidays)

Twitter: @HepworthGallery

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield

Instagram: [hepworthwakefield](https://www.instagram.com/hepworthwakefield)

Snapchat: [thehepworth](https://www.snapchat.com/add/thehepworth)

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