

Press Release – 3 April 2013

THIS SUMMER THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD PRESENTS  
A NEW EXHIBITION OF SOUND AND LIGHT  
BY HAROON MIRZA

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- New installations by Haroon Mirza filled with light, sound and found objects
- Winner of the Northern Art Prize 2010 and Young Silver Lion at 54th Venice Biennale, 2011
- Site specific audio composition using sounds from the River Calder adjacent to the gallery
- Physical light installation working with gallery spaces by David Chipperfield Architects
- Unique presentation of existing artworks from Wakefield's art collection

This summer Northern Art Prize 2010 winner Haroon Mirza will be returning to the North of England to present an exhibition of new work at The Hepworth Wakefield in West Yorkshire.

Opening on Saturday 25 May until 29 September 2013, Mirza's exhibition will feature an audio composition and physical light installation through which the artist will accentuate what usually goes unheard and unseen.

The first gallery space will feature bright auras of light that will illuminate a display featuring key works from The Hepworth Wakefield's collection. Operating in sequence the light will form a visual composition accentuating the formal properties of the sculptures and paintings, and the ways in which they are displayed.

The adjacent gallery space will host a transmission of Mirza's aural composition to become a 'listening room' where visitors can hear the composition that combines the usually unheard sounds of electricity (generated by the adjacent visual light composition) with the River Calder's weir, which flows past the gallery and is usually audibly insulated by the building.

Within the gallery space, a sculptural, hand-crafted antennae will transmit sounds from the weir outside, while silent lightworks embedded into three of the internal walls connect directly with the physical structure of the gallery. One wall is transformed into a sculptural installation of tessellated foam: a visual and practical device whose pattern echoes the repeating composition of transmission and interference. The visual and the acoustic are reintegrated in the space of the exhibition immersing the spectator in a sensory experience that is at odds with the atmosphere of the other gallery spaces in the building where silent or hushed visual contemplation of works of art tends to prevail.

The Haroon Mirza exhibition will be on display concurrently with *William Scott*, jointly organised with Tate St. Ives and Ulster Museum and also coincides with the artist's solo exhibition at Lisson Gallery,

London. From 17 May until 29 June Mirza will present several new synaesthetic installations made in collaboration with Omar Mirza, the artist's brother and an architect.

Visitors can enjoy free admission to The Hepworth Wakefield and the Haroon Mirza exhibition. For further details about the gallery and the summer programme of exhibitions and events visit [www.hepworthwakefield.org](http://www.hepworthwakefield.org) or call 01924 247360.

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#### PRESS PREVIEW: HAROON MIRZA AND WILLIAM SCOTT

Friday 24 May, 11am – 3pm

11am	Arrive at Wakefield Westgate train station, join transfer to The Hepworth Wakefield
11.15am	Arrival and light refreshments
11.20am	Welcome from Simon Wallis, Director, The Hepworth Wakefield
11.30am	Curatorial tour of the new exhibitions – Haroon Mirza and William Scott
12noon	Interview opportunities
1pm	Light lunch
2pm	Introduction to new collection displays – James Tissot and Milner-White Collection
2.20pm	Tour of the new waterfront gallery space
3pm	Return transfer to Wakefield Westgate train station

Limited places are available for complimentary train travel from London to Wakefield, please contact us for more information.

The evening preview takes place 6.30 - 8.30pm on Friday 24 May. Please confirm in advance if you would like to join us.

RSVP by Friday 17 May - Naomi Roberts, [naomiroberts@hepworthwakefield.org](mailto:naomiroberts@hepworthwakefield.org) / 01924 247392.

#### MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For further details about the press preview, interviews and image requests please contact:

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#### EDITOR'S NOTES:

#### THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The gallery is at the heart of Wakefield's regeneration. Designed by the internationally acclaimed

practice, David Chipperfield Architects, it is funded by Wakefield Council and Arts Council England with additional funding from a number of charitable trusts and private individuals. The gallery opened on 21 May 2011 and attracted 512,000 visitors within the first 12 months.

The gallery is part of several partnerships including: Tate Plus; Art in Yorkshire and Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle.

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, West Yorkshire, WF1 5AW

Free admission

Open Tuesday – Sunday, 10am – 5pm and 10am – 9pm on the Third Thursday of every month

Closed Mondays (except for Bank Holidays and school holidays)

[www.hepworthwakefield.org](http://www.hepworthwakefield.org)

01924 247360

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/HepworthGallery](http://www.twitter.com/HepworthGallery)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield](http://www.facebook.com/TheHepworthWakefield)

## HAROON MIRZA

Haroon Mirza (b.1977) lives and works in London. Selected solo presentations include New Museum, New York (2012); Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, Switzerland (2012); University of Michigan Museum of Art (2012); Ernst Schering Foundation, Berlin (2012); Spike Island, Bristol (2012); Camden Arts Center, London (2011); Lisson Gallery, London (2011); Chisenhale Gallery, London (2010), Mother's Tankstation, Dublin (2010); Vivid, Birmingham (2010) and A Foundation, Liverpool (2009). Selected group presentations include The Clocktower Gallery, New York (2012); La Triennale, Paris (2012); Nam June Paik Center, Korea (2012); ZKM | Media Museum, Karlsruhe (2012); MUSEION, Bolzano (2012); 54th Venice Biennale, Venice (2011); Performa 11, New York (2011); Hayward Gallery, London (2010); Art Sheffield, Sheffield (2010); 176 Zabłudowicz Collection, London (2010), SMART Projects, Amsterdam (2010).

Mirza is represented in the United Kingdom by Lisson Gallery, London. He will have a solo exhibition at the gallery from 17 May – 29 June 2013 which will feature several new synaesthetic installations. For more information please visit [www.lissongallery.com](http://www.lissongallery.com).

Haroon Mirza, *Untitled Song* is on show at mima (Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art) from 8 March - 6 June 2013. *Untitled Song featuring Untitled Works by James Clarkson* combines retro found furniture, disembodied speakers, bits of drum kit, wires and LEDs, in a work that hovers between sound and vision, sculpture and music, analogue and digital. For more information go to [visitmima.com](http://visitmima.com) or call 01642 726 720.

## NORTHERN ART PRIZE EXHIBITION

28 March - 16 June 2013

Leeds Art Gallery

The [Northern Art Prize](#) is a prestigious art prize for contemporary artists of any age, working in any media and living in the North of England (North West, North East and Yorkshire regions). The Northern Art Prize was founded in 2006 by Director Pippa Hale in collaboration with design and communications agency Logistik Ltd and Leeds City Council who continue to support the Prize in its sixth year.

The winner of the 2012-13 Northern Art Prize will be announced at an exclusive event at Leeds Art Gallery on 23 May 2013.

Previous winners of the Northern Art Prize are:

- o [Leo Fitzmaurice](#) (2011/12)

- [Haroon Mirza](#) (2010/11)
- [Pavel Büchler](#) (2009/10)
- [Paul Rooney](#) (2008/09)
- [Karen Guthrie + Nina Pope](#) (2007/08)

For information visit: [www.northernartprize.org.uk](http://www.northernartprize.org.uk)

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