

Louise Bourgeois

I Give Everything Away

Exhibition 26 October 2013 – 23 February 2014

Louise Bourgeois is one of the greatest and most influential artists of our time. In a career spanning seven decades, from the 1940s until her death in 2010, she produced some of contemporary art's most enduring images, making sculptures, installations, writings and drawings which, in mining her own psyche, have entered the collective unconscious.

Bourgeois's work is personal yet universal, rooted in the details of her own life, but reaching out to touch the lives of others. This exhibition of work on paper presents some of her most intimate work, both drawing and writing.

The exhibition begins with a labyrinthine presentation of Bourgeois's *Insomnia Drawings*, a remarkable suite of 220 drawings and writings made between November 1994 and June 1995 specifically to combat the insomnia which she once described as regulating her life. Created in the suspended state between sleeping and waking, The *Insomnia Drawings* contain all the major themes of Bourgeois's work and reveal the close link between drawing and writing that is such a key part of her practice.

Also in the exhibition are two suites of large-scale works on paper, *When Did This Happen?* from 2007, and *I Give Everything Away*, made right at the end of the artist's life in 2010. A mix of writing, drawing and printmaking, these large works are both haunted and haunting.

The exhibition is curated by Frances Morris, who curated The Fruitmarket Gallery's 2004 exhibition of work by Louise Bourgeois, *Stitches in Time*, and the major retrospective of Bourgeois's work at Tate Modern in 2007. Almost exactly ten years after first showing the work of this extraordinary artist to audiences in Edinburgh, The Fruitmarket Gallery is proud to present this new exhibition which, in focusing on drawing and writing, cuts to the heart of Louise Bourgeois's art, providing both a key to and a celebration of her unique creative energy.

This exhibition complements a major ARTIST ROOMS exhibition of work by Louise Bourgeois on display at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art – *Louise Bourgeois, A Woman Without Secrets*, Modern One, 26 October 2013–18 May 2014.

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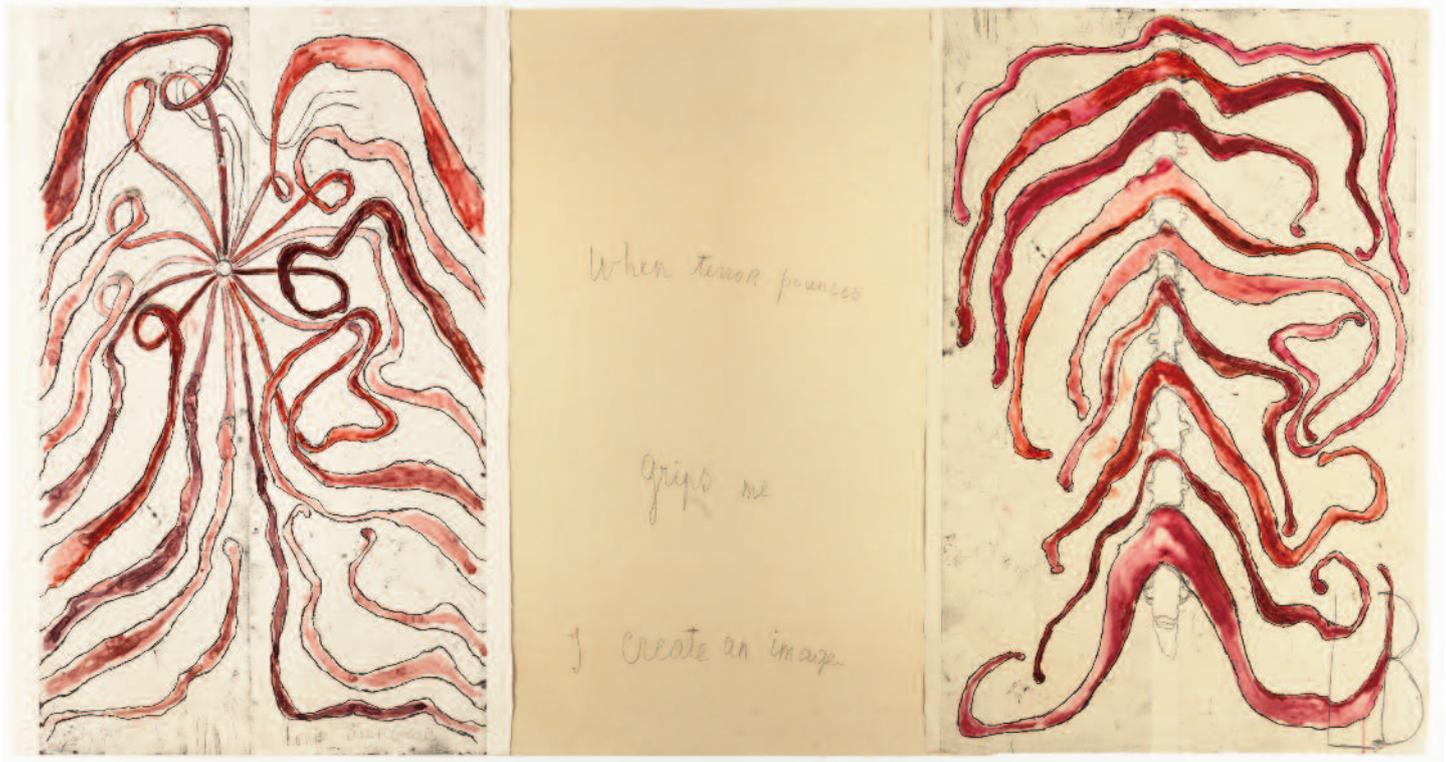
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The
Fruitmarket
Gallery



Notes to Editors

Louise Bourgeois (1911–2010) was born in France and studied with Fernand Léger in Paris during the 1930s. She moved to New York in 1937, following her marriage to Robert Goldwater, an authority on African art and Director of the Museum of Primitive Art, who died in 1973. Bourgeois's earliest works were often seen in the context of Surrealism. It was not until the last quarter of her career, when she entered an extraordinarily fertile period of creativity – in part due to her researches into psychoanalysis – that her achievements became recognised.

Frances Morris is Head of Collections (International Art) at Tate. Formerly Head of Displays at Tate Modern, she oversaw the opening display of the collection in 2000 and its first major rehang in 2006. Past exhibitions include Tate Modern's recent retrospective of Yayoi Kusama in 2012 and the major retrospective of Louise Bourgeois which opened at Tate Modern in October 2007. She is currently working on a retrospective exhibition of Agnes Martin.

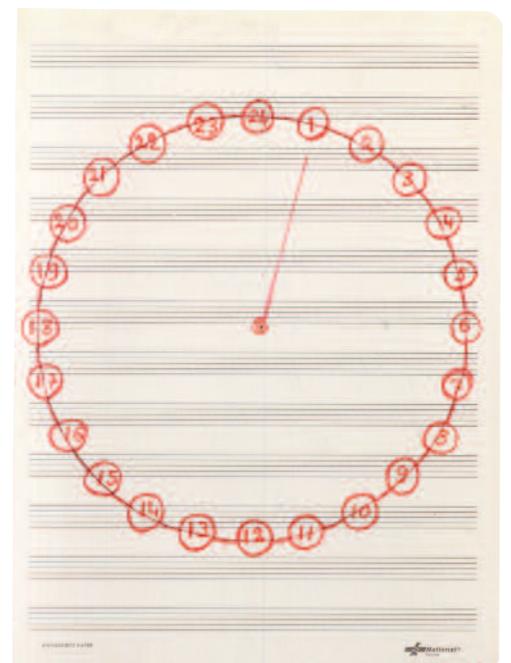
The Fruitmarket Gallery brings to Scotland the work of some of the world's most important contemporary artists. We recognise that art can change lives and we offer an intimate encounter with art for free.

We make exhibitions, commissions and publications directly in collaboration with artists. We celebrate new thinking, and offer an international platform for artists, curators and writers, whether they have made their reputation here or abroad.

The Fruitmarket Gallery welcomes all audiences. We make it easy for everyone to engage with art, encouraging questions and supporting debate.

Top: **Louise Bourgeois** *When Did This Happen*, 2007 (detail, panel 5)
 Etching and mixed media on paper, five panels
 Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and Cheim & Read. Photo: Christopher Burke, © The Easton Foundation

Right: **Louise Bourgeois** *Insomnia Drawing #163*, 1994–95
 Ink and pencil on paper
 Daros Collection, Switzerland.
 Photo: Christopher Burke, © The Easton Foundation/Licensed by DACS



Talks

Curator's Talk

Wednesday 15 January 2014, 6.30pm. Free.

Exhibition curator Frances Morris (Tate) considers the work in the exhibition in light of the artist's larger practice in conversation with Fiona Bradley, Director of The Fruitmarket Gallery.

Future Bourgeois: Panel Discussion

Friday 7 February 2014, 6pm. £5/£3 conc. (or free if attending symposium). Refreshments provided.

The artist Phyllida Barlow, the writer Elisabeth Lebovici (EHESS, Paris) and Professor Mignon Nixon (Courtauld) consider the current state of research on Louise Bourgeois in this panel discussion. The event brings to a close a collaborative one-day student symposium organised by the ARTIST ROOMS RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP, The Fruitmarket Gallery and the National Galleries of Scotland (and held at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art (Modern One) that showcases new research on the artist.

Wee Small Hours

Friday 29 November, 10pm. £12/£10 conc.

Stay up all night in *Louise Bourgeois: I Give Everything Away*. With Book Week Scotland, we embrace insomnia starting with a welcome drink and readings before lullabies lead us into the long watch of the night with live drawing, writing, screenings, refreshments and comfy rest areas. We close with an early morning reading, coffee and croissants. Contributions from Kate Davis, David Hopkins, Vahni Capildeo, JL Williams and others still to be confirmed. Visit our website for more information.

Workshops

Drawing on Diaries

Tuesday 18 February 2014, 11am-5pm. Free. 12 places for 14-17 year olds.

Led by artist Juliana Capes, this workshop explores the autobiographical and the personal through drawing and sketchbook skills, transforming ideas into sculpture.

Community Group Workshops

Two-hour sessions, in your setting and the Gallery. Max. 12 places per session.

Take part in artist-led workshops based around the exhibition. The sessions include making, looking at and talking about art. For more information and to book visit our website.

Tours

Audio Tour

Thursday 6 February 2014, 2-3pm. Free. 10 places.

A tour of the exhibition with assistive listening devices, for visitors who are hard of hearing.

Descriptive Tour

Thursday 6 February 2014, 6.30-8pm. Free. 10 places.

An exhibition tour designed for visually impaired visitors but open to everyone. It includes detailed descriptions of Bourgeois's work and practice.

Free Saturday Tours 2pm. Free.

Drop in any Saturday for an informal tour.

Booking is recommended for all events.

To book your place call **0131 226 8181** or email bookshop@fruitmarket.co.uk

Coming up

Tania Kovats: Oceans

15 March – 25 May 2014

Our Spring exhibition is a solo exhibition of work by Tania Kovats, a British artist whose practice explores and extends our understanding of landscape.

A highlight of the exhibition will be a new installation, *All the Sea*, which involves collecting together water from all the world's seas and oceans. Seawater from around the world is now being gathered with the help of a global network of people drawn in by the idea of bringing all the waters of the world to one place.

We currently have 41 seas, including the South China Sea, the Scotia Sea and the Barents Ocean. We have 55 still to go, one of the trickiest being the sea of the Okhotsk, off both Russia and Japan, covered in ice for most of the winter.

There is a full list of the seas we still need in the picture below and on www.tania-kovats-oceans.com, though we'd be grateful for any seawater – multiples are welcome! If you can, please send us some seawater, and encourage friends to do so too. All you need to do is collect seawater in a bottle, label it with the name of the sea and your name and send it to us through the post, or drop it in to the bookshop.

