



**5 DECEMBER
/ 25 JANUARY**

Julius Bär

CONVERSATIONS WITH HIRST



**ART FOR GUERNSEY
GALLERY
MANSELL STREET
ST PETER PORT**





CONVERSATION WITH HIRST

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LATE-NIGHT SHOPPING EVENTS ON 5, 12 AND 19 DECEMBER

TALK BY
PATRICK EARLE
FROM 6PM ON
5 DECEMBER

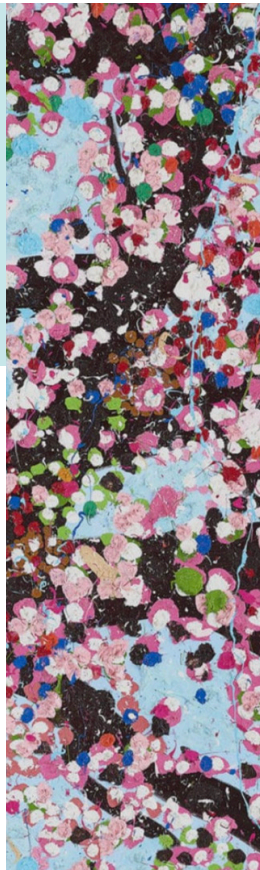
Art for Guernsey unveils artworks by Damien Hirst

Art for Guernsey is delighted to announce that from 5 December a series of artworks by Damien Hirst will be unveiled for visitors to enjoy. "Conversations with Hirst" will be divided into three chapters, each displayed for 10-14 days throughout December and January.

Damien Hirst, born in Bristol in 1965, is a renowned British contemporary artist. Hirst's remarkable body of work spans multiple genres, media and materials, solidifying his position as one of the leading figures in the art world. He first came into the public eye when he co-curated the controversial Freeze exhibition in 1988, and swiftly rose to prominence as one of the influential Young British Artists (YBAs). Renowned for his thought-provoking approach, Hirst incorporates found materials and aims to evoke shock, exploring profound themes of life, death, and the very essence of art itself.

Art for Guernsey is grateful to Julius Baer Guernsey, whose generous sponsorship of the Julius Baer Strong Room gives students and the wider public the chance to see and study some of the unique pieces that are held privately on the island.

Julius Bär





Alexandra McInnes

Head of Julius Baer Guernsey, said:



We're incredibly proud of the Julius Baer Strong Room as it demonstrates our support for artistic expression and cultural engagement in Guernsey. This opportunity to house several Damien Hirst pieces in the Strong Room is a real privilege and we look forward to sharing this remarkable private collection with the local community.

Julius Bär





Art for Guernsey has been advocating for years on the merits of capitalising on the kindness of local collectors who are willing to help the community and our educational programme by lending us their art for free. It was our vision to integrate a strong room as a key part of our gallery, and we are so grateful that, thanks to the support of Julius Baer, this vision is now a reality and we are able to unveil world-class art in our gallery on a regular basis. This not only provides a great catalyst and inspiration for contemporary artists to exhibit their art shoulder to shoulder with world-class artworks, but also constitutes a real response to the fact that it is not always practical or cost effective for schools to travel off-island to expose their pupils to top-quality art.



David Ummels

Chairman and Founder of Art for Guernsey



Conversations with Hirst will open to the public on Thursday 5 December, when from 6pm Art for Guernsey will host a free artist talk event by Patrick Earle, a locally based abstract artist. Patrick will share his insights into Hirst's body of work, exploring the techniques employed, the history and context of abstract expressionism, points of view relating to the controversy that often accompanies Hirst's work, and touching upon the question, what is art?

The Art for Guernsey Gallery is open from 10am-5pm Tuesday-Saturday, but on late-night shopping Thursdays - 5, 12 and 19 December - it will remain open until 9pm. Thursday 19 December will see the opening of the second chapter of the exhibition.



Jock Pettitt
Curation Director of
Art for Guernsey, said:

“Our exhibitions are deeply rooted in Guernsey themes, focusing on the history, culture and the natural beauty of our islands through the lens of different artists and media. The Fabric of Guernsey exhibition exemplifies this and is a must-see for all in the community, showcasing the history and stories of the cherished garment. Conversations with Hirst is a different opportunity, a chance to view works of art first hand, that would normally require travel, not focused on a Guernsey theme but made possible thanks to the generosity of the community. Damien Hirst is a very well-known figure in contemporary art, and seeing his sometimes controversial art in person can't help but stimulate conversation. With the insights being shared by Patrick Earle on the opening evening, providing some thought-provoking context, this is a great opportunity for those heading out for some late-night Christmas shopping, to add a little culture and conversation to the festive season.”

Notes to Editors

Art for Guernsey is a charitable initiative managed by a team of passionate professionals who share a belief in the transformative power of art to bring communities together, provide educational opportunities, promote cultural diplomacy and create an artistic legacy for Guernsey. The team has a strong remit to bring art where it is most needed, to inspire people and try to make them happy. Art for Guernsey is driven by a strong desire to create opportunities for the community to discover high quality art for free, and to create catalysts within the art, educational and charitable sectors.