## paintings in hospitals

**PRESS RELEASE - 20/11/2020** 

# PAINTINGS IN HOSPITALS LAUNCHES URGENT COVID-19 ONLINE CHARITY AUCTION



Artists including Jeremy Deller, Helen Chadwick, and Humphrey Ocean feature in the online sale, raising funds to support the charity's work with patients and care staff across the country.

Today, national charity Paintings in Hospitals launches the <u>Art for Health Auction</u>, raising funds to help the charity continue to bring colour and creativity to isolated patients and dedicated carers. The online auction includes artworks by Norman Ackroyd, Peter Blake, Eileen Cooper, Michael Craig-Martin, Jeremy Deller, Anita Klein, Bruce McClean, Lisa Milroy, Ceri Richards, and many more.

COVID-19 has changed all our lives. For Paintings in Hospitals, the pandemic has also meant a complete change to the way the charity works. To protect vulnerable patients from the virus, the charity has been unable to reach out to them in person to co-create exhibitions and provide arts workshops. But these isolated people, experiencing anxiety and loneliness, are exactly who need Paintings in Hospitals' support at this incredibly difficult time. The charity recently launched new remote arts projects for people to experience while in care, such as the <a href="Healthcare Heroes">Healthcare Heroes</a> virtual exhibition with Google Arts & Culture. But the charity needs to do more and needs to raise further funds to ensure its future.

With money raised through the *Art for Health Auction*, Paintings in Hospitals will be able to continue its work in 2021 to reach many more patients in isolation and the tireless care workers looking after them. In what can be dark, dull, and lonely times, the charity will be able to bring patients and carers colour, connection, and inspiration.

Bidding begins on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November and ends on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 9pm. **View the auction lots and bid online now at:** givergy.uk/paintingsinhospitals

**ENDS** 

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#### **PRESS ENQUIRIES & IMAGES**

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LEFT: 'Anemones' by Anita Klein. CENTRE: 'I Love Patrick Caulfield' by Jeremy Deller. RIGHT: 'Portal I' by Charlotte Cornish. © courtesy of the artist

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **ABOUT PAINTINGS IN HOSPITALS**

Paintings in Hospitals is the only national art collection of its kind. Founded in 1959, the charity uses visual art to transform care spaces and inspire wellbeing for patients and carers. Paintings in Hospitals is partnered with 180 care organisations across the UK, lending its art and facilitating creative workshops. The Paintings in Hospitals collection holds 4,000 artworks, including pieces by Bridget Riley, Antony Gormley, Maggi Hambling, Andy Warhol, Anish Kapoor, Howard Hodgkin, Helen Chadwick, Sonia Boyce, Alexander Calder, and more. In 2019 Paintings in Hospitals partnered with the National Gallery to bring a rare 17<sup>th</sup>-century masterpiece by Artemisia Gentileschi (worth £3.6 million) to a GP surgery in Yorkshire. And this year Paintings in Hospitals partnered with Google Arts & Culture and artist Tom Croft for the global Healthcare Heroes virtual exhibition. The charity has previously partnered with the V&A, Arts Council Collection, Wallace Collection, and Hayward Gallery. Paintings in Hospitals receives no Government funding and relies entirely on grants and donations to continue its unique work. Paintings in Hospitals is a Registered Charity (1065963).

Website: <u>www.paintingsinhospitals.org.uk</u>

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