

NORMAN HYAMS

1966-2024. Lived and worked in London, UK.

Norman Hyams scrutinised everyday life through enigmatic and highly personal paintings and sculptures. Often working from photographs of his past that intrigued him, Hyams reworked them into a series of recurring motifs that dance the line between daydream and memory, a process he described as 'teaching himself how to see'. Often it is the good, the bad and the ugly of growing up in London's east end that was reflected in his evocative portraits of boxing tournaments or cropped tennis-courts, spectacles frequented as a teenager and cherished for their lasting cinematic intensity. Captured in feverish light brushstrokes or crisp, contemplative colour-fields, these snapshots stand shoulder to shoulder with vignettes of childhood party scenes, a lover standing forlorn at the dressing table, rows of stoic suburban houses, or sanguine landscapes of Greek island holidays. Together his work contrasted the boisterous and nocturnal energy of the city with solemn and inward-looking scenes, evoking the intensity by which particular memories - both real and imagined - come to hold significant emotional resonance and meaning in our lives. In each case a history is told, a narrative beckoned.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024

Islands, Connoly, London, UK

2023

Vermilion Tablecloth, Newchild Gallery (online)

2020

The Party, Vortic London Collective, Hannah Barry Gallery (online)

2019

Knowledge, Turps Gallery, London, UK

2018

serious pursuits - loops, sacks and tennis courts, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2017

Ethos, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2007

Norman Hyams, RUN Gallery, London, UK

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

LAS Begins, LAS Gallery, London, UK

2024

The Miniatures Challenge, Canal Boat Contemporary, London, UK

On Paper, Newchild Gallery (online)

2023

Close Corners, Turps Gallery, London, UK

Looking Like Fire, Sim Smith, London, UK

Cut Out - Series 1, HM Electric Gallery, London, UK

Spring without End, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

The Picture: Harriet Gillett, Norman Hyams, Kate Lyddon, Catinca Malamaire, Erna Mist, Tim Noble, Henrik Potter, Alfie Rouy & Ki Yoong, Brooke Benington, London, UK

2022

A Play of Features, Union Gallery, London, UK

2021

Too Young to Fruit, Wevet_projects, Coachwerks Studios, Brighton, UK

2020

Ancient Deities, Arusha Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

A very long wait, Newchild Gallery, Antwerp, BE

Crowd, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2017

Soirée, Fiery Friary, Project by Shaun McDowell, London, UK

2016

Faith & Fathom, Galleria Poggiali, Florence, IT

Shuffle, Herrick Gallery, London, UK

COLLECTIONS

UK Government Art Collection, London, UK

The Simon Nixon Collection, London, UK

RESIDENCIES/AWARDS

2020

The New St Ives School, Cornwall, UK (residency)

2016

Turps Studio Painting Programme, London, UK (residency)