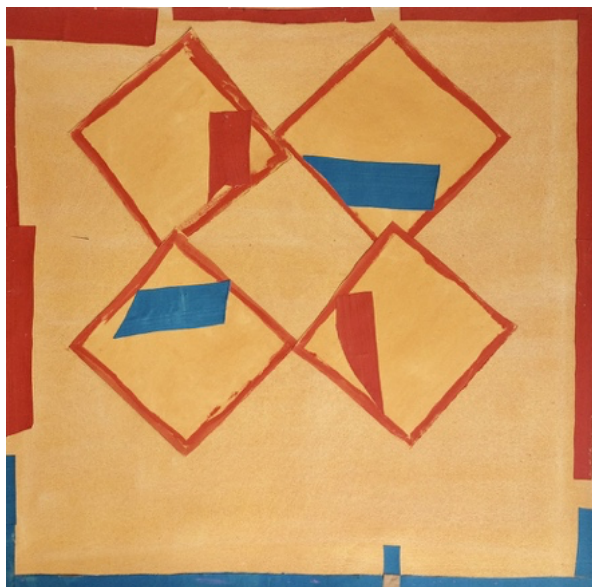


## PRESS RELEASE

### ***A Celebration of Abstraction in British Art: Bell, Blow, Frost, Heron, Hitchens and their contemporaries***

**7<sup>th</sup> July – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

**Zuleika Gallery, Woodstock**



*Image 1*

*“Colour is both the subject and the means; the form and the content; the image and the meaning, in my painting today.” Patrick Heron, 1962*

Our summer exhibition: *A Celebration of Abstraction in British Art: Bell, Blow, Frost, Heron, Hitchens and their Contemporaries* opens at our Woodstock gallery on 7 July until 31 August 2023.

Featuring a selection of oil paintings, etchings, screenprints and lithographs by artists who embraced the expressive potential of abstraction in British art, we will show how this revolutionary art movement not only revitalised traditional codes of making art by dismantling the image in order to celebrate pure form and colour, but also developed its own exuberant universal language of geometric shapes and symbols through which motion, rhythm and energy could be expressed using colour, line, materials and form.

The exhibition will focus particularly on the pioneering artists of the St Ives School: Trevor Bell (1930-2017), Sandra Blow RA (1925-2006,) Terry Frost (1915-2003), Patrick Heron and Breon O’Casey (1928-2011) alongside their contemporaries, and celebrates the legacy of their radical work in the 1960s and 1970s when abstraction in British art was to receive its most fertile expression triggered by the Tate’s seminal 1956 exhibition *Modern Art in the United States: A Selection from the Collections of the Museum of Modern Art New York* which featured works by the fathers of Abstract Expressionism: Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko.



Image 2

Highlights include Sandra Blow's *Four Notes 2005*; Patrick Heron's *The Shapes of Colour, Second Vertical Screenprint, 1976*; Terry Frost's *Blue, Black and Green Collage, 2001* and Ivon Hitchens' *Deeps Wood Version II, 1971*

*"Radiating vibrant colour, the artworks in our summer exhibition are a celebration of form and colour and an open invitation to pure escapism."* Lizzie Collins, Director of Zuleika Gallery

*"Painting is nothing more than the organisation of colour. But all sensation of colour is relative, by which I mean that one's awareness of the colour of a colour is dependent almost entirely upon a second colour being present.. when two colours meet there is always intense activity."* Patrick Heron extract from *The Shape of Colour 1973*



Image 3



Image 4

ENDS

Illustrated:

Image 1 Sandra Blow, *Four Notes*, 2005

Image 2 Ivon Hitchens, *Deeps Wood Version II*, 1971

Image 3 Patrick Heron, *The Shapes of Colour, Second Vertical Screenprint*, 1976

Image 4 Terry Frost, *Blue, Black and Green Collage*, 2001

## About Zuleika Gallery

Zuleika Gallery's focus is on Modern British and emerging contemporary art. The gallery was founded in 2015 and held premises in St James's London before moving to Cromwell Place in 2022. In 2020, the gallery opened premises in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, now the gallery headquarters, with a regular exhibition programme. Zuleika offers bespoke art advisory services for private or corporate collectors, using our extensive experience in the art market. We enjoy placing art in the right context, whether public or private, and helping collectors making considered choices - balancing pure visual joy with stimulating ideas, while also inspiring change through art. The gallery is committed to showing art that inspires, and to making art accessible without compromise to quality, working with both the entry level collector and the connoisseur. Zuleika Gallery is a member of the Gallery Climate Coalition and is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and improving sustainably and gives artists a platform to explore the existential threat facing our planet.

Venue Zuleika Gallery, 6 Park Street, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, OX20 1SP.

**Opening Hours:** 10 – 5pm Wednesday - Saturday

**By appointment:** Sunday – Tuesday – please contact +44(0)7719060962

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