

# House of Illustration's 2019 Exhibitions



## Corita Kent: Power Up

Main Gallery, 8 February – 12 May 2019

The UK'S biggest ever show of work by the pop artist, social activist and nun.

Advertising slogans collide with religious texts in Corita Kent's bright, bold and at times controversial screen prints. This vital voice of 1960s American pop art brings the sublime to bear on the everyday, using typography and graphic design to investigate modern life and challenge its afflictions – poverty, racism and war.



## Posy Simmonds: A Retrospective

Main Gallery, 24 May – 15 September 2019

The first major UK retrospective of the celebrated comic artist and graphic novelist.

Posy Simmonds' sharp satire and progressive female characters have defined a career spanning 50 years. The exhibition will feature her early-career pastiches, iconic cartoon strips for The Guardian and children's books such as Fred, which became an Oscar-nominated film. It will also include the first ever British graphic novel, True Love, unseen pages from Tamara Drewe and drawings from Simmonds' new 2018 book, Cassandra Darke.

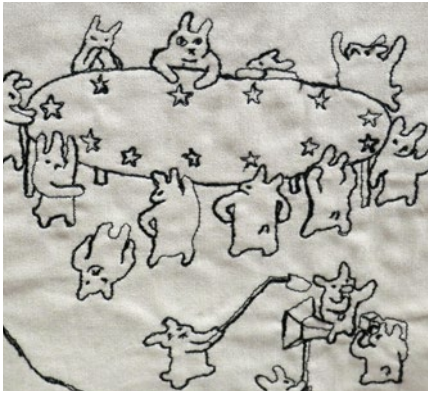


## Designed in Cuba: Cold war Graphics

Main Gallery, 27 September 2018 – 19 January 2020

A prime example of graphic design for political persuasion, the work of Fidel Castro's Organisation of Solidarity with the People of Asia, Africa and Latin America (OSPAAAL) was marked by uncompromising illustrations championing Cuba's revolutionary message.

Throughout the Cold War artists including Alfredo Rostgaard, Helena Serrano and Emory Douglas produced provocative posters that were distributed in their millions alongside Tricontinental, a magazine that featured illustrated articles by Jean Paul Sartre, Che Guevara and Malcolm X.

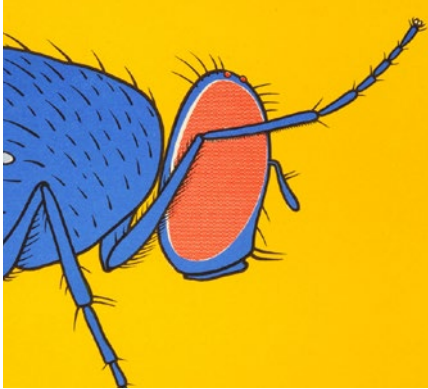


## YiMiao Shih: Rabbrexit Means Rabbrexit

South Gallery, 29 March – 14 July 2019

YiMiao Shih satirises current affairs through drawing, video and embroidery. As Illustrator in Residence she is spending six months collecting opinions on Brexit and its consequences to be woven into a contemporary 'epic'.

House of Illustration's annual residency supports illustrators to create an ambitious body of work, generously supported by The Barbara and Philip Denny Charitable Trust. It is the UK's only residency for illustrators and graphic artists.

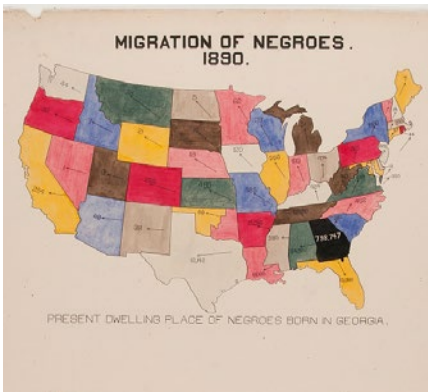


## Marie Neurath: Picturing Science

South Gallery, 19 July – 3 November 2019

Ground-breaking graphic design that has transformed children's learning.

Marie Neurath and her team at the Isotype Institute produced over 80 illustrated children's books from 1944-1971 in a pioneering collaboration between researchers, artists and writers. Using infographics and illustrated diagrams to explain scientific concepts, Neurath's books mark a defining moment in information design for children.



## W.E.B Du Bois: Activism by Numbers

South Gallery, 8 November 2019 – 1 March 2020

The infographics created by sociologist and activist W.E.B. Du Bois in 1900 were a remarkable development in data visualisation and a direct challenge to institutional racism. His modern designs used striking shapes and bold primary colours to present research on the achievements of African Americans since Emancipation. Exhibited at the 1900 Exposition Universelle in Paris, 60 charts and maps visually communicated what Du Bois described as "the problem of the colour line" in turn-of-the-century America to an international audience.



## Ludwig Bemelmans: Sketches for Madeline

Quentin Blake Gallery, 1 March – 28 April 2019

The first ever exhibition of Ludwig Bemelmans' preparatory drawings for *Madeline*.

This display of work by Ludwig Bemelmans shows his sketches for *Madeline*, the picture book series that has sold over 14 million copies since the first book's publication in 1939. A raconteur on the page, Bemelmans' rough drawings and dummy books offer an insight into how he built a classic.



## Quentin Blake: From the Studio

Quentin Blake Gallery, 8 May 2019 onwards

A new permanent space that gives a glimpse into the working world of the UK's most celebrated illustrator.

Quentin Blake works daily in his London studio, creating narrative drawings, books and installations. This evolving display at House of Illustration will offer an up-to-date showcase of Blake's prolific projects as they happen, beginning with *The QB Papers* - a series of artists' books that delve into Blake's current preoccupations.

**Colin Mckenzie, Director of House of Illustration, said:**

“I am delighted to announce our 2019 exhibitions programme, which celebrates the way in which illustration and the graphic arts can change our world. We will be showing the radical protest screenprints of Hollywood nun, Corita Kent, the pioneering infographics by WEB Du Bois that challenged racism in 1900, and the posters designed in Cuba to spread the message of communism across the globe. Closer to home we will celebrate the remarkable career of the UK’s greatest comics artist, Posy Simmonds and the ground-breaking graphics by Marie Neurath that changed children’s learning in the 1940s.”

LISTINGS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER:

**CORITA KENT: POWER UP**

Main Gallery, 8 February – 12 May 2019

**LUDWIG BEMELMANS: SKETCHES FOR MADELINE**

Quentin Blake Gallery, 1 March – 28 April 2019

**YIMIAO SHIH: RABBREXIT MEANS RABBREXIT**

South Gallery, 29 March – 14 July 2019

**QUENTIN BLAKE: FROM THE STUDIO**

Quentin Blake Gallery, 8 May 2019 onwards

**POSY SIMMONDS: A RETROSPECTIVE**

Main Gallery, 24 May – 15 September 2019

**MARIE NEURATH: PICTURING SCIENCE**

South Gallery, 19 July – 3 November 2019

**DESIGNED IN CUBA: COLD WAR GRAPHICS**

Main Gallery, 27 September 2019 – 19 January 2020

**W.E.B. DU BOIS: ACTIVISM BY NUMBERS**

South Gallery, 8 November 2018 – 1 March 2020

IMAGE CREDITS:

Corita Kent american sample, 1969, with permission of the Corita Art Center, photograph by Arthur Evans

Tamara Drewe © Posy Simmonds

Poster, 1968 © Elena Serrano, Day of the Heroic Guerrilla, OSPAAAAL

Detail of RABBEXIT (An Homage to Brexit) - The EU Meeting © YiMiao Shih

Cover for The Wonder World of Nature Too Small to See, 1956, with permission of the Otto and Marie Neurath Isotype Collection at University of Reading

Migration of Negroes, 1890, ink and watercolor, 710 x 560mm © W.E.B. Du Bois, US Library of Congress

Madeline © The Ludwig Bemelmans Estate

Quentin Blake © Paul Grover

For high res images and interview requests contact Amy Forshaw on 020 3696 2028 or [amy.forshaw@houseofillustration.org.uk](mailto:amy.forshaw@houseofillustration.org.uk)

NOTES TO EDITORS:

House of Illustration is the UK’s only public gallery dedicated solely to illustration and graphic arts. Founded by Sir Quentin Blake it opened in July 2014 in King’s Cross, London. Its exhibition programme explores both historic and contemporary illustration and the work of defining and emerging illustrators, amplified by a vibrant programme of talks and events. A registered charity, House of Illustration supports and promotes new talent, commissions new work and has a pioneering learning programme for children, young people, adults and families delivered by professional illustrators.

House of Illustration, 2 Granary Square, London N1C 4BH.

Open Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5.30pm, Sunday 11am-5.30pm, closed Monday.

Admission (one ticket gives admission to all three galleries) £8.25 including gift aid.

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