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## Launch of nationwide arts festival to celebrate refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe March 2019 - March 2020

- **Insiders/Outsiders Festival** honours the deep impact of refugees on British culture
- **László Moholy-Nagy, Walter Gropius, Lucie Rie, Annely Juda, Rudolf Laban, Oskar Kokoschka, John Heartfield, Josef Herman and Hans Keller** among the émigrés honoured
- Festival partners include **Tate Britain, Sotheby's, the Courtauld Institute of Art, Glyndebourne and Pallant House Gallery**
- Across all art forms: art, design, architecture, film, literature, dance, theatre and music
- Timely reminder of the long-lasting importance of cultural cross-fertilisation

**Insiders/Outsiders**, a year-long nationwide arts festival taking place from **March 2019 to March 2020**, celebrates refugees from Nazi Europe and their impact on British culture. Coinciding with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War, **Insiders/Outsiders** brings together a vibrant and all-encompassing programme of exhibitions, concerts, dance and theatre performances, film screenings, walks, lectures and literary events all over the UK. An accompanying anthology focusing on the visual arts will be published by Lund Humphries in early March.

Initiated by art historian Monica Bohm-Duchen, **Insiders/Outsiders** highlights the indelible contribution of the artists, photographers, writers, architects, designers, actors, film-makers, dancers and musicians as well as publishers, art historians, dealers and collectors who, in fleeing Nazi-dominated Europe in the 1930s and 1940s, greatly enriched this country's culture. **Insiders/Outsiders** highlights these émigrés' contemporary relevance and ongoing influence on Britain's cultural landscape. It will also feature work by descendants of these refugees which explores the legacy of their families' experiences.

### Festival highlights:

- **Art:** exhibitions across the country including *Refuge: The Art of Belonging: Kurt Schwitters to Lucian Freud*, **Abbot Hall Art Gallery**, Kendal, Cumbria (until 29 June); *Emigré Poster Designers*, **London Transport Museum** (29 March to 27 June); *Walter Nessler*, **Pallant House Gallery, Chichester** (8 June to 6 October); *The Bauhaus in Britain*, **Tate Britain** (17 June to 17 November); *Brave New Visions*, honouring the émigré art dealers and publishers who transformed Britain's art world, **Sotheby's** (17 July to 9 August).
- **Music:** concerts and events including a centenary tribute to **Hans Keller** (March) and a display at **Glyndebourne** documenting the early history of this iconic opera festival (summer 2019).
- **Dance:** performances and workshops at **Trinity Laban** and elsewhere celebrating pioneering choreographers such as **Rudolf Laban, Kurt Jooss, Sigurd Leeder** and **Hilde Holger**, and showing how they transformed modern British dance.

- **Architecture:** a series of events focusing on the contribution of émigré architects – from **Walter Gropius** to **Ernst Freud** - in association with **RIBA**, the **Twentieth Century Society** and **Isokon Gallery Trust**.
- **Literature:** a celebration of the immense contribution of émigrés to all aspects of writing and book publishing, presented with partners such as **Jewish Book Week** (2 to 10 March) and **Exiled Writers Ink**.
- **Film:** screenings throughout the year with partners including London's **JW3** and **Birkbeck Institute for the Moving Image** and with **Jewish History Month**, focusing on the role of émigrés in British film in the 1930s, 40s, 50s and beyond.
- **Theatre:** productions of new plays such as ***Ballad of the Cosmo Café***, directed by **Pamela Howard** and with **Carl Davis** as music consultant, and revivals of works such as **Matthew Zjacz's *The Tailor of Inverness*** and **Frank Marcus' *The Window***.

Creative Director of the festival, Monica Bohm-Duchen comments: *'This festival will pay tribute to a disappearing generation and ensure their achievements and immense creativity are remembered. It will also honour those British-born individuals who, in welcoming and working with these émigrés, chose openness and internationalism. At a time when the issue of immigration is headline news, this festival will serve as a reminder of the importance of cultural cross-fertilisation and of the deep, long-lasting and wide-ranging contribution that refugees can – and do – make to British life.'*

***Insiders/Outsiders: Refugees from Nazi Europe and their Contribution to British Visual Culture***, edited by Monica Bohm-Duchen, is published by Lund Humphries (Hardback £40) in early March 2019. It includes essays by Sir Norman Rosenthal, Anna Nyburg, Alan Powers, Daniel Snowman and Monica Bohm-Duchen, among others.

More information about the festival can be found at [www.insidersoutsidersfestival.org](http://www.insidersoutsidersfestival.org). A more detailed programme will be announced in January 2019 and updated throughout the year.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to editors:**

**Insiders/Outsiders** has been initiated by Monica Bohm-Duchen, working with curator and educator Marilyn Greene and Sue Grayson Ford, founder of the Serpentine Gallery and The Big Draw. Daniel Snowman, author of *The Hitler Emigrés: The Cultural Impact on Britain of Refugees from Nazism*, is acting as Project Consultant.

**Festival Patrons:** Lord Alfred Dubs, Esther Freud, Baroness Julia Neuberger DBE, Sir Erich Reich, Sir Norman Rosenthal, Philippe Sands QC, Edmund de Waal OBE.

**Patrons of the Sotheby's exhibition:** René Gimpel, David Juda. Sally Kalman.

**With support from:** The Association of Jewish Refugees, Burgh House & Hampstead Museum.

**About Monica Bohm-Duchen**

Monica Bohm-Duchen is an independent, London-based art historian, curator and writer. The institutions for which she has worked include Tate, the Royal Academy of Arts, Sotheby's Institute of Art and the Courtauld Institute of Art. In the mid-1980s she acted as researcher and co-curator for the pioneering exhibition *Art in Exile in Great Britain 1933-1945* (held first in Berlin and then at the Camden Arts Centre, London). At Birkbeck, University of London, where she is Associate Lecturer, she teaches a course entitled *The Immigrant Experience in Modern British Art*. Her publications include *After Auschwitz: Responses to the Holocaust in Contemporary Art* (1995 - contributing editor) and *Art and the Second World War* (2013).

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