

## Damien Hirst

Since his emergence in the international art scene in the late 1980s, Damien Hirst has explored the complex relationships between art, beauty, religion, science, life, and death. Taking part in the curation of 'Freeze' in 1988, he showcased himself and his peers, marking the debut of the Young British Artists movement, most notable for their innovative and entrepreneurial approaches.

Hirst's Spot paintings evoke psychological and perceptual dichotomies, presenting multi-coloured spots on white backgrounds, painted by hand to allow subtle imperfections. His pharmaceutical paintings, medicine cabinets, and Visual Candy series critiques the cultural role of

prescription drugs and the misleading narratives that they advertise. His 'spin paintings' are known for their vibrant and dynamic patterns, created by spinning the canvas and applying paint to generate colourful, abstract compositions, highlighting the roles of chance in his artistic process. His Natural History series features animals that have been taxidermied, in turn coalescing the boundaries of art and science. When assessing the ethos of Hirsts' work, each, regardless of medium, challenges our contemporary belief systems and the overall human experience.

Since the early 2000s, Hirst has produced works such as kaleidoscopic butterfly paintings and monumental sculptures. His retrospective 'The Agony and the Ecstasy' was presented in Naples in 2004, and a major retrospective at Tate Modern in 2012. Hirst opened the Newport Street Gallery in London in 2015, promoting his ambition to share his collection with the general public.

"People are afraid of change, so you create a kind of belief for them through repetition. It's like breathing. I've always been drawn to series and pairs. A unique thing is quite a frightening object." - Damien Hirst.



Damien Hirst, Photo by Oli Scarff/Getty Images

## **Damien Hirst CV**

b. 1965 - Bristol, United Kingdom

### **Education**

1989 Goldsmiths College, London

### **Selected Solo Shows**

2024 *The Light That Shines*, Château La Coste, France

2023 *The Weight of Things*, MUCA, Munich, Germany *Where Land Meets the Sea*, Phillips, London, UK

2022 *Forgiving and Forgetting*, Gagosian, New York

2022 *Myths, Legends and Monsters*, Gagosian, Gstaad, Switzerland *Natural History*, Gagosian, London

2022 *Cherry Blossoms*, National Art Centre, Tokyo

2022 *The Currency*, Newport Street Gallery, London

2021 *Mental Escapology*, St. Moritz, Switzerland (organised by Oscar Humphries and Marco Voena)

2021 *Fact Paintings and Fact Sculptures*, Gagosian, London *Archaeology Now*, Villa Borghese, Rome

2021 *Cathedrals Built on Sand*, Gagosian, Paris

2021 *Cherry Blossoms*, Fondation Cartier, Paris

2021 *Forgiving and Forgetting*, Gagosian, Rome

2021 *Relics and Fly Paintings*, Gagosian, London

2021 *Emergency Paintings, Danger Paintings, Hazard Paintings and Seizures*, Gagosian, London

2021 *His Own Worst Enemy*, White Cube, Hong Kong

2020 *End of a Century*, Newport Street Gallery, London

2019 *Mandalas*, White Cube Mason's Yard, London

2019 Yorkshire Sculpture International, Leeds Art Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park,

- 2019 Henry Moore Institute, Hepworth Wakefield, UK
- 2019 *Post Truth, Fake News & Alternative Facts*, Haifa Museum, Israel
- 2018 *Colour Space Paintings*, Gagosian, New York
- 2018 *Damien Hirst at Houghton Hall: Colour Space Paintings and Outdoor Sculptures*, Houghton Hall, King's Lynn, UK
- 2018 *The Veil Paintings*, Gagosian, Los Angeles
- 2017 *Visual Candy and Natural History*, Gagosian, Hong Kong
- 2017 *Treasures from the Wreck of the Unbelievable*, Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana, Venice
- 2016 *Damien Hirst: The Last Supper*, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC
- 2015 *Damien Hirst*, Astrup Fearnley Musset, Oslo Love, Paul Stolper Gallery, London
- 2014 *Black Scalpel Cityscapes*, White Cube, São Paulo
- 2014 *Schizophrenogenesis*, Paul Stolper Gallery, London
- 2014 *Signification (Hope, Immortality and Death in Paris, Now and Then)*, Deyrolle, Paris
- 2014 *Durcheinander, Damien Hirst/Arnulf Rainer*, Arnulf Rainer Museum, Baden, Austria
- 2014 *The Psalms*, McCabe Fine Art, Stockholm
- 2013 *Candy: Felix Gonzalez-Torres | Damien Hirst, Blain | Southern*, London
- 2013 *Relics*, Al Riwaq: Museum of Islamic Art, Doha
- 2013 *Entomology Cabinets and Paintings, Scalpel Blade Paintings and Colour Charts*, White Cube, Hong Kong
- 2012 *Two Weeks One Summer*, White Cube, London; PinchukArt Centre, Kiev, Ukraine
- 2012 Tate Modern, London
- 2012 *Utopia*, Paul Stolper Gallery, London
- 2012 *The Complete Spot Paintings 1986-2011*, Gagosian, London, New York, Los Angeles, Paris, Hong Kong, Rome, Geneva, Athens
- 2011 *Room*, Arken Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen
- 2011 *Forgotten Promises*, Gagosian, Hong Kong
- 2010 *Medicine Cabinets*, L&M Arts, New York
- 2010 *For the Love of God*, Palazzo Vecchio, Florence, Italy
- 2010 *Poisons, Remedies*, Gagosian Gallery, London
- 2010 *The Souls*, Paul Stolper Gallery, London; Stolper & Friends, Oslo (2011)

Cornucopia, Oceanographic 2010 Museum of Monaco, Monte Carlo  
2010 End of An Era, Gagosian, New York  
2010 *Theology, Philosophy, Medicine, Justice*, Galerie Andrea Caratsch, Zurich, Switzerland  
2010 *Dark Trees*, Galería Hilario Galguera, Leipzig, Germany; Galería Hilario Galguera, Mexico City  
2009 *Nothing Matters*, White Cube, London  
2009 *No Love Lost*, The Wallace Collection, London  
2009 *Life, Death and Love*, Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague  
2009 *Requiem*, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev, Ukraine  
2009 Leeahn Gallery, Daegu, Korea  
2009 *Artist Rooms: Damien Hirst*, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh; Leeds Art Gallery (2011); New Art Gallery, Walsall, (2012); The Pier Arts Centre, Orkney, UK (2015)  
2008 *For the Love of God*, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Colorado  
2008 *Beautiful Inside My Head Forever*, Sotheby's, London  
2008 *Artists on View: Georg Baselitz, Damien Hirst*, Gagosian, Rome  
2007 *School: The Archaeology of Lost Desires, Comprehending Infinity and the Search for Knowledge*, Lever House, New York  
2007 *Life, Death and Love*, Kunsthuset Kabuso, Oystese, Norway  
2007 *Beyond Belief*, White Cube, London  
2007 *The Five Aspects of God*, Herz Jesu Koln, Cologne, Germany  
2007 *The Goss-Michael Foundation*, Dallas, Texas  
2007 *Superstition*, Gagosian, Los Angeles and London  
2007 *Damien Hirst: Four Works from the Broad Art Foundation*, Portland Art Museum, Oregon  
2006 *Corpus: Drawings 1981-2006*, Gagosian, New York  
2006 *A Thousand Years & Triptychs*, Gagosian, London  
2006 *The Death of God: Towards a Better Understanding of a Life Without God Aboard the Ship of Fools*, Galería Hilario Galguera, Mexico City

2005 *New Religion*, Paul Stolper, London; Rogaland Museum of Fine Arts, Oslo (2006); Palazzo Pesaro Papafava, Venice (2007); All Hallow's Church, London (2007); Benaki Museum, Athens and Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece (2011); The National Art Gallery of Bulgaria, Sofia (2012); The Lightbox, Woking, UK (2015); The Museum of Contemporary Art of Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016); The National Institution Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje, Macedonia (2016); Museum of Contemporary Art, Vojvodina, Serbia (2016); A. Kasteev State Museum of Arts, Almaty, Kazakhstan (2016)

2005 *Sam Francis, Damien Hirst: Works on Paper*, Robert Sandelson, London Static Gallery, Liverpool, UK

2005 *Astrup Fearnley Museet fur Moderne Kunst*, Oslo

2005 *The Elusive Truth*, Gagosian, New York

2005 *In a Spin*, Gascoigne Gallery, Harrogate, UK

2005 *Works on Paper*, Andipa Gallery, London

2005 *A Selection of Works by Damien Hirst from Various Collections*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts

2004 *The Agony and the Ecstasy: Selected Works from 1989-2004*, Archaeological Museum, Naples, Italy

2004 *Damien Hirst and David Bailey: Stations of the Cross*, Gagosian, London; Essl Museum of Contemporary Art, Vienna (2007)

2003 *Romance in the Age of Uncertainty*, White Cube, London

2003 *From the Cradle to the Grave: Selected Drawings*, The 25th International Biennale of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana; The Marble Palace, Russian State Museum, Saint Petersburg

2003 *In a Spin; The Action of the World on Things*, Galerie Aurel Scheibler, Berlin The Saatchi Gallery, London

2002 *Damien Hirst's Art Education*, The Reliance, Leeds, UK

2000 *Sadler's Wells*, London

200 *Theories, Models, Methods, Approaches, Assumptions, Results and Findings*, Gagosian, New York

1998 *Southampton City Art Gallery*, UK

- 1997 *The Beautiful Afterlife*, Bruno Bischofberger, Zurich, Switzerland Damien Hirst, Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo
- 1996 *No Sense of Absolute Corruption*, Gagosian, New York
- 1995 *Still*, White Cube, London
- 1995 *Prix Eliette von Karajan '95*, Max Gandolph-Bibliothek, Salzburg, Austria
- 1994 *A Good Environment for Coloured Monochrome Paintings*, DAAD Gallery, Berlin
- 1994 *A Bad Environment for White Monochrome Paintings*, Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 1994 *Making Beautiful Drawings*, Bruno Brunnet Fine Arts, Berlin
- 1994 *Currents 23*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin
- 1993 *Damien Hirst: The Acquired Inability to Escape / The Acquired Inability to Escape, Inverted and Divided and Other Works*, Galerie Jablonka, Cologne, Germany
- 1993 *Visual Candy*, Regen Projects, Los Angeles
- 1992 *Pharmacy*, Cohen Gallery, New York; Dallas Museum of Art, Texas (1994); Kukje Gallery, Seoul (1995); Tate Gallery, London (1999); BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK (2009)
- 1992 *Marianne, Hildegard, Unfair/Jay Jopling*, Cologne, Germany
- 1992 3rd International Istanbul Biennial
- 1992 *Where is God Now?*, Jay & Donatella Chiat, New York
- 1991 *Internal Affairs*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London
- 1991 *When Logics Die*, Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris
- 1991 *In & Out of Love*, Woodstock Street, London
- 1989 *An installation by Damien Hirst*, Third Eye Centre, Glasgow, UK
- 1988 *Constructions and Sculptures*, The Old Court Gallery, Windsor, UK
- 1988 *Progress by Degree*, Bloomsbury Gallery of the University of London Institute of Education
- 1987 *Damien Hirst and Holden Rowan*, The Old Court Gallery, Windsor, UK

## **Selected Group Shows**

2024 *Simeti to Yamato: The Rhythms of Abstraction*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

- 2023 *Reaching for the Stars*, From Maurizio Cattelan to Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy
- 2022 *Take Care: Art and Medicine: Wanderings through the history of illness and healing*, Kunsthhaus, Zurich
- 2020 *Love, Life, Death, and Desire: An Installation of the Centre's Collections*, Yale Centre for British Art
- 2019 *Exposition À rebrousse- temps*, Musée Camille Claudel, Paris
- 2019 *New Order: Art, Product, Image 1976 – 1995*, Sprueth Magers London
- 2019 *Icons: Worship and Adoration*, Kunsthalle Bremen, Germany
- 2019 *The Book of Beasts: The Bestiary in the Medieval World*, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
- 2019 *Objects of Wonder*, PalaisPopulaire, Berlin
- 2019 *Mickey Mouse: From Walt to the World*, The Walt Disney Family Museum, San Francisco
- 2019 *The Extreme Present*, Gagosian + Jeffrey Deitch, Miami
- 2018 *Which Way North*, Great North Museum: Hancock, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- 2018 *'The Void' on view at Cantor Arts Centre*, Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University, California
- 2018 *Atlas*, Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy
- 2018 *Dancing with Myself*, Punta della Dogana, Venice
- 2018 *Like Life: Sculpture, Colour, and the Body (1300 – Now)*, The Met Breuer, New York
- 2018 *The Classical Now*, The Arcade at Bush House and Inigo Rooms, Somerset House, London
- 2017 *What Absence Is Made Of*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington DC
- 2017 *Turkish Tulips*, The Bowes Museum, Durham, UK
- 2017 *ARK*, Chester Cathedral, Chester, UK
- 2017 *Sculpture in the City 2017*, London
- 2017 *Fragile State*, PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, Ukraine
- 2017 *Colori: L'emozione dei colori nell'arte*, Castello di Rivoli, Turin, Italy
- 2016 *Jubilee*, Gallery Pangolin, London
- 2016 *Sculpture on the Move 1946-2016*, Kunstmuseum Basel, Switzerland

2016 *William Hunter to Damien Hirst: The Dead Teach the Living*, Hunterian Art Gallery, Glasgow, UK

2016 *At Home*, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK

2016 *Money, Good and Evil: A Visual History of Economics*, Staatliche Kunsthalle, Baden-Baden Museum and Casino Baden-Baden, Germany

2016 *Les Fleurs du Mal*, Nahmad Contemporary Gallery, New York

2016 *Life Itself*, Moderna Museet, Stockholm

2016 *Audacious: Contemporary Artists Speak Out*, Denver Art Museum, Colorado

2016 *In Different Ways*, Almine Rech Gallery, London

2016 *Takashi Murakami's Superflat Collection: From Shōhaku and Rosanjin to Anselm Kiefer*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Japan

2016 *Dead Animals, or the curious occurrence of taxidermy in contemporary art*, David Winton Bell Gallery, Providence, Rhode Island

2015 *Phantom Bodies: The Human Aura in Art*, Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, Tennessee

2015 *Beverly Hills 20-Year Anniversary Invitational Exhibition, 1995–2015*, Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles

2015 *Black Sun*, Fondation Beyeler, Basel, Switzerland

2015 *The Big Blue*, Ordovas, London

2015 *Beyond Limits*, Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, UK

2015 *Magnificent Obsessions: The Artist as Collector*, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich, UK

2015 *What We Call Love: From Surrealism to Now*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin

2015 *Dismaland*, Tropicana, Weston-super-Mare, UK

2015 *Sculpture in the City 2015*, London

2015 *Bibelot*, Hydra School Projects, Greece

2015 *The Line*, Greenwich Meridian, London

2014 *Sculptors' Jewellery*, Pangolin London

2014 *La Gioia: Through the eyes of three Italian art collectors*, Maison Particulière, Brussels

Self, Ordovas. London

2014 *Late Harvest*, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno



- 2014 *Crucible 2*, Gloucester Cathedral, UK
- 2014 *Index 4: Proposals for the era of simulation*, Galeria Hilario Galguera, Mexico City
- 2014 *ArtLovers: Stories of art in the Pinault Collection*, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
- Odyssey*, The Church of St Edmund The King, London
- 2014 *14 Rooms*, Art Basel, Switzerland
- 2014 *Icastica*, Galleria Comunale d'Arte Contemporanea, Arezzo, Italy
- 2014 *Liebhaftig: Der menschliche Körper zwischen Lust und Schmerz*, Arp Museum  
Bahnhof Rolandseck, Remagen, Germany
- 2013 *Where There's a Will, There's a Way*, PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, Ukraine A` triple  
tour: Collection Pinault, Conciergerie, Paris
- 2013 *Happy Birthday: Galerie Perrotin / 25 years, Tripostal / Lille3000*, Lille, France
- 2013 *The Anatomy Lesson*, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, The Hague, The  
Netherlands
- 2013 *British British Polish Polish: Art from Europe's Edges in the Long '90s and Today*,  
Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw
- 2013 *Framed by Ted Noten*, Stedelijk Museum 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands
- 2013 *Collection Platform 4: Emotion and Technology*, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev, Ukraine
- 2013 *All You Need Is LOVE: From Chagall to Kusama and Hatsune Miku*, Mori Art  
Museum, Tokyo
- 2013 *Staring Back*, Museum of National Taipei University of Education (MoNTUE),  
Taiwan
- 2013 *13 Rooms*, Kaldor Public Arts Project, Sydney
- 2012 *Don't Be Shy, Don't Hold Back: The Logan Collection at SFMOMA*, San Francisco  
Museum of Modern Art, California
- 2012 *Painting Without Paint*, David Risley Gallery, Copenhagen
- 2012 *To Hope, To Tremble, To Live*, The Hepworth Wakefield, Yorkshire, UK
- 2012 *Beyond Reality: British Painting Today*, Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague
- 2012 *Regarding Warhol: Sixty Artists, Fifty Years*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art,  
New York
- 2012 *Rouge*, Maison Particulière, Brussels
- 2012 *Sculptors' Drawings and Works on Paper*, Pangolin London
- 2012 *12 Rooms: Ruhr Triennale 2012*, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany

- 2012 *Chamberlain, Gursky, Hirst, Kusama, Prince*, Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles  
Covent Garden
- 2012 *Spin Paintings*, Covent Garden Market, London
- 2012 *Christie's present House of Cards*, Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire, UK
- 2011 *Structure and Absence*, White Cube, London
- 2011 *O'Clock: time design, design time*, Triennale di Milano, Italy
- 2011 *In the Name of the Artists - American Contemporary Art from the Astrup Fearnley Collection*, Bienal Pavilion, Sao Paulo
- 2011 *CIRCA 1986*, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York
- 2011 *Beyond Limits*, Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, UK
- 2011 *Twenty*, Aurel Scheibler, Cologne, Germany
- 2011 *Selected works from the Francois Pinault Collection: Agony and Ecstasy*, Songeun Artspace, Seoul, Korea
- 2011 *Yokohama Triennale*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Japan
- 2011 *Fondazione Prada. Ca' Corner della Regina*, Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy Made in Italy, Gagosian, Rome
- 2011 *The Luminous Interval*, Guggenheim, Bilbao, Spain
- 2010 *Plus Ultra*, Works from the collection of Patrizia Sandretto, MACRO, Rome
- 2010 *Made in Britain – Contemporary Art from the British Council Collection 1980- 2010*, Sichan Provincial Museum, Chengdu, China; Xian Museum, China (2011); Hong Kong Heritage Museum (2011); Suzhou Museum, China (2011); Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece (2012); National Gallery, Tirana, Albania (2012)
- 2010 *Decadence Now!*, Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague
- 2010 *Keeping it Real: Act II Subversive Abstraction*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
- 2010 *Cream: Damien Hirst & Contemporaries*, Kisama Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki
- 2010 *Kupferstichkabinett: Between Thought and Action*, White Cube, London
- 2010 *Systematic*, Zabłudowicz Collection, London
- 2010 *Have You Ever Really Looked at the Sun?*, Haunch of Venison, Berlin
- 2010 *Damien Hirst: Death in Venice*, Galleria Michela Rizzo, Venice
- 2010 *I LOVE YOU*, ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum, Denmark
- 2010 *C'est la vie: Vanités de Caravage à Damien Hirst*, Musée Maillol, France

- 2010 *Crash: Homage to JG Ballard*, Gagosian Gallery, London
- 2009 *BAROCK – Art, Science, Faith and Technology in the Contemporary Age*, MADRE, Naples, Italy
- 2009 *Medicine and Art: Imagining a Future for Life and Love*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo
- The 2009 *Dark Monarch: Magic & Modernity in British Art*, Tate St Ives, UK
- 2009 *Pop Life*, Tate Modern, London; Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany (2010); The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (2010)
- 2009 *Beyond Limits*, Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, UK
- 2009 *Beyond Black, White and Gray*, L&M Arts, New York
- 2009 *Who's Afraid of the Artists?*, Palais des Arts de Dinard, France
- 2009 *15 Years of Collecting - Against the Grain*, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Germany
- 2009 *Imperium*, Galeria Hilario Galguera, Mexico City
- 2009 *Passports: Great Early Buys from the British Council Collection*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
- 2009 *Turps Banana 2*, Galleria Marabini, Bologna, Italy
- 2008 *Art, Price and Value – Contemporary art and the market*, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy
- 2008 *Prehistory to the Future - Highlights from the Bischofberger Collection*, Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli, Turin, Italy
- 2008 *Statue-philía: Contemporary Sculptors in the British Museum*, British Museum, London
- 2008 *Traces du Sacré. Spuren des Geistigen*, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2008 *Summer in The City 2008*, John Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2008 *Green Drops and Moonsquirters: The Utterly Imaginative World of Lauren Child*, Manchester Art Gallery, UK
- 2008 *END GAME – British Contemporary Art from the Chaney Family Collection*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
- 2008 *Crossing Borders: Confronting Artistic Diversity*, bkhfgallery, Miami Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2008 *THE OLYMP – Works on Paper*, Galerie Burkhard Eikermann, Dusseldorf, Germany
- 2008 *Blood on Paper: The Art of the Book*, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

2008 *You Dig the Tunnel, I'll Hide the Soil*, White Cube and Shoreditch Town Hall,  
London

2008 *True Romance*, Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, Germany

2008 *Martian Museum of Terrestrial Art*, Barbican, London

2008 *Colour Chart: Reinventing Colour, 1950 to Today*, Museum of Modern Art, New  
York

2008 *Broad Collection*, Los Angeles County Museum

2008 *Abstract Vision*, Thomas Ammann Fine Art, Zurich, Switzerland

2008 *For the Spirit: From the UBS Art Collection*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo

### **Selected Awards**

2013 BRIT design Award

2005 Best Publication, Beaux Arts Magazine

2001 Ljubljana Biennale Grand Prize

1995 Turner Prize, London

1995 Prix Eliette von Karajan '95, Max Gandolph-Bibliothek, Salzburg, Austria

