

TRAVEL

# The Exhibitions You Need to See in London in March 2026

From Tracey Emin to Lucian Freud, Rose Wylie to David Hockney, all the must-see art in London this month

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The best art exhibitions in London: Barbara Nanning: *London in Motion* at Lyndsey Ingram

Spring is in the air – and among the art exhibitions in London right now are some so good as to be almost unsurpassable. The recent glut of openings has included major solo shows, in major institutions, from our most major artists. Let's start with [Tracey Emin: \*A Second Life\*](#) at Tate Modern, which excitingly features 1998's *My Bed* – the installation that was nominated for the Turner Prize in 1999. Then, it blew my teenage mind, inciting an interest in the possibilities of contemporary art that subsequently developed into an enduring passion. The artwork is still as powerful now, with a viscerality that extends through the superbly curated show. There is a laying bear of trauma, pain and sacrifice that is, frequently, heartbreaking – but there's also joy, redemption, and exquisite beauty.

[Rose Wylie](#) took an alternative approach to the perennial question faced by women artists and paused her practice while she raised children. She had her first solo show at the age of 77 and, now 92, is the first female painter ever to have [an exhibition](#) in the Royal Academy of Art's grand, first floor rooms – which are filled with her exuberant and high-impact translations of memory, her garden, a surprising taste in films, and more. We could continue exploring artists and parenting; Lucian Freud, for instance, acknowledged fourteen children, but, while he frequently drew them and painted them, he was also often absent from their lives for long stretches of time – so let's move on. For at the [National Portrait Gallery](#) is another wonderfully curated exhibition that explores the fascinating relationship between his drawings and paintings, further cementing his reputation as one of the greatest British artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Interestingly, Rachel Whiteread (who won the Turner Prize in 1993 for her life-size cast of the inside of a condemned house) has never, until now, wanted her drawings to be shown alongside her sculptures. Now, in a rare departure – and with a show put together in close collaboration with Rachel – [Hazlitt Holland-Hibbert](#) is giving us opportunity to do exactly that. Then, at [Lyndsey Ingram](#), a collection of pioneering linocuts from the interwar period, by Cyril Power and others of the Grosvenor School, give insight into London at that time – from sporting moments to the development of the city's infrastructure, such as the London Underground. And that – the tube system – is the subject of a show at the Guildhall Art Gallery that brings together paintings by [Jock MacFadyen](#) with a soundscape by Jem Finer, affording us the ability to develop a more lyrical affinity to our everyday routines. And isn't that the dream?

#### London in Motion at Lyndsey Ingram

This show at [Lyndsey Ingram](#), W1, centres on the pioneering interwar linocuts of Cyril Power and other leading figures of the Grosvenor School, including Claude Flight and Sybil Andrews. Presented in collaboration with Thomas Gibson Fine Art, the collected works highlight the artists' engagement with the dynamic sights, rhythms and vitality of a rapidly modernising city at a crucial moment in our history – here are crowds of commuters, sporting spectacles and London's expanding infrastructure such as the Underground, innovatively transformed into highly compelling prints.

March 5 – April 17; [lyndseyingram.com](http://lyndseyingram.com)

Pictured: *Cyril Power, The Tube Train, c. 1934, Courtesy of Lyndsey Ingram*