

BLOUIN ARTINFO

“Michael Jackson: On the Wall” at National Portrait Gallery

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“An Illuminating Path,” 1998, David LaChapelle (Image courtesy of the artist / National Portrait Gallery, London)

The highly-anticipated exhibition titled “Michael Jackson: On the Wall” is set to be unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery on June 28. The landmark exhibition explores how Michael Jackson has inspired some of the leading names in contemporary art. The London venue will host the exhibition until October 21, 2018.

“Jackson is one of the most influential cultural figures to come out of the 20th century and his legacy continues into the 21st century. His significance is widely acknowledged when it comes to music, music videos, dance, choreography, and fashion, but his impact on contemporary art is an untold story; one that has not been recognized with an international loan exhibition such as this,” says the gallery.

Jackson’s legacy, even after a decade of his death, is as strong as it was years back — his record sales continue to grow; people still watch his short films, and the huge fan base remains loyal. “His impact and fame,” says the NPG, “show no signs of diminishing and the questions raised by him as a social phenomenon are still relevant.”

After Andy Warhol used his image in 1982, Michael Jackson has become the most represented cultural figure in visual art. His legacy goes beyond albums and awards; his philanthropic achievements are profound, and he broke cultural barriers. Curated by Nicholas Cullinan, Director of the NPG, "Michael Jackson: On the Wall," will bring together the works of over 40 of these artists, drawn from public and private collections around the world, including new works made especially for the exhibition. It would coincide with what would have been Michael Jackson's 60th birthday (on August 29, 2018).

The multimedia exhibition, showing works by several generations of artists, will include works by Rita Ackermann, Dara Birnbaum, Candice Breitz, Marvin Gaye Chetwynd, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Mark Flood, Isa Genzken, Maggi Hambling, David Hammons, Lyle Ashton Harris, and Jonathan Horowitz.

The exhibition will be on view from June 28 through October 21, 2018, at National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Pl, London WC2H 0HE, UK.