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PRESS RELEASE

**ART-EXIT: 1939**  
**A Very Different Europe**

**Ben Uri at the 12 Star Gallery**  
**Europe House, London SW1P 3EU**

**Opening 17 July 2019**  
(Private view evening of 16 July 2019)

**Ben Uri is proud to present this timely and important exhibition**  
**ART-EXIT: 1939 – A Very Different Europe at the 12 Star Gallery,**  
**Westminster, which is dedicated to promoting European debate**

The exhibition shines a spotlight on a very different Europe 80 years ago in the lead up to, and the start of, WW2. It features the forced journeys of many of central Europe's most distinguished and pioneering artists, who fled tyranny in search of artistic and personal freedoms.



Hugo 'Puck' Dachinger, *Portrait of a Man: Wilhelm Hollitscher, (Huyton Internment Camp, Liverpool, 1940)*, Watercolour and gouache on newsprint Ben Uri Collection © ESTATE OF HUGO DACHINGER

It features émigrés from countries including Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Russia, and includes works by artists including Adler, Auerbach, Chagall, Feibusch, Frankfurter, Freud, Grosz, Herman, Kokoshka, Meidner, Schwitters, Soutine and Topolski.

As Europe as a whole is experiencing a growing nationalist and populist momentum, these artists, their work and forced journeys – followed by new

lives and significant contributions as immigrants in their new homelands – all have fascinating, important and topical stories to tell.

The exhibition is co-curated by Sarah MacDougall and Rachel Dickson of The Ben Uri Research Unit for the Study of the Jewish and immigrant Contribution to the Visual Arts in Britain since 1900

### **Address**

12 Star Gallery, Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU

Opening hours: 10am – 6pm, Monday to Friday

Admission: Free

### **Notes for editors**

For high resolution images and further information, contact:

Evgeniya Marder [Evgeniyam@benuri.org](mailto:Evgeniyam@benuri.org)

A selection of artists included in the exhibition 'Art-Exit' and the year of their forced migration:

Frank Auerbach (b. 1931 Germany – lives England) Arrived UK 1939  
Jankel Adler (1895 Poland – England 1949) Arrived UK 1940  
Jacob Bornfriend (1904 Czechoslovakia – England 1976) Arrived UK 1939  
Marc Chagall (Russia 1887 – France 1985) Arrived New York 1941  
Hugo Dachinger (Austria 1908 – England 1995) Arrived UK 1939  
Arnold Daghani (Romania 1909 – England 1985) Arrived Hungary 1943; UK 1977  
Eva Frankfurter (Germany 1930 – England 1959) Arrived UK 1939  
Lucian Freud (Germany 1922- England 2011) Arrived UK 1933  
Georg Grosz (Germany 1893 – Germany 1959) Arrived New York 1933  
Josef Herman (Poland 1911 – England 2000) Arrived UK 1940  
Dora Holzhandler (France 1928 – England 2015) Arrived UK 1934  
Oskar Kokoschka (Austria 1886 – Switzerland 1980 Arrived Prague 1934, UK 1938  
Ludwig Meidner (Germany 1884 – Germany 1966) Arrived UK 1939  
Kurt Schwitters (Germany 1887 – England 1948) Arrived Norway 1937, UK 1940  
Feliks Topolski (Poland 1907 – England 1989) Arrived UK 1935



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