





ince Damien Hirst, Tracey Emin and Sarah Lucas burst on to the art scene in the 1990s and became the Young British Artists, few have been able to create such an impact in the art world and beyond. But something is afoot, with more cultural engagement in art than ever before, the new kids on the block are making waves, and it's happening right here on our doorstep.

"London in 2016 looks set for the most phenomenal year in the visual arts — exhibitions of the highest calibre bringing the best the world has to offer to our city," says Gary Waterston, a director at Gagosian, which has recently opened an exciting new space on Grosvenor Hill. "The opening of the new wing of Tate Modern shall focus the cultural commentators of the world on London, and it is right that young contemporary artists share that limelight and moment, as they did back in 2000 with the opening of Tate on Bankside."

From performance artists to potters and painters, the talent and breadth of imagination has never been more vibrant. Here are some names to watch.



Dale Adcock

Leicestershire-born 36-year-old artist Adcock studied at Wimbledon and Chelsea. His curious surreal oil works reference art history and ancient civilization.

The London-based artist says: "All my work derives from my imagination from the quicksilver flashes to the slow, stately disappearances. I express what I can capture in this moody, mutable landscape. All my drawings and paintings are united by the inspiration that I find when I look around, hold my breath and jump."

See him at: The Griffin Gallery, White City





A friend of Adcock's, who calls him a "lovely man, and a very talented painter," Salgado was born in Canada and is based in London. His vivid mixed media portraits are full of movement and emotion, dazzlingly skillful and enthralling. He was listed by Saatchi as "one to invest in today" in 2013, and labelled a "rising star" by the *Evening Standard* last year.

See him at: Beers London, Old Street, and Thierry Goldberg, New York







# **Emma Bennett**

Bennett's haunting oils of still life scenes are intimate works exploring the fleeting nature of experience and encounters.

"My recent paintings, like memories, contain small fragments of imagery – these are focused details surrounded by darkness and ambiguity. The imagery of the paintings locate memories in specific places," explains Londonbased Bennett, who studied at St Martin's and Chelsea.

See her at: Charlie Smith, Old Street



# **Benjamin Senior**

Thirty four-year-old Londoner Senior creates brilliantly bright egg tempura on cotton of striking summer scenes. The Wimbledon graduate often depicts women engaged in sport or exercise with patterned interiors and landscapes playing with rhythm and false symmetries.

See him at: Bruce Haines, 33 St George Street (this summer)



# **Robert Fry**

Saatchi Gallery has exhibited a few of Fry's mesmerising abstract figurative paintings such as *Red 1* (2009), in which the viewer is confronted with a series of larger-than-lifesize figures in a vivid flaming canvas, and a series of his Drawing Room studies, highlighting the intimacy of two figures engulfed in a calming purple field. Gary Waterston, a director of Gagosian Gallery, describes Fry as "building on international recognition; one to watch."

See him at: Galerie Kornfeld, Berlin







# Virgile Ittah

French-born, east London-based Ittah's haunting figures lying on stark ironcast bed frames are currently on show at the Saatchi Gallery's all-female show Champagne Life (Echoue au seuil de la raison). Her wax sculptures highlight the frailty and transience of human flesh, with her own experiences of mental health echoed in much of her work.

See her at: Saatchi Gallery, Chelsea

# Samuel Levack & Jennifer Lewandowski

"I enjoy the depth and variety of performance art from Levack and Lewandowski. They create atmospheric installation and environments and happenings — loaded with research and reference points," says Neil Wenman, senior director at Hauser & Wirth London. Shortlisted on *Dazed* magazine's 2011 Emerging Artists Award in association with the Royal Academy of Arts, the London duo have been working together for 17 years, creating musical performances about dance, colour, freedom and nightclubs, and cite London as an inspiration.

See them at: East Wing Biennale, Courtald Institute, Strand



# Dale Lewis

Lewis has worked as an art assistant for Science Ltd, producing works by Damien Hirst. "I have lived and suffered softly and I'm now in a prime time to channel these experiences into my paintings; to carry on refining good paintings and honest paintings," he says. Gagosian's Waterston says he creates: "very interesting commentary on modern British life."

See him at: Edel Assanti,

74a Newman Street



# Annie Attridge

Attridge's porcelain and charcoal works are beautifully comic and intriguing. Gagosian's Waterston calls her latest exhibition in Peckham: "Wonderful, playful, and works in a scale that respects the medium but really makes you look... her art historical influences and knowledge are never lost, but she is very much of this time."

See her at: Moca London, Peckham







## **Liane Lang**

German-born Londoner Lang is the one name Royal Academy of Arts chief executive Charles Saumarez Smith put forward to *Mayfair Times* as a young British artist to watch. She was a student at the Royal Academy Schools 10 years ago, and Smith describes her work as "very interesting". Largely photographic, her work is concerned with notions of animacy, which she explores through sculpture, photography and video works.

See her at: Museum Zitadelle Spandau, Berlin

### Laurence Kavanagh

Born in 1973 in Liverpool, Kavanagh works in a range of materials from paper, resin, paint, graphite and print, often creating the illusion of precarious or transient form. Through his physical recreation of open structures, objects become like shadows of themselves; spectral representations of the physical object, completed by the viewer through memory. See him at: Marlborough Fine Art, Albemarle Street



# Courtesy of the artist and Marlborough Conte



#### **Jesse Wine**

Pernilla Holmes, a curator at The Arts Club, has chosen London-based, 32-year-old Jesse Wine, who will be showing in the April show at the Dover Street members' club. Primarily working in ceramics, Wine uses an industrial kiln to create beautiful wall works as well as exuberant vessels, but which are sculptural and serve no function. Sometimes these take on figurative forms owing to Wine's interest in human behaviour and habits – from faces and body parts, to everyday objects such as plates of food and bottles of wine.

See him at: The Arts Club, Dover Street

# Mike Chavez-Dawson

Louisa Guinness of her eponymous Mayfair gallery suggested Manchester-based Chavez-Dawson. He

instigated and curated the critically acclaimed shows Unrealised Potential and David Shrigley's solo show entitled HOW ARE YOU FEELING? for the Cornerhouse. His work covers a number of disciplines including fine art and design, performance, music, curating and publishing.

See him at: Rogue Artists' Studios, Manchester

