

23 July 2012

Tino Sehgal

Tate Modern, Turbine Hall
24 July – 28 October 2012

Press Information

- Press Release
- Biography
- The Unilever Series
- Visitor Information
- Unilever

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Press Release

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Tino Sehgal

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24 July – 28 October 2012

Admission free

Open every day from 10.00 – 18.00 and until 22.00 on Friday and Saturday

For public information number please print 020 7887 8888

Tate Modern has unveiled the first live commission in The Unilever Series created by the artist Tino Sehgal. Using movement, sound and conversation, Sehgal's work titled *These associations* draws on the existing atmosphere of the Turbine Hall and its unique position as a public space within a museum. This commission, the thirteenth in the series, will be present throughout opening hours every day from 24 July to 28 October.

Tino Sehgal has risen to prominence for his innovative works which consist purely of live encounters between people. Avoiding the production of any objects, he has pioneered a radical and yet entirely viewer-oriented approach to making art. His works respond to and engage with the gallery visitor directly, creating social situations through the use of conversation, sound and movement, as well as philosophical and economic debate. Having trained in both political economics and choreography, Sehgal's works are renowned for their high levels of interaction, intimacy, and critical reflection on their environment.

Celebrated for its unconventional museum atmosphere of exhilaration and social interaction, the Turbine Hall is here inhabited by an assembly of participants whose choreographed actions draw on the behaviour of groups and collectives. At times almost indistinguishable from the visitors in the Turbine Hall, at others a clearly defined and constructed situation, *These associations* can be perceived quite differently from the elevated position of the bridge or gallery windows as opposed to the floor of the Turbine Hall, where visitors are potentially swept up in the movement and dialogue of the piece.

The Turbine Hall is historically a site of energy production through the massive turbine engines that once occupied this cavernous space. Now emptied of its industrial apparatus, the hall is instead occupied by the physical and vocal energy of the participants and visitors, whose movement, sound and interaction produce another type of force. Sehgal's work develops from the already existing atmosphere of the Turbine Hall that offers the experience of being part of a group rather than following the historical precedent of the museum space as a site for individual contemplation and controlled social department.

Sehgal was born in London in 1976 and currently lives and works in Berlin. He is currently included in Documenta XIII and had a solo exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum in 2010. Sehgal represented Germany at the Venice Biennale in 2005. Solo exhibitions of his work have been held around the world, including Villa Reale, Milan; ICA, London; Kunsthaus Bregenz; and the Marian Goodman Gallery, New York.

This commission is part of the London 2012 Festival, the finale of the Cultural Olympiad. It is curated by Jessica Morgan, The Daskalopoulos Curator, International Art, Tate Modern and produced by Asad Raza. The commission is also supported by the Goethe Institut.

Chris Dercon, Director, Tate Modern said:

"Once again, The Unilever Series has inspired an artist to respond to the Turbine Hall in a unique and innovative way. Tino Sehgal's piece has managed to fill this vast space with life and energy using nothing but the human body and social interaction as its medium, and to transform the museum into a biopolitical and anarchic experience."

Sue Garrard, Senior Vice President, Global Communications, Unilever plc said:

"Tino Sehgal is the thirteenth artist commissioned for The Unilever Series, making it one of the longest running and most successful of art sponsorships. To date almost 30 million people have seen the various installations in The Unilever Series. We are confident that millions more will come to see Tino Sehgal's work this summer."

Ruth Mackenzie, Director, London 2012 Festival said:

"This commission for the London 2012 Festival delivers on our key values - brilliant art by a world leading artist that can be accessed by the public for free. I am sure this will be another ground-breaking commission for Tate by one of the world's most interesting and original artists, and a highlight of London's celebrations this summer."

**For further information please contact Duncan Holden / Kate Moores, Tate Press Office
Call 020 7887 8732 / 4939 Email pressoffice@tate.org.uk Visit www.tate.org.uk**

Notes to Editors

The Unilever Series of annual commissions was launched in 2000 when Tate Modern opened with Louise Bourgeois's *I Do, I Undo, I Redo*. Spanish artist Juan Muñoz was commissioned in 2001 with *Double Bind*, and the first British artist was Anish Kapoor with *Marsyas* in 2002. Olafur Eliasson's *Weather Project* illuminated the Turbine Hall in 2003 and Bruce Nauman's sound installation *Raw Materials* opened in 2004. In 2005 Rachel Whiteread created her installation *EMBANKMENT*, followed by Carsten Höller's interactive spiralling slides *Test Site* in 2006. In 2007 Doris Salcedo's *Shibboleth* broke open the floor of the Turbine Hall, while Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster's *TH.2058* transformed the Turbine Hall into a futuristic shelter in 2008. Mirosław Balka created the eerie pitch black chamber *How It Is* in 2009, and in 2010 Ai Weiwei unveiled a landscape of over 100 million hand-made porcelain *Sunflower Seeds*. Tacita Dean's *FILM* in 2011 was the first work in the series dedicated to the moving image, celebrating unique analogue filmmaking techniques.

Unilever's sponsorship of The Unilever Series at Tate Modern began in 2000 and has inspired almost 30 million visitors to Tate Modern. The commission is also the basis for cultural exchange thanks to the success of The Unilever Series: turbinegeneration. Launched in 2009, turbinegeneration is an online education project linking schools across the globe. Over 30 countries are now taking part in the project and the number continues to grow. The Unilever Series and the associated education programme reflect Unilever's commitment to inspirational and thought-provoking art.

About the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival

The London 2012 Cultural Olympiad is the largest cultural celebration in the history of the modern Olympic and Paralympic Movements. Spread over four years, it is designed to give everyone in the UK a chance to be part of London 2012 and inspire creativity across all forms of culture, especially among young people.

The culmination of the Cultural Olympiad is the London 2012 Festival, bringing leading artists from all over the world together from 21 June 2012 in this UK-wide festival – a chance for everyone to celebrate London 2012 through dance, music, theatre, the visual arts, fashion, film and digital innovation.

Principal funders of the Cultural Olympiad and London 2012 Festival are Arts Council England, Legacy Trust UK and the Olympic Lottery Distributor. BP and BT are Premier Partners of the Cultural Olympiad and the London 2012 Festival. For more details visit www.london2012.com/festival

Biography

Tino Sehgal

Born in London, England in 1976
Lives and works in Berlin, Germany

Recent Solo Exhibitions

- 2012 *The Unilever Series: Tino Sehgal*, Tate Modern, London
- 2011 *Tino Sehgal*, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, Norway
Felix Gonzalez-Torres: Specific Objects Without Specific Form, curated by Elena Filipovic, installed by Tino Sehgal, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2010 *Tino Sehgal à l'Aubette 1928, L'Aubette 1928* (part of Musée de la Ville de Strasbourg), Strasbourg, France
Tino Sehgal, Number Three: Here and Now, Julia Stoschek Collection, Duesseldorf
Tino Sehgal, Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York
- 2009 *Tino Sehgal: This is not about*, CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, California
Tino Sehgal, Kunsthaus Zürich and Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich, Switzerland
- 2008 Trussardi Foundation, Villa Reale, Milan, Italy
- 2007 *Tino Sehgal*, ICA, London, England
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Recent Group Exhibitions

- 2012 *Documenta XIII*, Kassel, Germany
- 2011 *The Other Tradition*, Wiels, Brussels, Belgium
8 ½, Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, Stazione Leopolda, Florence, Italy
- 2010 *Here and Now*, Julia Stoschek Collection, Düsseldorf, Germany
Sexuality and Transcendence, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev, Ukraine
MOVE:Choreographing you - Art and Dance since the 1960s, Hayward Gallery, London, England, and Haus der Kunst, Munich Germany
4th Auckland Triennial, Kilowatt Stunden, Auckland, New Zealand
Neugierig?, Kunsthalle der Bunderrepublik, Bonn, Germany
- 2009 *Il Tempo del Postino*, Theater Basel, Art 40 Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- 2008 *Shifting Identities*, Kunsthaus Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
After Nature, New Museum, New York, New York
- 2007 *Silence. Listen to the Show*, Fondazione Sandretto ReRebaudengo, Turin, Italy
Preis der Nationalgalerie, Hamburger Bahnhof, Hamburg, Germany
40th Year Anniversary Show, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois

The Unilever Series

The Unilever Series: Louise Bourgeois

12 May – 26 November 2000

Three steel towers, *I Do, I Undo, and I Redo*, dominated the east end of the Turbine Hall. Standing 9 metres (30 feet) high with a legspan of 10 metres on the bridge across the hall was also the steel sculpture of a giant spider *Maman*. Louise Bourgeois (1911-2010) was born in Paris and studied under Fernand Léger, André Lhôte and Roger Bissière. Always at the forefront of new developments in art, Bourgeois pursued a personal path using extraordinarily varied media.

The Unilever Series: Juan Muñoz

12 June 2001 – 10 March 2002

The installation *Double Bind* was divided into two parts. Two elevators rose and descended, beyond a balcony rail. Sculpted figures became visible in shafts formed by the balcony when viewed from the floor of the Turbine Hall, itself pierced with a series of large black holes or shafts. Juan Muñoz (1953-2001) was born in Madrid and was known for sculptural installations in which he situated the human figure within complex architectural settings.

The Unilever Series: Anish Kapoor

9 October 2002 – 23 March 2003

The PVC membrane of *Marsyas*, in reference to the satyr in Greek Mythology who was flayed alive by Apollo, spanned the full length and height of the Turbine Hall. The dark red sculpture immersed the viewer in a monochromatic field of colour. Anish Kapoor, born in 1954 in Bombay, India, has lived and worked in London since the early 1970s.

The Unilever Series: Olafur Eliasson

16 October 2003 – 21 March 2004

Olafur Eliasson was born in 1967 in Denmark. *The Weather Project* used mirrors, light and mist to create an extraordinary sensory environment in the Turbine Hall. At the far end of the space, a large yellow arc of light was suspended and reflected in the mirrored ceiling, linking the real space and replicated expanse to create a 'sun'. Illuminated with mono-frequency lamps, the Turbine Hall was transformed into a monochrome landscape.

The Unilever Series: Bruce Nauman

12 October 2004 – 2 May 2005

Bruce Nauman was born in 1941 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. *Raw Materials* brought together twenty-one audio tracks which the artist previously used in individual works over the past forty years. These texts ranged from deceptively simple explorations of the acoustic potential of single words repeated endlessly, as in *No No No*, to more complex ones which investigated more fully the human condition. In the setting of the Turbine Hall, these different voices, some clearly audible, others indistinct and almost musical, merged with the voices of visitors.

The Unilever Series: Rachel Whiteread

11 October 2005 – 2 April 2006

With an overall volume of 1437m³, and filling the east end of Tate's vast Turbine Hall, *EMBANKMENT* was a sublime and labyrinthine installation built of semi-opaque white casts of boxes. Taking the humble cardboard box as her starting point, the inspiration for this large-scale work came when Rachel Whiteread (born in 1963) was moving studio and when, around the same time, she was clearing her late mother's house.

The Unilever Series: Carsten Höller
10 October 2006 – April 2007

The German artist Carsten Höller (born in 1961) created *Test Site* for the seventh commission in The Unilever Series. This comprised five giant slides which began on levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the gallery. Höller's works frequently require participation from the viewer and, in *Test Site*, slides became not only a practical means of transportation, but also a way of creating a loss of control, inducing a particular state of mind related to freedom from constraint. Over the course of this exhibition, 750,000 visitors rode down the slides.

The Unilever Series: Doris Salcedo
9 October 2007 – 6 April 2008

Shibboleth, by Doris Salcedo (born in 1958), was the first work to intervene with the fabric of the Tate Modern building. Dramatically breaking open the floor of the Turbine Hall, Salcedo created a striking yet intricate subterranean sculpture, beginning as a hairline crack at the west entrance which gradually widened and deepened as it ran 167 metres to the far end.

The Unilever Series: Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster
14 October 2008 – 13 April 2009

The French artist Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster (born in 1965) looked 50 years into an imagined dystopian future to create *TH.2058*. The inhabitants of London were encouraged to take shelter in the Turbine Hall from never-ending rainfall, in a space filled with 200 bunk beds scattered with books and the animal forms of gargantuan sculptures. A massive LED screen played extracts from science-fiction and experimental films.

The Unilever Series: Miroslaw Balka
13 October 2009 – 5 April 2010

Miroslaw Balka (born in 1958) created a monumental steel chamber, entitled *How It Is*, which stood 13 metres high, 10 metres wide and 30 metres long. Reminiscent of a giant shipping container, the sculpture could be entered by visitors via a ramp. The interior is pitch dark, provoking a sense of unease, and resonating with the sounds of those inside the space. Balka intended to provide an experience for visitors which was both personal and collective, creating a range of sensory and emotional experiences.

The Unilever Series: Ai Weiwei
12 October 2010 – 2 May 2011

Renowned Chinese artist Ai Weiwei (born in 1957) presented a vast, flat landscape of *Sunflower Seeds*, covering the east end of the Turbine Hall. Each seed was a unique porcelain replica, one of over 100 million individually handmade objects produced over two years by skilled artisans in the city of Jingdezhen. The combination of mass production and traditional craftsmanship invited viewers to look more closely at the geopolitics of cultural and economic exchange, as well as the relationship between the individual and the masses.

The Unilever Series 2011: Tacita Dean
11 October 2011 – 11 March 2012

Entitled simply *FILM*, Tacita Dean's commission was an eleven-minute silent 35mm looped film projected onto a monolith standing 13 metres high at the end of a darkened Turbine Hall. It was the first work in The Unilever Series to be devoted to the moving image. Using a variety of in-camera and studio techniques, she recaptured the sense of wonderment generated by these skills during the early days of cinema, creating a testament to the distinctive qualities of analogue film as a medium.

Visitor Information

Address

Tate Modern, Bankside, London, SE1 9TG

Public Information Line

020 7887 8888

Opening Hours

Sunday - Thursday 10.00 - 18.00

Friday and Saturday 10.00 - 22.00

Ticket Information

Admission free

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Tate Modern Restaurant: Sun - Thu 10.00 - 18.00, Fri and Sat 10.00 - 23.00 (last orders 21.30)

Tate Espresso Bar: 10.00 - 18.00 daily

To reserve a table call 020 7887 8888 or email tate.modernrestaurant@tate.org.uk

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Bus: 45, 63, 100, 344, 381 and RV1

Rail: London Bridge and Blackfriars stations

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The Thirteenth Commission in The Unilever Series

The Unilever Series of 2012 is the thirteenth commission created for the Turbine Hall. We are very proud of our longstanding partnership with Tate Modern, which has enabled almost 30 million people to experience thought-provoking and inspirational contemporary art since 2000. As one of the world's largest consumer goods companies, we believe this sponsorship reflects and complements our commitment to creativity and innovation.

Inspiring creativity around the world

In addition to The Unilever Series, Unilever also sponsors **The Unilever Series: turbinegeneration**, the first online educational partnership programme that links schools and major galleries on an international level. Schools from across the world are able to explore contemporary cultural issues through art. The focus is on interaction and collaboration with a partner school to encourage a cultural dialogue and collaborative responses to a given theme in a project pack. It illustrates how children can overcome linguistic barriers to enhance their understanding of other cultures.

For more information visit: turbinegeneration.tate.org.uk

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