HASTINGSCONTEMPORARY

SOUTINE KOSSOFF

1 April – 24 September 2023

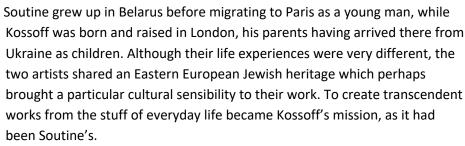


Opening at Hastings Contemporary in April 2023, *Soutine Kossoff* pairs two major figures of 20th-century painting: one a master of the School of Paris, the other a master of the School of London.

Soutine | Kossoff is the first ever museum exhibition to explore the artistic relationship between British artist Leon Kossoff (1926-2019) and Belarus-born painter Chaim Soutine (1893-1943).

Undertaken with the full support of the Kossoff estate, it brings together around 40 important loans from public and private collections in the UK, USA and beyond. Aside from *Soutine Portraits* (Courtauld, 2017) at around 20 works, this is the largest group of Soutines shown together in UK since 1982, and the first since then to show both portraits and landscapes, providing a fascinating follow-up to The Barnes Foundation's 2021 show *Soutine / De Kooning*.

The discovery of Soutine's paintings in the early 1950's was a significant moment for Kossoff, who was already finding his way towards the kind of direct and expressive use of paint he saw in his predecessor's work.



The main focus of *Soutine | Kossoff* is on the areas of interest shared by both artists: landscape and portraiture. The exhibition features seminal landscapes painted by Soutine in southern France in the early 1920s, with highlights including *Paysage aux cyprès* (c.1922), and *Cagnes Landscape with Tree*, (c.1925-26, Tate). From Kossoff come major paintings of railway junctions, building sites and other scenes of unexpected beauty found in north and north-west London, among them *Willesden Junction, Summer*, *No.2*, (1966, Alfred East Art Gallery) and *Demolition of the Old House, Dalston Junction, Summer* (1974, Tate).

Visitors will have a rare opportunity to view Kossoff's stunning *Nude on a Red Bed, November – December 1972* alongside works such as his powerful *Seated Woman* (1957) and the striking *Double Self-Portrait* (1969, Louisiana



Museum of Modern Art). A major group of Soutine portraits includes *Le Petit Pâtissier* (c.1927), *Young Woman in a White Blouse* (c.1923, Courtauld Institute) and *Le Valet de Chambre* (c.1927).

A publication will accompany the exhibition.

Soutine | Kossoff is curated by Hasting Contemporary's guest curator James Russell, whose recent show Seafaring opened to a 4-star review from The Daily Telegraph. James's previous exhibitions have enjoyed critical and commercial success. They include Seaside Modern (Hastings Contemporary, 2021), Reflection: British Art in an Age of Change (Ferens Art Gallery, 2019) and Ravilious (Dulwich Picture Gallery, 2015).

NOTES FOR EDITORS

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Le valet de chambre, Chaim Soutine, c. 1927. © The Lewis Collection Seated Woman Leon Kossof, 1957 © Leon Kossoff Estate

<u>Hastings Contemporary</u> champions modern and contemporary art. An ambitious programme of temporary exhibitions showcases work by important Modern British artists, internationally celebrated artists and emerging practitioners, often in Kunsthalle-style displays throughout the building. The gallery has developed a reputation for its focus on painting. Innovative programming, partnerships and collaborations support a commitment to outreach, learning | and participation. The award-winning building is located on the town's historic fishing beach among the net huts and working structures of the fishing fleet.

For more information about Hastings Contemporary, visit www.hastingscontemporary.org / Twitter @_art_on_sea / Facebook 'hastingscontemporary' / Instagram @_art_on_sea

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INTERVIEWS, AND IMAGES

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