

JOHN COPLANS

(1920, London, UK – 2003, New York, US)

Aiming the camera only towards himself, John Coplans questioned popular culture's crystallized take on the male body and its connection to classical sculpture, producing humanist counter-monuments that underscore ideas of decay and vulnerability. His photographs display a number of interventions in which the body is cut and reconfigured into details and partial views, a gesture that echoes the ongoing fragmentation of bodies and matter in the digital realm of the web.

He immigrated to the United States in 1960 and began teaching at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1962, he became one of the founding editors of the magazine *Artforum* and was affiliated with the publication for 16 years. At the age of 60 Coplans began taking black-and-white photographs of his naked body. With this body of work he received widespread acclaim. His photographs are exhibited and acquired by renowned museums in Europe and the United States. In addition to his practice as an artist he had a prolific career as an art critic and curator.

Ongoing exhibitions

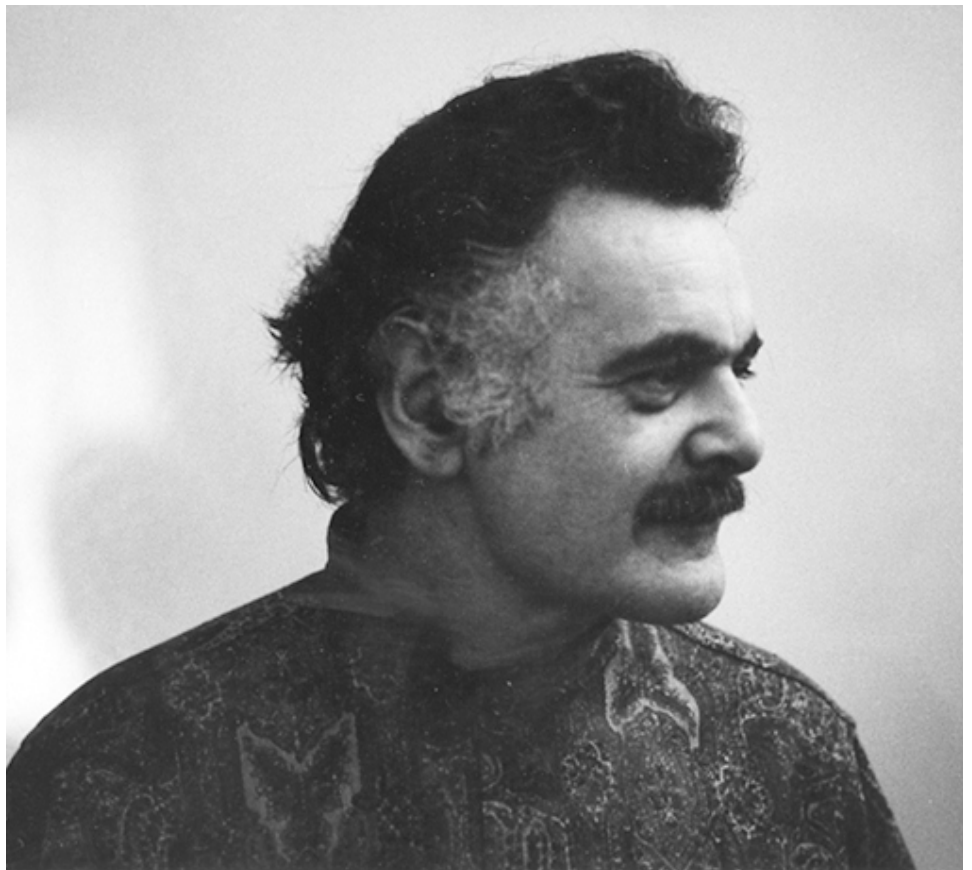
Suppose You Are Not, Arter, Istanbul, TR (2024).

Recent group exhibitions

Grief and Pleasure, Odunpazari Modern Museum, Eskisehir, TR (2022); *30 Years Anniversary Exhibition*, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, CH (2022); *Gravity*, Blitz, Valletta, MT (2021); *Nähe #1 -berühren*, Galerie Obrist, Essen, DE (2021); *E subito riprende il viaggio*, P420, Bologna, IT (2020); *The Lingering Drama of the Body*, John Coplans | Michael Schmidt, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, DE (2020); *Photographie et documents, 1983-2018*, FRAC - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseille, FR (2019); *Parentescos*, Nhmex, Mexico City, MX, US (2019); *Dancing with myself*, Palazzo Grassi - Punta della Dogana, Venezia, IT (2018); *La No Comunidad*, Centro Cibeles Madrid, ES (2018); *The Museum Imagined. Stories from 30 years of Centro Pecci*, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT (2018); *Die Geste*, Ludwig Galerie - Schloß Oberhausen, Oberhausen, DE (2018); *Elèctric i llunyà. Fotografia contemporànea colecció olorVISUAL*, Centre d'Art Tecla Sala, L'Hospitalet, ES (2018).

Recent solo exhibitions

La Vie des Formes, Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, FR (2021); Galerie Peter Kilchman, Zürich, CH (2020); *John Coplans—A Body of Work*, The Merchant House, Amsterdam, NL (2019); *Foreign Bodies* (with June Crespo), P420, Bologna, IT (2018).



John Coplans

(London, UK, 1920 - New York, NY, US, 2003)

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

2024

Suppose You Are Not, curated by Selen Ansen, Arter, Istanbul, TR

2022

Grief and Pleasure, Odunpazari Modern Museum, Eskişehir, TR
30 Years Anniversary Exhibition, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, CH

2021

La Vie des Formes, curated by Jean-François Chevrier and Élia Pijollet, Foundation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, FR (solo)
Gravity, curated by Sara Dolfi Agostini, Blitz, Valletta, MT
Nähe #1 - berühren, Galerie Obrist, Essen, DE

2020

E subito riprende il viaggio, P420, Bologna, IT
The Lingering Drama of the Body, John Coplans | Michael Schmidt, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, DE
Galerie Peter Kilchman, Zürich, CH (solo)

2019

Photographie et documents, 1983-2018, FRAC - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseille, FR
Parentescos, Nhmex, Mexico City, MX, US
John Coplans—A Body of Work, The Merchant House, Amsterdam, NL (solo)

2018

Dancing with myself, curated by Martin Bethenod and Florian Ebner, Palazzo Grassi - Punta della Dogana, Venezia, IT
La No Comunidad, Centro Cibeles Madrid, ES
The Museum Imagined. Stories from 30 years of Centro Pecci, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT
Die Geste, Ludwig Galerie - Schloß Oberhausen, Oberhausen, DE
Elèctric i llunyà. Fotografia contemporànea colecció olorVISUAL, Centre d'Art Tecla Sala, L'Hospitalet, ES
Foreign Bodies (with June Crespo), curated by João Laia, P420, Bologna, IT (solo)

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021

La Vie des Formes, curated by Jean-François Chevrier and Élia Pijollet, Foundation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, FR

2020

Galerie Peter Kilchman, Zürich, CH

2019

John Coplans—A Body of Work, The Merchant House, Amsterdam, NL

2018

Foreign Bodies (with June Crespo), curated by João Laia, P420, Bologna, IT

2009

Self Portrait, Galerie Sandrine Mons, Nice, FR

2007

John Coplans, A Legacy, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, DE
Project Room: John Coplans, Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, FR

2006

John Coplans, Reykjavík Art Museum - Kjarvalsstaðir, Reykjavík, IS

2005

John Coplans: Backs and Fingers, Galería Elvira González, Madrid, ES
John Coplans, Art & Public, Geneva, FR

2004

Tang Teaching Art Museum and Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
Serial Figures, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US
FRAC d'Ile-de-France, Les Mesnuls, FR
Galerie Kilchmann, Zürich, CH

2003

Guardini Stiftung, DE
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US

2002

Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, FR

2001

Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, DE
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US

2000

Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm, SE
Liljevalchs Konsthall Stockholm, SE
Fondation ICAR, Paris, FR
Galerie Howard Yezerski, Boston, US
Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, FR

1999

Malmö Konsthall, Malmö, SE
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US
Galleria Massimo de Carlo, Milano, IT
The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh, UK

1996

Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm, SE
Galerie Coppens, Brussels, BE
Galerie Senda, Barcelona, ES
Galeria Visa, Valencia, ES
Galerie Peter Kilchman, Zürich, CH
London Projects, London, UK
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US
Patricia Faure Gallery, Santa Monica, US

1995

Ludwig Forum, Aachen
Galerie der Stadt Kornwestheim, Kornwestheim, DE
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US

1994

Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US
Musée National d'Art Modern, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR
Feigen Gallery, Chicago, US
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US

1993

Galerie Anne de Villepoix, Paris, FR
Massimo de Carlo, Milano, IT
Asher/Faure Gallery, Los Angeles, US

1992

Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, PT
Peter Kilchmann Galerie, Zürich, CH
Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, US
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US

1991

Liverpool Gallery, Brussels, BE
Joseloff Gallery, University of Hartford, Hartford, US
Galerie Lelong, New York, US
Matrix Gallery, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, US

1990

Frankfurter Kunstverein, DE
Galeria Comicos, Luis Serpa, Lisbon, PT
Museum Bozmann-van Beuningen, Rotterdam, NL
Galerie Lelong, New York, US
Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US
Tomasulo Gallery, Union College, Cranford, US

1989

Salon d'Angle de la Régionale des Affaires Culturelles, Nantes, FR
Musée de la Vieille Charité, Marseille, FR
In Extremis / Photographie Contemporaine, Strasbourg, FR
Galerie Lelong, Paris, FR
Galerie Lelong, New York, US
Ginny Williams Gallery, Denver, US
Dart Gallery, Chicago, US
Blum / Helman Gallery, Los Angeles, US

1988

Centre de Kerpape, Ploemeur, Rencontres Photographiques en Bretagne, FR
Sala d'Exposicions de la Fondacio Caixa de Pensions, Barcelona, ES
Dart Gallery, Chicago, US
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; Museum of Modern Art, New York;
University of Missouri Art Gallery, Kansas City; Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, US

1987

Perspectief Gallery, Rotterdam, NL
Hillman Holland Fine Arts, Atlanta, US
Blum / Helman Gallery, Los Angeles, US

1986

Musée du Nouveau Monde, La Rochelle, FR
Pace / MacGill Gallery, New York, US
Martin Gallery, Washington, D.C., US

1985

Rudolf Kicken Galerie, Cologne, DE
Galerei 666, Paris, FR
Clarence Kennedy Gallerz, Cambridge, US
The Fine Arts Gallery, University of California, US
Film in the Cities Gallery, St. Paul, US
Madison Art Center, Madison, US

1984

Pace / MacGill Gallery, New York, US
EmilyH. Davis Gallery, The University of Ankrone, US

1982

New Gallery of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, US
Daniel Wolf Gallery, New York, US

1981

Art Institute of Chicago, IL Daniel Wolf Gallery, New York, US

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**2024**

Suppose You Are Not, curated by Selen Ansen, Arter, Istanbul, TR

2022

Grief and Pleasure, Odunpazari Modern Museum, Eskişehir, TR
30 Years Anniversary Exhibition, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, CH

2021

Gravity, curated by Sara Dolfi Agostini, Blitz, Valletta, MT
Nähe #1 - berühren, Galerie Obrist, Essen, DE

2020

E subito riprende il viaggio, P420, Bologna, IT
The Lingering Drama of the Body, John Coplans | Michael Schmidt, Galerie Nordenhake, Berlin, DE

2019

Photographie et documents, 1983-2018, FRAC - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseille, FR
Parentescos, Nhmex, Mexico City, MX

2018

Dancing with myself, curated by Martin Bethenod and Florian Ebner, Palazzo Grassi - Punta della Dogana, Venezia, IT
La No Comunidad, Centro Cibeles Madrid, ES
The Museum Imagined. Stories from 30 years of Centro Pecci, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT
Die Geste, Ludwig Galerie - Schloß Oberhausen, Oberhausen, DE
Elèctric i llunyà. Fotografia contemporànea colecció olorVISUAL, Centre d'Art Tecla Sala, L'Hospitalet, ES

2017

Polaroids: The Disappearing, Nathalie Karg Gallery, New York City, US
Die Kraft Des Alters, Schloss Belvedere - Museum für Kunsthandwerk Weimar, DE
Aging Pride, Belvedere, Vienna, AT
Die Kraft der Alters, Belvedere, Vienna, AT
Silberglanz. Von der Kunst des Alters, Niedersächsischen Landesmuseum, Hannover, DE
L'être monde, Mémoires du corps, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Caen, Caen, FR
Barbara T. Smith, John Coplans and Hannah Wilke - Impermanence, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, US
The Body Laid Bare: Masterpieces from Tate, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, NZ
La idea en un signo. Colección Sánchez-Ubiria, Centro de Arte Alcobendas (CAA), Madrid, ES
Black And White, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, US

2016

Another Objectivity, Collection Display, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, ES
Wunde@NKunstmuseum, Appenzell, Appenzell, CH
Stare, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA
Dancing with Myself - Selbstopträt und Selbsterfindung Werke aus der Sammlung Pinault, Museum Folkwang, Essen, DE
Insolite, Art & Public, Geneva, CH
Facing The World, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
Perdidos en la ciudad/ La vida urbana en las colecciones del IVAM, Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (IVAM), Valencia, ES
Der Künstler Und Sein Ich. Das Abstrahierte Selbstporträt In Der Fotografie Von 1960 Bis 2000, Taatsgalerie Stuttgart, Stuttgart, DE
Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, US
Mars à la Fabric, La Fabric I Espace d'art contemporain I Fondation Salomon I Ancecy, Ancecy, FR

2015

Entre Intime et Autoportrait (Un temps dilaté), Galerie Le Réverbère, Lyon, FR
They Printed It!, Kunsthalle Zürich, Zurich, CH
Tyger, Tyger: Lynn Chadwick and the Art of Now, Berman Museum of Art, Collegeville, US
Mortel - suite et fin, FRAC - Basse-Normandie, Caen, FR
MERicco, Maresca Gallery, New York City, US
A l'Ombre d'Eros, une histoire d'amour et de mort, Musée de Brou, Bourg-en-Bresse, FR
The Day Will Come When Man Falls, Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Hamburg, DE
Chercher le garçon, Musée d'art contemporain du Val-de-Marne MAC/Val, Vitry-sur-Seine, FR
de-FORMATIONS, Bruce Silverstein Gallery, New York City, US
From Vision Machines To Instagram - Preus Museum 20 Years, Preus Museum, Horten, NO
Identité, Identités, Centre d'art contemporain - Ateliers de l'imprimé, Châtellerault, FR
Obsession, Maison Particulière, Brussels, BE

2014

A Body of Work, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, US
Collection À L'étude À Villeurbanne, Institut d'art contemporain Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes (IAC), Villeurbanne, FR
Al desnudo. Colección Ordóñez Falcón de Fotografía, TEA Tenerife Espacio de las Artes Santa Cruz de Tenerife, ES
Select, Kinz + Tillou Fine Art, New York City, US
30/60 opere dalla collezione del Frac Champagne-Ardenne, Museo Marino Marini, Firenze, IT
Le Mur, La collection Antoine de Galbert, La Maison Rouge, Paris, FR
Corps-histoire, Institut d'art contemporain Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes (IAC), Villeurbanne, FR
Barockt, Kulturhuset Stockholm, Stockholm, SE

Second Sight: The David Kronn Photography Collection, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, UK
Hyper-Resemblances, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University, New York, US

2013

Expérience Pommery #11 une odyssée : les 30 ans du Frac Champagne-Ardenne, Domaine Pommery, Reims, FR
Théâtre du monde, La Maison Rouge, Paris, FR
Theatre Of The World, Museum of Old and New Art (Mona), Hobart, AU
The Other Portrait, Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto (MART), Rovereto, IT
Der Mann – Nacht, Kulturstiftung Schloss Britz, Berlin, DE
Il Corpo Solitario. L'autoritratto Nella Fotografia Contemporanea, Centro d'Arte Contemporanea Ticino (CACT), Bellinzona, CH
Private Appearances, Fundação Arpad Szenes - Vieira da Silva (FASVS), Lisbon, PT
Station Identification, Michael Benevento, Los Angeles, US
Focal Points: American Photography Since 1950, The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMoCA), Madison, US
Conceptual Photography, Art Affairs Gallery, Amsterdam, NL
The Naked Man, Ludwig Museum - Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, HU
Von Beckmann bis Warhol - Die Sammlung Bayer, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, DE
Skin: An Artistic Atlas, RHA Gallery - Royal Hibernian Academy, Dublin, UK
[blv] 5, Finir En Beauté, Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon sur Saône, FR
Happy New Year 2013, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, US

2012

Der Nackte Mann, Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, AT
Körper als Protest, Albertina, Vienna, AT
Out Figured, Center for Visual Art (CVA) - Metropolitan State College of Denver, US
Exquisite Corpses: Drawing and Trasfiguration, MoMA - Museum of Modern Art, New York, US
Abstraction Paintings and Works on Paper, Redfern Gallery, London, UK
Reconsidering the Photographic Masterpiece, UNM Art Museum - University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, US
Umstülpung - curated by Günter Umberg, Galerie Nordenhake - Berlin, DE
Theatre Of The World, Mona - Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart, AUS

2011

Fotógrafos da Cena Contemporânea, Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, BR
Black And White, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, US
Carolina Collects: 150 Years of Modern and Contemporary Art from Alumni Collections, Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, US
Mortel !, - FRAC - Basse-Normandie, Caen, FR
Naked, Howard Yezerski Gallery, Boston, US
Magie des Objekts - Photographie aus drei Jahrhunderten, Leopold Museum, Vienna, AT
Sex Drive, Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery (CFG), Haverford, US

2010

El Cuerpo Inventado, TEA Tenerife Espacio de las Artes, Santa Cruz de Tenerife Post-War American Art: The Novak/O'Doherty Collection, Irish Museum of Modern Art - IMMA, Dublin, UK
Off the Wall Part 1: Thirty Performative Actions, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, US
Starter Works from the Vehbi Koç Foundation Contemporary Art Collection, ARTER - Space for art, Istanbul, TR

1992

Persona, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, US
De la Curiosité: Petite Anatomie d'un Regard, Dazibao, Centre de Photographies Actuelles, Montréal, CA
Manifeste, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, FR
More than One Photography: Works since 1980 from the Collection, Museum of Modern Art, NY
Le Portrait dans l'Art Contemporain, 1945-1992, Musée d'Art Moderne et d'Art Contemporaine, Nice, FR

1991

Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, US
Collection du Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain de Basse-Normandie, F.R.A.C. Basse-Normandie, Granville, FR
John Coplans/ Christèle Lerisse, Cardinaux, Châtellerault, FR
Presenting Rearwards, Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Santa Monica, US
No More Heroes, San Francisco Camerawork, US
The Physical Self, Museum Boymans van Beuningen, Rotterdam, NL
Photographie/Sculpture, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR

1990

The Indomitable Spirit, International Center of Photography, New York; Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, US

Je est un Autre, Galeria Comicos, Luis Serpa, Lisbon, PT

Acquisitions 1989, Musée de Saint-Lo, FRAC de Basse-Normandie, Caen, FR

The Decade Show, Museum of Contemporary Hispanic Art, New York, US

1989

The Photography of Invention: American Pictures in the 80's, National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, US

Une Autre Objectivité/ Another Objectivity, Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris, FR;

Centro Per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT

Prospect Photographie, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt am Main, DE

Photo-Kunst, Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, Stuttgart, DE

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

49 NORD 6 EST – Frac Lorraine, Metz, FR

Asheville Art Museum, Asheville, US

Ball State University, Muncie, US

Cal Cego - Coleccion de Arte Contemporaneo, Barcelona, ES

Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea (CGAC), Santiago de Compostela, ES

Centre Pompidou, Paris, FR

Fidelity, Boston, US

FRAC, Basse-Normandie, Caen, FR

FRAC - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Marseille, FR

Fundação Sindika Dokolo, Luanda, Angola

FRAC - Ile-de-France - Le Plateau, Paris, FR

FRAC - Champagne-Ardenne, Reims, FR

Frost Art Museum, Miami, Florida, US

The Getty Center, Los Angeles, US

Kiasma – Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, IS

Lamberti Art Collection, Codogno, IT

The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMoCA), Madison, US

Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall, Stockholm, SE

Mezzanin Stiftung für Kunst, Schaan, Lichtenstein, DE

MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, US

Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona - MACBA, Barcelona, ES

Musée d'art Contemporain de Montréal, Montreal, CA

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, US

Musée Départemental d'Art Contemporain de Rochechouart, Rochechouart, FR

Museum of Fine Art, Boston, US

Museum Folkwang, Essen, DE

Musée d'art Moderne et Contemporain de Saint-Étienne (MAMC), Saint-Etienne, FR

Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain (MAMCS), Strasbourg, FR

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, US

National Gallery of Canada - Musée des beaux-arts du Canada, Ottawa, CA

Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, US

Norton Museum, Florida, West Palm Beach, US

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), San Francisco, US

Tate Britain, London, UK

Tate Modern, London, UK

Weatherspoon Art Museum, North Carolina, US