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David Hockney, 19th March 2021, Sunflower with Exotic Flower

ARTIST

David Hockney (b.1937)

TITLE

19th March 2021, Sunflower with Exotic Flower

MEDIUM

iPad painting printed on wove paper

DATE

2021

SHEET SIZE

35 x 25 in : 88.9 x 63.5 cm

FRAMED SIZE

38 1/8 x 28 1/8 in : 97 x 71.5 cm

EDITION

From the edition of 50

INSCRIPTIONS

Signed and dated by the artist lower right, numbered lower left

PUBLISHER

Published by David Hockney Inc., Los Angeles

LITERATURE

David Hockney, 20 Flowers And Some Bigger Pictures, Annely Juda Fine Art / Galerie Lelong & Co. / Gray Gallery / L.A. Louver / Pace Gallery (co-publishers), 2022, exh. cat. pp.14-15 (col. illus.)

EXHIBITED

David Hockney, 20 Flowers And Some Bigger Pictures, Annely Juda Fine Art, London, 3 Nov - 23 Dec 2022 (another example exhib.)
Galerie Lelong & Co. Paris, 3 Nov - 22 Dec 2022 (another example exhib.)
Gray Gallery, Chicago, 4 Nov - 23 Dec 2022 (another example exhib.)
L.A. Louver, Los Angeles, 16 Nov 2022 - 7 Jan 2023 (another example exhib.)
Pace Gallery, 12 Jan - 25 Feb 2023 (another example exhib.)
London, Lightroom, Kings's Cross, *David Hockney: Bigger & Closer (Not Smaller and Further Away)*, February - December 2023 (digital version exhib.)

REFERENCE

AC23-05



First reproduced by the German newspaper, *Die Welt*, and later debuted at Musée Matisse in Nice, Hockney's 2021 series of twenty flower iPad paintings captures various arrangements of blooms set against a backdrop of gingham tablecloths and burgundy walls. "I was just sitting at the table in our house, and I caught sight of some flowers in a vase on the table," Hockney explains. "A few days later I started another from the same position with the same ceramic vase. This took longer to do. I then realised if I put the flowers in a glass vase the sun would catch the water, and painting glass would be a more interesting thing to do. So then I was off." Though attributes vary in each work, such as the species of flower, type of vase, and the colour of the tablecloth, consistent elements across this series allow viewers to admire Hockney's technique and dedication to his subject. Capturing a spectrum of floral compositions with contrasting tones and textures, Hockney displays his propensity for balancing the central artistic elements of line, colour, and perspective.

The entire group of 20 Flowers features prominently in the immersive show *David Hockney: Bigger & Closer (not smaller & further away)* showing at London's Lightroom until June of 2023.

David Hockney

David Hockney is considered one of the most influential British artists of the twentieth century, and was a key member of the Pop art movement of the 1960s. Born in Bradford, Yorkshire, he studied at the Royal College of Art. He was featured in the exhibition *Young Contemporaries* with Peter Blake, and was almost instantly successful as an artist.

In 1963 Hockney visited New York where he met Andy Warhol. He subsequently settled in California, and was inspired to make a series of paintings of swimming pools in Los Angeles, in the comparatively new medium of acrylic. A *Bigger Splash*, from this series is in the permanent collection of the Tate Gallery. In 1967 his painting, *Peter Getting Out Of Nick's Pool*, won the John Moores Painting Prize at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool.

Hockney has also worked with photography, or, more precisely, photcollage. Using varying numbers of Polaroid snaps or photolab-prints of a single subject he combined them to make a composite image. Hockney created these photomontage works mostly between 1970 and 1986. He referred to them as "joiners". These works show the movements of the subject seen from the photographer's perspective. In later works Hockney changed his technique and moved the camera around the subject instead. Hockney has always embraced new media and technology, using xerox machines and more recently iPhones and iPads to create works.

In October 2006 the National Portrait Gallery in London held one of the largest ever displays of Hockney's portraiture work, including 150 of his paintings, drawings, prints, sketchbooks and photcollages from over five decades. Hockney himself assisted in displaying the works, and the exhibition proved to be one of the most successful

in the gallery's history. In June 2007, Hockney's largest painting *Bigger Trees Near Water* which measures 15x40' and was painted on 50 individual canvases, was included in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. In 2008, he donated this work to the Tate Gallery.

A Bigger Picture, the Royal Academy's 2012 David Hockney exhibition became the best attended in the institution's history, often staying open late into the evening to accommodate visitors. Hockney turned down a Knighthood in 1990, but accepted an invitation to become Companion of Honour in 1997. He is a Royal Academician, and recently received the Order of Merit.

In 2019, Hockney briefly became the most expensive living artist in history when *Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures)* sold for \$90,312,500 at Christie's in New York.





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