

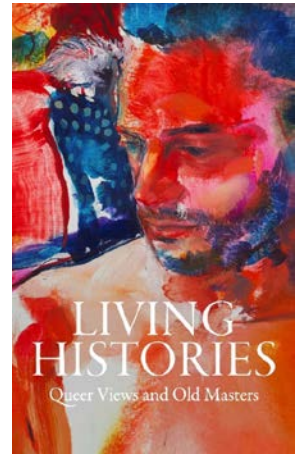
The temporary home of The Frick Collection

New Publication Inspired by Pairings of Old Masters with Contemporary Works

Queer Perspectives Explored through Essays on Works by New York Artists Jenna Gribbon, Doron Langberg, Toyin Ojih Odutola, and Salman Toor

New York (September 18, 2023)—The Frick Collection’s new publication, *Living Histories: Queer Views and Old Masters*, explores the pairing of four commissions by New York-based artists Jenna Gribbon, Doron Langberg, Toyin Ojih Odutola, and Salman Toor with iconic works in the museum’s holdings by Vermeer, Rembrandt, and Holbein. The new works each address issues of gender and Queer identity and were presented at various points between September 2021 and September 2022 in conversation with their respective Old Master paintings at Frick Madison, the Frick’s temporary home at the Breuer building.

During the [installation series](#), Gribbon’s *What Am I Doing Here? I Should Ask You the Same* (2022) was displayed with Holbein’s *Thomas Cromwell*; Langberg’s *Lover* (2021) was shown in dialogue with Holbein’s *Sir Thomas More*; Ojih Odutola’s *The Listener* (2021) was presented alongside Rembrandt’s *Self-Portrait* and *Nicolaes Ruts*; and Toor’s *Museum Boys* (2021) joined Vermeer’s *Officer and Laughing Girl* and *Mistress and Maid*.



Through essays and interviews with the artists, this new book explores the significance of this installation series and the responses it engendered. Contributors include:

- Contemporary art curators **Jessica Bell Brown** (Curator and Department Head for Contemporary Art, Baltimore Museum of Art), **Christopher Y. Lew** (former curator, Whitney Museum of American Art), and **Legacy Russell** (Executive Director and Chief Curator, The Kitchen)
- Collectors and contemporary art supporters **Jonathan Anderson** (JW Anderson Collections Fund) and **Russell Tovey** (actor and *Talk Art* podcast host)
- Writers **Jason Reynolds** (author of *Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks*) and **Hanya Yanagihara** (*T Magazine* editor-in-chief and author of *A Little Life*)

Exhibition organizers **Aimee Ng**, Curator, and **Xavier F. Salomon**, Deputy Director and Peter Jay Sharp Chief Curator, both of the Frick, along with **Stephen Truax**, independent curator, each contributed essays on Queer figurative painting in the context of The Frick Collection.

Salomon remarks in his essay, “How can The Frick Collection—with all its art created in countries and at times when homosexuality was a punishable offense—represent today’s Queer community? Many groups of artists, sitters, and patrons are not represented at the Frick. In the future, the institution may be able to fill some of these gaps; some can only be resolved through exhibitions and programming like the *Living Histories* series.”

Ng adds, “These juxtapositions pay tribute to twenty-first-century perspectives and to the significance of historical art to artists today. Every viewer of a historical work of art brings something new to the encounter. This is the charge of public museums today: to connect art with people, to make centuries-old bits of history come alive for fresh eyes.”

Truax writes, “It is precisely here, at the Frick, embedded in a broad range of Western art, that these young artists are at their most powerful. Never has recent figurative painting looked so fresh as these four do adjacent to their historical predecessors.”

Living Histories: Queer Views and Old Masters is published on September 19, 2023, by The Frick Collection in association with D Giles Limited. The 112-page hardcover volume includes 45 color illustrations (\$34.95, member price \$27.96). The publication can be ordered online at shop.frick.org, by emailing sales@frick.org, or by calling 212.547.6849. It will also be available for purchase at the Museum Shop at Frick Madison.

ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION AND FRICK MADISON

The historical buildings of The Frick Collection are currently closed for renovation and enhancement, their first comprehensive upgrade since the 1930s. For the duration of the renovation project, the collections of the museum and library remain accessible to the public at Frick Madison, the Marcel Breuer–designed building at 945 Madison Avenue that was once the home of the Whitney Museum of American Art and, most recently, The Met Breuer. Now in its final months, the temporary residency ensures that the public can continue to enjoy the Frick’s masterpieces, while also giving the museum a unique opportunity to reimagine its presentation of paintings, sculptures, and decorative arts within a completely different context. Frick Madison remains open through March 3, 2024.

Honoring the institution’s architectural legacy and unique character, the renovation plan designed by Selldorf Architects will provide unprecedented access to the original 1914 residence of Henry Clay Frick, while preserving the intimate visitor experience and beloved galleries for which the Frick is known. Conceived to address pressing institutional and programmatic needs, the plan will create new spaces for permanent collection display and special exhibitions, conservation, education, and public programs, while improving visitor amenities and overall accessibility. The Frick Collection reopens on East 70th Street in late 2024.

Image: Book cover of *Living Histories: Queer Views and Old Masters*, photo: Joseph Coscia Jr.

INTERACT

   @FrickCollection

#FrickMadison

BASIC INFORMATION

Website: frick.org

Building project: frickfuture.org

Bloomberg Connects app: frick.org/app

Frick Madison visitor address: 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York, NY 10021

Museum hours: Thursday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; closed Monday through Wednesday. See website for holiday schedule.

Admission: Timed tickets are strongly recommended and may be purchased online. \$22 general public; \$17 seniors and visitors with disabilities; \$12 students. Free admission is granted to visitors ages 10–17. Admission is always free for members. Pay-what-you-wish admission is offered Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Please note: Children under ten are not admitted to the museum.

Visitor guidelines: frick.org/visit/guidelines

Ticket purchase link: frick.org/tickets. For questions: admissions@frick.org

Group reservations: For questions: groupreservations@frick.org

Public programs: A calendar of online and in-person events is available on our website.

Shop: Open during museum hours as well as online daily.

Refreshments: A light menu, offered by The SisterYard, is available on the lower level during museum hours.

Subway: #6 local to 77th Street station; #Q to 72nd Street station. **Bus:** M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 75th Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 74th Street

Museum mailing address: 1 East 70th Street, near Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10021

Photography: Allowed only in the Frick Madison Lobby.

Reading room: Access is offered by appointment Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For further information, visit frick.org/tickets.

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For further press information, please contact us at communications@frick.org.