

GRAPHICS BY LUCIAN FREUD MASTERFUL ETCHINGS BY THE GREAT PORTRAITIST

Master of the human body: the British artist Lucian Freud is considered one of the most important representatives of figurative art. Starting in July, his works from the *UBS Art Collection* will be on display in the city of Freud's birth, Berlin. Hatje Cantz is publishing the companion catalogue *Closer*.

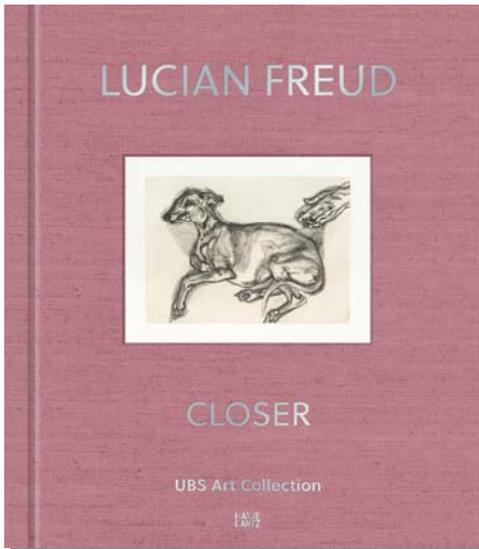
Berlin, July 5, 2017 — Lucian Freud is one of Great Britain's most important artists. Born in 1922 in Berlin, the grandson of Sigmund Freud was forced by Nazi persecution to emigrate to London in 1933. "They wanted to kill us. As bad as it was, I have no idea if I thought much about it afterward," he explained later.

Freud's artistic talent manifested early on, when he was a child in Berlin. After becoming a British citizen in 1939, he studied at the *Central School of Art and Goldsmith's College* in London. After a brief stint in the Merchant Marine, he soon became one of the great singular figures in figurative painting. Throughout his life he disdained abstract art, Expressionism, postmodernism, and Conceptual Art; instead the focus of his art was on the intensive study of the human body. Freud repeatedly portrayed his children from various relationships, his lovers, members of the aristocracy, and even the queen—in a provokingly small format—with a diadem and somber mien. For a long time, however, his favorite nude model was an overweight employee at an employment office: Large Sue.

Lucian Freud never made it easy for his viewers: they are confronted with drastic reality, nudity, and insight into the psyche of the people he portrayed. It is precisely this intensity, however, that led to the fascinating results. "My portraits are supposed to show people, not resemble them. I don't want my portrait, but theirs," said the artist about his special approach.

In the 1980s Freud began working very successfully with etchings. This technique has been employed by many famous artists since the Renaissance, and it requires very precise work, since corrections are nearly impossible to make. At the same time the composition of Freud's etchings is delicate and bold. They challenge the viewer, and are an important part of Freud's oeuvre. To this day, they comprise a considerable contribution to the understanding of his extensive body of work.

The impressive *UBS Art Collection* contains the majority of Freud's late-phase etchings—a total of fifty-one works of art, including a watercolor and two paintings of the highest quality. This collection will be on exhibit from July 22 to October 22 at the Martin Gropius Bau in Berlin. Hatje Cantz is publishing the accompanying catalogue, *Lucian Freud | Closer. UBS Art Collection*. The high-quality artist's book in a pink cloth cover contains more than 54 illustrations on 120 pages, as well as essays by Richard Cork and Anders Kold, art historian and curator at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art.



**LUCIAN FREUD
CLOSER. UBS ART COLLECTION**

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ABOUT HATJE CANTZ

Hatje Cantz is a groundbreaking international publishing company specializing in art, architecture, and photography. Since 1945 Hatje Cantz has been using its profound expertise and enthusiasm for craftsmanship to produce and publish books of the highest quality. We currently release around two hundred new titles annually.

Especially in the digital age, Hatje Cantz regards itself an element linking museums, artists, galleries, collectors, and art lovers. Conveying knowledge - in terms of both content and visuals - as well as an enthusiasm for art is always at the heart of our engagement.

In keeping with our ambition to make it possible to experience art beyond the medium of the book, Hatje Cantz has launched the EDITION GERD HATJE as we continue to expand our portfolio of strictly limited, signed editions featuring works on paper, photographic works of art, and art objects.

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