

St Ives at The Redfern

A summer celebration of St Ives, past and present

15 July 2026

Press Release
July 2026



Patrick Heron CBE (1920-1999), *Six in Vermilion with Red in Red*:
April 1970, 1970, Screenprint, 59.1 x 78.1 cm

The Redfern Gallery has long been intertwined with this history. Within its first year of operating, the gallery became the first to exhibit the carvings of both Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth, signalling an early commitment to the emerging language of British modernism. In the decades that followed, The Redfern Gallery championed many artists associated with the St Ives School providing an important platform for work that would come to define post-war British art.

Paul Feiler's first solo exhibition at The Redfern Gallery in 1953 marked a pivotal moment in his career, enabling his move to Cornwall and establishing a relationship with the gallery that endured for more than half a century.

St Ives at The Redfern brings together artists whose work has been shaped by Cornwall across nearly one hundred years. Alongside historic figures including Alfred Wallis, Ben Nicholson, Barbara Hepworth, Roger Hilton CBE, Patrick Heron CBE, Peter Lanyon, Terry Frost RA, Margaret Mellis, Paul Feiler, Keith Vaughan, Catharine Armitage, and John Tunnard, the exhibition presents a contemporary generation of artists—Leigh Davis, Samuel Bassett, Ben Sanderson, Felicity Mara, Naomi Frears and Linder Stirling—whose practices have engaged with the Cornish landscape, atmosphere, and creative legacy of the region.

For over a century, St Ives has occupied a significant place within British art. Drawn by its extraordinary light, dramatic coastline, and close-knit artistic community, successive generations of painters and sculptors have been irresistibly drawn to Cornwall. From Alfred Wallis's instinctive depictions of the fishing town to the radical modernism of Ben Nicholson and Barbara Hepworth, St Ives became synonymous with one of the defining artistic movements of twentieth-century Britain.



Felicity Mara, *Before Summer Rain*, 2024, Acrylic on canvas, 214 x 183 cm

While each artist approaches Cornwall differently, common threads emerge: an enduring fascination with light, colour, material, and place; an attentiveness to the rhythms of the coastline; and a belief that landscape can be experienced not simply as subject matter but as a catalyst for artistic invention. The exhibition invites conversations across generations, revealing both continuity and reinvention within one of Britain's most celebrated artistic communities.

Presented during the summer months at the gallery's new home on Pall Mall, *St Ives at The Redfern* brings a little of Cornwall to central London, celebrating an artistic tradition that remains as vital today as it was nearly a century ago.



Detail of Samuel Bassett, *Pilgrims in dunes I*, 2026, Acrylic on board, 60 x 40 cm

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Ben Sanderson, 22/02/2022, 2022, Ink, monotype, oil, water-colour and charcoal on canvas. 59 x 42 cm

About The Redfern Gallery

Founded in Old Bond Street in September 1923, The Redfern Gallery is one of the longest-established dealers of Modern British and Contemporary art in London. Today, The Redfern Gallery represents over 30 contemporary artists and artists' estates.

Spread across two floors, the gallery regularly stages major exhibitions with accompanying catalogues.

For many artists and collectors, the Redfern has been a trusted and innovative contributor to the art world for over 100 years.

Follow us on social media at:

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Panel Discussion

St Ives at The Redfern

Join us for a special evening of conversation celebrating *St Ives at The Redfern* with
Ian Massey, Laura Smith, Naomi Frears, and Samuel Bassett.



Alfred Wallis (1855-1942), *Untitled*, Mixed media on board, 8.6 x 20.5 cm

For over a century, St Ives has been a place of artistic innovation, where generations of artists have found inspiration in Cornwall's remarkable light, landscape, and creative community. Building on The Redfern Gallery's long-standing relationship with the artists of St Ives, this discussion will explore the region's enduring influence on British art and its continuing relevance today.

Exhibiting artists Naomi Frears and Samuel Bassett will be joined by Ian Massey (Art Historian, Curator, and Author of *Queer St Ives and Other Stories*, 2022) and Laura Smith (Artistic Director of The Hepworth Wakefield and former Curator at Tate St Ives).

The panel will discuss how Cornwall continues to shape artistic practice - from the historic St Ives School to the present day.

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Thursday 30th July
6 to 8 pm

Booking is essential
as spaces are limited.

Samuel Bassett, *Zennor Hill*, Acrylic
on canvas, 45.5 x 35.5 cm



Noami Frears, *In My Other Life*, Oil on canvas, 100
x 100 cm