

CHRISTOPHER LE BRUN

Artist and President of the Royal Academy

30 October 2019

What's it really like? My life as an artist

Christopher talked about his career as an artist, from his studio practice to his experience of public life. Since graduating in 1975 he has worked in painting, sculpture and print. He has exhibited worldwide, early on he taught and later he became a founder of a drawing school, he has been an artist trustee at Tate, the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery, and for the past eight years has been the President of the Royal Academy of Arts - whilst still making new work and exhibiting extensively. The lecture offered an insight to his experience of the challenges he has faced, and discuss the question of the sacrifices artists make in order to realise their ambition, and the successes and rewards they can claim.

Christopher Le Brun is a painter, printmaker and sculptor. Born in Portsmouth in 1951 he trained at the Slade and Chelsea Schools of Art, London. In his early career, he was a double prize winner at the John Moores exhibitions, 1978 & 1980, also showing in the Venice Biennale, 1982, and the ground-breaking *Zeitgeist* at the Martin-Gropius Bau, Berlin 1982. He is represented by Lisson Gallery, London and Albertz Benda, New York. His work can be found in museum collections including Tate, London; Museum of Modern Art, New York; British Museum, London; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Victoria & Albert Museum, London; Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh; The Whitworth, Manchester and Yale Center for British Art, New Haven. Public sculpture can be found at Threadneedle Walk, London; the Museum of London, and Castle Quay, St Helier. He served as a trustee of Tate 1990-1995, The National Gallery 1996-2003, Dulwich Picture Gallery 2000-2005 and as a founding trustee of the Royal Drawing School 2003-2016. He is currently a trustee of the National Portrait Gallery. He was elected the first Professor of Drawing at the Royal Academy in 2000, where since 2011 he has been the President, the 26th since Sir Joshua Reynolds, and the youngest to be elected since Lord Leighton in 1878.