



Nina Mae Fowler (b. 1981),
202019.5 29-04-37 Ridley Scott, 2018-2019
charcoal, 29 x44cm
© NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. PHOTO BY DOUGLAS ATFIELD

Luminary Drawings: Portraits of Film Directors by Nina Mae Fowler

National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, London WC2H 0HE
to October 7

The premier of a major new commission by the NPG of portrait drawings of some of the UK's leading film directors by London-born artist Nina Mae Fowler, whose work often investigates fame, desire and our relationship with cinema. For the commission, she invited directors Amma Asante, Paul Greengrass, Asif Kapadia, Ken Loach, Sam Mendes, Nick Park, Sally Potter, Sir Ridley Scott and Joe Wright to choose a film of particular significance to them. During the sittings, Fowler projected the film of their choice, and recorded their reactions on camera and through loose sketches, with their faces lit only by the light of the screen in an otherwise darkened space. She then drew the portrait in charcoal, referencing a selection of particular stills. She says "The beauty of these sittings was twofold; firstly, the Directors lost any sense of being watched or portrayed as they were too engrossed in the film, secondly, we experienced the film together, which created conversation, laughter and an immediate bond between strangers. I want the viewer to wonder what film the directors are watching and to seek the answers in their faces. The only clues the viewer has are their reactions, the exact frame (documented in the titles) and the light thrown on them by the films themselves." Come on all you sleuths out there!

Bill Jacklin (b. 1943), *Field at Night*, 2018
50 x 72 in ©BILL JACKLIN, COURTESY MARLBOROUGH FINE ART, PHOTO BILL APPLE

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition

Royal Academy Main Galleries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BD
June 10 to August 12

Run without interruption since 1769, the Summer Exhibition is the world's largest open submission art show and brings together a collage-like display of art in all mediums – prints and paintings, film, photography, sculpture, architectural works and more – by leading artists, Royal Academicians and household names as well as new and emerging talent. It's always different, with something for every taste, and most of the artworks will be for sale with proceeds helping to fund the Academy's non-profit-making activities, including educating the next generation of artists in the RA Schools. Booking advised. An excellent opportunity to pick up a future heirloom!

Bill Jacklin: Paintings and Monotypes

Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle St, London W1S 4BY
May 30 to June 30

A wonderful chance to see over 20 of British artist and Rhode Island resident Bill Jacklin's recent work. A Royal Academician, his New York paintings are energetic yet ethereal. For this exhibition he has created 'The Singer in the Square' series focussing on concentric crowds and their flux and sinuous flows. Fascinated by states of transition, he uses the geometry to show this constant movement. Inspired by his move from Manhattan to Rhode Island, he has transposed this to show the movement of clouds and people in more pastoral scenes and coastal settings. A new collection, 'The Clouds and the Breezes', are on the coast. One shows three females dancing, reminiscent of Jacklin's earlier work, *The Three Graces*; another has small figures on a beach watching the movement of the sea and the clouds. There are works depicting racing storm clouds, and recent monotypes depict the stars and the sea by night. The people have become more 'essential', more figurative, than ever before. A true delight. His work is in the Tate, MoMA and the Met and is collected avidly by celebrities such as Sting. He will also be part of the RA Summer Exhibition. ★

