

# PITZHANGER

MANOR & GALLERY

Press Release

For Immediate Release: 16 December 2024

## **Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Announces Upcoming Exhibition *Alison Watt: From Light***

5 March – 1 June 2025

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ



Alison Watt, *The Day After* (detail), 2023. Oil on canvas, 80×78cm

**Ealing, London:** Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery is delighted to announce the upcoming exhibition—*From Light*—by the award-winning artist Alison Watt, running from 5 March to 1 June 2025. This will be Alison Watt's first exhibition in a public gallery in London since 2008.

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The exhibition features a new series of paintings which resonate with the architecture and collection of Sir John Soane, the architect of Pitzhanger Manor. Watt's practice, rooted in a fascination with light, echoes strongly with Soane's innovative manipulation of light to shape space and create atmosphere.

Alison Watt reflects: "*Pitzhanger had a great personal significance for Sir John Soane. It is a house that tells us something not only of his intellectual life, but also his emotional one—a place that once held his hopes and aspirations. In its own way, a form of biography. Soane was an artist, who created an art object in which to display art. Like a painting, light is part of the very substance of this house.*"

Watt's works, displayed across the historic manor and contemporary gallery, engage in dialogue with figures from Soane's circle, including architect Robert Adam. Paintings such as *Parker* draw on the symbolism of Soane's collection, while works like *The Day After* explore the motif of the rose—a symbol of innocence, purity, and mourning—echoing Soane's preoccupation with themes of decay and memorialisation.

Clare Gough, Director of Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, said: "*We are delighted to be working with Alison Watt in her first major public exhibition in London since her show as Associate Artist at the National Gallery, London. Watt's exploration of light beautifully echoes Soane's use of shadows and reflection as an architectural tool. The extraordinary body of new works, that demand quiet contemplation, will create a fascinating dialogue with Soane's designs.*"

Further details about the exhibition, including programming and public events, will be released closer to the opening date.

For more information, visit [pitzhanger.org.uk/alison-watt](https://pitzhanger.org.uk/alison-watt)

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For all media enquiries, please contact [janette@janettescottartspr.com](mailto:janette@janettescottartspr.com) and [press@pitzhanger.org.uk](mailto:press@pitzhanger.org.uk)

To be kept up to date with the latest news, sign up to the Pitzhanger newsletter at [pitzhanger.org.uk/newsletter](https://pitzhanger.org.uk/newsletter)

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## Listing Information

**Alison Watt: From Light**

Date: 5 March – 1 June 2025

### Artist

Alison Watt

### Supported by

Lévy Gorvy Dayan

### Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Address: Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ

8-minute walk from Ealing Broadway Station (Elizabeth, Central, District Lines & National Rail)



Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery Trust  
Mattock Lane, Ealing Green, London W5 5EQ  
[www.pitzhanger.org.uk](http://www.pitzhanger.org.uk)    [pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk](mailto:pitzhanger@pitzhanger.org.uk)    020 3985 8888  
Charity Registration: 1152434    Company Registration: 08278049



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## MANOR & GALLERY

### Opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday 10am–5pm, including Bank Holidays (First Thursday of the Month: 10am–8pm)

### General Admission:

£12 Standard / £6 Students / FREE Under 16

FREE for Members

Pay-what-you-can for Ealing Borough residents every first Thursday of the month 5–8pm, and every Sunday 10am–noon

The general admission ticket includes visit to Sir John Soane's historic house.

## Notes to editors

### About Alison Watt

Alison Watt OBE FRSE RSA (born 1965) first gained national attention while still a student at the Glasgow School of Art, winning the annual John Player Portrait Award in 1987 (subsequently, the BP Portrait Award), presented by the National Portrait Gallery, London. Watt became the youngest artist to hold a solo exhibition at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in 2000. She was appointed the youngest Associate Artist at the National Gallery, London (2006–2008) and presented an exhibition, *Phantom*, in 2008. Watt's work is held in numerous public collections, including the Arts Council Collection, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, the National Portrait Gallery, London, the British Council Collection, and the Galleria degli Uffizi in Florence. Solo exhibitions were mounted by institutions such as the Scottish National Portrait Gallery (2021–2022), Abbot Hall Museum & Art Gallery (2018–2019), Perth Museum & Art Gallery (2014), the National Gallery, London (2008), and the Dulwich Picture Gallery (2002). Alison Watt is represented by Lévy Gorvy Dayan.

### About Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery

Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, built 1800–1804, is the historic country home of one of the most remarkable English architects, Sir John Soane. Pitzhanger's mission is to promote Soane's legacy, inspiring visitors with art, architecture, and design and nurturing creativity for all. The museum celebrates not only Soane's lasting influence as a designer, but also combines his architecture with a programme of ambitious contemporary art exhibitions across the house and contemporary gallery. Pitzhanger runs an extensive learning outreach and events programme. Pitzhanger reopened in spring 2019 following a major £12-million conservation and restoration project to return the Manor to Soane's original design, with support from NLHF, ACE, Ealing Council, and other generous donors.

### About Sir John Soane

Sir John Soane (1753–1837) was one of Britain's most visionary architects, and one of the very few of his time to have come from a working-class background. His buildings are celebrated for their idiosyncratic take on the neoclassical style and mastery of natural light. Soane bought Pitzhanger in 1800. He demolished most of the existing manor house apart from the Dance Wing and from 1800 to 1804, designed and built a new house as his country estate sitting in 28 acres of parkland. The legacy



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of Soane's distinctive buildings, teachings, and collections has influenced generations of artists, architects, and designers.

Sharing with you selected highlights from our exciting programme of new exhibitions in 2025

Artist	Date	Description
<b>Prem Sahib</b>	June – September 2025	A solo exhibition in the manor house by Prem Sahib, featuring works that explore the intersection of public and private spaces through pared down sculptural interventions.
<b>Howard Hodgkin</b>	October – December 2025	A retrospective showcasing the vibrant and emotionally charged print practice of Howard Hodgkin, depicting moments and memories through bold, abstract forms.

Current Exhibitions:

- *Antoni Malinowski and H el ene Binet: Pigments and Photons*
- *Language of the Physical: Katherine Gili Sculpture*

Both exhibitions remain on view at Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery.

## Image Sheet

Please download high-resolution images from [the Press Kit](#).



Alison Watt, *Glanville*, 2020–2022, oil on canvas, 122.9×122.2cm. One of an ongoing series of fabric paintings which refer to its use in historical painting.

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Alison Watt, *Tivoli*, 2024, oil on canvas,  
84×84cm.



Alison Watt, *Parker*, 2024, oil on canvas,  
80×78cm.

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Front façade of Pitzhanger Manor. © Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery. Photo by Andy Stagg