

STRIKING WATERFALL ARRIVES AT TATE MODERN



Visitors to Tate Modern over the next six months will encounter a dramatic new waterfall sculpture created by Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson. Situated on the terrace behind the gallery, this large-scale, freestanding water installation is part of a major survey of Eliasson's career from 11 July 2019 to 5 January 2020.

Eliasson's *Waterfall 2019* is characteristic of his fusion of nature and technology, and his ongoing investigation of how we think about and respond to our environment. Measuring over 11 metres high, the work uses scaffolding, pumps and hoses to evoke the sight, sound and rhythm of a natural waterfall. Its clearly exposed construction allows viewers to understand the mechanics behind the marvel, while also calling attention to the constructed nature of both the work itself and its surrounding urban setting. The sculpture is a continuation of Eliasson's *Waterfall* series which have previously been hosted in cities across the world including Sydney (1998), New York (2008), São Paulo (2011) and Versailles (2016).

Natural phenomena such as water, light and mist have been key areas of investigation throughout Eliasson's career – most notably in his world-renowned work *The weather project 2003* for Tate Modern's Turbine Hall, which was seen by more than 2 million people. By introducing these elements to an unexpected space, be it a city street or an art gallery, the artist encourages the viewer to reflect upon their understanding and perception of the physical world that surrounds them. This moment of perception, when the viewer pauses to consider what they are experiencing, has been described by Eliasson as 'seeing yourself sensing'.

NEW SCULPTURES UNVEILED AT TATE MODERN

Seven new works of art by Olafur Eliasson are unveiled at Tate Modern as part of the artist's major new exhibition *Olafur Eliasson: In real life*. They join works created over the last three decades to form the most comprehensive solo presentation of his career.

The new body of work includes two sculptures which reference the changing environment, expanding Eliasson's long-term engagement with natural environmental phenomena. *The presence of absence pavilion 2019* is a bronze rectangular structure formed by casting a block of glacial ice. The sculpture makes visible the empty space left behind after the ice has melted, with smooth outer walls concealing a grotto-like interior. The work is joined in the exhibition by a new glass sculpture, *Glacial spherical flare 2019*, constructed with panes of coloured glass made from small rock particles created by glacial erosion.



Eliasson also debuts a new hanging sphere, *In real life 2019*, building on his body of geometric sculptures. Composed of folded metal parts that twist around a core of light, the work emits colourful spiralling patterns which fracture and reconfigure the space around it. Viewers' sense of perspective will be further challenged through two engaging new works constructed with mirrors. *How do we live together? 2019* and *Your planetary window 2019* play with light and space to create optical illusions that encourage visitors to see their environment in new ways.

OLAFUR ELIASSON'S LEGO PROJECT COMING TO TATE MODERN THIS SUMMER

Olafur Eliasson's *The cubic structural evolution project* 2004 will come to the UK for the first time to coincide with the artist's new exhibition at Tate Modern. Taking over the Turbine Hall for three weeks, this free interactive artwork invites visitors to unleash their architectural vision for a future city using over one tonne of white Lego bricks.



Scattered across two 10-metre-long London-shaped tables at the heart of Tate Modern, over the course of the project this rubble of Lego bricks will be gradually transformed into a sprawling cityscape. The work is intended to evolve endlessly as each new gallery visitor constructs and modifies the model – a vital cycle for any metropolis. Celebrating both the imagination of the individual and the collaborative power of communities, this project explores the relationship between maker, spectator and object.

The project was first staged as one of a series of installations at the ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum, Denmark, in October 2004 and has since been enacted across the globe in Sweden, Barcelona, Sydney and Brisbane and now, for the first time, in the UK. *The cubic structural evolution project* will launch on 26 July 2019 in Tate Modern's Turbine Hall and continue until 18 August.

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SEE BEHIND THE SCENES AT STUDIO OLAFUR ELIASSON LIVE

Visitors to *Olafur Eliasson: In real life* will be transported to Berlin to witness the daily activities of Studio Olafur Eliasson (SOE) through a live video link. Every other Wednesday throughout the duration of the six-month exhibition, a wall projection in the gallery will showcase live the activities taking place simultaneously at Eliasson's studio, giving unique insight into how the artist's works are conceived and produced. Throughout the exhibition period, visitors are invited to send questions to the studio via Twitter by using the hashtag #askSOE. Questions will be presented alongside the studio's responses at olafureliasson.net/asksoe and screened in The Expanded Studio space in the exhibition.

Founded in 1995, the team at Studio Olafur Eliasson today consists of technicians, architects, archivists, art historians, designers, filmmakers, cooks and administrators. All work alongside the artist to realise a wide variety of projects – many of which are now on view at Tate Modern for the first time in the UK – through an extensive process of research, collaborative questioning and imaginative thinking.

For some time, Eliasson's practice has extended beyond making artworks, exhibitions and public sculptures. He has worked with his studio and outside collaborators on architectural projects, a cook book, an art school and dance projects. He has founded an architectural practice, called Studio Other Spaces, with his long-time collaborator Sebastian Behmann, and initiated projects directly addressing many of the urgent issues facing society today. These include renewable energy (*Little Sun*), the climate emergency (*Ice Watch*) and migration (*Green light – An artistic workshop*). All build on Eliasson's long-held interests in the environment, light and community that led him to create the body of work featured in his unmissable new exhibition.

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Image: *The cubic structural evolution project* 2004. Installation at QAGOMA. Photo by Mark Sherwood, QAGOMA. © 2004 Olafur Eliasson