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**PRESS RELEASE:**

**Newport Street Gallery to exhibit Jeff Koons solo show in May**

***John Hoyland 'Power Stations' extended until 10<sup>th</sup> April***

Newport Street Gallery will present a solo exhibition of work by American artist Jeff Koons, titled 'Now'. The show will run for five months, from 18<sup>th</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

Spanning thirty-five years of Koons's extraordinary career, 'Now' will include over thirty paintings, works on paper and sculptures drawn from Hirst's collection. The exhibition features iconic works, dating from 1979 to 2014, from Koons's series *Inflatables*, *The New*, *Equilibrium*, *Luxury and Degradation*, *Made in Heaven*, *Popeye*, and *Hulk Elvis*, amongst others.

'Now' is the first major UK show to be devoted to the artist since the exhibition, 'Jeff Koons: Popeye Series', at the Serpentine Gallery in 2009.

Born in 1955, Jeff Koons is widely considered to be one of the most significant artists to have emerged in the postwar era. Since the late 1970s, his diverse work has explored themes pertaining to taste, consumerism, mass culture, beauty, acceptance and the role of the artist. Having once stated, 'everything already exists in this world', Koons has also reconfigured the concept of the readymade.

Hirst first saw Koons's work – which he has been collecting for twelve years – in the 1987–1988 group exhibition 'New York Art Now', presented at the Saatchi Gallery during Hirst's second year at Goldsmiths college.

'Power Stations', Newport Street Gallery's inaugural exhibition of paintings by John Hoyland (1934–2011), has been extended by one week, allowing visitors a final opportunity to see the work of one of Britain's leading abstract artists. 'Power Stations' will now close on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

Newport Street Gallery is the realisation of Hirst's long-term ambition to share his extensive collection of art – which includes over 3,000 works – with the public.

## Notes to editors

Jeff Koons was born in York, Pennsylvania, in 1955. He studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He received a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1976. Since his first solo exhibition in 1980, Koons's work has been shown in major galleries and institutions throughout the world. A full survey of Koons's career was the subject of a major exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, which travelled to the Centre Pompidou in Paris and to the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Koons lives and works in New York City.

Newport Street Gallery opened in Vauxhall, south London, in October 2015. Spanning five buildings, the gallery presents solo or group exhibitions of work drawn from Damien Hirst's extensive art collection, which he has been building since the late 1980s. Hirst's interest in curating dates back to the beginning of his artistic career and his organisation of the groundbreaking 'Freeze' exhibition in south London in 1988. On the opening of the gallery, Hirst said: *"I've always loved art and art deserves to be shown in great spaces, so I've always dreamed of having my own gallery where I can exhibit work by the artists I love. I believe art should be experienced by as many people as possible and I've felt guilty owning work that is stored away in boxes where no one can see it, so having a space where I can put on shows from the collection is a dream come true."*

Newport Street Gallery is open on Bank Holidays. Please see website for details.

Entry to all exhibitions is free.

### **Newport Street Gallery**

Newport Street  
London  
SE11 6AJ

### **Opening times:**

Tuesday – Sunday  
10am – 6pm

**Free entry**

[www.newportstreetgallery.com](http://www.newportstreetgallery.com)

<http://www.jeffkoons.com>

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