



## Highlights from the Ben Uri Collection Vol 1

**Sarah MacDougall**

**Rachel Dickson**

**Foreword by David Glasser**

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- The book is full of colour plates showing some of the highlights of the Ben Uri Gallery's collection, with foreword by Executive Chairman, David Glasser

Ben Uri Gallery and Museum was founded 100 years ago in July 1915 in Whitechapel in London's East End by Russian-Jewish émigré Lazar Berson and likeminded, mostly émigré, artists and craftsmen, who were unable to access the cultural bastions of the British art establishment. From its inception as an Art Society in 1915, steeped in a vibrant Yiddish culture, to its position today as the only specialist Jewish museum of art in Europe working wholly in the mainstream, Ben Uri's unique international collection has grown to more than 1,300 artworks across a wide range of subjects and media, created by more than 380 artists, primarily (but not exclusively) of Jewish origin and from 35 countries.

**Sarah MacDougall** is the biographer of British modernist artist Mark Gertler. A senior curator since 2002 at Ben Uri she is Head of Collections at Ben Uri and the Eva Frankfurter Research and Curatorial Fellow for the study of emigre artists. She has curated a great number of exhibitions including focus shows on Josef Herman, Boris Aronson and most recently themed shows, 'Revisiting the 50s' and 'No Set Rules' and has also co-curated many exhibitions with colleague Rachel Dickson including 'Forced Journeys; Artists in Exile in Britain 1933-45' (2009). She is a recognised scholar on emigre artists to Britain and Jewish artists and writes and lectures extensively both in her own right and jointly with colleague Rachel Dickson. **Rachel Dickson** is the Head of Curatorial Services at Ben Uri following many years as a senior curator since 2002. She has curated a great many exhibitions including most recently 'Transatlantic Dialogues with Judy Chicago, Tracey Emin, Louise Bourgeois and Helen Chadwick'. She co-curates with Sarah MacDougall and alongside Sarah is a leading scholar in the field of Emigre and Jewish artists. Both in her own right and jointly with Sarah she writes and lectures extensively.