



# John Byrne: Sitting Ducks

**John Byrne**  
**Gordon Brown**  
**Julie Lawson**

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- John Byrne has guided the selection of works for the exhibition and publication
  - It includes a detailed view of the portraiture of this prolific artist
  - It brings together previously unpublished works from private collections, many of which are on public display for the first time
  - Accompanies an exhibition at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, from 14 June 2014 to 14 September 2014
- John Byrne is one of Scotland's most prolific and accomplished artists. Published on the occasion of an exhibition celebrating his contribution to the art of portraiture, this book illustrates the technical skill, brilliant draughtsmanship, versatility and inventiveness, fun and gravity that he has brought to the genre. Byrne has many strings to his artistic bow. As well as being a painter he is a successful playwright. Throughout his work he explores the many facets of human nature, confronting the uniqueness and complexity of individuals. It is these skills that are mirrored in his portraiture. As well as some rare examples of Byrne's commissioned portraits, this publication celebrates some of the artist's closest relationships, being for the most part, portraits of his friends and family. To accompany this, the book features an 'in conversation' between the artist and his good friend and owner of Brown's Gallery, Tain, Gordon Brown.