

# SIMON ROBERTS

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## About Simon

Simon Roberts (b.1974) is a British photographic artist based in Brighton, UK. Often employing expansive landscape photographs, his approach is one of creating wide-ranging surveys of our time, which communicate on important social, economic and political issues.

Roberts has been exhibited widely with *We English* touring to over thirty national and international venues. He's had solo shows at the National Media Museum, Bradford, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, and Multimedia Art Museum Moscow, and been included in numerous group exhibitions. Recent shows include *Observers: British Photography and the British Scene (From the 1920s to Now)* at Galeria de Arte SESI, Brazil, and *Landmark: The Fields of Photography* at Somerset House, London. His photographs reside in major public and private collections, including the George Eastman House, Deutsche Börse Art Collection and Wilson Centre for Photography.

In recognition for his work, Roberts has received several awards including the Vic Odden Award (2007) - offered for a notable achievement in the art of photography by a British photographer, along with bursaries from the National Media Museum (2007), John Kobal Foundation (2008) and grants from Arts Council England (2007, 2010, 2011, 2014). He was commissioned as the official Election Artist by the House of Commons Works of Art Committee to produce a record of the 2010 General Election on behalf of the UK Parliament. In 2012 he was granted access by the International Olympic Committee to photograph the London Olympics and most recently was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, UK (2013).

He has published three critically acclaimed monographs, *Motherland* (Chris Boot, 2007), *We English* (Chris Boot, 2009) - voted by Martin Parr as one of the best photography books of the past decade - and *Pierdom* (Dewi Lewis Publishing, 2013).

One commentator has described his photographs as "subtle in their discovery and representation of forms of cultural character, which, upon closer inspection, reveal a richness of detail and meaning. They exhibit a disciplined compositional restraint, a richness of palette, and a wealth of narrative incident."

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

2015

Brighton Museum & Art Gallery (Brighton, UK): *Pierdom*

2014

BredaPhoto (Breda, Holland): *Pierdom*, September - October

Pallant House Gallery (Chichester, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - October

Grundy Art Gallery (Blackpool, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - September

Quay Arts (Isle of Wight, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - September

SeaCity Museum (Southampton, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - August

Towner Gallery (Eastbourne, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - August

Brighton Museum & Art Gallery (Brighton, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - August

Kirkleatham Museum (Redcar): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - August

Aberystwyth Arts Centre (Aberystwyth, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July - August

Teign Heritage Centre (Teignmouth, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July

Burgh Hall (Dunoon, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, July

Turner Contemporary (Margate, UK): *Pierdom National Exhibition*, June - September

Multimedia Art Museum (Moscow, Russia): *Landscape Studies of a Small Island*, April - May

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2013

Klompching Gallery (New York, USA): *Pierdom*, November - December  
Robert Morat Galerie (Hamburg, Germany): *Pierdom*, November - December  
Flowers Gallery (London, UK): *Pierdom*, September - October  
Format Festival (Derby, UK): *Let This Be a Sign*, March - April  
Flowers Gallery (London, UK): *The Election Project*, February - April  
Phos Fotografia (Chieri, Italy): *We English*, January - March  
MC2 Gallery (Milan, Italy): *Pierdom*, January - February

2012

4RT Contemporary (Lausanne, Switzerland): *We English*, December - January  
The Photographers' Gallery, Print Sales (London, UK): *Pierdom*, July - September  
Third Floor Gallery (Cardiff, UK): *We English*, July - August  
Swiss Cottage Gallery (London, UK): *Let This Be a Sign*, May - June  
Light House (Wolverhampton, UK): *We English*, January - March  
Pluie d'Images (Brittany, France): *We English*, January - February

2011

Centro Brasileiro Britânico (São Paulo, Brazil): *We English*, November - February  
Hereford Photo Festival (Hereford, UK): *Landscapes of Innocence & Experience*, November  
Flowers East (London, UK): *We English*, October - November  
Photautnales Festival (Beauvais, France): *We English*, September - November  
SIFEST Photography Festival (Savignano, Italy): *An Italian Story*, September - October  
UH Galleries, St Albans Museum (St Albans, UK): *We English*, July - September  
Brighton Museum & Art Gallery (Brighton, UK): *We English*, May - August  
mac Gallery (Birmingham, UK): *We English / Landscapes of Innocence & Experience*, May - July  
mac Gallery (Birmingham, UK): *The Election Project*, April - June  
New York Photo Festival (New York, USA): *Landscapes of Innocence & Experience*, May  
MC2 Gallery (Milan, Italy): *We English*, April - May  
Robert Morat Galerie (Hamburg, Germany): *Motherland & We English*, March - April  
DMB Project Space (London, UK): *Polyarnye Nochi*, January - March  
Spazio Labo' - Centro di Fotografia (Bologna, Italy): *We English*, January - February

2010

Clocktower Gallery (Croydon, UK): *We English*, November - February  
Robert Morat Project Space (Berlin, Germany): *We English*, October - December  
EX3 Centro l'Arte Contemporanea (Firenze, Italy), *Motherland, Homeland*, Oct - November  
Brighton Photo Fringe (Brighton, UK): *The Election Project*, October  
SIFEST Photography Festival (Savignano, Italy): *We English*, September - October  
House of Commons (London, UK): *The Election Project*, September - December  
National Media Museum (Bradford, UK): *We English*, March - September  
Burgh Hall, (Dunoon, UK): *We English*, April - July  
Bank Street Arts (Sheffield, UK): *Motherland*, May - June  
Bonington Gallery (Nottingham, UK): *Motherland, Homeland*, February - March  
Crane Kalman (Brighton, UK): *Polyarnye Nochi*, Jan-February

2009

South Hill Park Arts Centre (Bracknell, UK): *We English*, November - January  
The Photographers' Gallery (London, UK): *We English*, September - November  
Klompching Gallery, (New York, USA): *We English*, September - October

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2008

Blank Gallery (Brighton, UK): *Motherland- Landscapes of Longing*, October  
Belfast Exposed (Belfast, Northern Ireland): *Motherland*, January - March

2007

Klompching Gallery (New York, USA): *Motherland*, October - December  
Lodz Foto Festiwal (Lodz, Poland): *Motherland*, May  
Photofusion (London, UK): *Motherland*, April - May  
Pushkin House (London, UK): *Motherland*, March  
The Photographers' Gallery (London, UK): *Motherland*, February - April

## Selected Group Exhibitions

2014

John Hansard Gallery (Southampton, UK): *Show Me The Money*, October - November  
Aberystwyth Arts Centre (Aberystwyth, UK): *I like this place*, July - September  
The Photographers' Gallery (London, UK): *Didn't We Have A Lovely Time*, July - August  
Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art (Sunderland, UK): *Show Me The Money*, June - August

2013

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Missouri, USA): *Making Pictures of People – Recent Perspectives on Photographic Portraiture*, August - January 2014  
Museum of London Docklands (London, UK): *Estuary*, May - October  
Somerset House (London, UK): *Landmark: The Fields of Photography*, March - April  
Format Festival (Derby, UK): *Piece of Cake*, March - April

2012

Galeria de Arte SESI (Sao Paulo, Brazil): *Observers: British Photography and the British Scene (From the 1920s to Now)*, September - December  
Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma (Rome, Italy): *Camera Work / FOTOGRAFIA - Festival Internazionale di Roma*, September - October  
Belvedere Museum (Noorderlicht Photofestival, Netherlands): *Terra Cognita*, September - October  
Sifest (Savignano, Italy): *Sin\_Tesis*, September - October  
Flowers Gallery (London, UK): *Uncommon Ground*, July - September  
White Cloth Gallery (Leeds, UK): *The Great British Public*, July - September  
Dog Eared Gallery (London, UK): *The Great British Public*, June  
Aubin Gallery (London, UK): *The English Way*, May - June  
Australian Centre for Photography (New South Wales, Australia): *Hijacked III: Contemporary Photography from Australia & UK*, June - August  
Griffith University Art Gallery (Brisbane, Australia): *Hijacked III: Contemporary Photography from Australia & UK*, April - June  
Quad (Derby, UK): *Hijacked III: Contemporary Photography from Australia & UK*, March - May  
Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (Perth, Australia): *Hijacked III: Contemporary Photography from Australia & UK*, February - April

2011

National Library of Ireland (Dublin, Ireland): *Martin Parr's Best Books of the Decade*, July  
Klompching Gallery (New York, USA): *Land*, June - July  
Down Stairs Gallery (Madley, UK): *Heartlands*, May - July

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2010

Host Gallery (London, UK): *Pieces of a song*, December

Carrousel du Louvre (Paris, France): *Electric Vision: BMW Paris Photo Prize*, November

The Photo Gallery (Bristol, UK): *Landscape*, November

Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington DC, USA): *100 Portraits / Photographers*, November

George Eastman House (Rochester, USA): *What We're Collecting: Art/Not-Art*, August - October

360 degrés (Quebec, Canada): *Contemporary Landscape Photography*, August - October

Kaunas Photo Festival (Kaunas, Lithuania): *Duets and Duels - Night of Photography*, September

Krakow Photomonth (Krakow, Poland): *Aktualizacja UK*, May

2009

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art (Gateshead, UK): *Parrworld*, October - January

House of Sweden, FotoWeek DC (Washington, USA): *What Lies Beneath: Nature & Urban Landscape in EU Photography*, November

Paris Photo, Carrousel du Louvre (Paris, France): *We English*, November

Noorderlicht Photo Festival (Groningen, Netherlands): *War Machines*, September - October

3 White Walls Gallery (Birmingham, UK): *Photography is dead / Rhubarb-Rhubarb*, July

Royal Academy (London, UK): *Summer Exhibition*, June - August

C/O Berlin (Berlin, Germany): *Visions of Our Time, Deutsche Börse Art Collection*, May - July

2009

New York Photo Festival (New York, USA): *Foto8 / Home for Good*, May

Klompching Gallery (New York, USA): *Splash!* April - June

Shinjuku, (Tokyo, Japan): *This Day of Change*, April - May

Format Festival (Derby, UK): *Polyarnye Nochi*, March - April

2008

Month of European Photography (Berlin, Germany): *Blurring the Lines*, November

Vanderbilt University Law School (Nashville, USA): *Dialogues*, October - December

Pingyao International Photo Festival (Pingyao, China): *Motherland*, September

Royal Academy (London, UK): *Summer Exhibition*, June - August

Lumix Festival (Hannover, Germany): *Motherland*, June

New York Photo Festival (New York, USA): *Portraiture*, May

Zeitgeist Art Gallery, (Nashville, Tennessee): *Dialogues*, May - June

Museum of Contemporary Photography (Chicago, USA): *This Land Is Your Land*, February

Museum of Contemporary Art (Shanghai, China): *Unseen*, January - March

2007

Association Of Photographers Gallery (London, UK): *Polyarnye Nochi*, August

Les Rencontres D'Arles (Arles, France): *Motherland - Evening Projection*, June

Photo London, Old Billingsgate (London, UK): *Motherland*, May

Deutsche Börse Art Collection (Frankfurt, Germany): *New Acquisitions*, March - September

Royal Photographic Society (London, UK): *150<sup>th</sup> International Print Exhibition*, May - June

2006

Lianzhou International Photo Festival (Lianzhou, China): *Motherland*, December

Lennox Contemporary Gallery, (Toronto, Canada): *Flash Forward / Magenta*, November

Paris Photo, Carrousel du Louvre (Paris, France): *Motherland*, November

Kaunas Photo Days Festival (Kaunas, Lithuania): *Motherland*, September - October

PHotoEspaña Festival (Madrid, Spain): *Descubrimientos PHE*, June - July

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## Fellowships and Prizes

Arts Council England Grant (UK), 2014  
Honorary Fellowship, Royal Photographic Society (UK), 2013  
North East Photography Network commission (UK), 2013  
Above&Beyond artist commission for Bristol Royal Infirmary (UK), 2013  
BNL - BNP Paribas Group Award, MIA Art Fair, Finalist (Italy), 2012  
Deutsche Börse Photography Prize, Nomination for *We English* monograph (UK), 2011  
Creative Review Photography Annual - Pierdom (UK), 2011  
International Photography Awards, First Prize - Political category (USA), 2011  
International Photography Awards, Honorable Mention - Architecture category (USA), 2011  
Arts Council England Grant (UK), 2011  
BMW Paris Photo Prize, Shortlisted (France), 2010  
Official Election Artist, House of Commons Works of Art Committee (UK), 2010  
PDN Photo Annual, Best Photography Book - *We English* (USA), 2010  
World Press Photo Award, Daily Life Stories, Third Prize (Netherlands), 2010  
Arts Council England Grant (UK), 2010  
Royal Photographic Society Fellowship Distinction (UK), 2009  
EU Imagine a New World, Public's Favourite Award, Shortlisted (EU), 2009  
Creative Review Photography Annual (UK), 2009  
New York Photo Festival Book Award - *We English* (USA), 2009  
KLM Paul Huff Award, Shortlisted (Amsterdam), 2009  
ArtSlant Showcase Winner (USA), 2009  
Deutsche Börse Photography Prize, Nomination for *Motherland* exhibition (UK), 2008  
John Kobal Foundation Grant (UK), 2008  
PDN Photo Annual, Best Photography Book - *Motherland* (USA), 2008  
American Photography 24 Annual (USA), 2008  
National Media Museum Bursary (UK), 2007  
Arts Council England Grant (UK), 2007  
Vic Odden Award (UK), 2007  
Arles Contemporary Book Award, *Motherland* shortlisted (France), 2007  
PHotoEspaña Year's Best Photography Books, *Motherland* shortlisted (Spain), 2007  
Lodz Foto Festival Special Prize (Poland), 2007  
Association of Photographers Document Award (UK), 2007  
Getty Grant (USA), 2006  
Photography Now - One Hundred Portfolios (USA), 2006  
PHotoEspaña Festival Descubrimientos PHE06 (Spain), 2006  
Review Santa Fe, Selected Participant (USA), 2006  
Magenta Foundation Bright Spark Award (Canada), 2006  
Alexia Foundation Grant, Highly Commended (USA), 2006  
PDN Photo Annual Award (USA), 2006  
Lange-Paul Taylor Prize, Finalist (USA), 2006  
Association Of Photographers Open Awards, Best In Show (UK), 2005  
NPPA Best of Photojournalism, Magazine Picture Story (USA), 2005  
PDN Photo Annual Award (USA), 2005  
Photo District News' PDN30 Emerging Artist (USA), 2004  
Chinese Humanity Photo Award, Daily Life Category (China), 2004  
World Press Foundation Joop Swart Masterclass (Amsterdam), 2003  
XIV Yann Geffroy Award, Honorable Mention (Italy), 2003  
Anne Bolt Memorial Award (UK), 1999  
Ian Parry Award (UK), 1998

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## Selected Public Collections

Birmingham Central Library, Birmingham, UK  
Croydon Museum, Croydon, UK  
Deutsche Börse Art Collection, Frankfurt, Germany  
George Eastman House, Rochester, USA  
Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA  
National Media Museum, Bradford, UK  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Missouri, USA  
Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, UK  
Parliamentary Art Collection, UK  
Royal Photographic Society, UK  
Swiss Cottage Gallery/ London Borough of Camden, UK  
Wilson Centre for Photography, London, UK

## Monographs

Pierdom. Photographs by Simon Roberts. Essay by Francis Hodgson. Dewi Lewis Publishing, 2013.  
This Is A Sign. Photographs by Simon Roberts. Self published (newsprint), 2012.  
The Election Project. Photographs by Simon Roberts, Essays by Greg Hobson, Sean O'Hagan and Peter Wilby. Self published (newsprint), 2010.  
We English. Photographs by Simon Roberts. Essay by Stephen Daniels. Chris Boot, 2009.  
Motherland. Photographs by Simon Roberts. Essay by Rosamund Bartlett. Chris Boot, 2007.

## Publications

Show Me The Money - The Image of Finance. Manchester Uni press; UK, 2014.  
The Photobook: A History Volume III. Phaidon; UK, 2014.  
Contatti - Proveni D'Autore Volume II. Postcard; Italy, 2013.  
Hijacked III - Contemporary Photography from Australia & UK. BigCityPress: Australia, 2012.  
Flash Forward - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Magenta Foundation: Canada, 2009.  
This Day of Change. Kodansha Limited: Japan, 2009.  
XL Photography 3. Hatje Cantz: Germany, 2007.  
Flash Forward 2007. Magenta Foundation: Canada, 2007.  
Granta 94: On the Road Again. Photoessay by Simon Roberts. Granta: London, 2006.  
Eyes Wide Open. Chris Boot: London, 2004.  
10 Years of the Joop Swart Masterclass. World Press Foundation: Amsterdam, 2004.

## Selected Artist Lectures

Belfast Exposed Gallery, UK; Fatamorgana School of Art Photography, Copenhagen, Denmark; Houses of Parliament, UK; Host Gallery, London, UK; Kingston University, UK; Klompching Gallery, New York, UK; Landscape Stories, Venice, Italy; London College of Communication, UK; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, USA; National Media Museum, Bradford, UK; PPhotoEspaña, Universidad Europea de Madrid, Spain; Photofusion Gallery, London, UK; Royal Geographical Society, London, UK; Royal Photographic Society, Bath, UK; Scottish Parliament, UK; Sotheby's Art Institute, London, UK; Syracuse University, New York State, USA; The Photographers' Gallery, London, UK; University College Falmouth, UK; University College for the Creative Arts, UK; University of Cambridge, UK; University of Plymouth, UK; University of the Arts, Bremen, Germany; University of Wales Newport, UK