

# The Courtauld

Press Release

05 May 2021

## **THE LORD BROWNE OF MADINGLEY REAPPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COURTAULD FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR-YEAR TERM**

The Governing Board of The Courtauld Institute of Art announced today that the Lord Browne of Madingley has been reappointed as its Chairman for an additional four-year term, until August 2025.

Lord Browne is a passionate supporter of the arts and has held senior positions in a number of major cultural organisations, as well as holding the role of Chairman of the Governing Board of The Courtauld since 2017. He was Chairman of the Trustees of Tate (2007-2017), a Trustee of the British Museum (1995-2005), and Chairman of the Board of the Donmar Warehouse (2015-2020). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, Fellow and Past President of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Lord Browne is Chairman of the Francis Crick Institute, Chairman of the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, and Chairman of the International Advisory Board of the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford – in addition to his recent appointment as independent Co-Chair of the government’s Council for Science and Technology.

Lord Browne is currently Senior Advisor to General Atlantic on climate and Net Zero. He was Group Chief Executive of BP between 1995 and 2007, and is a former Partner at Riverstone, where he was co-head of the world’s largest renewable energy private equity fund. He has held non-executive directorships at SmithKline Beecham plc, DaimlerChrysler AG, Intel Inc. and Goldman Sachs Inc. In 1998, he was knighted for services to industry and was made a life peer in 2001. He is the author of five books.

Lord Browne said: “The Courtauld embodies two of my greatest passions: the arts and education. It has faced significant challenges in recent years, but the Courtauld team is managing a successful and important set of transformational moves. I am delighted to be able to work with them and the rest of the Governing Board for another term.”

Märit Rausing Director of The Courtauld, Professor Deborah Swallow, added: “I would like to thank Lord Browne very warmly for his work to date and am delighted that he will be continuing as Chairman of the Governing Board for a further four-year term. His commitment to The Courtauld as its Chairman has been a huge support for us, as has his expertise in the arts and education arenas. As The Courtauld continues its transformation and heads towards its centenary, we will continue to benefit greatly from his enthusiasm, support and guidance.”

ENDS

## **THE COURTAULD**

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## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About The Courtauld**

The Courtauld works to advance how we see and understand the visual arts, as an internationally-renowned centre for the teaching, and research of art history and a major public gallery. Founded by collectors and philanthropists in the 1930s, the organisation has been at the forefront of the study of art ever since, through advanced research and conservation practice, innovative teaching, the renowned collection and inspiring exhibitions at its gallery, and engaging and accessible activities, education and events.

The Courtauld cares for one of the greatest art collections in the UK, sharing these works with the public at The Courtauld Gallery in central London. The Gallery is most famous for its iconic Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masterpieces, such as Van Gogh's *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear* and Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*. It also showcases an internationally renowned collection of works from the Renaissance through to the present day. The Courtauld Gallery is set to reopen in late 2021, following a major transformation to restore its grandeur and create state-of-the-art facilities.

Academically, The Courtauld faculty is the largest community of art historians and conservators in the UK, teaching and carrying out research on subjects from creativity in late Antiquity to contemporary digital artforms - with an increasingly global focus. An independent college of the University of London, The Courtauld offers a range of degree programmes from BA to PhD in the History of Art, Curating and the Conservation of Easel and Wall paintings. Its alumni are leaders and innovators in the arts, culture and business worlds, helping to shape the global agenda for the arts.

Founded on the belief that everyone should have the opportunity to engage with art, The Courtauld works to increase understanding of the role played by art throughout history, in all societies and across all geographies – as well as being a champion for the importance of art in the present day. This could be through exhibitions offering a chance to look closely at world-

famous works; accessible and expert short courses; events bringing art history research to new audiences; innovative school, family and community programmes; or taking a formal qualification. Our ambition is to transform access to art history education, by extending the horizons of what this is, and ensuring as many people as possible can benefit.

The Courtauld's permanent home in historic Somerset House – London's working arts centre - is currently closed for a major programme of renovation. Our students and academic staff are based near King's Cross.

The Courtauld is a registered charity and relies on generous philanthropic support to achieve its mission of advancing the understanding of the visual arts of the past and present across the world, through advanced research, innovative teaching, inspiring exhibitions, programmes and collections.