



PRESS RELEASE

## Haroun Hayward: Path through Trees

30 May – 1 November 2026



Example of previous work by Haroun Hayward: Haroun Hayward, TRAX (March Landscape), 2023, Oil paint, oil stick, oil pastel, and gesso on panel, Framed 94 x 63.5 x 4.8 cm © Haroun Hayward, Photo by Damian Griffiths

**Pallant House Gallery is delighted to announce Haroun Hayward's (b. 1983, London) first institutional exhibition, *Haroun Hayward: Path through Trees*. A contemporary response to British landscape painting, the exhibition will feature a new series of works.**

On display alongside the season's major exhibition *British Landscapes: A Sense of*

*Place* (30 May – 1 November 2026) and sharing its themes of nature and culture, *Haroun Hayward: Path through Trees* follows the artist's joint residency between Pallant House Gallery and West Dean College. Rooted in the surrounding Sussex landscape and shaped by close engagement with artworks from Pallant House Gallery's collection, the exhibition will explore Haroun Hayward's unique visual language.

Hayward's vibrant practice celebrates hybridity, drawing upon a diverse array of influences from Modern British landscape painting and abstract expressionism, to dance music, rave culture and graffiti. His paintings lean towards abstraction, with shapes inspired by the rhythmic connections between sound, pattern and form, developed through a distinctive use of watercolour, oil paint and oil stick. His practice also takes inspiration from his mother's expansive collection of South Asian and West African textiles, seen in the unique oil stick technique he has developed to emulate embroidery.

Inspired by the energy and rhythmic structures of acid house, hardcore and Detroit techno from the 1980s and 1990s, Hayward's approach to landscape draws upon the processes of sampling, repetition and variation found in music production. With both art forms sharing a search for the transcendental, Hayward has developed a set of processes for handling each section of his works, allowing layers of technique and texture to coexist within a single piece.

During his residency at Pallant House Gallery, Hayward explored its permanent collection, focusing on Modern British artists including Wilhelmina Barns-Graham, Edward Burra, Paul Nash, Ceri Richards and Graham Sutherland. While

he had previously encountered these artists through reproductions, this new body of work has been shaped by direct engagement with the original artworks, resulting in a fresh dialogue with the collection.

Alongside his time spent in the Gallery, Hayward lived and worked at West Dean College, set within the South Downs, and surrounded by an extensive arboretum. Spending time in the Sussex landscape, he made watercolour studies outdoors, responding directly to the rhythms and textures of the trees, paths and shifting light. These experiences, combined with a reference to Paul Nash's watercolour *The Wanderer* (1911, British Museum collection), led to the exhibition title: *Path through Trees*.

Hayward said: "I am delighted to show a new body of work at Pallant House Gallery alongside the artists who have long been a source of inspiration. To be afforded the privilege of spending long hours in the Gallery's Archives was to have a rare glimpse into the creative process. Sifting through the correspondence, notes and sketches I felt I was communicating with the men and women who had created the works that I had only seen reproduced in books or enshrined on the walls of a gallery. At dusk I would walk in the surrounding countryside, where I experienced moments of an almost pantheistic rapture that I have tried to embody in these paintings."

Alongside his exhibition, Hayward collaborated with artists in the Gallery's Community Programme to create *Gathered in the Landscape*. Their large-scale collaborative artwork is a response

to landscape as a shared and evolving genre and will be on display in Room 17.

*British Landscapes: A Sense of Place* will explore how artists from the 18th to the 20th century have responded to the landscapes of the British Isles. Spanning Neo-Romanticism, Modernism and postwar abstraction and bringing together works by more than 60 artists, the exhibition will reveal how landscape painting has served not simply as scenery, but as a powerful expression of memory, identity and emotion.

"We are thrilled to present Haroun Hayward's first institutional exhibition showing a selection of his new works. Supporting emerging artists is at the heart of our Gallery's mission. This exhibition marks the latest in a series in which contemporary artists are invited to respond to works in our collection, creating opportunities for experimentation, discovery, and fresh interpretation from new voices" says Simon Martin, Gallery Director.

Born in 1983, Haroun Hayward lives and works in London. He studied Fine Art Painting at the University of Brighton and completed an MA in Fine Art Practice at Goldsmiths, University of London, following an exchange year at the Nagoya University of Arts in Japan. Hayward has had solo exhibitions at Hales, London; Entractes23, Arles; indigo+madder, London; and Wellington Club, London.

***Haroun Hayward: Path through Trees* will run from 30 May to 1 November 2026 as a contemporary response to the themes of the season's major exhibition *British Landscapes: A Sense of Place*.**

ENDS

## NOTES TO EDITORS

For all press enquiries please contact Rees & Co:

Lauren Hare | [lauren@reesandco.com](mailto:lauren@reesandco.com) | +44 (0)20 3137 8776 | +44 (0)7904 803371

### About Pallant House Gallery

Pallant House Gallery in Chichester is a leading UK museum that stimulates new ways of thinking about British art from 1900 to now. As well as an original and critically-acclaimed exhibition programme and a public programme with inclusion at its heart, the Gallery houses one of the best collections of Modern British art in the country - all within the distinctive setting of an 18th century townhouse and a 21st century gallery.

[pallant.org.uk](http://pallant.org.uk)



### About West Dean College

West Dean College was founded by Edward James, a poet and patron of the Surrealist Movement who bequeathed his West Sussex family estate to become a centre for education and training in the arts, especially historic craft and conservation practices he feared might be lost to humanity. Since opening in 1971, the College has built a global reputation as a home for groundbreaking creativity, offering a wide range of full and part time courses across the arts, design, craft and conservation on its campus nestled in the inspiring natural realm of the West Sussex

countryside and, since 2024, at its new urban outpost in central London.

**WEST**  **DEAN**

### Visiting the Gallery

#### Ticketing

Visitors are encouraged to pre-book tickets, which include full access to the house and seasonal exhibition programme.

Please visit [pallant.org.uk](http://pallant.org.uk) to book tickets or call the gallery on +44 (0)12 4377 4557.

#### Opening Hours

Tuesday – Saturday: 10am–5pm  
Sunday/Bank Holidays: 10am–4pm  
Monday: Closed

Café opening hours:

Tuesday – Saturday: 10am–5pm  
Sunday: 10am–4pm  
Monday: Closed

#### Contact

Pallant House Gallery  
8–9 North Pallant Chichester  
West Sussex PO191TJ

+44 (0)12 4377 4557  
[info@pallant.org.uk](mailto:info@pallant.org.uk)

### Exhibition Supporters

Presenting Partner

**evelyn**  
PARTNERS

## **Gallery Supporters**

Principal Partner

**DREWATTS**  
EST. 1759

Civic Partner



Major Partner

**SOFAS & STUFF**