

Sapling is proud to present

You are here: Albrecht Dürer & VR Overview Effect



**PV: Thursday 25 November, 6 - 8:30pm
25 November - 15 December 2021**

**VR duration: 12 mins
Walk-in or book with ARTSVP**

Sapling is proud to present *You Are Here: Albrecht Dürer and VR Overview Effect*. The exhibition places three engravings by the Northern Renaissance master in conversation with a scientific digital experience. This dialogue spans centuries, exploring paradigm shifts of our perception of Earth in relation to space.

Timed to coincide with the opening of the National Gallery's exhibition *Dürer's Journeys: Travels of a Renaissance Artist*, the Masters Week auctions at Sotheby's and London Art Week, the exhibition takes a fresh look at historical masterpieces. The timing of the exhibition also happens to align with Comet Leonard's closest proximity to Earth in December.

Five centuries on, Sapling will exhibit three rare and important engravings. ***Melencolia I*** (Bartsch 74; Meder, Hollstein 75), **1514**, captures the rise of modern science infused with creative anxiety. The example exhibited here is an exceptionally early, fine, and clear impression. ***Saint Eustace*** (B. 57; M., Holl. 60), **c. 1501**, is also an early and dramatic impression; the astonishingly naturalistic landscape and animals in this iconic image served as models for artists for centuries. ***Saint Jerome in his Study*** (B. 60; M., Holl. 59), **1514**, captures the collision of humanist values with spiritual wonder so characteristic of the Renaissance. *Melencolia I* and *Saint Jerome in his Study* are two of the three *Meisterstiche* ("master prints"), the artist's most famous engravings.

VR Overview Effect is a guided meditation designed by Dr. Annahita Nezami. Simulating the experience of looking back to earth from space, it hopes to impart a sense of the Overview Effect while standing on Earth. Nezami developed the project based on interviews with astronauts and scientists across disciplines. Looking at earth from space, astronauts report a mental reorganisation of their perception of self in relation to the universe. Witnessing the miraculous fragility of Earth in space produces an intense emotional response of care for our planet.

Created with great fidelity to nature, Dürer's prints were disseminated widely. Becoming the first travelling masterpieces, they encouraged humanity to look skyward from the early to late modern eras. The following axial point of this exhibition brings us to the images produced by astronauts during the 1960's space race. Earthrise, captured in 1968 by William Anders on the Apollo 8 mission, is one of the most influential environmental photographs ever taken. In 1969, four billion people watched the moon landings on live television, generating a global paradigm shift. Today with the space sector re-energised, we may find valuable answers in exploring what it means to look skyward and earthward.

Dürer wrote: "the new art must be based on science." Combining once cutting edge printing techniques with VR explores how technology mediates our perception of the world. What tools might Dürer have used, had he been alive today?

About Sapling

A young gallery founded in June 2021 by Charlotte Call, Sapling showcases contemporary talent and aims to provide fresh perspectives onto art history through investigating the potential for art to mediate humanity's relationship to nature.

This exhibition marks the first presentation of historical artworks at Sapling, aiming to catalyse a new collector for Old Masters while staging a great exhibition. Benefiting from an engaged following and several sold out solo shows, Sapling is a vibrant space for collectors to experience art in a nature-driven setting, still in the heart of Mayfair.

The project is presented in collaboration with **Sotheby's Prints Department**, conceived with Acting Head of Department **Yessica Marks** and Deputy Director **Charlotte North**.

Notes for press:

- Images: install shots available on 23 November. The *Melencolia I* image is a photograph of the actual impression to be exhibited.
- Quotes: available from Charlotte Call, Annahita Nezami, Yessica Marks, and Charlotte North

Get in touch:

Charlotte Call
charlotte@sapling.gallery
07841873996

Tuesday - Saturday
12 - 6pm

124 Mount Street Mews
London W1K 3NR
www.sapling.gallery