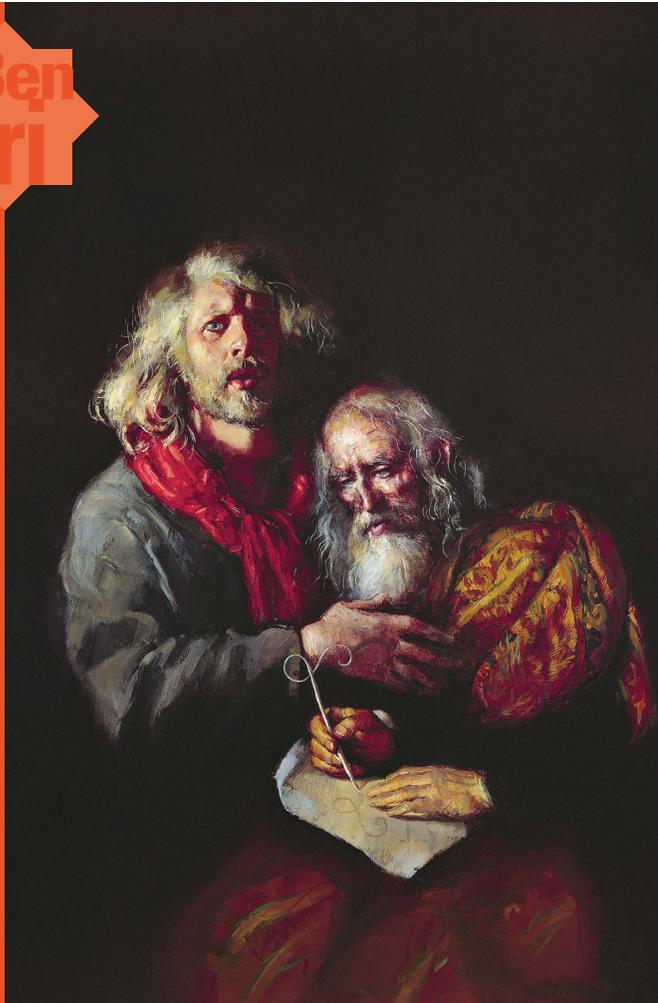


Ben
Uri



It was perhaps inevitable that an artist inspired to paint as a nine-year-old boy after seeing Charles Laughton portray Rembrandt in Alexander Korda's classic biopic would turn often to the subject of self-portraiture

International Advisory Board

UK

Prof. Brian Allen
The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art
Sir Anthony Caro Sculptor
Ms. Gill Hedley
Independent Curator
Prof. Griselda Pollock
University of Leeds
Dr. Andrew Renton
Writer and Curator
Sir Norman Rosenthal
Royal Academy of Arts
Sir Nicholas Serota Tate
Dr. Evelyn Silber
Glasgow University

Europe

Mr. Joel Cahen
Jewish Historical Museum
Amsterdam
Mr. Georg Heuberger
Jewish Museum, Frankfurt
Dr. Felicitas Heimann-Jelinek
Jewish Museum, Vienna
Dr. Leo Pavlat
Jewish Museum, Prague
Ms. Laurence Sigal
Jewish Museum, Paris
Mr. Edward van Voolen
Jewish Historical Museum
Amsterdam

America

Prof. Bruce Boucher
Art Institute of Chicago
Mr. Tom L. Freudenheim
Curator and writer
Prof. Sander Gilman
Emory University Atlanta
Ms. Susan Tumarkin Goodman
Jewish Museum, New York
Mr. Daniel Libeskind Architect

Israel

Prof. Mordechai Omer
Tel Aviv Museum of Art
Ms. Shlomit Steinberg
Israel Museum



Paintings Front cover: Self-Portrait 1978. Inside front cover: Self-Portrait with Mephistopheles 1978. Back page: The Painter Holding Himself When Ninety 1982



Clydesdale Bank



Heritage Lottery Fund



Purchase Grant Fund

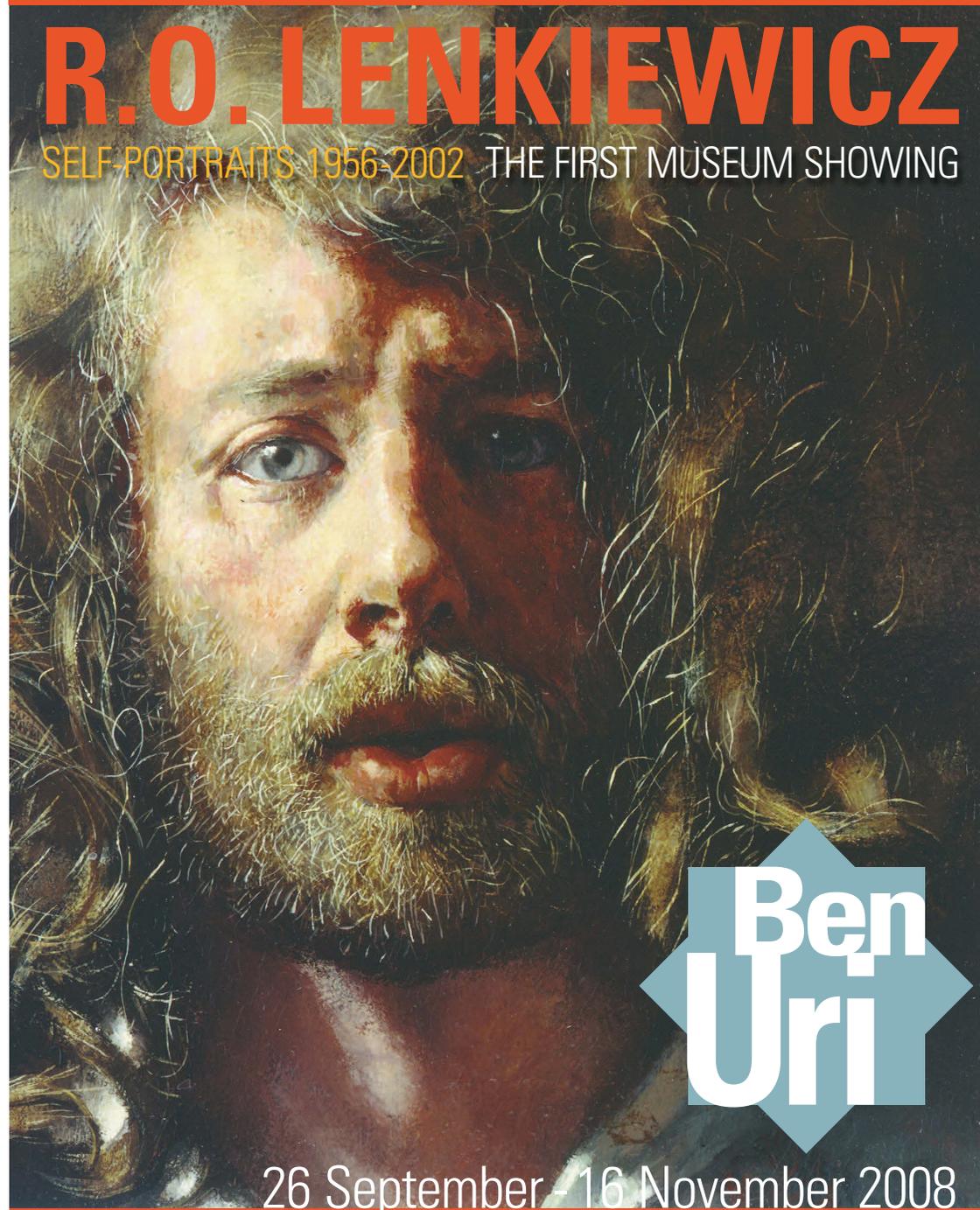


Getting to Ben Uri Underground: Swiss Cottage, St John's Wood or Maida Vale. Bus: Routes 31, 139 and 189. Car: street parking availability in Boundary Road

The London Jewish Museum of Art

R.O. LENKIEWICZ

SELF-PORTRAITS 1956-2002 THE FIRST MUSEUM SHOWING



Ben
Uri

26 September - 16 November 2008

A Museum for Everyone, Bridging Communities through Art



The self-portraits collected in this show span the artist's whole career. From his first paintings as an earnest fifteen-year-old boy, working in Room No. 3 of the

Hotel Shemtov, the Jewish hotel run by his parents in Cricklewood in the post-war years, to the haunting last self-portrait in hospital shortly before his death in Plymouth aged sixty, these images make for an encyclopaedia of the artist's changing styles and philosophical interests down the years.

Lenkiewicz famously chose the outsider as the subject for his art: the vagrants and street alcoholics who dossed at his studios, families with mentally handicapped children, the elderly, the dying – human beings isolated from one another by their circumstances and from themselves by their preoccupations. 'You're born alone and you die alone,' he said and the problem was to deal with the isolation of simply being alive. Lenkiewicz found one solution – a richly creative life conducted with remarkable panache – and left behind a legacy which will appeal to anyone with an interest in the conundrum of existence.

26 September - 16 November 2008

Monday - Thursday 10am - 5.30pm
Friday 10am - 3.30pm, Sunday 12 - 4pm
Ben Uri Gallery, 108A Boundary Road, London NW8 ORH
£5, concessions £4, free for children
Ben Uri Friends and Art Fund Members

Telephone: 020 7604 3991, email: info@benuri.org.uk
www.benuri.org.uk

EVENTS

During the exhibition

5 October. 4pm

At the Ben Uri Gallery.

Seeing The Whole by Louise Courtneil.

Lenkiewicz's approach to painting discussed by one of his most successful former students.

5 November. 4 - 5pm

At the Ben Uri Gallery.

Curatorial led tour by Francis Mallett.

6 November. 7pm

Evening Lecture at the National Portrait Gallery.

Action at a distance Dr Stephen Clucas.

Magic, power and control in pre-modern Europe.

This talk enters into dialogue with three of the obsessions pursued in the painting, book collecting and notebook researches of Robert Lenkiewicz: the practice of 'occult philosophy' or 'magic' in the Renaissance, political domination and the power relations involved in romantic attachment and sexual partnerships.

A Necessary Madness Dr Frank Tallis.

Love as a mental illness.

For thousands of years, both doctors and poets have espoused the belief that falling in love and mental illness are close cousins – sharing a number of common 'symptoms'. Scientific findings are discussed in the context of Robert Lenkiewicz's speculations on the physiological nature of romantic love.

Creation, Illumination and Transmutation

Dr Peter J. Forshaw.

Robert Lenkiewicz, the Science of Kabbalah and the Art of Alchemy.

Inspired by the incredible collection of occult books and manuscripts amassed by Robert Lenkiewicz, this talk shall use his 'Notes on the Barbican Mural' as the starting point for a discussion of some of the significant historical figures Lenkiewicz included in this work.

9 November. 4pm

At the Ben Uri Gallery.

Under The Influence by Nahem Shoa.

Lenkiewicz's influences and the emergence of his unique style is discussed by painter Nahem Shoa.

Tickets

To purchase tickets please email:

info@benuri.org.uk or telephone: 020 7604 3991



The London Jewish Museum of Art

The Board of Trustees of the Ben Uri Gallery and
The Lenkiewicz Foundation invite

to the private view of

R.O. LENKIEWICZ
SELF-PORTRAITS 1956-2002 THE FIRST MUSEUM SHOWING

on Friday 3 October 2008, 6.30 - 8.30pm
The Ben Uri Gallery, 108A Boundary Road, London NW8 ORH

email: info@benuri.org.uk

supported by

SOMERVILLE GALLERY

HALCYON GALLERY

Sotheby's

Bearne's

AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS OF FINE ART