



# Saatchi's latest sensation

## Art guru unveils controversial Middle Eastern art

We live in sensitive times, and after the outrage provoked by the Danish cartoons of Mohammed, Charles Saatchi is pushing the boundaries with his latest exhibition, *Unveiled: New Art from the Middle East*. Some of the more controversial pieces include paintings of homosexual Muslim orgies and sculptures of transsexual Tehran prostitutes. One of the less

shocking but most striking works is *Ghost* (pictured). By French Algerian artist Kader Attia, it depicts a roomful of Muslim women bowing in shimmering meditation. Made of vacant shells of foil, with a gaping hole where the face should be, their bodies are rendered as empty hoods, devoid of personhood or spirit. Until May 9th. [saatchi-gallery.co.uk](http://saatchi-gallery.co.uk)

## LONDON ART SCENE



### ART FROM RUSSIA ON SHOW

**CALVERT 22 GALLERY, E2**  
May sees the opening of Calvert 22, London's first not-for-profit foundation specialising in art from Russia and Central and Eastern Europe. The inaugural show, *Past Future Perfect*, will bring together the works of five leading contemporary Russian artists including Leonid Tishkov (above). From 13th May until 14th June. [calvert22.com](http://calvert22.com)

### HIRST OPENS SECOND SHOP

**14 HINDE ST, W1**  
Damien Hirst has opened his second West End store. Called Other Criteria, the store offers posters and prints from emerging talent and established artists. Buy works by Sarah Lucas and Tracy Emin as well as limited editions by Damien Hirst such as the Transcendent Head (pictured) – yours for £50,000. [othercriteria.com](http://othercriteria.com)



### FREE RANGE GRADUATE ART FAIR

**OLD TRUMAN BREWERY, E1**  
Selling the work of over 3,000 students from 45 of the UK's most renowned art colleges including Goldsmiths and Central St Martins, this graduate fair is spread over 400,000 sq ft. Works range from £50 to £1,500 and admission is free. From 29th May until 20th July. [free-range.org.uk](http://free-range.org.uk)



## LONDON BLITZ PARTIES

Nostalgic Londoners are hot-footing it to Wartime East End air raid shelters complete with sandbags and blackout curtains for 1940s style Blitz parties with drinks, dancing and entertainment of the era. For more go to [theblitzparty.com](http://theblitzparty.com)



## LANGHAM GETS LOVELIER

The Langham's five year, £80m makeover is nearing completion. Built in 1865 this iconic W1 hotel has over 600 rooms. The refurbishment includes the Palm Court restaurant, famed as the place where the tradition of afternoon tea was born over 140 years ago. The refurbishment is due for completion in May.

