



The Lie of the Land

£25.00

The Lie of the Land charts how the **British landscape has been radically transformed** by changes in free time and leisure activities since the recreations of the aristocracy were enjoyed on the rolling hills of their private estates. The exhibition's ambition is to capture a **visionary spirit of grand designs** tempered by the realities of **political expediency**, across a time-period of **four centuries**.

In part, tracing a line between **Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's aristocratic gardens at Stowe (1740s)** and the **social, urban experiment 'new town' of neighbouring Milton Keynes (1960s)**, the exhibition and this accompanying publication tease out the aspirations that underpin our built environments.

The Lie of the Land examines the **modernisation of leisure propelled by industrialisation**: in particular during the Victorian era, with its social reforms aiming to improve urban living conditions, which is represented by the **Parks and Garden City Movements**.

The exhibition highlights **campaigns to democratise space**, from the 17th century **Levellers** to the 1930s **Ramblers**. It looks at how people occupy public space politically (i.e. **Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp**), and the communities that have been excluded through structures of **race, gender, disability and class**.

In the 21st century public resources are under increasing pressure and placemaking/regeneration central to **urban development**. *The Lie of the Land* explores the **role of culture in this process**.

The Lie of the Land features the almost **100 influential cultural figures** including – **architects** such as Norman Foster, Buckminster Fuller, Alison and Peter Smithson; and many **artists** including John Berger, Jeremy Deller, Tracey Emin, Henry Moore, William Morris, Bridget Riley, John Ruskin, J.M.W. Turner, and Rachel Whiteread.

Published on the occasion of the exhibition, *The Lie of the Land* at Milton Keynes Gallery, 16 March – 26 May 2019.

Product Details

Artist(s)	Archigram, John Berger, Jeremy Deller, Tracey Emin, Rose English, Norman Foster, Buckminster Fuller, Thomas Gainsborough, Richard Hamilton, Linder, L.S. Lowry, Edwin Lutyens, Yinka Shonibare MBE, Henry Moore, William Morris, Paul Nash, Nils Norman, Eduardo Paolozzi, Joseph Paxton, Cedric Price, Bridget Riley, John Ruskin, David Shrigley, Alison and Peter Smithson, Jo Spence, Superstudio, James Tissot, J.M.W. Turner, Derek Walker, Rachel Whiteread, Stephen Willats
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