

# VIEWPOINTS



*LEIGH BOWERY - LUCIAN FREUD*

Lucian Freud (1922 - 2011)

## Leigh Bowery

Oil on Canvas, 1991

Leigh was an Australian performance artist and club promoter in the London and New York party scene of the late 1980s.

Known for his abstract costumes, wild fashion sense and full facial makeup, his style went on to influence many artists and musicians including Alexander McQueen and Boy George. Leigh also designed fashion garments and costumes and ran the disco and fetish club TABOO.

This portrait strips away the painted eyelashes and clownish makeup and presents us with a rarely seen Leigh, laid bare and vulnerable.

T06834

Tate: Presented anonymously 1994

As I am an artist myself of the human form- I was attracted to Lucian Freud's painting of Leigh Bowery. I see painting the body as a unique skill and Freud has used a very loose technique of brush work, with what looks like many skin tones which he has closely studied. It fascinates me as it shows the model sleeping which has its vulnerability so stripped of makeup. A very inspiring piece, very powerful.

LEIGH BOWERY

Chill.

Brown.

Child.

Snoring.

Laying.

Bed.

Wood.

He is like this.

Bam Bam

8

I like this picture because it shows how far you can strip back even the brightest of characters! Leigh was so over the top in his lifetime and he really pushed the boundaries of art, so to see him like this is quite sad. However, perhaps we should look at the picture in another light thinking of it as Leigh and Freud going to the extreme of the opposite scale; rather than putting more on (as Leigh most certainly did) he's taken it all off and gone beyond simply being nude and offered us a new angle on how the human form can be used in art.

Who is he? Looks interesting (washed out tones muted but beautiful)

The thick brush strokes gives a feeling or observation of a person. Reminding me of the Blitz chis, Michael Clarke London.

This simple head painting is more complex than it looks and manages to give an impression of weight and volume by careful use of brush direction and tone.

You can almost FEEL the flesh of the immense dome of his head.

I loved it!

The head is massively out of proportion, that being said I envy this piece, it gives a sense of a strong man who shows vulnerability. With the eyes closed and the head resting it suggests a baby-like gentleness.



# VIEWPOINTS



*LINCOLN CIRCA 1959 - STEPHEN  
LAWRENCE LOWRY*

Laurence Stephen Lowry (1887- 1976)

## Lincoln

Oil on canvas, 1959

This image of Lincoln shows the city's industrial past. Laurence often painted industrial scenes and the everyday life of working class people.

This painting was commissioned by an MP for the city. Laurence had a wry sense of humour and on the first showing had not yet painted the cathedral, much to the client's dismay. The cathedral was then added and the painting presented in its complete state.

This work is one of three Lowrys in our collection and all three travel widely, most recently to the Tate and to Belgium.

LCNUG 1995/11

On loan from the Usher Gallery Trust, 1996

This could be any Monday morning: heads down, one foot in front of the other, yet the beautiful cathedral stands proud but seemingly unnoticed by the passers by. 1959 or 2015.

Maybe this was on Lowry's mind when he first showed his client the picture?

Art can be playful, timeless, serious and Lowry captures this perfectly here.

I like the idea of the stick figure people its quite cool.I know of this painting as we have looked at it in my class at school.

Charlotte 10

The painting reminds me of the time I lived in that area and worked down the waterside at a place called Clayton dewandre. I can remember rushing down thoughts same tracks on the waterside to and from work it was the happiest time of my life so much in front of me so much time. I can feel the rush of people going to work the noise, the fumes and clatter of bicycles.

Brings back my first memory of  
Lincoln- a view from the train.

A yellow grey pall hung over Lincoln  
cathedral- heavy industry existed then-  
1961- it felt grim and dirty after clean  
rural Suffolk. It's better now!

Anon

When I look up to the skies  
I see your eyes a funny kind of yellow  
I rush home to bed I soak my head  
I see your face underneath my pillow  
I wake next morning tired still yawning  
See your face come peaking through  
my window  
Pictures of matchstick men and you  
Mirages of matchstick men and you  
All I ever see is them and you

It amuses me the way people try to apply significance to the cathedral image in this picture, I have heard people trying to say how it represents certain attitudes, how the faded appearance of it shows something else, the irony about all of this is the actual reason for the cathedral being in the image.

When presented with the work, the commissioner was displeased that the cathedral was not in it, despite the cathedral not being visible from that area, so Lowry took the piece away again and rather crudely added a cathedral, if you look closely at the image you will see one large mistake that highlights this.



If it wasn't for Lincoln Cathedral in the background the industrial scene in the foreground could be any mill or factory town. The Cathedral feels like an afterthought and seems to have been added reluctantly by Lowry. I think Lowry has put the Cathedral in to satisfy the person who commissioned the painting rather than because he himself wanted to paint it.

I like the colour scheme and looking at peoples faces to see what they are feeling. It looks simple but when you look at the people in the background you see a bundle of legs and wheels

This painting captures a part of history for future generations to learn from. It shows a divided Lincoln. The working classes busy in their day being watched over by a grand towering Cathedral.

The texture expresses the hard work both within the picture and it's production.

It's framed like a theatrical set with the Cathedral taking centre stage.

LINCOLN

Lowry

Didn't know Lowry had painted  
Lincoln.

Love his quick quirky style.

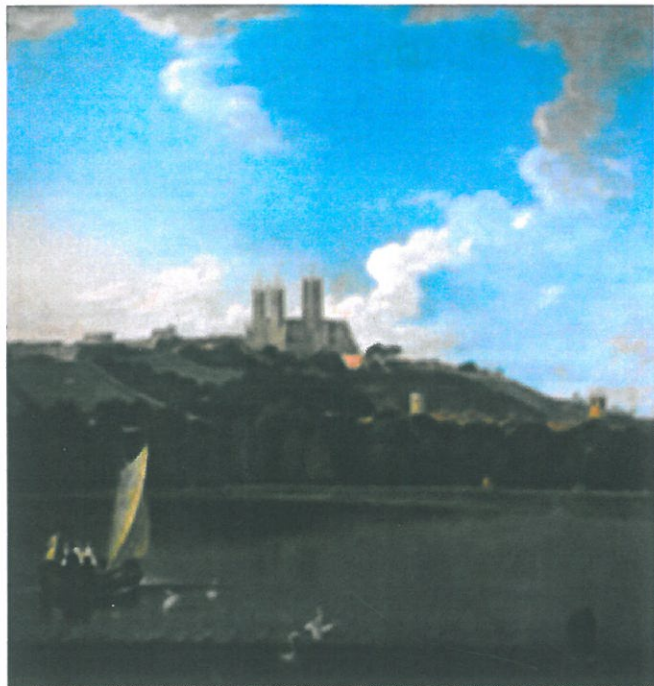
For me he captures people and  
movement extremely well.

This makes me feel at home –  
recognise the area.

The fact that the cathedral is not  
prominent makes me think that people  
make the city not a building however  
striking.

Anon

# VIEWPOINTS



*LINCOLN FROM BRAYFORD*

Attributed to Joseph Baker

## Lincoln From Brayford Circa 1730

Oil on canvas

This image of Lincoln Cathedral from the south west is an enduring one and similar images can be seen from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries in this room. A small fisherman wades in the shallow water of the Brayford in the foreground with the cathedral soaring into the sky behind.

This perspective is repeated in the nearby Lowry of Lincoln. Both artists contrast everyday working life in the foreground of the image against the spectacle and presence of the Cathedral and religion in the background.

LCNUG: 1927/176

Purchased 1934

LINCOLN FOM THE BRAYFORD –  
Attributed JOSEPH BAKER

It is sad and gloomy.



I Like the way this picture shows an unobstructed and unaltered view of how Lincoln looked before industry arrived. It gives you a good idea as to the original size of the Brayford pool, and shows the uncluttered edge of the waterside area. This image feels quite calm and peaceful and I find it a pleasure to view it.

This painting is interesting to me as it shows me what Lincoln was like centuries ago and the changes that have happened since then.

Zhivka

This is Lincoln city.

The Cathedral is big.

It is in the olden days.

I like it because it is the biggest  
picture.

Although I love Lincoln it makes me  
wish for a more simple time where  
Lincoln's simple beauty is more  
obvious

Barrie

53

I work on the Brayford waterfront now, and it stands as a metropolitan center for Lincoln. However coming in on the train and seeing the city emerge on the horizon reduces these modern elements and leaves one wondering about the sheer visual impact travellers in times past.

It makes me feel like I am in olden day  
Lincoln.

This reminds me of Segoria in Spain.

Farid

33

I like it because it has very pretty  
colours and in looks old fashioned.

Fallon

Age 6



The type of painting you can return to over and over and notice new detail every time you look t it.

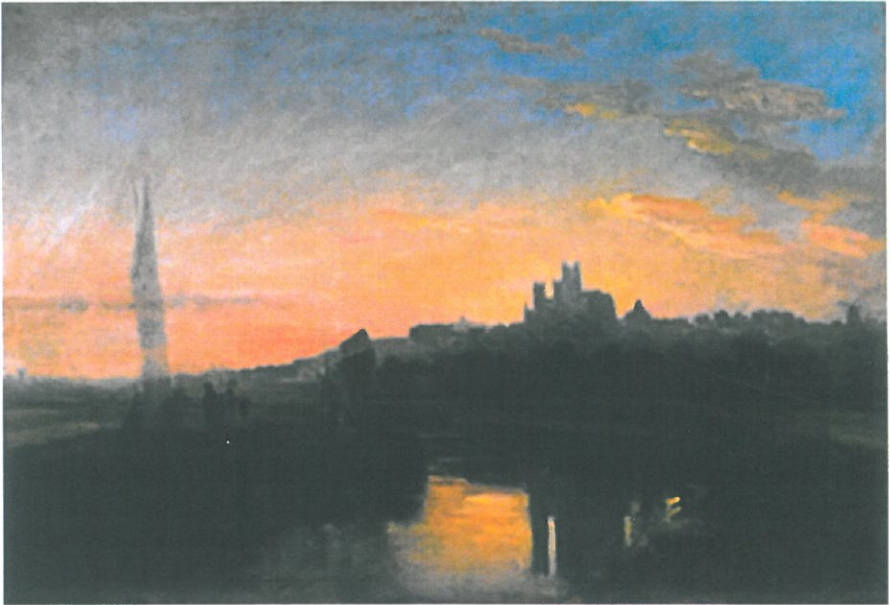
The Castle and Cathedral were a nest  
of woes

Where culture and religion were both  
imposed

But now remote from our defeat

They here look arty, cool and sweet

# VIEWPOINTS



*LINCOLN FROM THE RIVER AT SUNSET -*  
PETER DEWINT

Peter DeWint (1784-1849)

## Lincoln from the River at Sunset

Oil and paper laid on canvas, c.1830s

This view of Lincoln from the southeast is one of many created by Peter when he visited Lincoln to see his wife Harriet Hilton, the sister of his housemate and fellow esteemed landscape painter William Hilton RA.

A Member of the Royal Academy and Society of Painters in Watercolours, Alfred William Rich said of Peter 'No artist has ever come nearer painting a perfect picture than did Peter DeWint'.

The many paintings of Lincoln by DeWint form a major contribution to British landscape painting.

LCNUG : 1985/1

Purchased with the assistance of the Heslam Trust and the Friends of Lincoln Museums and Art Gallery, 1985

He captures the fleeting beauty of a sunset, something that many of us try to do today with landscape photography.

I wonder if de Wint would have been a photographer had cameras been available to him?

Nowadays we try to improve on nature using digital techniques – artistic interpretation or cheating?

I like this painting because it makes me feel happy and because its calm,moving and lovely.

Destiny 9

It makes me feel relaxed and peaceful, with the sense of an end – a closing of things. The soft muted colours are very naturalistic. I can hear a soft murmuring of the people working and the water giving a sense of calm

It makes you feel relaxed and composed. The colour is soft, warm. It does not have a meaning to me. Sound of the splashes of the river. This reminds me of the fire of London because of the red colours. Soft smooth texture. Make you hear calm sounds even though you can't. I was drawn to this piece because of the detail.



I was drawn to this particular painting because of the grass. It looks like a war has been and gone because the grass is a blood red colour.

The people in the picture look famished as if no crops have grown for months.