

Press Release, 11 August 2026

JUSTIN CAGUIAT

Change Ringing

At Serpentine South

8 October 2026 – 10 January 2027

Press View: Wednesday 7 October 2026, 8.30am to 12pm

Please RSVP to: press@serpentinegalleries.org



Image: Justin Caguiat, *Untitled 7 (Alphabet of Dots)*, 2025, Aquatint and soft-ground etching, gampi paper chine collé over monotype on paper, 35.2 x 26.5 cm. Courtesy the artist; Greene Naftali, New York; Modern Art, London; and Serpentine, London

Serpentine is delighted to announce the first UK institutional exhibition of new and recent works by Justin Caguiat, on view at Serpentine South from 8 October 2026 to 10 January 2027.

Change Ringing will bring together painting, sculpture, printmaking, sound and film. Justin Caguiat engages with the gallery beyond its interiority, using the architecture and infrastructure of the Serpentine South building to frame and display his artworks.

Through a use of heat-responsive pigment, works on view at Serpentine will constantly change in colour and reveal different shapes as they react to environmental factors such as temperature and light. Though they resist fixed narratives, the paintings are reminiscent of fresco painting.



Alongside canvases, sculptures and prints, Caguiat will also show a series of bronze bells cast in the shapes of various flowers and plant seeds varying in size. A score composed by Lily Pickett riffs on the logic of English change ringing, playing mechanically in a continuous loop as pistons fire in sequential code. Like the concrete acoustic mirrors built along Britain's coastline to detect warships, or Le Corbusier's conception of a building as an acoustic receiver, the gallery's walls gather and amplify the bells' chimes, transforming architecture into a listening instrument.

An evolution of *Zodiac Machine* (4 March – 1 April 2026; Madrid), the exhibition organised by Fundación Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Madrid, across the Santa Ana y la Esperanza Church, the nearby Moratalaz Market, and surrounding public spaces, the Serpentine show will continue Caguiat's longstanding exploration of the architecture, spiritual resonance, and symbolic qualities of sacred spaces, alongside the structures and rhythms of everyday urban infrastructure. Devised as a project in two parts taking place in the two institutions, Caguiat's new body of works was influenced by the Spanish architect Justo Gallego Martínez, specifically his Catedral de Justo, which he designed and built single-handedly using only recycled and found materials.

Bettina Korek, CEO and Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director, Serpentine said: "We're honoured to present Justin Caguiat's first institutional exhibition in the UK, following its presentation by Fundación Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Madrid earlier this year. Caguiat's cosmic and multifaceted practice gives rise to mystical, open-ended paintings that dissolve the boundaries between worlds. His work also explore time, and memory, moving between abstraction and figuration."

Change Ringing will also include a new site-specific installation of thermochromic paintings. Painted with heat-responsive pigments on copper, rudimentary heating pads and microcontrollers occupy various areas of the exhibition space and are triggered by the chimes of the bells. Once triggered, the copper panels are heated, shifting the colours and forms visible. These system-based works react to the ambient temperature in the room, which influences their transition from reactive to stable. Installed throughout the galleries will also be a series of paintings, monumental in scale, evoking murals or expansive landscapes.

A seldomly used space in the back of the gallery will be transformed into a small cinema featuring a 16mm film by Caguiat.

Justin Caguiat: *Change Ringing* is curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director and Natalia Grabowska, Curator at Large, Architecture and Site-specific Projects, with Alexa Chow, Assistant Exhibitions Curator. *Zodiac Machine*, organised by La Fundación Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Madrid, was curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, and produced by Isabela Mora.

Notes to Editors

Justin Caguiat

Justin Caguiat (b. 1989, Tokyo) is an interdisciplinary artist. Recent solo exhibitions include Caguiat Delacruz; *The Tramp*, CCA Wattis Institute of Contemporary Arts, San Francisco (2026); *Zodiac Machine*, Fundación Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Madrid (2026); Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University, Middletown (2024); Modern Art (2023, 2020); Greene Naftali, New



York (2022); The Warehouse, Dallas (2022); Taka Ishii Gallery, Tokyo (2021); and 15 Orient, New York (2018). His work is in the collections of Dallas Museum of Art; the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, among others.

About Serpentine

Building new connections between artists and audiences, Serpentine presents pioneering contemporary art exhibitions and cultural events with a legacy that stretches back over half a century, from a wide range of emerging practitioners to the most internationally recognised artists, writers, scientists, thinkers, and cultural thought leaders of our time.

Based in London's Kensington Gardens, Serpentine features a year-round, free programme of exhibitions, architectural showcases, education, live events and technological activations across two sites, Serpentine North and Serpentine South, in the park and beyond the gallery walls.

Public art has emerged as a central strand of Serpentine's programme. Major presentations include a collection of Eduardo Paolozzi's sculptures (1987); Anish Kapoor's *Turning the World Upside Down* (2010); Lee Ufan's *Relatum – Stage* (2018–19); Christo and Jeanne-Claude's *London Mastaba* in the Serpentine Lake (2018); *I LOVE YOU EARTH* by Yoko Ono (2021); Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster's *In remembrance of the coming alien (Alienor)* (2022); Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg's *Pollinator Pathmaker* (2022–24); Atta Kwami's *Dzidzɔ kple amenuveve* (Joy and Grace) (2021–22); Gerhard Richter's *STRIP-TOWER* (2024); Yayoi Kusama's *Pumpkin* at the Round Pond (2024); Esther Mahlangu's mural *Umntu ngumuntu ngabantu* (2024) and Giuseppe Penone's *Albero folgorato (Thunderstruck Tree)* (2012) and *Idee di pietra (Ideas of Stone)*, (2010 – 2024) in 2025. *Pénétrable BBL Jaune* (1999; 2023 edition) by Jesús Rafael Soto is currently on view in Kensington Gardens.

Proud to maintain free access for all visitors, Serpentine also reaches an exceptionally broad audience and maintains a profound connection with its local community.

For more information, please contact:

Nicolas Smirnoff, Head of Communications, NicolasS@serpentinegalleries.org; +44 757 0291 018
Esther Saunders-Deutsch, Press Manager, EstherS@serpentinegalleries.org; +44 7879 1981 29

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