

# Collection Sandretto Re Rebaudengo: Have you seen me before?

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Taking its title from the work by Italian artist **Paola Pivi**, this display draws upon humour and the notion of the double-take to probe the boundary between reality and fiction.

Pivi's *Have you seen me before?* (2008) presents a polar bear with a bewildering coat of yellow feathers suggesting both fairytale wonderment and genetic modification. This playful ambiguity continues in *Table with Cheese* (1981) by **Katharina Fritsch** in which an unsettlingly realistic, oversized cheese apes the form of a minimalist sculpture.

The idea of the absurd is explored in the presentation of nonsensical scenarios. **Angela Bulloch's** *Yellow Corner* (1993) displaces lights from a pedestrian crossing, while **Anish Kapoor's** bulbous *1000 names* (1983) unexpectedly springs forth from the gallery's wall. Elsewhere **Fischli and Weiss** capture a gravity-defying assemblage of tools and Tauba Auerbach purports a flat canvas to be wrinkled in *Crumple VII* (2009).

Throughout the show we are invited to apply a child-like sense of wonder to how we perceive the world in which we live. **Philippe Parreno's** *Jean-Luc Godard* (1993) presents a Christmas tree surrounded by chairs on which we are encouraged to sit and listen to the soundtrack of the artist posing as Godard. Listening to musings on popular culture, television and cinema, we are warned against our tendency 'to believe what we think we can see'.

This is the fourth and final exhibition in a year-long series of displays of works from Collection Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, one of the foremost European collections of contemporary art.

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Curated by Achim Borchardt-Hume, former Chief Curator, Whitechapel Gallery in collaboration with Francesco Bonami, Artistic Director, Collection and Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo.

See the fully illustrated catalogue including interview with collector Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, on sale in the Bookshop for a special exhibition price of £18.95

To find out more about talks and events throughout the autumn, pick up a leaflet or visit [whitechapelgallery.org](http://whitechapelgallery.org)

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