

[Emin at White Cube Gallery](#)

[Emin at the Tate](#)

[Emin at Galleria Lorcan O'Neill Roma](#)

Tracey Emin (British, b. 1963)

Watch [a 1990s interview](#) with Emin at a Young British Artists exhibition from the Kinolibrary Archive Film Collections.

[My Major Retrospective 1963-1993](#) at White Cube Gallery included over 100 objects Emin collected over the years, including teenage diaries, souvenirs, toys, memorabilia, paintings, drawings, and photographs.

Emin was included in Charles Saatchi's [controversial](#) exhibition [Sensation](#) in 1997. The artist exhibited *Everyone I have Ever Slept With 1963-1995*, which was tragically destroyed in a 2004 fire at Saatchi's east London warehouse. Emin called the fire "[the great British Art disaster.](#)"

Nominated for a [Turner Prize](#) in 1999, Emin exhibited her famous installation [My Bed](#) for the first time at the Tate. [Watch an interview](#) with the artist about the artwork when it was reinstalled in 2015.

In 1999, Lehmann Maupin Gallery in New York hosted Emin's first solo exhibition in the United States. Read a review of *Tracey Emin - - Part of Me's Bleeding* in the [New York Times archives](#).

The British Pavilion for the [Venice Biennale](#) selected Emin, the second woman ever, for its 52nd edition in 2007. [Tour the exhibition in a video](#).



Emin in her east London studio, 2017
Photograph: DACS/Artimage



Emin in front of *My Bed* (1998), 2014
Photograph: Rob Stothard

A 2008 exhibition entitled *Tracey Emin: 20 Years* at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art was Emin's first major retrospective. [Read a review](#) and click through [an image gallery](#).

In 2011, Emin was [appointed Professor of Drawing](#) at the Royal Academy of Art, one of the first two female professors since the Academy's founding in 1768. That same year, an exhibition at London's Hayward Gallery controversially included a parental guidance [warning](#) and required anyone under 16 to be accompanied by an adult.

Watch a [Tate Talks video](#) between the artist and art critic Johnathan Jones and a [long interview](#) with Kenny Schachter about the 2020 exhibition *Detail of Love* at Xavier Hufkens, Brussels.

[The Loneliness of the Soul](#) (2020) featured Emin's work alongside paintings by Norwegian modern artist Edvard Munch (1863-1944). [Take a virtual tour](#) of the exhibition and read a review in [The Art Newspaper](#).

Emin was diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2020, but [her prognosis didn't stop her artmaking](#). After multiple major surgeries in 2021, [she is cancer free](#).

Tracey Emin (British, b. 1963)

You did This to me, 2019

Acrylic on canvas

Private Collection; L2021:122.2

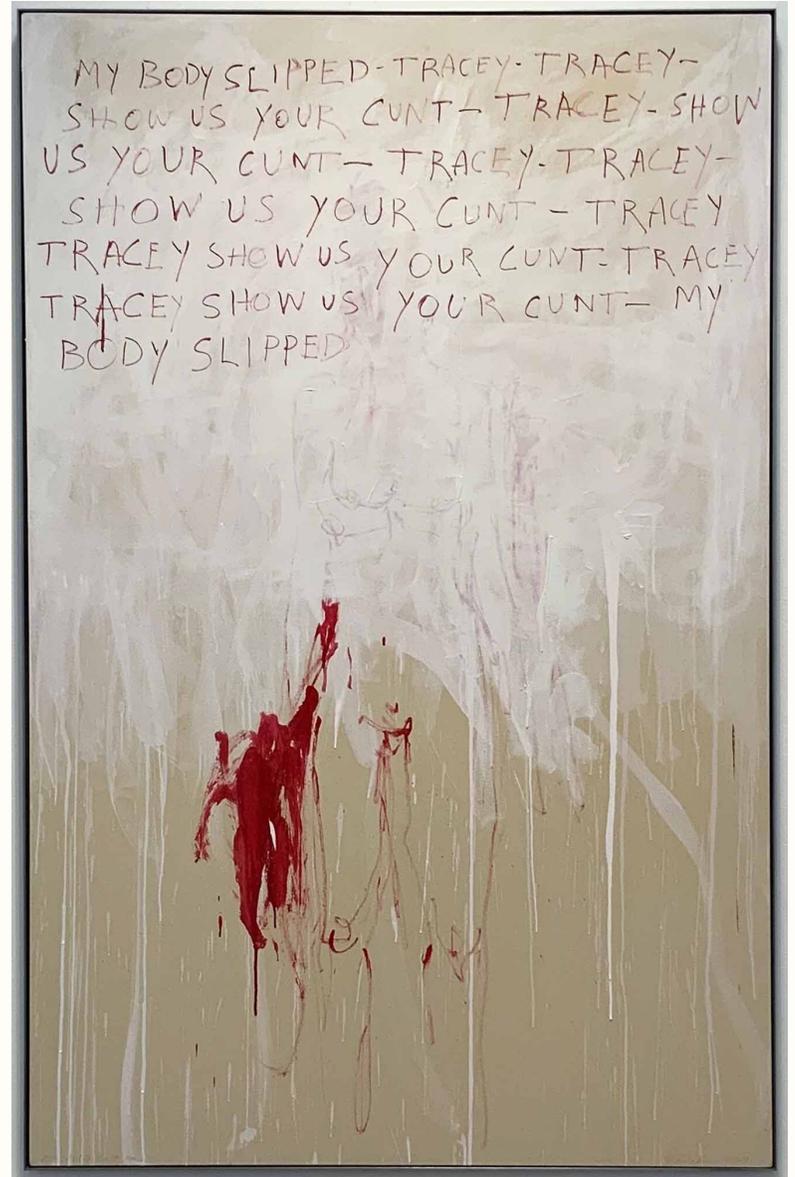
Tracey Emin is known as the most candid, unorthodox, and rebellious of the Young British Artists who emerged at the end of the 1980s and gained international renown in the 1990s. After completing an MA at the Royal College of Art, she also became one of the most decorated. Emin was short-listed for the Turner Prize in 1999, elected a Royal Academician in 2007, and appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2013.

Emin spent her childhood in Margate, Kent, where she was raped at the age of thirteen. She values personal history, and her wide body of drawings, paintings, photographs, videos, and neon signs are highly autobiographical and confessional in nature. This trio of Emin's work presents themes of pain, loss, and grief in the artist's life. The visceral red paint and repeated phrase, "Tracey show us your cunt," in **You did This to me**, and the artist's twisted, half-immersed figure in **Tide Line** revisit a traumatic past. By contrast, the bronze sculpture **In my defense – I thought of only you** reflects upon the loss of Emin's mother in 2016 and attempts to recuperate a memory of her touch. The artist does not shy away from the past, once saying: "The most beautiful thing is honesty, even if it's really painful to look at."

On view January 5 – April 10, 2022

Extra Resources

The University of Oregon is committed to fostering an environment free of sexual harassment, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, gender-based harassment and bullying, and stalking. Students and others who have experienced any form of sexual harassment have options to report and receive help from a variety of sources on campus and in the community. For student resources, call 541-346-SAFE or visit safe.uoregon.edu. Off campus resources are available at: Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) at 541-343-7277 or 1-844-404-7700 and at sass-lane.org/crisis-line/.





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Tide Line, 2019

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