

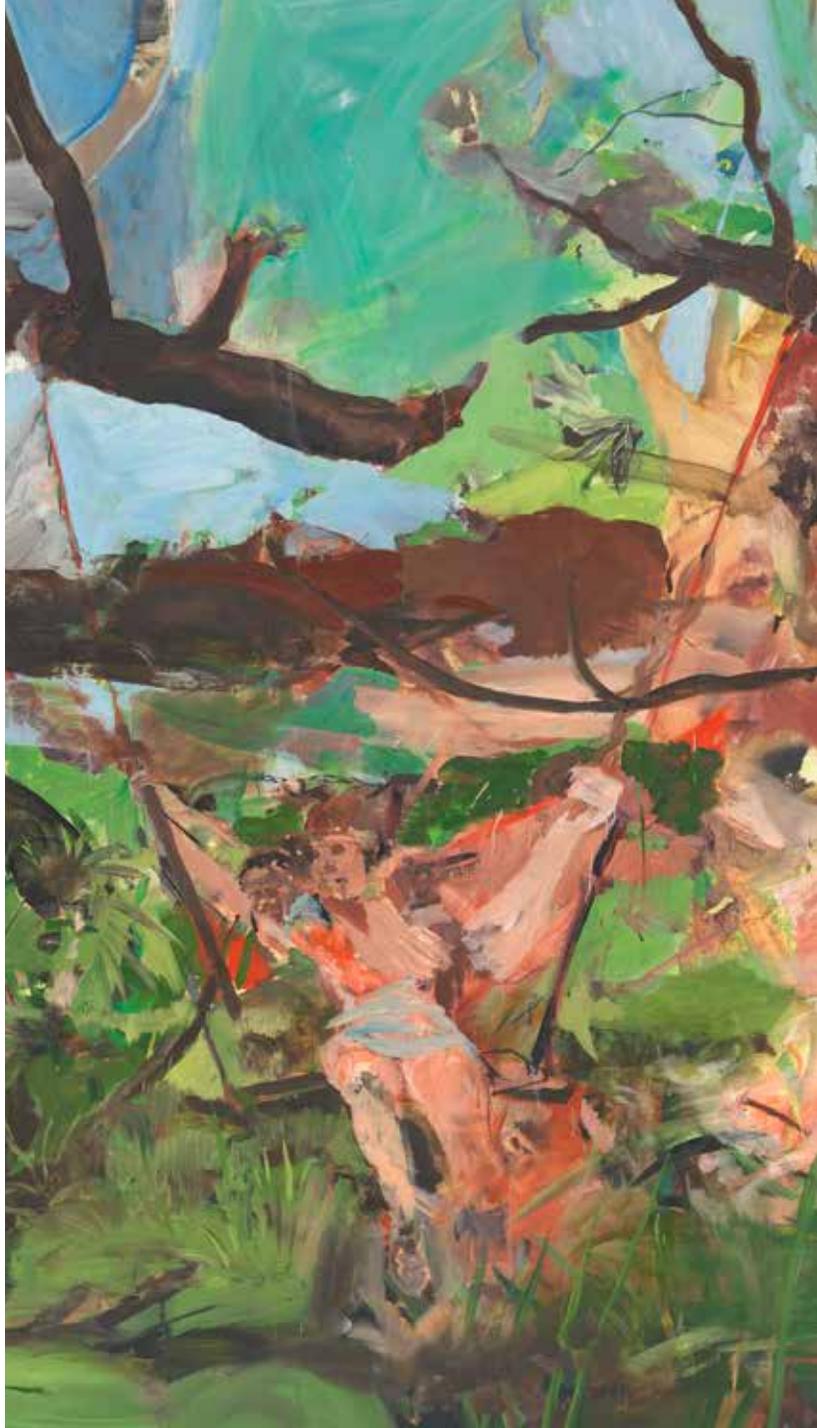
National Gallery of Art

Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC
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Cecily Brown, *Girl on a Swing (detail)*, 2004, oil on linen, National Gallery of Art,
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Elson Lecture

Cecily Brown, artist

March 10, 2016 / 3:30 pm / East Building Auditorium

Cecily Brown, artist, in conversation with Harry Cooper, curator and head, department of modern art, National Gallery of Art

Born in London in 1969, Cecily Brown attended the Slade School of Art in the early 1990s, just when such “Young British Artists” as Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin were dominating the scene with provocative work. While Brown shared interests with some of them in feminism, sexuality, and mass media, her commitment to the history and practice of painting was distinctive. She moved to New York City in 1994 and has lived and worked there ever since. Brown paints with a fine balance of control and abandon, mining art history and the suggestions of the paint itself. For her inspiration, Brown relies on a variety of two-dimensional sources — from magazines and record album covers to children’s books, movies, and a library of exhibition catalogs and monographs including studies of El Greco, Velázquez, Goya, Picasso, Delacroix, Manet, and, present in her most recent work, Degas. Brown’s ability to create dense, intricate spaces in which figures emerge from abstraction has earned her recognition as one of the most important contemporary painters.

Brown’s work has been featured in solo exhibitions in North America and Europe, at such venues as the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution; MACRO, Rome; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; Museum of Modern Art, Oxford; Kunsthalle Mannheim; Des Moines Art Center, Iowa; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Deichtorhallen, Hamburg; Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover; and Galleria Civica d’Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin. Her work is represented in the National Gallery of Art collection by *Girl on a Swing* (2004).

This lecture is free and open to the public. Seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. The West Building Lecture Hall of the National Gallery of Art is located at Seventh Street and Constitution Avenue NW.

The Elson Lecture Series features distinguished contemporary artists who are represented in the Gallery’s collection. The Honorable and Mrs. Edward E. Elson generously endowed this series in 1992. Recordings of Elson Lectures are available at go.usa.gov/ZHNh.