



December Book Bag: Ai Weiwei spills the beans, a short history of Black British art and all of Leon Kossoff's paintings

Gareth Harris

7 December 2021



Leon Kossoff's *Bacchanal before a Herm of Pan by Poussin No. 2* (1998)
© Artist's Estate. Courtesy Annely Juda Fine Art, Mitchell-Innes & Nash and L.A. Louver

Leon Kossoff, *Catalogue Raisonné of the Oil Paintings*, Andrea Rose, Modern Art Press, 640pp, £175 (hb)

This long-awaited catalogue raisonné brings together the paintings of Leon Kossoff, one of the most important 20th-century British artists. Kossoff was part of the School of London along with other figurative painters including Lucian Freud and Frank Auerbach. He returned to familiar subjects throughout his career, including London landmarks such as Christ Church Spitalfields and Kilburn underground station, creating numerous works inspired by Old Masters such as Nicolas Poussin. The author Andrea Rose curated Kossoff's exhibition at the 1995 Venice Biennale when he represented Great Britain. "As part of the catalogue raisonné project, he gave her a level of access to him, his archive and his studios that, as an intensely private person, he had withheld from all others," according to the publisher. An

MITCHELL-INNES & NASH

accompanying exhibition, which first opened at Annely Juda gallery in London, tours to Mitchell-Innes & Nash in New York (13 January-5 March 2022) and L.A. Louver Gallery in California (26 January-26 March 2022).