

## The magic of the Royal Parks

Thousands of children have hopped, skipped and jumped across the Gloucester Gate playground in The Regent's Park since it opened in the 1930s. A much-loved facility that has served the community well over the years, it is now in need of modernisation and improvement.

Now a beautiful £1 million new playground is on the horizon, so children of all abilities can explore and play together in a safe, nature-inspired setting.

**The Royal Parks are appealing to the local community of visitors and residents to help make this vision a reality. To find out more, or to donate, see [royalparks.org.uk/playscape](http://royalparks.org.uk/playscape)**

The Royal Parks is the charity that cares for 5,000 acres of glorious Royal parkland and 500 years of history in the heart of our Capital. Every year, 77 million visitors enjoy eight of London's largest open spaces including: Hyde Park, The Green Park, Richmond Park, Greenwich Park, St. James's Park, Bushy Park, The Regent's Park, and Kensington Gardens. Registered charity no. 1172042



Kusama experimented with her first pumpkin works while studying art in the 1940s, and her use of the motif has since become something of an obsession



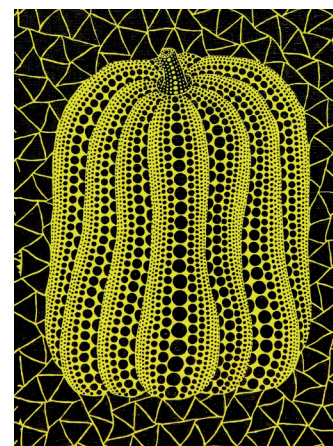
### ART

#### Yayoi Kusama: Small Pumpkin Paintings

Until 1 Jun | Omer Tiroche Gallery

Avant-garde artist Kusama is best known for her provocative 'happenings' and hallucinatory paintings of loops and dots. So this intimate exhibition of small-scale paintings is an unexpected delight. Kusama's family survived primarily off pumpkin dishes when she was a child - as the visual embodiment of her childhood and present psychological state, they are a form of self-portraiture. Viewed up close, you can see that these paintings are an amalgamation of two motifs she has revisited throughout her career: polka dots and infinity nets. Mesmerising.

> 21 Conduit Street, W1S (020 7499 5143; [omertiroche.com](http://omertiroche.com))



### ART

#### Hughie O'Donoghue: Scorched Earth

15 Mar-14 Apr | Marlborough Fine Art

Finding something fresh to say about Vincent van Gogh would faze most contemporary artists. Not O'Donoghue. With Scorched Earth, he revisits the paintings created when van Gogh was a patient in the Saint-Paul asylum near Arles, struggling to give lucid form to his vision. O'Donoghue reimagines these paintings in the fields outside his studio, bringing them very much into his own territory. The richly worked, large-scale canvases are a powerful statement about this tortured artist's legacy in our collective memory.

> 6 Albemarle Street, W1S (020 7629 5161; [marlboroughlondon.com](http://marlboroughlondon.com))