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Andrew Gilbert

Paris Internationale 2026



Sperling presenting Andrew Gilbert, Paris Internationale 2026, booth rendering

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For Paris Internationale 2026, Sperling presents a solo exhibition by Berlin-based Scottish artist Andrew Gilbert. At its center is a sculptural installation depicting a giraffe devouring a colonial officer and Max Beckmann – an image that is at once grotesque and incisive, and emblematic of Gilbert's engagement with the history of art and the afterlife of the British Empire.

The sculpture is accompanied by a selection of drawings and paintings that exemplify his distinctive visual language. Gilbert's practice intertwines historical fact with fiction, merging the visionary with the absurd. Recurring motifs of colonial violence are revisited to expose their cyclical nature and ongoing relevance. Through dark humor and often stark imagery, Gilbert challenges dominant (Western) narratives and unsettles nostalgic readings of imperial history.

In his works on paper and large-scale installations, Scottish artist Andrew Gilbert (*1980 in Edinburgh; lives and works in Berlin) weaves historical facts with fictional narratives, blending the visionary with the absurd. His practice is primarily driven by the legacy of colonialism, with a particular focus on the British Empire.

Gilbert's work exposes the cyclical nature of history and the enduring impact of 19th-century imperialism on the present day. By examining colonial propaganda within popular culture and literature, he critiques the Western-centric narrative and the persistent nostalgia for "Empire." Against the backdrop of recent global socio-political shifts, the questions Gilbert raises—often delivered in a darkly humorous and visceral manner—remain more urgent than ever.

Recent and upcoming exhibitions include: Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts Museum, China (2026); Gallery of Modern Art, Hradec Králové, CZ (2025); Sperling, Munich (2025, 2022, 2020, 2018, 2016); The Delta INST, Hangzhou, China (2023); Lakeside Arts, Nottingham, UK (2023); Syker Vorwerk, Syke (2022); Kunstverein Friedrichshafen (2020); Overbeck-Gesellschaft, Lübeck (2016); Tate Britain, London (2015); Blank Projects, Cape Town (2015); Summerhall, Edinburgh (2014).

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Andrew Gilbert

'Andrew is drawing a very peaceful Hummingbird', 2025

acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper

42 × 30 cm (framed: 47.5 × 35.5)

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Andrew Gilbert
'Britain needs Reform (TM)', 2026
acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper
65 × 50 cm (framed: 71 × 56 cm)





Andrew Gilbert

'Frog Veteran Andrew visits a Chinese Frog meat Restaurant', 2026

acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper

62.5 × 48.5 cm (framed: 71 × 56 cm)





Andrew Gilbert
'Tiger Church', 2024
acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper
150 × 200 cm (framed: 161 × 211 cm)





Andrew Gilbert

'Kitchener's Victory Banquet - Mansion House, Nov. 4. 1898', 2023

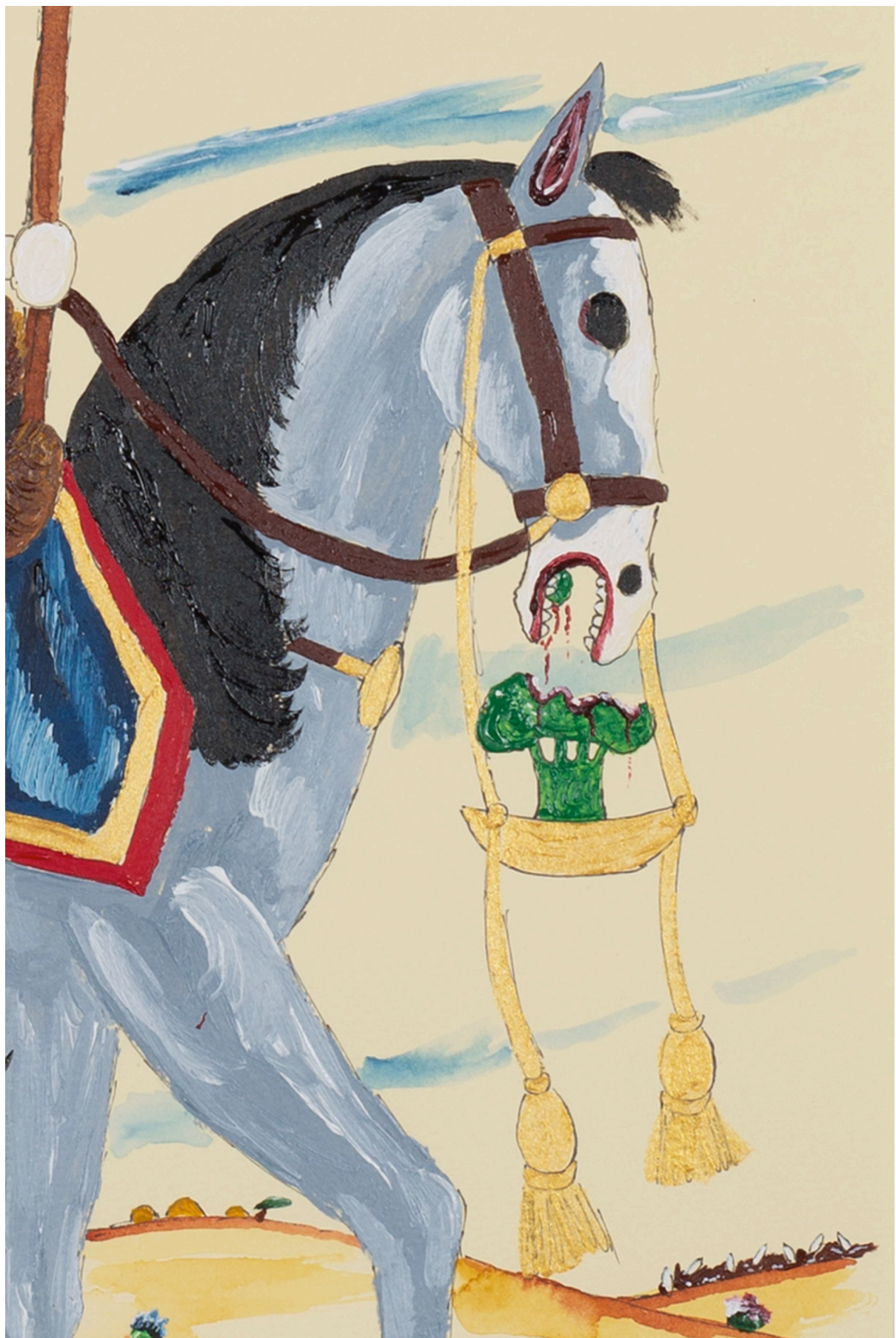
acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper

40 × 30 cm



Andrew Gilbert
'17th Lancer ambushed in Southern Africa, 1879', 2026
acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper
42 × 30 cm (framed: 47.5 × 35.5)

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'Spion Kop Rose, 23rd Janaury, 1900, South Africa', 2019

acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper

40 × 30 cm



Andrew Gilbert

'On the Twelfth Day ~ Andrew witnessed the Fall of the Old Gods and Birth of the New',
2021 acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper

65 × 50 cm



Andrew Gilbert
'The Eternal Propaganda', 2018
acrylic, watercolor and fineliner on paper
40 × 30 cm



Andrew Gilbert
Emperor Andrew's Vision of European Tribal War Idol, 2015
fineliner, watercolour, acrylic on paper
100 × 70 cm