

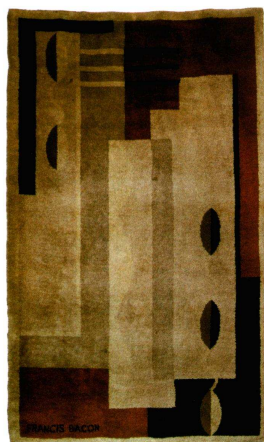
## Francis Bacon and Interior Design

The Resource Area is a representation of a 1950s domestic interior although it has no direct link to Francis Bacon himself. Instead, it is intended to be used as a way of exploring the context and the era in which his work in the exhibition was produced.

In fact, starting at the age of about twenty, Francis Bacon had a brief career as an interior designer including furniture, fabrics and furnishings. In 1929, he opened his design studio in a former garage in Queensberry Mews West in London, in which he created a modernist interior decorated with the rugs, wall-hangings and furniture of his own design.<sup>1</sup>



‘The 1930 Look in British Decoration’, *The Studio*, 1930 by Francis Bacon.



Rug designed by Bacon 1929-30.

<sup>1</sup> Harrison, M. *In Camera Francis Bacon*. (London, 2005) 23.

Bacon's early interior designs are credited with having informed his later paintings.<sup>2</sup> This can be traced in the often stark interior settings, whilst his tubular furniture, such as the chromium-plated coffee table resemble his painted rostrum devices, as seen in *Figure Study II*.



Bacon's Living Room, 1932.

The mirror on the wall dates from the 1950s, and has been included because Bacon designed a circular mirror in 1932, seen illustrated below, an example of which he had in his studio.



Circular Mirror, designed by Bacon 1932.

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

**Bibliography:**

Harrison, Martin. *In Camera Francis Bacon Photography, Film and the Practice of Painting*. London, 2005.