

# Understanding British Portraits

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**The Bowes Museum workshop | 26 March 2010 | 12.00 – 16.00**

## **Biographies of speakers, in order of presentations**

**Adrian Jenkins (chairman)**, MPhil, MBA has been Director of The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, since 2001. Previous roles include Curatorial Assistant for English Heritage, Assistant Keeper of Art at the Laing Art Gallery and Senior Keeper of Fine and Applied Art at Bolton Museum and Art Gallery. Publications include *Expressionism in Germany 1905-1925* (1999), *Painters and Peasants: Henry La Thangue and British Rural Naturalism 1880-1905* (2000), *The Road to Impressionism: Joséphine Bowes and Painting in nineteenth century France* (2002) and *Goya's Prison: the year of despair* (2009).

**Chris Steele-Perkins** moved from Rangoon to England with his family in 1949. He graduated with honours in psychology at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (1967-70) while working as a photographer and picture editor for the student newspaper. In 1971 he moved to London and started working as a freelance photographer and started his first foreign work in 1973 in Bangladesh followed by work for relief organisations and travel assignments. In 1975 he worked with *EXIT*, a group dealing with social problems in British cities. He then joined the Paris-based *Viva* agency in 1976. In 1979, his first book, *The Teds*, was published. Chris joined Magnum and soon began working extensively in the Third World. His latest large-scale project is on the situation in Afghanistan. He is now also working extensively in Japan.

**Elizabeth Conran's** career in museums and as an art historian began in 1959 and has been spent working with collections and archives of French and British nineteenth-century art in the Whistler Archive (University of Glasgow), Manchester City Art Gallery and at The Bowes Museum. She was Director/Curator of The Bowes from 1979 to 2001 during the time of its governorship by Durham County Council and, following the retirement of the Keeper of Art in 1996, held additional responsible for the fine art collection. Since retirement, Elizabeth has continued to be active in giving lectures in art history in and around the region.

**Pauline Hukin** has been with the Education Department at The Bowes Museum for three years. After 20 years teaching Art & Design in Secondary Schools she changed direction and combined freelance work with supply teaching. This led to five years working as a tutor to the young cast of the BBC children's television series *Byker Grove*. Her special responsibility in the department is for secondary education.

**Amy Longstaff** has been with the Education Department of the Bowes Museum since June 2009, becoming Education Officer in December. For the three years prior to that, she studied at Northumbria University for a BA (Hons) in Early Primary Education. Since joining The Bowes Museum she has been responsible for engaging young people through community projects and regular sessions for schools.

**Sophie Harrison** has held the position of Gifts, Bequests and Legacies Manager at The Art Fund since January 2008. Her responsibilities include donor recruitment, retention and stewardship and the practical management of works of art given to UK museums through The Art Fund. She previously held the position of Grants Officer at The Art Fund (2002-2005), and in the interim worked for the Impressionist and Modern department at Christie's.

**Harry Vane** studied at Edinburgh University and later attended the Christie's Fine Art Course in London. He is involved with land management at Raby Estates but retains an interest in Fine and Decorative Arts. He is currently President of the Friends of the Bowes Museum and a Committee member of the Historic Houses Association as a Successor.

**Clare Owen** started work at Raby Castle in 1992 as a seasonal guide, progressing to the role of part-time Curator in 1999. She is responsible for the conservation of all of the chattels and for the presentation of the public route. Other duties include organising and training the Castle guides and making arrangements with organisers wishing to bring groups to Raby.