

Understanding British Portraits Annual Seminar

Tuesday 9 October 2018, 10.00 — 16.50 National Portrait Gallery, London

Chaired by Dr Jane Whittaker, The Bowes Museum, and Dr Sarah Moulden, National Portrait Gallery

Participants' biographies

Robin Baillie

Since 2001, Robin has been the Senior Outreach Officer (p-t) in the Education Department, devising the outreach programme at the National Galleries of Scotland. A graduate of the University of Edinburgh and the Slade School of Art (PG), he also teaches part-time in the History of Art at Edinburgh College of Art. He has contributed articles to the *Prison Service* and *Engage* journals, and has curated, and written the catalogues for, several exhibitions at the National Galleries of Scotland. He is currently undertaking a part-time collaborative PhD on nineteenth century Scottish history painting with NGS and the University of Aberdeen. His research interests are in portraiture, nineteenth-century art and Scottish history.

Alison Cooper

Alison Cooper is Curator for the National Trust in the South West, covering properties in the Tamar Valley and English Riviera including Cotehele, Antony, Buckland Abbey, Coletton Fishacre, Greenway and Saltram. Previously, Alison was Assistant Curator of Art, then Curator of Decorative Art, at Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery with a specialist interest in ceramics and eighteenth-century collections.

Rachel Dickson

Rachel Dickson (MA Courtauld) has been jointly responsible for exhibitions, publications and research at Ben Uri Gallery since 2002. Now a Senior Research Manager at the newly-formed Ben Uri Research Unit, Rachel has co-edited and contributed to publications and conferences in Britain and abroad, particularly focusing on émigré artists in Britain during the twentieth century. A member of the Research Committee for German and Austrian Exile Studies, University of London, her chapter "Our Horizon is the Barbed Wire": Artistic Life in British Internment Camps' will be published in 2019 (Lund Humphries), accompanying the nationwide festival *Insiders/Outsiders: The Émigré Contribution to British Visual Culture 1933-45*.

Rosemary Keep

Rosemary Keep completed her AHRC-funded doctorate in 2017 at the University of Birmingham, entitled *Facing the Family: Group Portraits and the Construction of Identity Within Early Modern Families*. She has also received Masters in Fine Art (University of Central England), and in Shakespeare Studies from The Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon. Rosemary's research interests include the portraits of family groups of early-modern provincial families below the ranks of the aristocracy, the role of portraits in constructing social and religious identity, and the role and place of grandparents in early modern families.

Catlin Langford

Catlin Langford is Assistant Curator at the Royal Collection, working on the Prince Albert Project. Her position involves researching and cataloguing a collection of 10,000 photographs acquired and commissioned by the Prince. Catlin previously worked with the Royal Collection's twentieth-century photograph collection that includes works by Christina Broom, Cecil Beaton and Jane Bown. She holds a BA and BA (Honours) from the University of Adelaide and in 2016 she completed her Masters at the Courtauld Institute of Art.

Bethan Lewis

Beth Lewis is Project Curator for the Arts Council Collection National Partners Programme at the Walker Art Gallery, National Museums Liverpool. The three year programme sees the Walker host and curate a series of exciting and innovative exhibitions, featuring artworks from the Arts Council Collection. Beth has previously worked on exhibitions, events and learning activities at venues throughout the UK, including Firstsite, Colchester, Eastside Projects, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton Art Gallery.

George Mind

George Mind is an AHRC-funded Collaborative Doctoral Award student working with the University of Westminster and the National Portrait Gallery; her research focuses on women's practice of studio portraiture in Britain from 1888 to 1938. George holds a BA in English and Art History and an interdisciplinary Master's degree in Literature and Visual Culture 1700 – 1900 from the University of Sussex. Prior to beginning her doctoral research, George worked with arts organisations in Brighton such as HOUSE visual arts festival, Photoworks and Brighton Photo Biennial, and ran a feminist art history course at The New School of Art.

Sarah Moulden

Sarah has just joined the National Portrait Gallery as Curator, 19th-Century Collections (and Interim 20th-Century Curator), coming from English Heritage where she was Curator of Collections & Interiors for sites in South England. She completed her PhD at UEA in collaboration with Norwich Castle Museum on the art and career of John Sell Cotman, exploring how we might rethink the relationship between art and lived experience. Formerly, Sarah was an Assistant Curator at the NPG and Dulwich Picture Gallery having initially trained at the Courtauld Institute of Art.

Alice Ottazzi

Alice Ottazzi is a fully-funded PhD candidate in art history working on the reception of the British school in France in the eighteenth century, as well as temporary lecturer at Aix-Marseille Université (France). Her researches also embrace the history of drawing and print with a particular focus on the eighteenth century. In 2012 she worked in the Print and Drawing Department at the Louvre Museum. Since 2015 she has been teaching assistant in at the University of Turin and, in 2018, temporary lecturer in Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her researches have been funded by different institutions, among them the Paul Mellon Centre for British Art, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and INHA (Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art). In 2017 she was Visiting Scholar in the Department of Art History at Columbia University, New York.

Alison Smith

Alison Smith joined the National Portrait Gallery as Chief Curator in November last year. Prior to joining the Gallery she was Lead Curator, Nineteenth-Century British Art at Tate Britain. There she led on a number of exhibition projects including *Pre-Raphaelites: Victorian Avant-Garde* (2012) and *Artist and Empire* (2015). She is currently curating an exhibition on Edward Burne-Jones which opens at Tate Britain this month.

Jane Whittaker

Jane Whittaker BA (Hons), PhD, AMA, began her museum career in 1987 as Assistant Curator in Kirklees Museums Service. In 1996 she became Curator of Cannon Hall Museum, Park and Gardens near Barnsley. In 2003 she moved to The Bowes Museum where she is now Head of Collections. She has contributed to major development work at the Museum in the last decade through managing gallery development projects, the *Silver and Metals Gallery* (2009); *English Interiors 1500-1900* (2011) and the *Ceramics Galleries* (2015). She is responsible for liaison with current University partners in Durham and Leeds and for driving forward the research agenda at The Bowes Museum. She also leads on the Collaborative Doctoral Partnership with the National Gallery.