

Enquiries

Object Loans, Research and Enquiry Service

Due to a major development project at York Art Gallery, we are unable to answer any new enquiries or process loan requests from 1st April 2011 until 31st December 2013.

In order to allow curatorial staff to focus on development plans, York Art Gallery has ceased its object enquiry and research services. All object enquiries and research requests currently being dealt with will still be honoured. The gallery is also ceasing its object loan service as of immediate effect; again, all loan requests already being processed will be honoured. All services will resume on 1st January 2014.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience at this busy period.

Research

Below are some tips and contacts to help you research specific artists and works of art:

Art libraries

When researching individual artists, the best places to start are dictionaries of artists. Here are a few that you should be able to find in the art or reference sections of the library in York:

The Dictionary of Victorian Painters, ed. Christopher Wood

Benezit Dictionary of Artists, ed. Emmanuel Benezit

The Dictionary of Art, ed. Grove

British Studio Potters' Marks, Eric Yates-Owen and Robert Fournier

Encyclopaedia of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks, Geoffrey A. Godden.

Leeds Art Library also has an excellent selection of art books.

William Etty (1787-1849)

There are 2 key books written on William Etty and these are the first places to look when doing any research on Etty.

The Life of William Etty R.A. by Alexander Gilchrist

William Etty by Dennis Farr

It is worth consulting *The Royal Academy of Arts: Exhibitors 1769-1904* ed. Algernon Graves, where all the paintings exhibited by Etty are listed.

Local library and archive

For research into individuals

Newspaper archives (from 1728). There is an index of York people and business and also an index by subject.

Family history

Archives and Local History

Contact:

York Explore Centre, Museum Street, York YO1 7DS

tel: (01904) 552828

email: archives@york.gov.uk

Auction houses

Large auctioneers such as Bonham's, Christies and Sotheby's have many departments with specialists in different areas who can help with identification and authentication as well as offering a value on works.

Internet

There is a huge amount of information on many artists and makers if you do a Google search on their name. This may bring up brief biographical details and images of their work as well as museums and galleries that hold their work in their collection.

If you know where the artist was born or worked, it may be worth contacting the local galleries to find out if they have any information about the artist.

Victoria and Albert Museum

There are lots of tips about how to research on the V&A website:

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/nal/findinginfo/index.html>

National Portrait Gallery

For help with researching portraits, you can contact the Heinz Archive and Library at the National Portrait Gallery. <http://www.npg.org.uk/research.php>
archiveenquiry@npg.org.uk

Royal Academy of Arts

<http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/collectionsandlibrary/library-information-service.98.AR.html>

The RA website has this advice:

Information on non-British artists. Your local public library should be able to help with general art enquiries. To find your nearest library, visit UK Public Libraries Page . For more in-depth enquiries, you could try a specialist art library such as the National Art Library , Birmingham Central Library , Edinburgh Central Library , Manchester Central Library , or Westminster Reference Library .

Help with in-depth genealogical research. A number of organisations can provide help with family history research, including the The National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office) , The Society of Genealogists , Familia: the UK and Ireland's guide to genealogical resources in UK public libraries , UK Family History Online , and Genuki: UK & Ireland Genealogy

Telephone 020 7300 5737 (line open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm).

Email library@royalacademy.org.uk

Appointments

Due to a major development project at York Art Gallery, we are currently unable to provide access to any works of art held in store, object history files or the library from 1st April 2011 until 31st December 2013. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

List of conservators and restorers:

Oil paintings

Mark Roberts – 01909 484270
Based at the Harley Gallery, Worksop
mark@picturerestorer.co.uk

David Everingham – 01423 530340 / 07887 936022
39A Harlow Oval, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 0DR
david@deveringham.fsnet.co.uk
www.everingham.fsnet.co.uk

Gillian M H Walker – 0114 250 8161
Unit 4, Whiting Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S8 9QR
gillian.mh.walker@btinternet.com
www.gillianmhwalkerconservation.co.uk

Works on paper

James Caverhill – 01325 284325 / 07941 161317
109 Stanhope Road South, Darlington, Durham, DL3 7SF
j.caverhill@tiscali.co.uk

Ruth Prosser – 01904 438315
ruth.prosser@hotmail.co.uk

Frames

Mike Howden – 01226 765387 / 07786 245270
South Yorkshire
mike.howden@lineone.net
www.frameconservation.co.uk

Ceramics and Glass

Ken Robinson – 01751 431408
kenneth.robinson@btinternet.com

Or search for a local conservator at www.conservationregister.com

Valuations and authentication

We are unable to authenticate or identify works of art or give valuations. A reputable art dealer or auction house should be able to help, such as:

Tennants Auctioneers
34 Montpellier Parade
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 2TG
Tel: 01423 531661
Fax: 01423 530990
harrogate@tennants-ltd.co.uk

Bonhams Leeds
30 Park Square West
Leeds
LS1 2PF
Tel: +44 (0) 1132 345 755
Fax: +44 (0) 1132 443 910
leeds@bonhams.com

Christie's Harrogate office
Princes House
13 Princes Sq
Harrogate
HG1 1LW
01423 509699
tscott@christies.com

Exhibition proposals

Our temporary exhibition programme is planned at least 2 years in advance. We are programmed up until the end of 2012 and we are not currently planning beyond 2012 due to a gallery re-development.

We consider exhibition proposals at monthly meetings. If you wish to submit a proposal please first look at our website to see the types of exhibitions we hold and consider whether York Art Gallery would be a fitting venue for your work. It may be that another venue (see the list below) may be more appropriate. Proposals should include an exhibition idea and/or artist statement and good quality images of examples of the specific works, either printed or on a CD. In the proposal it should be made clear to us how and why it links in with York Art Gallery and the collections here.

It is very important to note that we receive a high volume of proposals and our temporary exhibitions usually stem from and link with our own collections. Due to the number of proposals we receive it is extremely rare that we can accommodate an unsolicited exhibition request.

If you are looking to exhibit your work in York then there are several venues that hold small exhibitions:

City Screen
Bar Lane Studios
Bars or cafés around York
Kings Manor (University of York)
York College
According to McGee (formerly The ArtSpace)
The New Schoolhouse Gallery
York Theatre Royal
Space 109

You could also contact the City of York Council's Arts Service to find out what projects you may be able to get involved with.