

FRY ART GALLERY

The Artists of Great Bardfield: Rural Modernists?

A Symposium



Murray Edwards College,
Cambridge

Saturday 2nd July 2016

10.00 - 17.00

Speakers

Dr Alexandra Harris

Alexandra Harris is a Professor of English literature at the University of Liverpool. She first became interested in Eric Ravilious when she studied the history of watercolour painting, and has since then written about Great Bardfield artists in a range of contexts. Her 2010 book *Romantic Moderns* explored the sense of place and tradition in English modernism, and in her 2015 book *Weatherland* she places Ravilious's cool grey weathers in a long story of artists responding to the sky.

Alan Powers

Alan Powers writes and lectures on architecture, art and design, mostly twentieth century British. He has a longstanding interest in the artists of Great Bardfield, and has written two books on Eric Ravilious (*Eric Ravilious: Imagined Realities*, 2003, and *Eric Ravilious, artist and designer*, 2013), as well as other studies on specific areas of his work, such as the *High Street* lithographs and his use of watercolour. After teaching for many years at the University of Greenwich, he now teaches for New York University London and other universities.

James Russell

James Russell curated the 2015 exhibition 'Ravilious' at Dulwich Picture Gallery, devoted to the watercolours of Eric Ravilious (1903-42). He has written a number of books on Ravilious, including the popular four-volume series 'Ravilious in Pictures' (Mainstone Press, 2009-12), and related 20th century British artists such as Edward Bawden and Paul Nash. He read History at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

Dr Gill Saunders

Gill Saunders is Senior Curator in the Word & Image Department of the Victoria & Albert Museum, specialising in 20th-century and contemporary prints and drawings. Her recent publications include *Recording Britain* (V&A, 2011), and *Bawden, Ravilious and the Artists of Great Bardfield* (with Malcolm Yorke; V&A, 2015) to which she contributed essays on Kenneth Rowntree and Michael Rothenstein

Peyton Skipwith

Peyton Skipwith is a freelance art consultant and writer. He worked at The Fine Art Society for forty-four years where, among other things, he was Edward Bawden's dealer. Since retiring in 2005 he has written a number of books on various aspects of British 20th century art and design, often in collaboration with Brian Webb. He writes and reviews for *Country Life*, *Apollo* and other periodicals.

During a visit to the Fry Art Gallery in 2011, Grayson Perry said of Eric Ravilious, "it is the combination of a sort of parochial world and his modern sensibility that I really love about his work". He also much admired Edward Bawden's way of finding pattern in landscape and nature. The Great Bardfield artists were seen as modern in their time: does it still obtain when looking at their work now? They were all figurative artists and mostly took the landscape for their subject matter so are we looking at a re-evaluation of these artists as rural modernists?

We thought that it would be interesting to explore these ideas in the company of some of today's leading authorities on their work.

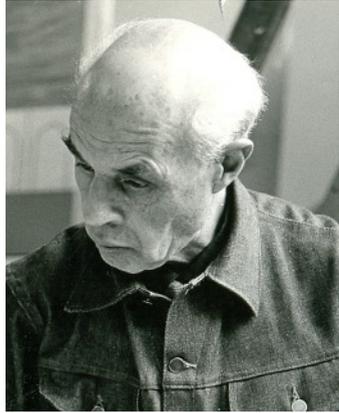
Programme

10.00 - 10.30am	<i>Registration and Coffee</i>
10.30 - 11.15am	<i>The Bardfield Artists in Context</i> Alexandra Harris
11.15 - 12.00pm	<i>Edward Bawden</i> Peyton Skipwith
12.00 -12.45pm	<i>Eric Ravilious</i> James Russell
12.45 - 2.15pm	* <i>Lunch and an opportunity to view the New Hall Collection of work by women painters</i>
2.15 - 3.00pm	<i>Michael Rothenstein</i> Gill Saunders
3.00 - 3.45pm	<i>Kenneth Rowntree and George Chapman</i> Alan Powers
3.45 - 4.15pm	<i>General discussion chaired by Alexandra Harris</i>
4.15pm	Tea and cakes

* A bowl-style buffet lunch is available at the College at £22.00. Please book in advance using the order form. Alternatively there are three pubs within 5 minutes walk of the venue, The Isaac Newton, 84, Castle Street; The Castle Inn, 38, Castle Street; The Architect, 43 Castle Street.



Eric Ravilious



Edward Bawden

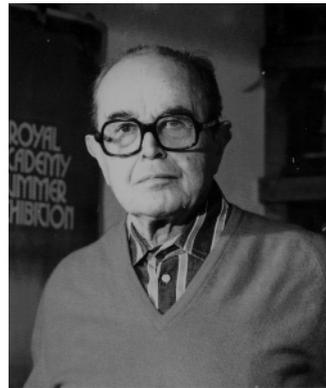
The Artists



Kenneth Rowntree



George Chapman



Michael Rothstein

BOOKING FORM

Please reserve :

	Qty	£
Symposium places@ £45		
Lunches @ £22		
Total		

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to Fry Art Gallery

Or:

I should like to pay via Debit/Credit Card

Card No	
Expiry date	
CVC (3 digit number on reverse of card)	

Name	
Address	
Email address	

Please return to :

Mrs J Pearson, Primrose Cottage, Catmere End, SAFFRON WALDEN, Essex, CB11 4XG

email: symposium@fryartgallery.org

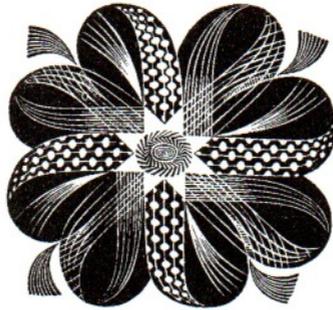
tel. 01799 513779



The theme of this symposium is continued in this year's selection in the Gallery from our permanent collection entitled:

A Modern Sensibility?

The Artists of Great Bardfield



THE FRY ART

GALLERY

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www.fryartgallery.org

B & B accommodation is available at Murray Edwards.

Please book at:

www.murrayedwardsevents.co.uk/cambridge-bed-and-breakfast

Comprehensive instructions on how to find Murray Edwards College may be found at:

www.murrayedwardsevents.co.uk