Lecture Reading List

27 March 2024

Crisis of Brilliance by David Boyd Haycock

David Boyd Haycock, *A Crisis of Brilliance: Five Young British Artists and the Great War* (Old Street Publishing, 2009): this is the book on which the lecture is based, and explores the lives of Dora Carrington, Mark Gertler, Paul Nash, Richard Nevinson and Stanley Spencer as young students at the Slade School of Art, and the impact upon them of the Great War.

David Boyd Haycock, *Paul Nash* (Tate Publishing, British Artists series, 2nd edition, 2016): the short biography I wrote which inspired me to explore Nash and his Slade contemporaries.

Frances Spalding, *The Real and the Romantic: English Art Between the Two World Wars* (Thames & Hudson, 2022): this recent book by one of the great authorities on British art in this period tells the story of what happened after 1918, and includes a number of the artists featured in this lecture.

Christopher Neve, *Unquiet Landscape: Places and Ideas in Twentieth-Century British Painting* (Thames & Hudson, 2020): a very personal approach to a number of key Modern British artists, including two Slade stalwarts, Paul Nash and David Bomberg.

Alexandra Harris, *Romantic Moderns: English Writers, Artists and the Imagination from Virginia Woolf to John Piper* (Thames & Hudson, new edition, 2023): A perfect accompaniment to this lecture, especially if you are also interested in the writers of the period.

Anne Chisholm (ed.), *Dora Carrington's Letters: Her Art, Her Loves, Her Friendships* (Chatto & Windus, 2017): as her Slade friend C.R.W. Nevinson told her, no-one wrote letters quite like Carrington. This is one of the best ways to really get to know the artist, the fascinating friends she made, and the intriguing, tragic times she lived in.

Where to see their pictures:

From 11 May to 9 June the art gallery at Pembroke College will be hosting a small exhibition devoted to Paul Nash's life in Oxford (1939–1946). It will include a number of his works on paper from the Ashmolean's collection, as well as some rarely seen works from private collections in Oxfordshire.

The Ashmolean Museum also has a number of works by these artists on permanent display, including Gertler, Bomberg, Spencer and Nevinson.

In its current hang Tate Britain has some of the major works mentioned in this lecture, including 2 of their greatest works, Gertler's *The Merry-Go-Round* (1916) and Nevinson's *La Mitrailleuse* (1915).

The Imperial War Museum in Lambeth has recently reopened its collection of War Art in brand new galleries. This is by far the best place to see some of the work commissioned by the British government during the First World War, including Nash, Nevinson and Spencer.