

What's on at Gainsborough's House

MAY – NOVEMBER 2018



Gainsborough's House

THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH

'The name of Gainsborough will be transmitted to posterity, in the history of art.'

Sir Joshua Reynolds

Thomas Gainsborough is one of the great figures of British and world art history, renowned not only in his advancement of portraiture to a higher level, but also in being one of the founders of the British school of landscape painting. As John Constable wrote, *'the landscape of Gainsborough is soothing tender and affecting... On looking at them, we find tears in our eyes, and know not what brings them.'*

THE HOUSE AND GARDEN

Gainsborough's House explores the life and art of Thomas Gainsborough. One of the greatest artists of his age, he is renowned throughout the world for his portrait and landscape paintings. The house, *'a most excellent Brick Mansion,'* was bought by John Gainsborough, the artist's father, in May 1722. Of late medieval origins he remodelled it with the addition of an elegant brick façade shortly after its purchase.

The beautiful garden is at the heart of Gainsborough's House. It is maintained by a devoted body of volunteers who garden exclusively with plants that were available in Gainsborough's lifetime. The garden is open year round and there is always something of interest for visitors to see. The centrepiece is the venerable mulberry tree reputed to be over 400 years old. Other highlights are the quince tree, a medlar, shrub roses and a small collection of irises and other plants selected by Cedric Morris to continue the artistic themes of the house into the garden.

FRONT COVER:
CEDRIC MORRIS WITH LETT-HAINES
AND RUBIO THE PARROT,
c. 1905–1936,
© Tate, London 2018



Gainsborough in Sudbury

Thomas Gainsborough (1727–88) was born in Sudbury and was baptised there at the Independent Meeting-House in Friars Street on 14 May 1727, the fifth son and ninth child of John and Mary Gainsborough. He lived in Sudbury until around 1740 when, as a young man, he was sent to London to pursue a career as an artist. He returned to Sudbury in the spring of 1749 where he painted his celebrated *Mr and Mrs Andrews* (c.1750, National Gallery, London). His search for patronage and critical success led him to move to Ipswich around 1752 and subsequently to Bath and London, although he never lost the influence of his native town and county. *'Nature was his teacher, and the woods of Suffolk his academy,'* noted an obituary after his death in 1788.

◀
*Francesco Bartolozzi (1725–1815)
after Thomas Gainsborough (1727–88),
SELF-PORTRAIT, 1798, Stipple engraving*



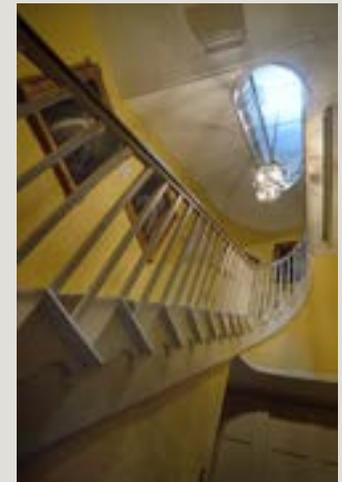
THE ROOMS OF GAINSBOROUGH'S HOUSE

Each of the rooms of the house take a theme around the life and art of Thomas Gainsborough; the downstairs focusing on his life, the upstairs his art.

After an introduction to Gainsborough at Gainsborough's House, visitors enter two rooms downstairs, which explore the achievements of the artist and his time in Suffolk. The Hall and stairs are filled with portraits of the Gainsborough family and works by Gainsborough Dupont, the great artist's nephew apprentice and studio assistant.

The two rooms upstairs consider in turn *'The curs'd face business,'* the portraits of Thomas Gainsborough and *'Nature was his teacher,'* the landscapes of the artist.

The third floor is given over to a permanent display of works and memorabilia from the Constable family collection.



Cedric Morris at Gainsborough's House

10 FEBRUARY – 17 JUNE 2018

Sir Cedric Lockwood Morris (1889–1982) was an artist widely admired during his lifetime. He became a conspicuous figure in the art and social scenes of Cornwall, Paris and London from the 1920s to 1940s. Towards the end of his life and in the generations to follow, interest in Cedric Morris's work waned, however, his legacy as one of Britain's most influential figurative artists was retained by prominent former pupils such as Maggi Hambling CBE (b. 1945) and Lucian Freud (1922–2011).

In 2017 a significant collection of over 100 works by Cedric Morris was gifted to Gainsborough's House representing the largest collection of the artist's work in existence. This rich collection includes landscape and portrait paintings, as well as drawings, prints and even the artist's palette. Uniquely the works had remained part of Cedric Morris's private collection until his death in 1982. Maggi Hambling, who was a student and friend of Cedric Morris, has been instrumental in introducing the collection to Gainsborough's House and in selecting the paintings and drawings for this exhibition.

Cedric Morris (1889–1982) artist and horticulturalist was born in Sketty, near Swansea and attended the Charterhouse School in Surrey. Following a period of time spent in Canada, Cedric joined the Royal College of Music to study singing but gave it up to pursue a career as an artist. Although he had no formal training in art he attended Académie Delécluse in Paris. On the outbreak of the First World War, he returned to England. In 1917 Cedric moved to Newlyn in Cornwall, where he became part of the established artistic community.

In 1918 he met his lifelong partner, the painter Arthur Lett-Haines (1894–1978) and in the late 1920s they settled in Suffolk. With the help of John Aldridge, Edward Bawden and Eric Ravilious, Cedric founded the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing in Dedham in Essex. Within a year of its conception, the art school had attracted over 60 pupils including the painter Lucian Freud (1922–2011). Following a devastating fire at the Dedham property, the school moved to Benton End, a sixteenth-century house and gardens on the outskirts of Hadleigh, Sudbury. The school ran for forty years until the death of Lett-Haines in 1978.

Alongside his work as an artist, Cedric was a lifelong plantsman, who established rare species collected overseas. He won national acclaim as a breeder of irises, some of which are included in the Gainsborough's House garden.

Cedric Morris is an important figure in the story of East Anglian artists. It is fitting that work from his private collection now forms a significant part of the Gainsborough's House permanent collection.



▲ POUND FARM, CEDRIC AND LETT'S FIRST SUFFOLK HOME



▲ CEDRIC MORRIS'S PALETTE

EXHIBITION

A Suffolk Eye: Harry Hambling 1902–1998

This exhibition at Gainsborough's House is a celebration of the life and work of the artist Harry Leonard Hambling (1902–98).

It is in conjunction with the publication of the monograph, *A Suffolk Eye: Harry Hambling Paintings*, produced by his daughter, the artist Maggi Hambling.

Born in the Suffolk village of Snape, Harry was privately educated in Tunstall and then at Ipswich Municipal Secondary School for Boys. After leaving school he joined the Provincial and South Western Bank, which later became Barclays Bank. He lived for a short period in Ipswich and Felixstowe before moving to the historical market town of Hadleigh, where he met Maggi's mother, Marjorie.



Maggi recalls that through her childhood and teenage years her father was an unapproachable figure, either behind the *Daily Telegraph*, safely far away in the garden or out and about in Hadleigh.

◀ Maggi Hambling,
FATHER,
oil on canvas

▲ Harry Hambling,
THE RAPE FIELD,
1983,
oil on board

Encouraged by his daughter, Harry began his artistic career during his retirement, painting mainly still lifes and local scenes of the countryside, town and villages around Hadleigh, an area that he knew intimately. In 1977, Harry had his first solo exhibition in the pavilion of Hadleigh Bowls Club. He went on to have a further six solo exhibitions and many group exhibitions over a thirty-year period.

Maggi reflects: "Now, standing by a Suffolk water meadow I witness the reality of a solid horizontal wall of mist, hovering just above

ground level. I remember with shame how in disbelief I mocked Father's truthful rendition of this phenomenon. Having lived in the county all his life, once Father began to paint its impossibly glowing skies, rampant rape, bare winter trees peopling the land: all these are made manifest with absolute authority in his work. Our jaded eyes are jolted into action by the purity of his vision."

The book *A Suffolk Eye: Harry Hambling Paintings* is currently on sale in the Gainsborough's House gift shop.

Anne Desmet RA: An Italian Journey

23 JUNE – 14 OCTOBER 2018

Anne Desmet RA is an artist who specialises in wood engravings, linocuts and collages. Significantly she is only the third wood engraver ever to be elected to the membership of the Royal Academy of Arts (RA) in its 250-year history.

In late 2016, the Royal Over-Seas League launched a facsimile of one of Anne's Italian sketchbooks alongside a solo retrospective exhibition of her Italian-themed wood engravings, linocuts and collages at Over-Seas House, London. This new exhibition at Gainsborough's House brings together selected highlights from Anne's 2016 show with the addition of some new works including a sequence of special wood engravings created this year to raise funds for the Gainsborough's House capital project.

In 1989 – 1990 Anne worked in Rome as a Rome Scholar in Printmaking where her work focused on the multi-layered nature of cities where ancient ruins co-exist with 21st-century apartments and TV aerials. Using highly detailed wood engravings and linocuts of architectural subjects, she creates a sense of the interweaving passage of time – a type of metamorphosis that is a recurring theme in her work. As well as creating editioned relief prints, Anne also makes complex collages in two and three dimensions, creating completely new images that are suggested by and develop

the themes of her prints. This enables her to push particular architectural motifs in unexpected, often surprising directions, allowing a building to take on a life and invented identity of its own.

Anne Desmet RA was born and brought up in Liverpool. She has BFA and MA degrees in Fine Art from Oxford University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Printmaking from Central School of Art, London. She exhibits widely, has won over 30 national and international awards and has works in numerous public and private collections worldwide. Anne teaches printmaking classes at print workshops throughout the UK including Gainsborough's House Print Workshop where she has been a regular tutor for many years.

Many of the works in this exhibition are for sale along with a special limited edition version of the facsimile sketchbook presented in its own cloth-bound box with a related limited edition wood engraving created, printed and signed by the artist.

▼
Anne Desmet,
TEMPLE STEPPES, 2012,
Wood engraving & monotype
prints collaged on convex glass



“26 years ago, when I was 25, I was delighted to win a scholarship to the British School at Rome, which gave me a year working as an artist in the Eternal City. Although I had taken one brief holiday in Florence a few years earlier, this experience of Rome’s architecture and archaeology was seminal and has influenced my creative output ever since.” Anne Desmet

The Print Workshop at Gainsborough's House



The Print Workshop members' committee plans an exciting programme of exhibitions of members' original prints this season.

The first exhibition features Miniprints at Addenbrooke's Arts, 18 April to 4 June which will transfer, with additional pieces, to the Mill Tye Gallery, Sudbury from 7 July to 2 September.

We also look forward to Fine Art Prints at St. Peter's, Sudbury 12–19 May followed by Original Prints at the Pond Gallery, Snape Maltings, 19–25 July.

▲ Annabel Ridley, WILD GARDEN, screenprint



Anne Desmet RA: Wood Engraving

20–22 JULY

Learn the art of wood engraving from an expert in the field. As well as fine line engraving on endgrain boxwood, the course covers hand burnishing on Japanese papers, printing with a press and the creative possibilities of collage.

Anne Desmet RA has achieved thirty international awards and is represented in museums worldwide. This course coincides with the exhibition Anne Desmet RA: An Italian Journey at Gainsborough's House from 23 June to 14 October 2018.

▲ Anne Desmet RA, LIBRARY DOME, Wood engraving



Susan Jones: Embossing & Viscosity Printmaking

23–27 JULY

Explore printmaking with both multiple inks and no ink. Make subtle prints created by light and shade with lino and collagraph. Print two colour viscosity prints with lino, drypoint and collagraphs. Create collagraph prints with three different viscosity inks to produce multi-coloured images reference.

▲ Susan Jones, COASTAL LINES, Viscosity Collagraph



Jason Hicklin: Etching

30 JULY–3 AUGUST

Jason's workshops explore all aspects of intaglio etching, including softground, hardground and sugarlift aquatint. Jason encourages creative results and professional practice. There are several techniques taught on the course similar to those used by Thomas Gainsborough.

Colin Gale: Lithography

6–10 AUGUST

Lithography is often thought of as the closest printmaking technique to painting and drawing for its direct mark-making. Working on stone, zinc plate or aluminium photo plate, the technique is taught in easy to follow stages. Students can work on several images during the course using their own reference.

▲ Jason Hicklin, etching

Friends Events

Gainsborough's House Garden Party

6 JULY, 6–8PM

Join us for our annual Gainsborough's House Garden Party with special guest, Secretary of State for the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Matt Hancock. Set in the beautiful walled garden, it is a perfect opportunity to meet old and new friends and enjoy a glass of wine and canapés. The house will be open throughout the evening.



▲ SECRETARY OF STATE
MATT HANCOCK,
Chris McAndrew

Masterpieces of 18th Century British Painting

WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER,
7.30PM, GAINSBOROUGH'S HOUSE



John Sheeran is former Curator of Dulwich Picture Gallery, London. At Dulwich, John was responsible for a world-famous collection of Old Master paintings and a Sir John Soane architectural masterpiece. He also established the gallery's first exhibition and education programmes. He has organised exhibitions worldwide including the Our World in the Year 2000: The United Nations Millennium Exhibition held at UN Headquarters in New York and opened by UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan.

He is well known in East Anglia for his inspirational art talks. A key purpose of his lectures is to encourage people to go and see the original paintings for themselves, so that they can experience the visual, emotional and intellectual stimulation of great art.

Tickets are £15 per person and include a glass of wine. All proceeds from this event will support Gainsborough's House capital project.

SOLD OUT

Patrons & Mulberry Patrons Events

Afternoon tea and tour of the Moat House, Monevden, Suffolk

THURSDAY 14 JUNE

A rare opportunity to visit a very special private Suffolk house and garden, developed by Wilf and Annie Weeks over the last thirty years.

The Great Spectacle: 250 years of The Summer Exhibition

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

Be led on an exclusive tour of the exhibition celebrating the rich 250-year history of the Royal Academy by its curator Professor Mark Hallett, the Director of the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art.

Nicole Farhi studio visit

5 OCTOBER

An exclusive opportunity to visit the sculpture studio of the renowned fashion designer and sculptor Nicole Farhi at her London home.



Open to all

Charity Raffle

23 NOVEMBER

The Gainsborough's House Local Fundraising Committee launched a 'rolling raffle' at a Diamond Cocktail Party on Saturday 14 April, 2018 to help raise funds for *Reviving an Artist's Birthplace: A National Centre for Gainsborough*. Tickets cost £5 each with the chance to win a half-carat brilliant cut diamond and other exciting prizes. Tickets are available to purchase in the Shop at Gainsborough's House and the draw will take place on Friday 23 November 2018.

Raffle Prizes

- A half-carat brilliant cut diamond from Jonathan Lambert Fine Jewellers
- Tour for four of the atmospheric Gainsborough Silk Weaving Co in Sudbury with Emerson Roberts, the Managing Director
- Tour of the House of Lords with tea for two
- Professional Studio photograph taken with your family, partner or friend in the setting of Gainsborough's House by international photographer Anne-Katrin Purkiss
- Six Bottles of Champagne
- Tickets for two to the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds
- Lique Sculpture
- Meal for two at the Queen's Head, Hawkedon, Suffolk
- 100 gift Friends Memberships for Gainsborough's House for a year.

Events: May – October 2018

INFORMATION & PRICES: www.gainsborough.org – BOOKINGS: 01787 372958

	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
EXHIBITIONS							
<i>Cedric Morris at Gainsborough's House</i>		Ends 17 June					
<i>A Suffolk Eye: Harry Hambling 1902–1998</i>		Ends 17 June					
<i>Anne Desmet RA</i>			23 June – October				
FRIENDS – For information & prices visit www.gainsborough.org							
<i>Patrons Event: Afternoon tea and tour of the Moat House, Monewden, Suffolk</i>			14 June				
<i>Garden Party</i>			6 July				
<i>Friends Visit to Kettle's Yard</i>						23 September	
<i>Patrons Visit to Nicole Farhi's Studio at her London home</i>						5 October	
LECTURES & TALKS							
<i>'Cedric Morris and his Irises'</i> Sarah Cook		1 June	£12, 6.30 – 8.30pm				
<i>'Masterpieces of 18th Century British Painting'</i> John Sheeran SOLD OUT						3 October	£15, 7.30pm
EVENTS – For information & prices visit www.gainsborough.org							
<i>Garden Visit to Gestingthorpe Hall, Tour, Tea and Talk'</i>		6 June	£20				
<i>Heritage Open Days – Free</i>					6/7/8/9 September	Free	
LEARNING							
<i>Tom's Tuesdays</i> Family activities every Tuesday during half terms and holidays 10am–1pm, Child £2, Adult £3 (includes admission to the galleries). Age from 3–12 years, with an adult							
<i>Seeing with Cedric</i>		29 May					
<i>The Lost Sketchbook</i>				31 July			
<i>Clever Clay Creations</i>				7 August			
<i>Giant 3-D Landscape</i>				14 August			
<i>Black and White</i>				21 August			
<i>View Finder – the nomadic camera obscura at Gainsborough's House</i>				28 August			
<i>Play! – The Big Draw at Gainsborough's House celebrates happy accidents</i>							23 October
PRINT WORKSHOP COURSES – 10am–4pm – 3 day course, £230 (PWS members £210) – 5 day course, £318 (PWS members £298)							
<i>Anne Desmet RA: WoodEngraving</i>			20–22 July				
<i>Susan Jones: Embossing & Viscosity Printmaking</i>			23–27 July				
<i>Jason Hicklin: Etching</i>			30 July–3 August				
<i>Colin Gale: Lithography</i>				6–10 August			
<i>Megan Fishpool: Could it be Magic</i>				13–17 August			
<i>Annabel Ridley: Screenprinting</i>				20–24 August			
<i>Michael Carlo: Screenprinting</i>				27–31 August			
<i>Peter Brown: Drawing on Lino</i>					3–7 September		

Support Gainsborough's House as a Friend, Patron or Mulberry Patron

Gainsborough's House is a very special place that exists to promote the wider knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of the art of Thomas Gainsborough. It seeks to preserve and enhance the House and its collections for the benefit of present and future generations. As a result Gainsborough's House has planned a major capital project that aims to bring Gainsborough alive for a new generation.

Your support will help to secure major long and short-term loans of Gainsborough paintings from national collections. Our aim is to be the recognised centre for exploring Thomas Gainsborough and be sustainable for the future. It is a long journey that will take some time and cannot be achieved without your help and support. By joining Gainsborough's House as a Friend, you will help us on our journey.

Your support will really make a difference.

FRIEND'S GARDEN PARTY



WHAT YOU WILL RECEIVE:

As Friends you will enjoy:

- free admission throughout the year;
- exclusive Private Views;
- visits to exhibitions, art galleries and historic houses in Britain;
- an annual Summer Garden Party,
- and a magazine and information about what's on at the House.

As Patrons you will also enjoy:

- a variety of exclusive trips at home and abroad;
- private visits to other collections;
- 'behind the scenes' tours of other museums.

As Mulberry Patrons you will also enjoy:

- events organised by Gainsborough's House including lectures, film, music and study days;
- a specially chosen publication and a jar of mulberry jam or quince jelly from Gainsborough's trees;
- a behind the scenes tour and lunch with the Director,
- and an annual dinner at Gainsborough's House.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP FROM £25

Why not buy a gift membership for a friend or family member? To make your gift extra special, we will include a free notebook, two greeting cards, eight postcards, a bookmark and a Gainsborough's House pencil, all gift wrapped ready for mailing. For more details, please contact us on 01787 372958.

Friends and Patrons Membership Form

YOUR DETAILS (block capitals)

Title
First name
Surname
Joint member's name

Address
.....
.....

City/Town
Postcode
Email
Telephone

Where did you pick up this booklet?

I would like to be kept informed of news, events and fundraising campaigns (please tick)
We will not share your data with third parties.

METHOD OF PAYMENT (please tick)

- Direct Debit:** (see overleaf)
Please consider paying by Direct Debit as it is the most cost effective method for us.
- Cheque:**
Please make cheques payable to 'Gainsborough's House Society'.
- Cash**
- Credit/debit card**

If you would like to pay by debit or credit card please phone 01787 372958 or mail@gainsborough.org

Charity number 1170048

GIFT RECIPIENT'S DETAILS

(if appropriate and in block capitals)

Title
First name
Surname
Joint member's name

Address
.....
.....

City/Town
Postcode
Email
Telephone

GIFT AID

giftaid it

If you are a UK tax payer your subscription can earn even more for Gainsborough's House, at no extra cost to you.

I would like Gainsborough's House Society to reclaim the tax on all subscriptions and donations to Gainsborough's House Society that I make until further notice. I confirm I am a UK tax payer and I have paid or will pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year, (which is 25p for every £1 I give). I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature

Date

Remember to notify us if you no longer pay sufficient tax or change your address. If you pay income tax at the higher rate you can claim back the difference between the higher rate and the basic rate on your Self Assessment tax return – you might like to take this into account when working out your level of giving.

Please return form to:

Gainsborough's House, 46 Gainsborough Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2EU

SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

I would like to join Gainsborough's House Society, with the following subscription:

Friend

- Single £25
- Joint £40
- Family £45
- Business £100+

Print Workshop (inc vat)

- Single user add £30
- Joint user add £50
- Full-time student add £10

Patron

- Single £500
- Joint £650
- Mulberry £1,000+

I would like to donate an extra £

Total payment £

GAINSBOROUGH'S HOUSE DIRECT DEBIT



Please fill in the form and return it to Gainsborough's House

Name and full address of your Bank or Building Society

To the Manager of:

Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of the account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society account number

Branch sort code

Service User Number 631428

Reference (GHS only)

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society: Please pay Gainsborough's House Society Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with Gainsborough's House Society and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature

Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions from some types of account.

Group Bookings, Educational Visits & Room Hire

Gainsborough's House welcomes group visits and can accommodate up to 60 visitors at a time. We offer an introductory fifteen minute talk about Gainsborough, his work and the House itself. Tours of the House can also be arranged.

Refreshments are also available, from tea and coffee to light lunches, booked in advance. Please request our Group Pack or contact Liz Cooper (details below).

Our lively education programme caters for schools, colleges and community groups of all ages with tours of the House and tailor-made workshops.

We have a variety of spaces available to hire, including the Hills Room, Exhibition Gallery and the garden.

For more information, please call the Commercial Manager, Liz Cooper 01787 372958 or liz@gainsborough.org

Photography: Anne Purkiss

