

Course details

Course title

Art Appreciation: History of Art

Course code

Q00017396

Course date

Start: 13/06/25

End: 11/07/25

Number of classes

5 sessions

Timetable

Fri 13th Jun, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 20th Jun, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 27th Jun, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 4th Jul, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 11th Jul, 14:00 to 16:00

Branch

Finchley and Muswell Hill Branch

Tutor

Chantal Condron

Fee range

Free to £50.00

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

Blue Beetle Room (London)

Hendon Lane

Finchley

London

N3 1TR

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

Discover the fascinating life and work of 20th century artist, Paul Nash. Chart his significant impact on British art from 1914 to his death in 1946: from his experiences as Official War Artist during both World Wars; and his contribution to the development of British Surrealism and modern landscape. The course explores also Nash's fruitful collaboration with his wife, the writer and Suffragette, Margaret Odeh. Central to this course will be a focus on Nash's interest in spirituality and Eastern philosophies, exploring how his paintings articulated certain subjects and motifs that helped him make sense of a world of conflict.

Course description

Paul Nash is one of the most imaginative British artists of the early to mid-20th century associated with Surrealism and as Official War Artist. This course explores the cultural and political context and considers how his paintings reflected the period in which he lived, until his death in 1946. Through activities and discussions, we trace Nash's career from his time at the Slade School of Art in London; and his service on the Western Front as Official War Artist during the First World War, an experience which fundamentally influenced the subjects of his painting. We investigate how the war shaped the development of Nash's enigmatic landscape style during the 1920s in Britain and France. He and his wife, the writer Margaret Odeh, cultivated interests in East Asian philosophies, aspects of which influenced his Surrealist paintings. Nash was central in the establishment of the British Surrealist movement, as co-organiser of the landmark 1936 International Surrealist Exhibition, that introduced Surrealism to Britain. The late years of Nash's life were dominated by the Second World War when he produced commissions for the RAF and the Air Ministry. His late paintings are mysterious, reflecting the natural world and inspired by his interest in spirituality.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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