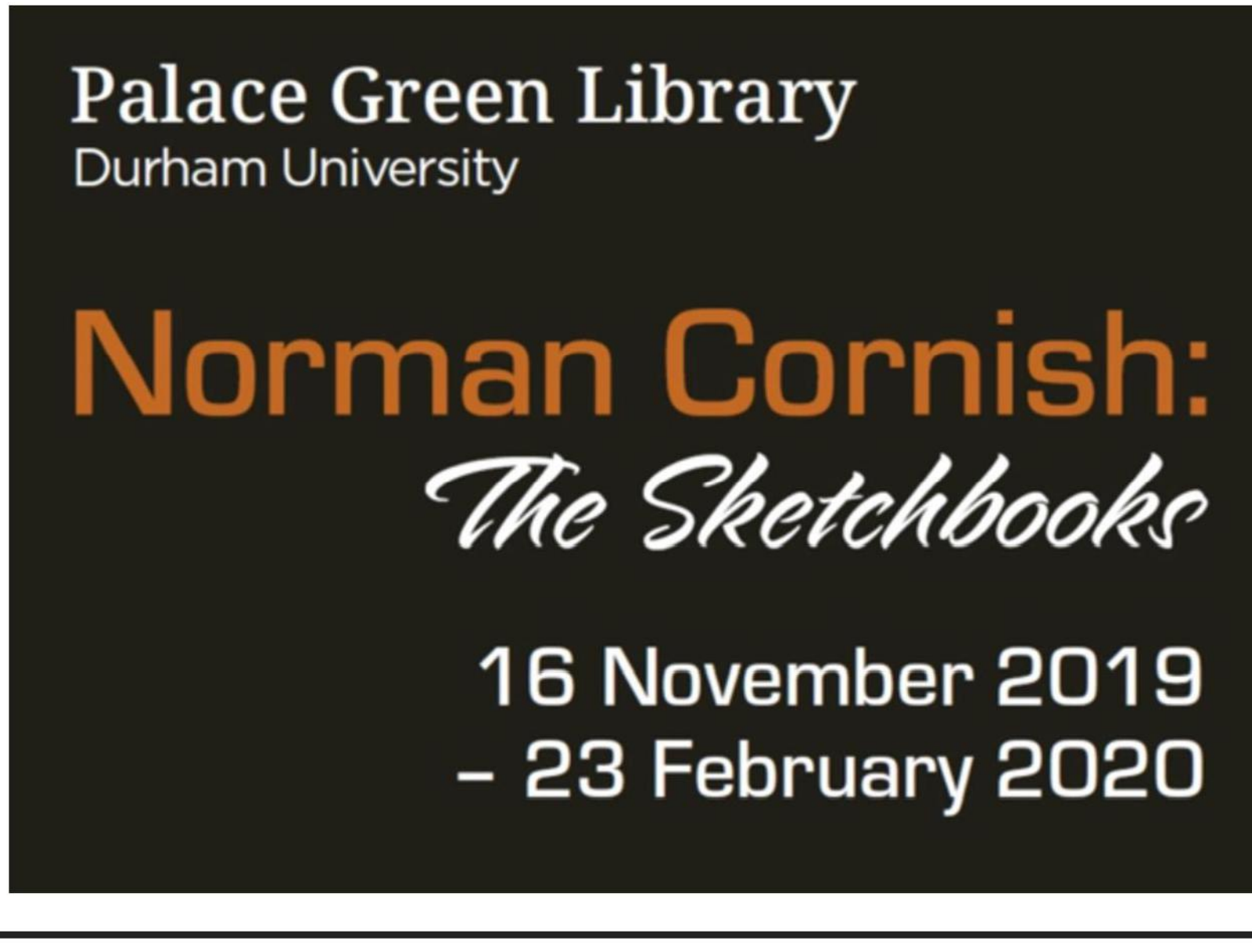


The Art Circle

November 2019

Durham University's Art Collection Newsletter



Norman Cornish: The Sketchbooks

For the renowned north-eastern artist Norman Cornish MBE (1919-2014), sketching was second nature and an inherent part of his everyday life. This exhibition of little seen sketchbooks will present a new dimension to the artist's practice, focusing on his observations of life, landscapes, and family, revealing the inner artistic processes behind some of his most iconic works.



Find out more [here](#).



As part of Norman Cornish: The Sketchbooks, we will be holding an events programme to complement the exhibitions themes and inspiration. Highlights include....

Alternative Drawing School with Paul Raymond

Over four weeks artist, Paul Raymond, will lead an alternative drawing school at Palace Green Library. Each weeks focus will change, exploring the themes of our current exhibition, Norman Cornish: The Sketchbooks.

Paul Raymond is an artist and art educator from the north east. His practice includes drawing, collage, digital and performance work. He is passionate about art being accessible, engaging and enjoyable for everybody.

The first session will be an introduction to experimental drawing and mark-making using Cornish's sketchbooks as inspiration. No traditional drawing skills or experience will be necessary.

You do not need to attend all workshops, each one will stand alone, although they will compliment each other. Workshops dates are as follows:

[Week 1: Saturday 25th January 2020 10.30- 12.00](#)

[Week 2: Saturday 1st February 2020 10.30- 12.00](#)

[Week 3: Saturday 8th February 2020 10.30- 12.00](#)

[Week 4: Saturday 15th February 2020 10.30- 12.00](#)

For full programme of events please take a look online [here](#) or contact artcollection@durham.ac.uk for more information

ICAN (Inter College Art Network) News

Durham University Art Society

Durham University Art Society are collaborating with Empty Shop HQ (a non-profit art organisation based in Durham City) to hold a Climate Change event including a climate crisis-themed exhibition of student artwork. The event will surround the key question: what is the role of art in facilitating change? Through discussing this question and the greater climate emergency in Durham we hope to create a greater understanding of how we can make a difference right here and now. The event is on December 6th at Test Space (North Road), more information will be available on the DUAS Facebook page.

DU Art Society are still accepting submissions from students (deadline is the 1st of December) and are looking forward to an animated evening full of reflection and calls for action!

If you are looking to submit some of your artwork please send pictures of your work with a description to art_society@durham.ac.uk. We encourage those of you with climate strike signs/banners to submit these too to show how much Durham cares about the climate crisis issue.

is broken

is broken is the collaboration of Alexandra Carr and Lee Mackenzie, the artist and writer in residence at Josephine Butler College, Durham University. By engaging with students, academics and the residents of Durham, they seek to create art and events which reflect on people as observers of their social and natural environments.

As part of *is broken* a series of artists talks, workshops and events will be taking place across the residence programme. You can find details of all events for *is broken* [here](#)

STUDENT ART PRIZE 2019 DIVERSITY

HOW TO APPLY

In 2019 and under the theme of **DIVERSITY**, we are inviting student artists to get creative and submit an artwork to the prize. Shortlisted artworks will be exhibited in the Student Art Prize exhibition, from which three prize winners will be selected to receive a cash prize and inclusion in the university art collection.

The prizes are as follows:

- 1st Place £1500
- 2nd Place £1000
- 3rd Place £500

The deadline for applications is 14 February 2020, 5pm.

For more details, the **Art Prize Submission Form** and information on the submission process please visit: durham.ac.uk/artcollection/artprize/submit/

If you have any further queries, or would like to discuss your artwork or submission further, please contact: artcollection@durham.ac.uk



Spotlight on Norman Cornish

'I have tried to draw and paint pictures which I hope will let people know what it felt like to live in my bit of time, my own slice of history.' - Norman Cornish Behind the Scenes: The Sketchbooks (2017)

Norman Cornish was born in Spennymoor on the 18th of November 1919. Winning his first art prize when he was four years old, Cornish always had an eye for drawing. He went to work in the coal mines at age fourteen but continued to draw in his spare time. At the same time, he joined Spennymoor Settlement Sketching Club where he was encouraged to paint the life he knew. Even after establishing himself in the art world, Cornish continued working in the mine until he retired at 47 and started painting full time.

Norman Cornish's work has been displayed in many exhibitions throughout his lifetime, and after his death in 2014. *My sister Ella* was his first oil painting that was displayed at the Laing Art Gallery as part of *Works of the Artists of the Northern Counties*. It became his first work exhibited outside Spennymoor. He painted what he saw around him, men in pubs, people on the street, children playing and his family life. He was able to capture the lives of the mining community and told the stories of their harsh lives given to the pit. Cornish has many paintings of the mines, where he describes the men's oil lamps as fireflies trapped in a spiderweb. Painting his world, he was able to create something we will never understand today.

Come learn more about Norman Cornish and his works at Palace Green Library.

'I would like my sketchbooks to have a life of their own and be of interest to people. I hope they are not cast aside and forgotten but appreciated in some way. They should be available for the public to view and to teach people to look at things.' - Norman Cornish Behind the Scenes: The Sketchbooks (2017)

Thank you for subscribing to our mailing list, keep a look out for our monthly updates. If you ever want to get in touch with us directly you can email us at: artcollection@durham.ac.uk

Until next time,

The Art Circle
(Alix, Emily and Katie)



You can follow us on:



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