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**Nobody's Darlings: the lives and legacy of Australian women artists in Europe**

**Bon voyage: Australian women artists in Paris**

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From the second half of the 19th century, Paris attracted an international gathering of women artists in unprecedented numbers. From the 1880s, the first wave of Australian women joined this artistic pilgrimage, drawn to the French capital by its academies and museums, art studios and Salons. In this lecture, we will explore the strength of these artists' creative achievements and examine their work against the socio-political background of the period, when women were mostly barred from formal artistic education, yet skilfully navigated the city's cultural network of private studio, schools, Salons and galleries.

<sup>†</sup> Works featured in the exhibition *Dangerously modern* at the Art Gallery of NSW

#### Slide list

1. *Atelier Bouguereau, Académie Julian, rue de Berri, Paris* 1896 photograph
2. *Edouard Dubufe (France 1819–83) Portrait of Rosa Bonheur* 1857 oil on canvas 131 x 98 cm Musée d'Orsay, Paris
3. *Passage Choiseul, Paris*, c1910; *Portrait of Walter Benjamin, Paris* c1940 both photographs
4. *Camille Pissarro (France 1830–1903) The boulevard Montmartre on a winter morning* 1897 oil on canvas 64.8 x 81.3 cm Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; <sup>†</sup> *Margaret Preston (1875–1963) Night sketch, bridge over the Seine* 1908 oil on canvas 40.5 x 31.5 cm Private collection
5. *Lucie Attinger (Switzerland 1859–1928) My studio* 1889 oil on canvas 38 x 45.5 cm North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh
6. <sup>†</sup> *Margaret Preston The studio window* 1906 oil on canvas 81.5 x 60 cm NGA Canberra; <sup>†</sup> *Bessie Davidson (1879–1965) An interior* c1920 oil, charcoal on composition board 73.1 x 59.7 cm AGSA Adelaide + *Portrait of the famille Desgranges* 1922 oil on composition board 90 x 73 cm Private collection
7. <sup>†</sup> *Agnes Goodcir (1864–1939) Type of the Latin Quarter* c1926 oil on canvas 100 x 81 cm Collection of David and Patricia Lorimer
8. *Louise Breslau (Switzerland 1856–1927) Friends' portrait* 1881 oil on canvas 84.3 x 160.5 cm Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva
9. <sup>†</sup> *Iso Rae (1860–1940) Young Girl, Étaples* c1892 oil on canvas 150.4 x 59.5 cm NGV Melbourne; <sup>†</sup> *Josephine Müntz-Adams (1862–1949) Care* c1893 oil on canvas on composition board 83 x 69.3 cm QAGOMA Brisbane
10. *Hans Heysen (1877–1968) From the apartment window* 1901 oil on canvas 44.5 x 37 cm AGSA Adelaide
11. *Hilda Rix Nicholas (1884–1961) Paris* 1911 pastel and charcoal on paper 31 x 23.5 cm Private collection
12. <sup>†</sup> *Agnes Goodcir Girl with cigarette* c1925 oil on canvas 99.5 x 81 cm Bendigo Art Gallery
13. *Henri Fantin-Latour (France 1836–1904) Homage to Delacroix* 1864 oil on canvas 160 x 250 cm Musée d'Orsay, Paris
14. *Marie-Amélie Cogniet (France 1798–1869) Interior of the studio of Léon Cogniet* 1831 oil on canvas 33 x 40.2 cm + *Léon Cogniet in his studio* 1831 oil on canvas 46 x 38 cm both Musée des beaux-arts, Orléans

15. Catherine Caroline Cogniet-Thévenin (France 1813–92) *Academy for young ladies* 1836 oil on canvas 46.2 x 61 cm Musée des beaux-arts, Orléans
16. *The Académie Julian, Paris* c1900s, photographs
17. Alfred Machin (France 1877–1929) *Life model class at the Académie Julian* c1895 gelatin silver print 16.5 x 22.4 cm Allen Memorial Art Museum, Ohio; Alfred Munnings (England 1878–1959) *Study of a male nude in Julian's atelier* 1901 oil on canvas 81.3 x 64.8 cm Munnings Art Museum, Dedham
18. Marie Bashkirtseff (Ukraine 1858–84) *In the studio* 1881 oil on canvas 154 x 186 cm Dnipropetrovsk State Art Museum, Ukraine
19. *The Académie Colarossi, Paris* c1892–93 & 1908, photographs
20. Hilda Rix Nicholas *The Académie Colarossi* c1907 pencil drawing + other pencil drawings from *The Latin Quarter Sketchbook* National Library of Australia, Canberra
21. Jules-Alexandre Grün (France 1868–1938) *A Friday at the Salon des Artistes Français* 1911 oil on canvas 362 x 617 cm Musée des beaux-arts, Rouen
22. † Bessie Gibson (1868–1961) *The model (study of a nude)* c1905–14 oil on ivory 16.6 x 9.5 cm + *Woman in pale pink dress* 1932 oil on canvas 100 x 80.5 cm both QAGOMA Brisbane
23. † Violet Teague (1872–1951) *The boy with the palette* 1911 oil on canvas 175.5 x 108.5 cm NGA Canberra
24. † Hilda Rix Nicholas *In Australia* c1922–23 oil on canvas 100.2 x 81.5cm Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris
25. Bessie Davidson *The blue room* 1922 oil on board 73 x 60.5 cm Musée des beaux-arts, Rouen + *Interior* (or *Still life*) c1930s oil on isorel 38 x 46 cm Musée des beaux-arts, Beaune
26. † Hilda Rix Nicholas *Grand marché, Tangier* c1912 oil on canvas 81 x 65 cm AGSA Adelaide + *Three men, Tangier* 1912 crayon and pen and ink on paper 44.2 x 38 cm Rix Wright collection, Delegate
27. Iso Rae *Young child* (or *Pierrot*) c1892 oil on canvas, 37 x 20 cm + *Le tambour de la ville et le garçon brasseur* c1913–14 pastel on paper 60 x 50 cm both Musée Quentovic, Étaples-sur-Mer, Pas-de-Calais
28. † Ethel Carrick (1872–1952) *In the Luxembourg Gardens, Paris* c1908 oil on canvas 46.4 x 61.6 cm NGV Melbourne + † *Rue Mouffetard, Paris* 1910 oil on canvas 38.1 x 45.6 cm Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
29. † Ethel Carrick *The mosque at Tangier* c1911 oil on canvas 46 x 35.5 cm Collection of Philip Bacon AO; Hilda Rix Nicholas *The mottled crowd, Tangier* c1912–13 coloured pastel on paper 37.5 x 27.5 cm Private collection
30. Ethel Carrick *Flower market, Nice* c1928 oil on canvas 60.5 x 49.5 cm Musée des beaux-arts, Rouen
31. E Phillips Fox (1865–1915) *Rêverie* 1903 oil on canvas 58 x 82 cm Musée d'Orsay, Paris
32. † Grace Cossington Smith (1892–1984) *The sock knitter* 1915 oil on canvas 61.8 x 51.2 AGNSW; Janet Cumbræe Stewart (1883–1960) *Portrait of Jessie Traill (1881-1967)* 1920 pastel 35.5 x 45.4 cm NGV Melbourne
33. Evelyn Chapman (1888–1961) *Antonio Dattilo-Rubbo* 1911 oil on canvas 40.6 x 30.8 cm AGNSW; Antonio Dattilo-Rubbo (1870–1955) *The strike's aftermath* 1913 oil on canvas 121.6 x 91.4 cm AGNSW
34. Evelyn Chapman *Girl in red hat* c1918 oil on canvas 73 x 58.5 cm AGNSW

From here, all works projected on the screen are by Evelyn Chapman, in oil and tempera on paper and in the Art Gallery of NSW collection (accessible online), unless otherwise noted below

35. Louis Reckibus (Belgium 1864–1958) *Seascape with clouds* n.d. gouache (?) on board 28.1 x 38.3 cm + *Rural Bruges* n.d. pastel on grey/green paper 23.1 x 30.5 cm + *Bruges* n.d. pastel, gouache on grey card 21.1 x 26.3 cm, all AGNSW
36. *Portrait of her cousin Edmund Cornish* 1917 oil on canvas 168 x 91.4 cm AWM Canberra
37. *Ruined buildings and bystanders on the Western front* 1919 gelatin silver photograph 6.3 x 10.8 cm AGNSW Archive
38. *Evelyn Chapman at Villers-Bretonneux* 1919 photograph AGNSW Archive; *Ruins of the church of Villers-Bretonneux* 1919 tempera and oil on felt paper 70.5 x 99.5 cm AWM Canberra
39. *Interior of a ruined church at Villers-Bretonneux* 1919 tempera and oil on felt paper 64.6 x 48.5 cm AWM Canberra
40. *Mary Riter Hamilton at her easel at the market square in Ypres, Belgium* 1919 photograph; *Mary Riter Hamilton* (Canada 1867–1954) *The sadness of the Somme* 1919 oil on commercial board + *Trenches on the Somme* 1919 oil on commercial board, unknown dims, both Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa
41. *Self-portrait* 1911 oil on canvas 91.5 x 69 cm; Pamela Thalben-Ball (England 1927–2012) *Portrait of Kay Cottee* 1993 oil on canvas 107 x 122.5 cm both National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
42. Kate Stevens (Australia born 1979) *Gaza* 2018 oil on canvas 123 x 112 cm, courtesy of the artist

## References

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Papers of Evelyn Chapman (1888–1961), MS2014.11, National Art Archive, Art Gallery of NSW.

AGNSW online collection: <https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/collection/>