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Modern Scottish Women

Painters and Sculptures 1885-1965

Alice Strang

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• The book accompanied an exhibition held at the National Galleries of Scotland in Edinburgh in 2015/16

Uncover the stories of 45 female painters and sculptors and their influence on Scottish modern art history.

In 1885 Sir William Fettes Douglas, President of the Royal Scottish Academy, declared that the work of a woman artist was 'like a man's only weaker and poorer'. Yet between 1885, when Fra Newbery was appointed Director of Glasgow School of Art and did much in terms of gender equality amongst his staff and students, and 1965, when Anne Redpath, the doyenne of post-Second World War Scottish painting, died, an unprecedented number of Scottish women trained and worked as artists.

This book focuses on 45 Scottish female painters and sculptors and explores the conditions that they negotiated as students and practitioners due to their gender. Many of the artists featured are not widely known and so will be a revelation to readers, while others with established reputations are evaluated afresh.

An essay by Alice Strang and artist entries by twenty-one authors uncover and celebrate women's contribution to this chapter of Scottish modern art history.

Alice Strang is former Senior Curator at the National Galleries of Scotland curating many key touring exhibitions and contributing to accompanying publications. These include Winifred Nicholson in Scotland (2003), Consider the Lilies: Scottish Painting 1910-1980 (2006), From Sickert to Gertler: Modern British Art from Boxted House (2008), The Scottish Colourist Series (F.C.B. Cadell, S.J. Peploe and J.D. Fergusson) (2010-14)









