

towner art gallery



Summer 2018

townereastbourne.org.uk

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) @townergallery

Edward Stott: A Master of Colour and Atmosphere

26 May – 16 September

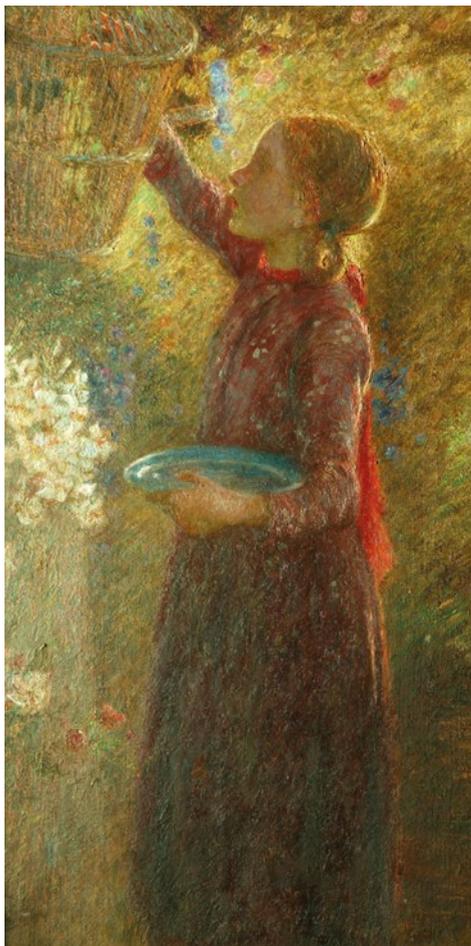
£5/£4 concessions

Free for Towner members and under 18s

2018 marks the centenary of the death of Edward Stott (1855-1918), an artist described as 'the poet-painter of the twilight'. To mark this occasion Towner is presenting this long overdue exhibition, bringing together a large body of Stott's paintings from throughout his career, for the first time in over 40 years. The show will include works from Towner's Collection, as well as a selection of loans from national institutions including The Royal Academy, Manchester Art Gallery and The National Trust.

Trained in Paris and influenced by French Impressionism, Stott did not paint in true *plein air* fashion, but sketched in pencil, and pastels in the open air, making notes on the weather, light and colour, which he would then use to produce paintings in his studio. *A Master of Colour and Atmosphere* includes a selection of these sketches offering an insight into Stott's process and working methods.

Born in Rochdale, Stott began his artistic career at the Manchester Academy of Fine Art before moving to Paris in 1880 where he studied at the atelier of Carolus-Duran and the École des Beaux Arts. His works were exhibited at the Paris Salon, and in London at the New English Art Club and Royal Academy of Art. He later settled in Amberley in Sussex where he drew the local people, animals and countryside, prompting a critic from *The Magazine of Art* to write in 1900 that 'the scenes he pictures from



that part of Sussex which he has made his own are so satisfying because of the deep knowledge and intimacy of his outlook on them'.

Towner's Head of Collections Sara Cooper has curated *A Master of Colour and Atmosphere* alongside renowned Stott expert, Dr Valerie Webb, whose book of the same name will accompany the exhibition.

Cover: Edward Stott (1859-1918), *Washing Day*, 1899, Oil on canvas. Watts Gallery Trust.

Above: Edward Stott, *The Bird Cage*, c. 1875.

© Manchester Art Gallery / Bridgeman Images.

Associated Events

Researching Edward Stott: An Artist's Journey From Paris to London

Saturday 26 May / 11am /
£6 / £5 conc. & members

Dr Valerie Webb, author of *Edward Stott: A Master of Colour and Atmosphere* (pub. by Sansom & Co, 2018) explores Stott's development as an artist and provides an overview of his career. She will also give an insight into her research for the book and how this contributed to the exhibition. Signed copies of the book will be available at this talk.

Edward Stott and British Impressionism

Saturday 7 July / 11am /
£6 / £5 conc. & members

Dr Anna Gruetzner-Robins, Emerita Professor at the University of Reading, specialising in late 19th and early 20th century French and British art, gives an illustrated talk on Stott's work and his connections with the English Impressionist circle.

Stott and his Contemporaries: Images of Rural Life and Labour

Saturday 4 August / 11am /
£6 / £5 conc. & members

Prof. Christiana Payne, Professor of History of Art and Research Lead for School of History, Philosophy and Culture at Oxford Brookes University, discusses Edward Stott and his contemporaries as painters of rural life and labour.

Curator's Walk & Talk

Thursday 6 September / 1pm /
Free with exhibition ticket

Towner's Head of Collections Sara Cooper leads an informal tour of the exhibition.

Right: Eric Ravilious, *Beachy Head*, 1939. Towner Collection. Purchased with the assistance of the Art Fund, National Heritage Memorial Fund, the Arts Council England/Victoria and Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund, The Monument Trust, and Eastbourne Arts Circle.

Ravilious Room

26 May – 16 September
(display changes 3 July), Free

Artist and designer Eric Ravilious is renowned for some of the 20th Century's most iconic depictions of the Sussex landscape. Since the 1930s Towner has developed one of the largest public collections of Ravilious' work as well as extensive archive materials. Our Ravilious Room is a dedicated space to view a selection of his finest watercolours, prints and ceramics, explore our archive and browse books on the artist.

Towner's new acquisition *Beachy Head* will be on display in the Ravilious Room from 3 July when the display changes.

Supported by Eastbourne Arts Circle

Eastbourne Arts Circle 

Associated Event

Footsteps of Ravilious

Saturday 8 September / 10am – 4pm / £45 /
£40 conc. & members / Includes coach travel

For the only time this year, curator and author of *Ravilious & Co*. Andy Friend leads his ever popular exploration of the countryside between Eastbourne and Lewes, visiting places that are key to Ravilious' art. To fully enjoy this walk a moderate fitness level is required.



At Altitude

An Arts Council Collection National Partner Exhibition

2 June – 30 September, Free

At Altitude brings together a range of artworks that explore how our experience of landscape, space and territory has been transformed by the introduction of new aerial views of the world. The exhilarating viewpoints of early aviation that were unknown to previous generations have become commonplace through advances in technology and communication. Ranging from an 18th Century account of hot air balloon flight, through to the all-enveloping images of Google Earth, the exhibition considers how

these changing methods of observation have informed and inspired artists.

At Altitude presents painting, sculpture, photography and film from the Arts Council Collection and Towner's Collection. Artists include Jananne Al-Ani, Ken Baird, Tacita Dean, Charles and Ray Eames, Simon Faithfull, Mishka Henner, Dan Holdsworth, Annabel Howland, Kabir Hussain, Peter Lanyon, Cornelia Parker and Wolfgang Tillmans.



Omer Fast: 5000 Feet is the Best

2 June – 30 September, Free



5000 Feet is the Best (2011) is a film about drone warfare and the pilots who operate these machines. Based on a series of interviews the artist conducted with a former drone operator now working as a Las Vegas casino security guard, the work takes its name from the optimum operational flight altitude of a US Air Force Predator drone – at a distance of 5000 feet drones can identify virtually anything.

The film weaves together the operator's account of his life and work to explore the shifting divisions between reality and representation, truth and memory. It's eerie effect is in the way it uncannily brings drone vision close to home, enabling us to visualise events taking place in landscapes we have no direct access to, while the consequences of killing at a distance remain hidden.

5000 Feet is the Best was acquired for Towner's Collection, in partnership with the Imperial War Museum, through Art Fund's Moving Image Fund for Museums. Towner, along with the Whitworth in Manchester, was one of the first two venues to be awarded this fund.

Left: Mishka Henner, *Unknown Site*, Noordwijk aan Zee, South Holland, 2011. Arts Council Collection, Southbank Centre, London, Courtesy of the Artist. © the artist.
Above: Omer Fast, *5000 Feet is the Best*, 2011, Towner Collection, © the artist, Courtesy of Arratia Beer.

Associated Events

Artist Talk: Mishka Henner

Saturday 2 June / 2pm /
£5 / £4 conc. & members

At *Altitude* artist Mishka Henner creates works that are composed of hundreds of high-resolution satellite images. Join us for a discussion on how his work explores the role of photography in the digital age.

Double Bill

Screen Talk: Into the Air – Early Aviation on Film

Saturday 16 June / 1pm /
£5 / £4 conc. & members

Dr. Frank Gray, Director at Screen Archive South East at the University of Brighton, presents an illustrated lecture on early aviation and the moving image. It will explore many different aspects of flight – as a mode of transport, as an expression of adventure and wonder and as a war machine.

Film: A Matter of Life and Death

Saturday 16 June / 3pm /
£8.50 / £7 conc. & members

Dir: Michael Powell & Emeric Pressburger, 1946 (U) 104 mins

David Niven stars in Powell & Pressburger's exquisite wartime classic as an unflappable WWII pilot who must fight in celestial court for his right to live.

Combined ticket for talk & film
£11.50 / £10 conc. & members

Curator's Walk and Talk

Friday 6 July / 1pm / Free

Join Noelle Collins, Assistant Curator, on an informal tour of the exhibition *At Altitude* that offers an insight into the aerial theme and the selection of artworks.

 **Arts Council
Collection**

artscouncilcollection.org.uk

Sussex Open 2018 & Sussex Open Commission Award

21 July – 30 September, Free



Towner's annual Sussex Open exhibition brings together the best artists from across East and West Sussex, offering a unique opportunity to view works by artists at every level of their career, from new talent to established figures. For the first time the exhibition will also feature the winner of the Sussex Open Commission Award, a new funding award sponsored by Eastbourne Arts Circle with the aim of supporting the creation of new artwork.

The works in this year's exhibition, as well as the recipient of the Sussex Open Commission Award have been selected by painter and printmaker Tom Hammick, Jenny Lund, Curator of Fine Art at the Royal Pavilion & Museums in Brighton & Hove, and Towner's Head of Exhibitions Brian Cass.

Artists who have previously exhibited work in Towner's Open exhibition have gone on to be selected for John Moore's Painting Prize, the Jerwood Drawing Prize, the BFI Film Festival in the experimental film category and have been shortlisted for the Mark Tanner Sculpture Prize.

Above: Installation View, Sussex Open 2017. Photo by Alison Bettles.

Tours and Talks

Art Store Tours

Sundays 13 & 27 May, 10 & 24 June, 8 & 22 July, 5 & 19 August, 2, 16 & 30 September / 12 noon / £6 / £5 conc. & members
Get behind the scenes and enjoy a fascinating introduction to Towner's impressive art collection. From the original Victorian bequest to Eric Ravilious, no two tours are the same.

Perspectives on...

...Charles Bartlett

Saturday 16 June / 2.30pm /
£7 / £6 conc. & members

In this special event Eastbourne gallery owner Emma Mason talks to Olwen Jones, the widow of the respected painter/printmaker Charles Bartlett (1921–2014). Includes a visit into our art store to see Bartlett's prints in the Towner Collection.

...Alfred Wallis

Saturday 28 July / 11am /
£7 / £6 conc. & members

Towner's Collection includes several works by Alfred Wallis (1855 – 1942), a master mariner and later a self-taught artist who lived most of his life in Cornwall. View his distinctive work in close detail and learn more about his life and unique style with Conservator Corinne Farmer.

...The Lyons Lithographs

Sunday 26 August / 2pm /
£7 / £6 conc. & members

Commissioned by catering giant J. Lyons and Co. to brighten the drab austerity of post-war tea houses, the resulting collection of lithographs by leading artists of the day including Bawden, Piper and Ardizzone continue to delight modern audiences. Find out more about the technical process, the social context and look in detail at some of the individual prints in Towner's art store.

Open Ended

First Tuesday of every month / 5 June, 3 July, 7 August, 4 September, 2 October / 10am / £3 including refreshments (free for carers)

A monthly exploration of our collection and exhibitions to support those with memory loss.

We welcome group bookings and can arrange separate sessions on request. Please contact us for more information.

Eastbourne Arts Circle Talks

These popular talks look at the lives and work of great painters through the ages. For dates please see eastbourneartscircle.org.uk

Learning & Artist Development

We have a full and exciting learning programme enabling all ages to get creative, develop their skills, deepen their interests and have fun. This summer, we'll be exploring themes and works in our exhibitions through a wide variety of events, workshops and films, as well as in our free interactive learning space Fuse Box which is open daily during gallery opening hours. Until July, our ever popular Tiny Towner sessions will continue to provide creative play for under 5s and their carers.

We also offer a selection of artist development opportunities, detailed below. Visit our website for full, up to date information on all of our learning and artist development activities.

Collective AiM

Every Thursday / 10am – 1pm

An artist collective open to existing members of Arts in Mind, an artist led group supporting mental health through creative development.

Eastbourne Sketchers

Saturdays 2 June, 7 July, 4 August, 1 September, 6 October / 2.30 – 4.30pm / Free / Drop-in / Adults

Run by members of the community for anyone who sketches from real life. All abilities welcome. Please bring your own materials.

Blue Monkey Network

Monthly events / £30 annual membership fee
Run by artists for artists including talks, out of hours viewings and professional development.

Towner Film

Join us every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday in Towner's state-of-the art auditorium as we launch a new regular film programme. From June, we'll be introducing our new Women and Film season, including a monthly queer film strand, family events and Silver Screen events for seniors.

Women and Film

In the centenary year of the 1918 suffrage act, creating space for women's voices has never been more important. With this in mind, Towner is thrilled to present a major season of film championing women in front of, and behind, the camera. From Rungano Nyoni to Greta Gerwig, we will be covering the globe, meeting and celebrating women filmmakers of all ages.

For more information, times and ticket details, visit townereastbourne.org.uk/townerfilm



Booking

We recommend booking tickets in advance for films, events, tours and talks online at townereastbourne.org.uk, by calling 01323 434670 or in person at the Welcome Desk. All talks last 1hr unless otherwise stated. All event info is correct at time of going to print, check our website for up to date info and last minute additions.

Visitor Information

Free Admission

Tuesday – Sunday 10am – 5pm
Bank Holiday Mondays 10am – 5pm

Towner Art Gallery
Devonshire Park
College Road
Eastbourne BN21 4JJ
+44 (0)1323 434670

towner@townereastbourne.org.uk
townereastbourne.org.uk
   @townergallery / @townerlearning

Mailing List

Receive information about our exhibitions, events and private views.
townereastbourne.org.uk/maillinglist

Travel and Parking

Walk/Cycle: We are a 10 min walk from Eastbourne station. Follow signs to Devonshire Park. Secure bike racks to the front of the building.

Bus: The 3 (local service) and 12A (Brighton) stop near the Winter Gardens on Carlisle Rd.

Train: Direct to Eastbourne from London (1hr 25 min), Brighton (35 min) and throughout the South East.

Car: College Rd Car Park is pay and display and has designated spaces for blue badge holders. For more info on getting to Towner car free from wherever you are visit townereastbourne.org.uk/carfree

Accessibility

We have a lift to each floor and a wheelchair can be provided. See our website for more info or call us to discuss specific needs. Towner supports the  Access All Areas scheme.

Café

Urban Ground at Towner is open from 10am – 4.30pm serving top quality coffee, homemade cakes and light lunches.

Shop

Take home gifts, books, prints and stationery influenced by our collection and exhibitions, or shop online at shop.townereastbourne.org.uk

Membership

Support our work and enjoy free entry to ticketed exhibitions, invitations to private views and discounts in our café and shop. Join now at townereastbourne.org.uk/members

Legacies

Remembering Towner in your will is a wonderful way to make a lasting impact on future generations' enjoyment of the gallery. All gifts make a real difference and are free of inheritance tax. To discuss your wishes confidentially, email clare.dobson@townereastbourne.org.uk or call 01323 434663.

Volunteer

If you enjoy interacting with people and have an enthusiasm for art then we'd love to hear from you. Contact volunteer@townereastbourne.org.uk

Venue Hire

Our spaces, including our brand new auditorium, are available to hire for daytime and evening events. To find out more, call 01323 434679 or email roomhire@townereastbourne.org.uk

Conservation Services

Undertaken by our fully accredited conservator Corinne Farmer, ACR. To book a free consultation email corinne.farmer@townereastbourne.org.uk