Pre-Raphaelite Painting in 19th-Century Britain

In late nineteenth-century Britain, academic painting went through an aesthetic revolution, as three successive generations of painters rejected the emphasis on neoclassical history painting and looked to the songs, stories and epic poetry of medieval Europe for inspiration in their work. This lecture series examines the development of “Pre-Raphaelite” visual art in Victorian England, surveying the life, career and major works of influential artists. We also discuss the “other” Pre-Raphaelite movement, including artists who were ethnically or sexually marginalized, because of their race, gender, sexuality or religion, from comparable levels of critical and commercial success in the period.

**Week 1:** A ‘deplorable example of perverted taste’: the early Years (1840s and early 50s).

**Week 2:** ‘By Divine Command’: Spirituality and Success (1850s).

**Week 3:** ‘The mouth that has been kissed’: Sex, Scandals and Stimulation (1855 - 1865).

**Week 4:** ‘At length the longing has been satisfied’: Julia Margaret Cameron, Jane Morris, and the Mature Pre-Raphaelite Period (1870s).

**Week 5:** Enchantment: The New Generation (1880s).

**Week 6:** Camelot in Decay: Legacies (The Fin-de-Siecle).

**Recommended Reading List:**


Giebelhausen, Michaela and Tim Barringer, ed. *Writing the Pre-Raphaelites: Text, Context, Subtext*


