



BLAST to BLITZ - English Art 1914-1945 **part of King's Lynn Festival 2023**

When King's Lynn Festival decided on an exhibition to illustrate the rich diversity of English Art from 1914-45 they knew just where to come to source such a unique experience - the internationally celebrated Goldmark Gallery in Uppingham. The King's Lynn Festival worked with the Goldmark team to create BLAST to BLITZ which captures the breadth, development, energy and explosion of talent that drove English Art from The Great War to V E Day.

BLAST to BLITZ 2023, English Art 1914-1945 will run at the Fermoy Gallery from 15 July to 6 August as part of the King's Lynn Festival. Admission is free. The title of the exhibition is inspired by two magazines. 'BLAST' (with its famous 1915 War Number illustration) was created by Wyndham Lewis in 1914, and 'BLITZ' was a 1942 magazine with illustrations by WW2 war artists.

English art was in transition at the time of the First World War. The exhibition explores graphic art, sculpture and applied art over a 30-year period. It has been made possible with the co-operation and generosity of Goldmark Gallery, a well-established dealership setup by Mike Goldmark and based at Uppingham, Rutland. Supporting material has been added by the King's Lynn Festival through the curator, Robert Anderson.

BLAST is the name of a short-lived, but influential magazine produced in 1914 and 1915 by the artist Wyndham Lewis. He introduced a new style of art which he called Vorticism. BLITZ was a Second World War magazine of 1942 which contained illustrations by Britain's Official War Artists who were organised by Kenneth Clark.

Work by Frank Brangwyn of the First War, and by John Piper of the Second, define the period. Other artists whose work is explored include Edward Bawden, Eric Ravilious, Vanessa Bell, Jacob Epstein and Frank Dobson. There are sections on how artists influenced ceramic design, publishing, architecture and advertising.

Robert Anderson exhibition curator comments: *"The inter-War period will be seen as a time of thrilling developments and diversity. While the World Wars had tragic consequences, simultaneously they acted as a stimulation for many artists. We believe that visitors will be challenged by what they discover in the exhibition."*

Mike Goldmark who founded the Goldmark Gallery 50 years ago comments: *"We at Goldmark are delighted to work in collaboration with such a fine festival as King's Lynn. Blast to Blitz features some of the outstanding artists of the 20th century and we are proud to have contributed to its fruition."*

Exhibition sponsored by Hawkins Ryan Solicitors.

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The Fermoy Gallery, 7-9 St George's Courtyard, Off King Street, King's Lynn PE30 1EU

A press photo opportunity will be available starting from 11th July. We kindly request that you contact us in advance to schedule your visit.

Press information for King's Lynn Festival and to schedule a visit contact Tamara email marketing@kingslynnfestival.org.uk telephone 01553 767557

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Note to editors

King's Lynn Festival, now in its 72nd year, continues to provide high-quality performances of classical music, recitals, choral performances, jazz, folk, talks, walks, exhibitions and films. The Festival features internationally renowned performers and uses beautiful historic venues around the town, including England's largest surviving Medieval Guildhall. The Festival's ongoing success has helped establish King's Lynn as a Festival Town, and is especially known for bringing new compositions to audiences as part of its broad programme of music and arts.

Box Office: 01552 764864 | www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk

Goldmark Gallery Uppingham is an art and ceramics gallery, a four times RTS nominated film producer, book publisher, printmaker and scholarship hub. A selling gallery of national and international significance it has stood at the heart of the English market town of Uppingham, 90 minutes from London, for 50 years. During the pandemic it invested yet more in its high-class print, launched an online tv channel and saw its sales rise by 49% from 2019-2021 with customers from 34 countries [plus the UK]. **The Sunday Times** **recently** called the gallery 'extraordinary' and cited its importance in making Uppingham the best place to live in the Midlands.

Due to the Gallery's investment in and support of artists and ceramicists, it now holds more than 50,000 items of stock, represents the estates of several major 20th century artists. Goldmark has exclusive European [and sometimes Global] sales rights for some of the world's major potters from Japan and Korea, to Denmark, the UK and the USA and in 2021 its ceramic sales alone exceeded £1million.

Goldmark holds the estate of, amongst others, artist printmaker Michael Rothenstein [1908-93] and Anthony Gross CBE RA [1905-84]. Goldmark's tailored exhibitions of Picasso, Matisse, Miró, Chagall and other limited edition prints tour UK commercial galleries every year.

Goldmark's quarterly magazine, print atelier and framing shop complete a comprehensive portfolio of excellence that is unmatched in the private sector.

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