

CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH @ 150 & MARGARET MACDONALD MACKINTOSH GLASGOW SCOTLAND

Wednesday 25 - Saturday 28 July

'two visionary souls, in loving mateship'

In the 1890's Glasgow, one of the most prosperous cities in the world, was a bustling hub of shipbuilding and trade. Victorian industry and engineering acumen brought world attention to its pre-industrial port. Goods and services thrived on the vast sums that flowed: Glasgow was well-primed for a concomitant cultural lift. At the time, Art Nouveau was sweeping over the European continent as the principal avant garde direction in design and architecture. Fortunately, in Glasgow at the right time and place were a group of Scottish artist/designers associated with the Glasgow School of Art. Known as the Glasgow Four, sisters Margaret and Frances Macdonald, graduates of GSA, talented painters and glass artists, married architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh and painter Herbert MacNair, respectively. The intimate Four soon dominated the Glasgow art world. Later their oeuvre was dubbed the 'Glasgow Style', a quieter but more lyrical form of "Art Nouveau' architecture and design. The Mackintoshes are arguably the only British designers whose work stands alongside their continental contemporaries in the extraordinary Vienna Secession.

The 150th anniversary of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's birth will be well-celebrated in Glasgow with, amongst other tributes, a major exhibition in Kelvingrove Art Gallery. What better time to re-examine his achievement, especially in the context of his partnership with his wife and the other members of the Glasgow Four? Why does only his name live on? Why was his brilliant career a mere ten years in length? To what extent was his imagination freed and his efforts supported by her brilliant artistry?

With an aim of coming as close as possible to understanding the Mackintoshes as two of the most creative figures of the early 20c, we visit almost every one of their buildings – from the Glasgow School of Art to the Hill House in Helensburgh, and the Scotland Street School to Queen's Cross Church. For points of comparison we will also study the proud buildings of the Victorian Merchant City, We take tea in their newly-refurbished Willow Tea Rooms and our lunch in the extraordinary House of An Art Lover.

WEDNESDAY 25 JULY

Stuart Robinson

- 09.30 Suggested train leaves Euston. Lunch on train
- 1.59 Train arrives Glasgow
- 2.15 Minibus to Martyrs school, Ruchill Church Hall
- 4.00 Tea in Queens Cross Church with talk by Mackintosh Society Director Stuart Robinson
- 4.00 Arrive hotel to check in
- 4.30 Tea in hotel
- 7.00 Group dinner in hotel

THURSDAY 26 JULY

Peter Trowles

Alison Brown

- 09.00 NF Lecture: 'The Economic and Cultural Zenith of Glasgow'
- 10.00 Leave for short architectural walkabout in merchant city
- 11.00 Coffee at Costa George Square
- 11.30 Leave for Glasgow School of Art for talk by Mackintosh Curator Peter Trowles
- 1.00 Group Lunch in Willow Tearooms
- 2.30 Minibus to Lighthouse and Daily Record building, then Scotland Street School Museum visit with Curator Alison Brown
- 4.30 Return to Hotel
- 7.00 Group dinner in hotel

FRIDAY 27 JULY

Malcolm Chapman

- 09.30 NF Lecture 'Charles Rennie and Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh: 'The Fruits and Challenges of Partnership'
- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 Leave for Hunterian and Mackintosh House
- 12.00 Private Viewing of Mackintosh Watercolours in Kelvin Hall with Curator Malcolm Chapman
- 1.00 Group lunch in Kelvingrove Museum
- 2.30 Mackintosh Exhibition introduced by curator Alison Brown
- 4.00 Tea in the Hidden Lane Tearoom
- 7.30 Group dinner in hotel

SATURDAY 28 JULY

- 09.00 Leave for Hill House, Helensburgh
- 10.00 Arrive Hill House for tour and conservation discussion
- 11.30 Leave for Group Lunch in House of an Art Lover
- 12.30 Lunch in House of an Art Lover
- 2.00 Leave for Glasgow station
- 2.40 Train leaves for London
- 7.10 Train arrives Euston



BLYTHSWOOD SQUARE HOTEL
11 Blythswood Square
Glasgow
G2 4AD 0141 248 8888

Blythswood Square has been a prestigious address since the early 19th century. Overlooking a private garden square, the hotel's Georgian townhouses were originally home to wealthy merchants and were later turned into the club headquarters for The Royal Scottish Automobile Club. The Blythswood is now one of Glasgow's best-established and most luxurious hotels, and the only one with an AA five-star accreditation. Widely acclaimed for its exceptional service, and winner of Hotel Manager of the Year at the 2017 Scottish Hotel Awards, the hotel also includes a grand-floor restaurant and first-floor bar (the Salon). The Principal Blythswood Square Hotel is being spruced up for the 21st century, with a multi-million pound refurbishment that will refresh all of the existing guest rooms and suites as well as add 12 new bedrooms; and upgrade the Spa reception area and lounge.

£1495 members, £1545 non-members, Single Room Supplement £160, Deposit £300, including three nights accommodation all breakfasts, all lunches and dinners, all lectures, all private visits, entries and tours, all coffees and teas, all minibus and taxi travel during the tour, VAT and gratuities. Excludes travel to and from Glasgow.