

PIERRE BONNARD: THE COLOUR OF MEMORY
TATE MODERN

WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH

The brilliant colourist Pierre Bonnard organised his art around the momentary, the transient – he was a man who attempted to fix the unfixable, and to battle, however improbably, against the ever-shifting tides of time. Bonnard's figures are often caught in flux – they are stepping into the bath, or putting on clothes, or walking in or out of the painting's frame. This much anticipated exhibition will trace Bonnard's creative journey from 1912 to his death in 1947, and in particular his response to both the first and second world war. Highlights from the exhibition include the series of nudes, modelled by Bonnard's wife, Marthe de Meligny. Nude Before the Mirror, 1931, and Nude in the Bath, 1925, both exemplifying Bonnard's unparalleled skill to capture a moment in time on the canvas, always artfully expressed through his masterful handling of colour and composition. Bonnard encourages us to stand still, to allow time to freeze around us, and to step into a moment in the past, preserved before us as it appeared before him – first in memory, later in paint, and now almost a century old. With almost 100 works drawn from private and public collections around this world, this retrospective seeks to reinsert this innovative French figure back into the history of the twentieth century.

Exhibition study days begin with a lecture in the Art Workers Guild, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, unless otherwise indicated. Coffee is served at 10.30, the lecture begins at 11, and a light lunch with wine is served at 1 pm. We then travel to the relevant gallery for the exhibition, and end after a brief discussion at about 4.15 pm.

£87 INSCAPE members, £97 non-members, (£70 and £80 Tate Modern Members). Your family, friends and neighbours who have not previously attended an Inscape lecture are most welcome to be our guests