



Newsletter number 116 June 2016

**EUGÈNE DODEIGNE, sculptor of *Flamme***

*'La sculpture est un combat, une lutte contre la matière. Il faut jouer des poings.'*  
Eugène Dodeigne, 1923 – 2015



Eugène Dodeigne, the sculptor of *Flamme*, which has just been re-sited as part of the plans to open up the views in the grounds envisioned by Humphry Repton, died on 24 December 2015 in Bondues, northern France. His monumental stone figures can be found around the world, although the one at Kenwood is the only one on public display in England.

Dodeigne was the son of a monumental stonemason who, recognising his son's talent, sent him to study at the Écoles des Beaux-Arts, first in Tourcoing and then in Paris. He was influenced by Brâncusi, Giacometti and Germaine Richier, and studied with César Baldaccini.

His earliest carved wooden angular figures gradually gave place to abstract stone figures.

In 1955 Dodeigne started to use Belgian Blue Stone, a limestone quarried near Soignies (just north of Mons and

south of Brussels). By 1960, he had adopted the technique of 'pierre éclatée' (flaked, chipped stone) as a way of creating a stark and expressive sculpture, and he began to create monumental outdoor pieces.

His works range widely in scale. The smaller of his Soignies forms are highly polished, but the surfaces of his large pieces are stressed and suggest a weathered, archaic decoration; by the 1980s he had begun to leave the rough traces on his sculptures of his sculpting tools which had gouged out the stone. *Flamme* is a good example of this.

He had a reputation as an elusive and taciturn man. One writer said: "His groups of stone share with us the secrets of the human condition. But in silence. A bit like him."

After his formal education, Dodeigne lived in Vézelay in Burgundy, in an artists' commune, but in 1949 he returned to Le Nord and settled in Bondues. In the grounds of the house which he built in 1960, largely from reclaimed materials he found around Lille, stand the sculptures of a lifetime's work.

Eugène Dodeigne exhibited worldwide and his work can be found in Lille, Dunkirk, Villeneuve d'Ascq, Antwerp, Liege, Brussels, Angers, Basel, Washington, Hanover, Utrecht, Bobigny, Argentan, the Tuileries sculpture park in Paris, Grenoble, Créteil and, of course, Kenwood.

**CURATORIAL NEWS**

**Loans:**

Constable's *Hampstead Heath, with Pond and Bathers*, 1821, has returned from the Lightbox Gallery and is now in our conservation studio..

Antonio Zucchi's *Portrait of James Adam*, 1763, has now returned to its owner. The portrait of the Finch sisters by Charles Jervas is now hanging in the Entrance Hall.

David Teniers the Younger's large canvas *View of the Artist's House, 'de Drij Toren' near Perck*. The painting, on loan from Apsley House shows the small country estate that the artist purchased as part of his effort to be ennobled by his employer Archduke Ferdinand. The painting was one of several presented to the Duke of Wellington by the King of Spain following the Battle of Vitoria in 1813 and originally formed part of the Spanish Royal Collection

## Collection displays:

The 1796 hatchment displaying the coat of arms of the 2nd Earl and Countess of Mansfield has been hung on the ground floor of the Great Staircase (it had previously been displayed in the Brew House). The hatchment was painted on the death of the 2nd Earl and it is likely to have originally been displayed for a period of some six months of mourning over the north entrance to Kenwood. A hatchment was originally displayed over the front door of the house of a dead person, whose arms it portrayed, and remained there until the deceased person was buried in the local church, whence it was then conveyed and hung on the wall of the nave aisle until a tomb or monument was erected. Fortunately for us, many of these hatchments were not removed after the tomb was made.

David Martin's reduced version of his famous *Portrait of William Murray*, 1st Earl of Mansfield, 1775, has also been hung on the Great Staircase.

A reduced version of the Sir Anthony Van Dyck's *Portrait of Cardinal Guido Bentivoglio*, c. 1630, is on display in Lady Mansfield's Dressing Room. This is a small version of the famous larger portrait by Sir Antony van Dyck that the Cardinal commissioned of himself in 1623 (this is now in the collections of the Pitti Palace, Florence).

The so-called 'Piranesi' vase, a grand tourist 'antiquity' carved in Istrian Stone in the workshop of the great Italian printmaker and designer Giovanni Battista Piranesi has gone back on display and can be found in the entrance hall. The vase was purchased for the Iveagh Bequest in the 1970s having been in the collections of Mymms Park.

A set of late nineteenth century walnut furniture in the style of Louis XVI has been acquired for visitor use in the Music Room. The style of this suite is in keeping with the furnishing of this room prior to the 1922 sale of the contents of Kenwood.

## New acquisitions:

A number of significant examples of early nineteenth century Spode ceramics have been acquired for the displays in the Dairy. They reflect the original, extensive inventory of ceramics that were displayed and used in the building up until the 1890s.

## A VISIT TO THE DAIRY

The Curator, the Iveagh Bequest, Dr Jerzy Kierkuc-Bielinski has kindly offered to lead an exclusive tour of **Kenwood's Dairy** for the Friends of Kenwood. The tour is to be arranged for a date in the autumn.

Look out for details, which will be circulated by email, on the website and given at the Sunday lectures.

## LANDSCAPE MATTERS

You might have noticed some tree clearance at the back of the Brewhouse garden. The area was quite overgrown and a conifer was judged to be too close to the corner of the House which adjoins the back of the kitchen. It's important to keep the garden as close as possible to the original re-design by Arabella Lennox-Boyd. We are grateful to Searcys, with whom we have regular meetings so that they know what you, the Friends of Kenwood, think about the service they provide. If you feel like a walk to Beech Mount, by the West Field exit to Hampstead Heath you will be able to glimpse a long view of the House and the Dairy; this has been part of English Heritage's 'Restoring Kenwood's Lost Views' work.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Ponds Project on Hampstead Heath, you can read about it on <http://www.heathandhampstead.org.uk/> and <http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/hampstead-heath/ponds-project/Pages/default.aspx>

## VISIT TO THE FOUNDLING MUSEUM

14 January 2016

The Foundling Museum tells the story of the Foundling Hospital from 1738 to the mid-twentieth century. The vision of a merchant seaman, Thomas Coram, it was the first charitable institution to care for abandoned children in London. On the ground floor, we followed the museum's history told through archival documents, but most poignant of all are the tokens the mothers left with their babies to identify them if they were able to reclaim their child at a later date. Very few did. By the nineteenth century rules for admission were tightened to admit only children of women who had sponsors for their (previous) good character.



It is also the first British public art gallery, due to William Hogarth's inspired idea to encourage artists to donate works of art for their own and the Hospital's benefit. We saw the elegant reconstructed Rococo Court Room, with paintings on the theme of charity to children. The adjacent rooms and gallery, the staircase and admission

room are hung with portraits and genre paintings of needy children, such as Henry O'Neil's depiction of a desperate mother depositing her baby outside a Paris orphanage and Emma Brownlow's optimistic image of a mother reclaiming her child under the benign gaze of the Foundling Hospital's administrator, Emma's own father who had been a foundling himself. Had there been more time, we would have explored the Gerald Coke Handel Collection which includes Handel's personal copy of *The Messiah*. But that gives us something else to enjoy on a return visit.

### VISIT TO LEIGHTON HOUSE

20 April 2016

Leighton House is the magnificent studio-house of Frederic, Lord Leighton, painter, sculptor, linguist and collector. As an artist his main sources of inspiration



were Classical Antiquity and the Renaissance and he is primarily known for his luminous paintings of classical Greek subjects. In 1878 he was elected President of the Royal Academy and just before his death he received a peerage, the first British artist to do so. In the 1860s he began to realise his vision of a studio house, and for over thirty years he collaborated with architect George Aitchison, commissioned work from leading decorative artists, such as William de Morgan, the ceramicist, and amassed objets d'art from his travels and those of his friends, including the explorer and diplomat Sir Richard Burton. The function of the house was to provide a sumptuous setting for his collections, for entertaining - there is nothing quite like the tiled and gold-domed Arab Hall - and a vast, purpose-built studio complete with a model's separate staircase. Leighton's sculpture and fine art collections include works by major artists from the Italian renaissance through to his peers in the nineteenth century, and they are displayed throughout the house. Yet the house has only one modest bedroom, apart from the servants' quarters. Leighton didn't want his guests to stay.

Recently, the house has been refurbished and restored, following extensive research, so that now it is as near as possible to its appearance at the time of Leighton's death

in 1898. Our guide, Angela Bolger's comprehensive knowledge of the interior decoration, the art collection and above all its extraordinary creator, brought this resplendent house to life.

### FRIENDS OF KENWOOD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Iveagh Bequest took place at Kenwood on Sunday 17 April 2016, attended by 54 Friends members and 2 English Heritage representatives.

Our Chairman, Christine Mathez-Davey, reported on the events of the past year, emphasising the need to maintain, and seek to increase, our membership base. Amongst these matters, she mentioned the re-siting of the George Levy memorial; the Friends' hosting of the British Association of Friends of Museum's regional conference at Kenwood; and our special event of the year, the World Jazz Concert. Christine said how much the support of our Corporate Benefactors and Vermeer & Rembrandt Friends, as well as of our regular members, was appreciated. She thanked all the Council members who deal with many issues throughout the year for, and on behalf of, the Friends; the members who help out with events and lectures; and the English Heritage staff and volunteers for their great assistance to us.

Membership Secretary, Helen Payne, and Treasurer, Ken Solomons, also presented their reports. Helen confirmed the slight decline in total membership numbers during the year, encouraging all to renew their membership and to persuade their friends to join. Ken mentioned, particularly, the high assets figure shown in the Accounts due mainly to an awaited request for a contribution to Kenwood's curatorial expenditure; and the commitment to provide a memorial bench from the Dinah Abel legacy, awaiting the availability of a position for the bench. He thanked Tony Ghilchik for his services as Independent Examiner for our accounts.

Kenwood's General Manager, Phil Wright, reported visitor numbers to the house (slightly down on target but higher than before closure for the refurbishment project), and strong retail performance contributing significantly to income for the year, the catering concession providing by far the largest income stream. He updated the Friends on staffing matters and emphasised the importance of the volunteers' team; and reported that fire safety and site risk assessments, with associated training, had been completed during the year. Kenwood will be seeking ways to achieve commercial sustainability while maintaining the visitor experience by, for example, greatly increasing visitor donations targets.

The Curator, the Iveagh Bequest, Dr Jerzy Kierkuc-Bielinski, gave his report for the year, covering: loans to and from the collection; acquisitions, including Spode ceramics for the Dairy (thanks to funding from the Dairy Trust); changes to collection displays; items having undergone conservation work; and Kenwood-related

publications. He said that the first phase of essential conservation work on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor was well underway; and that he had instigated weekly Curator's tours for visitors, to help Kenwood's income.

A number of issues were raised by members, in response to individual Reports and in the Members Forum. These were answered by Council members, the General Manger and Curator, and included: chasing lapsed members; that the Accounts heading 'Fund Raising Events' includes lectures' costs but lectures generate only minimal income; that charging for car parking at sites is EH policy; how visitor numbers are collected; the lectures venue move from the Old Kitchen back to the Lecture Room; concerts at Kenwood (with praise for the recent, EH-organised, free recital in the Music Room); and the on-going issue of the FOK profile on site, including in the Brew House.

The complete Chairman's Report is on the Friends' website: [www.friendsofkenwood.org.uk](http://www.friendsofkenwood.org.uk)

### CLANDON PARK HOUSE

In the June 2015 Newsletter, we reported that this Palladian mansion, once the childhood home of Lady Gwendolen Onslow, had been almost destroyed by fire in April last year. Lady Gwendolen married the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Iveagh in 1903, so Clandon is of special interest to the Friends. We are delighted to report that The National Trust has begun the task of restoring the house, which will be one of the most significant and ambitious projects they have undertaken. The Trust plans to restore some ground floor rooms and use upper floors for exhibitions and events.

### KENDRICK STRUTHERS WATSON

We were saddened to learn of Kendrick's sudden death in September. Kendrick held the post of Newsletter Editor for a year from August 2013 and although he was only the Council for a short time, his contribution was greatly appreciated. The Council sent condolences to Kendrick's partner.

### THREE ESSENTIAL COUNCIL POSTS

At the April 2017 AGM, our **Secretary** and **Website Co-ordinator**, Christine Morgan and Gill Hopkins respectively, will be standing down from the Council after many years of excellent service. We urgently need to replace them; if you feel able to take on one of the posts, please contact the Chairman as soon as possible at [info@friendsofkenwood.com](mailto:info@friendsofkenwood.com). We are also looking for someone to take over the **Newsletter** as Barry Scheer will be handing over this responsibility. The newsletter is mailed in May and November. If you are interested please contact Gill Hopkins at [info@friendsofkenwood.org.uk](mailto:info@friendsofkenwood.org.uk). Ideally you would work with her on the next two issues with a view to being responsible for the newsletter in November 2017.

### HELP US KEEP COSTS DOWN!

Just to remind you: we no longer post the Newsletter (except to the tiny handful of Friends who still do not have email) in order to keep our postal costs down. Please take a moment to consider whether you would like to go 'paperless' altogether by setting up a Standing Order for renewal of your membership.

Please don't lose touch with us though! An enormous amount of work goes into the production of our two Newsletters a year, and although we are all volunteers, we work really hard to try to keep you part of the Friends of Kenwood community.

### IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME! DON'T DELAY – RENEW TODAY!

Please continue to support us and our work for Kenwood by **renewing your membership** as soon as you can. You can pay in a number of ways:

**Pay by PayPal:** go to the Membership page on the website, [www.friendsofkenwood.org.uk](http://www.friendsofkenwood.org.uk) and click on the PayPal button. **Set up a Standing Order** which, once done, saves you having to remember to renew, and then your membership cards are sent to you automatically every year. Or **Pay by Cheque** (made payable to 'The Friends of Kenwood'). **Please complete the renewal form and return it to Helen Payne, Membership Secretary.** YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE RENEWAL FORM WHICH IS INCLUDED WITH THE EMAIL VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER, but you will also receive a posted reminder to renew.

We love email! This is even more important now that we are moving as much as we can to email communications only. Please include your email address on the renewal form if you haven't already given it to us. Help us keep in touch with you better!

If you have any friends who are not Friends of Kenwood, please encourage them to join! Membership also makes a nice present – for the moment we are holding our prices unchanged at current levels: Single Annual Membership is £18, Joint is £27, Single Life Membership is £300, and Joint Life Membership is £400. We also have a scheme whereby you can support us even more generously by becoming a Rembrandt Friend for £300 p.a. and a Vermeer Friend for £750 p.a. If you would like more information about how you can help us, please contact us at [info@friendsofkenwood.org.uk](mailto:info@friendsofkenwood.org.uk)

If you would like to make an additional financial contribution to the work of the Friends of Kenwood, please contact our Treasurer, Ken Solomons by emailing him or writing to him c/o Kenwood House, NW3 7JR. *You can also help us by making a legacy to the Friends of Kenwood. Leaving a bequest is not complicated and is very tax efficient. If you choose to include the Friends in your will, you will need to direct your gift to our registered charity number: 273258.*

**NOMINATE THE FRIENDS OF KENWOOD AS  
YOUR FAVOURITE CHARITY FOR YOUR  
ONLINE SHOPPING!**

Did you know every time you buy something online you can support us? It's no extra effort for you, and over 3,000 of the UK's major retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer, and lastminute.com, belong to this scheme and donate a small percentage of their online sales to charities. Register at <http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/kenwoodfriends> and a percentage of your purchases can be donated to the Friends of Kenwood. To date, we have received over £140 in these small donations.

**AAF returns to the Heath 16-19 JUNE** – Lower Fairground, East Heath Road



Contemporary collections from £40 to £4,000.

**ENTRY FREE FOR FRIENDS OF KENWOOD** (valid during public opening times only) *To take up this free offer, simply show your Friends of Kenwood membership card to the ticket desk on entry to the fair.*

Opening hours: 11.00am – 6.00pm (Late View Thursday 5.30-9.30pm)

Ticket prices: £10 - £15 (without your Friends of Kenwood card)

Information 020 8246 4848 [www.affordableartfair.co.uk](http://www.affordableartfair.co.uk)

**BURST INTO BLOOM THIS JUNE!**

**GROW LONDON 24 – 26 JUNE** - Lower Fairground, East Heath Road

In the same space as the AAF, the third contemporary garden show, aimed at design lovers and passionate plants-people. It's a great show!

**ENTRY FREE FOR FRIENDS OF KENWOOD** (valid during public opening times only) *To take up this free offer, simply show your Friends of Kenwood membership card to the ticket desk on entry to the fair.*

Opening hours: 10.00am – 6.00pm

Ticket prices: £10 - £16 (without your Friends of Kenwood card) Children under 16: Free

Information: 020 8246 4846 [www.growlondon.com](http://www.growlondon.com)

**LECTURES AND VISITS  
JUNE 2016 TO JANUARY 2017**

**All lectures begin at 11.00 am in the Lecture Room**

Seating is limited in the Lecture Room due to fire regulations. Once the Lecture Room is full, we have to refuse admittance and apologise for any disappointment this may cause. The Lecture Room is open from 10.30am.

Sunday 19 June, **Goya: The Portraits**  
Dr Xavier Bray

Sunday 18 September, **Murder and Modernism: Walter Sickert and the Camden Town Group**  
Nicola Moorby

Sunday 16 October, **Sir Joshua Reynolds and *The Fortune Teller***  
Alexandra Gent

Sunday 13 November, **Creating Europe 1600-1815 at the V&A**  
Joanna Norman

Sunday 11 December, **The Emperor and the Architect: Self-made Men, Sir John Soane and Napoleon**

Dr Jerzy Kierkuc-Bielinski  
**This lecture is followed by the CHRISTMAS DRINKS PARTY.**



Sunday 15 January 2017, **Canaletto and his London Legacy**  
Dr Pat Hardy

**VISITS**



Wednesday 5 October, **WATT'S GALLERY ARTISTS' VILLAGE** from 8.45 am to 6.00 pm  
Cost is £44, including coach travel, guided tours, morning coffee and lunch. *N.B. You are advised to wear comfortable shoes as there is a 10 minute uphill walk to the artists' house and studios and a 10 minute walk to the Chapel.*



Thursday 8 December, **LINLEY SAMBOURNE HOUSE** at 10.45 am

The cost is £12 for admission and guided tour. *N.B. The tour starting in the basement involves climbing stairs to see all three floors.*

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND BOOKING FORMS AND CHEQUES BEFORE 20 JUNE.**

### **GARDEN VISIT**

Thursday 27 October, **COME STROLLING AMONG THE FALLING LEAVES OF KENWOOD** with **Paul Jackson, Head Gardener**



Meet under the north portico at 10.30 am. This walk is free for Friends of Kenwood; non-members £3.00. Please contact Elizabeth Inglis on 020 8450 8802 or via email [efinglis@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:efinglis@dsl.pipex.com)

### **SOCIAL EVENTS**



Thursday 13 October, **PARISIAN MAGIC AT KENWOOD**  
An evening of music and song with a French flavour.

Please make a note in your diary of this special event. Details will be sent out later.

**FOR FULL DETAILS OF LECTURES AND EVENTS SEE THE EVENTS SHEET AND WEBSITE**

### **ENGLISH HERITAGE EVENTS**

English Heritage will hold a **SUMMER GALA CONCERT** in the Orangery on 23 June from 7-9pm.

Tickets: £25 for EH members; £30 for non-EH members (includes a drink at the start of the evening). Tickets available only by telephone 0370 333 1183

### **CINEMA UNDER THE STARS**

On the Flower Lawn of Kenwood House, open air cinema run by Luna Cinema

**Tuesday 19 July: CASABLANCA**

**Wednesday 20 July: THE GOONIES**

**Thursday 21 July: NOTTING HILL**

For all films, doors open 7.30pm, film starts 9.00 pm.  
Tickets from £16.50 - £29

Book at: [www.thelunacinema.com](http://www.thelunacinema.com)

### **VERMEER AND REMBRANDT FRIENDS**

The Friends would like to extend grateful thanks to the following for continuing to support us as Vermeer and Rembrandt Friends:

Chris Carter; Elizabeth Meek; David Pears

### **CORPORATE BENEFACTORS**

The Friends would like to extend grateful thanks to the following for supporting us as Corporate Benefactors:

