

## London's flagship summer fair announces Surrealism show

*Treasure House Fair* has partnered with Southampton City Art Gallery to host a special exhibition on British Surrealism running during the fair's fourth staging this summer.

The fair, London's flagship summer art and antiques event, is scheduled to run from June 24-30. The dates coincide almost exactly with the 90th anniversary of the capital's *International Surrealist Exhibition*. A dedicated display space within the fair (in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea) is being planned alongside the 70 art and antiques exhibitors.

Pictures by artists such as Roland Penrose, Paul Nash, Eileen Agar, Ithell Colquhoun, Edith Rimmington and

Paul Delvaux are set to be on show. All are on loan from the collection of Southampton City Art Gallery. The show will follow the reopening of the institution on March 7 this year after a year-long restoration project.

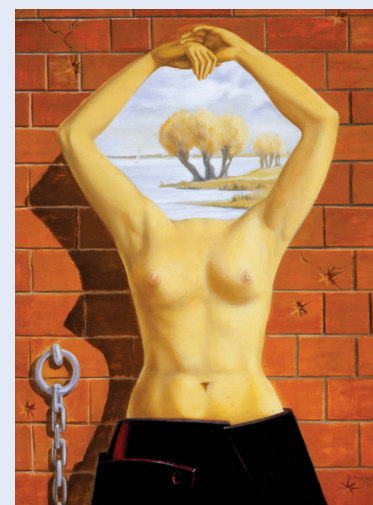
The *International Surrealist Exhibition* ran in London's Burlington Gallery from June 11 to July 4, 1936, organised by Roland Penrose, the English artist, historian and poet, and David Gascoyne, an English Surrealist poet.

It comprised 390 works by 68 artists from across Europe and including those from the UK, attracting more than 23,000 visitors over its three-week run. The English organising committee included Henry Moore and Paul Nash.

Thomas Woodham-Smith, director and co-founder of *Treasure House Fair*, said: "A group of visionary British dealers were simultaneously preparing the third edition of *The Antique Dealers' Fair*, the world's first vetted fair and precursor to *Treasure House*. Together, these two events bore witness to the effervescence and creative energy that have always set London's art scene apart.

"Ninety years later, *Treasure House Fair* stands as proof that this spirit endures and we are thrilled to present Southampton City Art Gallery's unrivalled collection of British Surrealism, with many works exhibited together for the first time in many decades."

Frances Allitt



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**Above:** *Good Shooting (Bien Visé)* 1939, oil on canvas by Roland Penrose.

## Once-lost Burns portrait bought at auction will be shown in public for the first time

by Laura Chesters

A 'lost' portrait of Scottish poet Robert Burns rediscovered at auction last year has been loaned to the National Galleries Scotland for exhibition by its new owner.

Dr William (Bill) Zachs, director of Blackie House Library and Museum in Edinburgh, was the successful bidder at south London firm Wimbledon Auctions in March 2025.

He paid a hammer price of £68,000 (close to £85,000 with the addition of 24% buyer's premium) at the auction, as reported in *ATG* No 2688.

The painting, by Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823), had been found at a house clearance in Surrey and consigned to auction. Zachs, a long-term Burns scholar and enthusiast, saw the picture ahead of the sale and believed it could be the elusive missing artwork.

It has since been cleaned and examined by a number of experts who confirm that it is, indeed, the lost Raeburn portrait. Commissioned in



**Left:** Dr William (Bill) Zachs, director of Blackie House Library and Museum in Edinburgh, photographed with the re-discovered portrait of Robert Burns by Henry Raeburn. (Image: Nick Maile.)

**Below left:** the portrait featured on the front cover of *ATG* No 2688.



1803 – at a fee of 20 guineas – by the publisher Cadell & Davies, the painting was to be engraved for future editions of Burns' books, but, the painting

had not been seen since. Its whereabouts remained a mystery for many decades.

In 1924 TCF Brothie, the director of Glasgow Art Galleries and Museums, wrote that the painting's discovery would be "an event bordering upon the sensational".

Raeburn's portrait was painted from the original 1787 portrait by the Edinburgh-born artist Alexander

Nasmyth (1758-1840). Nasmyth's work was part of a marketing strategy for the second (Edinburgh) edition of Burns' breakthrough book, *Poems*.

For the first time, Raeburn and Nasmyth's paintings will go on display side by side at the National Gallery on the Mound in Edinburgh. The Raeburn picture will then tour to the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum (National Trust for Scotland) in Alloway from July 21.

The Raeburn attribution has been confirmed by James Holloway, former director of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery; Dr Duncan Thomson, former keeper of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery;

Helen Smailes, senior curator of British Art at the National Galleries of Scotland; Lesley Stevenson, senior paintings conservator at the National Galleries of Scotland; and art historian and dealer Dr Bendor Grosvenor.

Zachs said: "This week at Burns Suppers in Scotland and around the world we toast the 'Immortal Memory' of the poet. Now we have a new immortal visual memory – a once lost painting by Sir Henry Raeburn, the Scottish great portrait artist, that depicts Robert Burns not just as a genius poet but as a celebrated (and handsome) Scotsman whose significance would endure 'till a' the seas gang dry'."

## Corby Castle creates a stir

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Grade I-listed Corby Castle sits on a plateau above the River Eden in Wetheral to the east of Carlisle. The current plan of the house with its red sandstone neoclassical façade around a medieval peel tower was created by Scottish architect Peter Nicholson in 1812-14. The estate was acquired from the Howard family by the Irish British entrepreneur and politician Edward Haughey, Baron Ballyedmond (1944-2014) in 1994 when much of the original contents were sold by Phillips.

Haughey restored and furnished Corby Castle as a place for grand family and corporate entertaining. It has recently been sold by his widow Mary Haughey, Baroness Ballyedmond.

Aided by wider market forces, silver was the stand-out success (324 lots realised just shy of £700,000) but there were notable results across the sale for imposing and large-scale antiques.

A full report on the sale will appear in a future issue.

Roland Arkell