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Augustus John: Drawn from Life

26 May - 30 September 2018



This is the first major exhibition of the art of Augustus John (1878-1961) since 2005. He was probably the greatest artist to have lived and worked in Poole and a hundred years ago was considered a towering figure of British Art. This reputation was founded upon his extraordinary talent as a draughtsman, his great skill as a portraitist, and his Bohemian lifestyle.

The exhibition will focus in particular on John's early to mid-career, aiming to reveal to today's audience why he was considered such a dominant figure in early twentieth century British art, and look in some depth at his outstanding achievements in drawing and etching.

Around sixty works will be drawn from a wide range of museums and galleries, including the National Portrait Gallery and Tate, as well as from private collections around the UK. The exhibition will highlight John's close association with south-west England, its landscape and authors connected with the region, such as T.E. Lawrence.

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