

Our February Study Day

**THE TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY  
OF CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH**

**DR MERVYN MILLER**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at CLEY VILLAGE HALL

Doors open at 10.00am for 10.15am start

This study day presents a review of the life and career of Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868 - 1928) in context both of his time and present standing, which will be highlighted during three sessions.

Often misunderstood in his native Glasgow where Mackintosh's principal architectural work included the Glasgow School of Art (1896:1909), his own flat and house (1900:1906) (reconstructed in the Hunterian Museum), the tearooms for Miss Cranston (1896 - 1914) and Hill House, Helensburgh (1904 - 1906) for Walter Blackie, his unique integration on decorative design, furniture and architecture was admired throughout Europe and beyond. He and his wife Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh were feted by the architects and artists of the Viennese Secession movement. She brought an element of Celtic fantasy into graphic and decorative design.

Irked by his role as junior partner of the leading Glasgow architects Honeyman and Keppie, Mackintosh resigned shortly before the First World War. He and Margaret took respite in Walberswick, Suffolk, where he began his series of flower paintings. His last significant architectural commission in 1916-17 remodelled the Northampton house of the engineer W. J. Bassett-Lowke. After the War, the Mackintoshes spent much time abroad at Port Vendres, north of the Spanish border. CRM had aspirations of re-establishing himself as an artist, and his paintings of local scenes have a distinctive architectural structure. He returned to England for radium treatment of cancer of the throat and tongue, and died in London early 1928. Margaret died in 1933, and the sale of the effects of their studio brought a pittance. It was not until the 1960s that the international reappraisal of Mackintosh's work began, and his reputation soared. Double destruction by fire of the Glasgow School of Art and proposals for rebuilding has underlined its international renown, and progress will be discussed.

Dr Mervyn Miller is an architect, town planner and historian. Member of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society for many years, he is also a Trustee of The Lutyens Trust, and a long standing authority on international Arts and Crafts architecture, and the garden City movement, about which he has published the histories of Letchworth Garden City and Hampstead Garden Suburb. He was NADFAS lecturer for 25 years. In 2017 he was awarded a Fellowship of the RIBA and a Visiting Fellowship at the University of Hertfordshire.

**The fee for the study day is £35 per person. Please make cheques payable to The Arts Society Glaven Valley and enclose a stamped addressed envelope with the cut off slip below and reply to:-  
Patricia Spencer The Barn North Walsham Road Suffield NR11 7AJ. Telephone 01263 768164  
The closing date for this Study Day is 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

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Name/s .....

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I enclose a cheque for £..... and a stamped address envelope.

I am a member/waiting list member of The Arts Society Glaven Valley .....

Any special dietary requirement .....