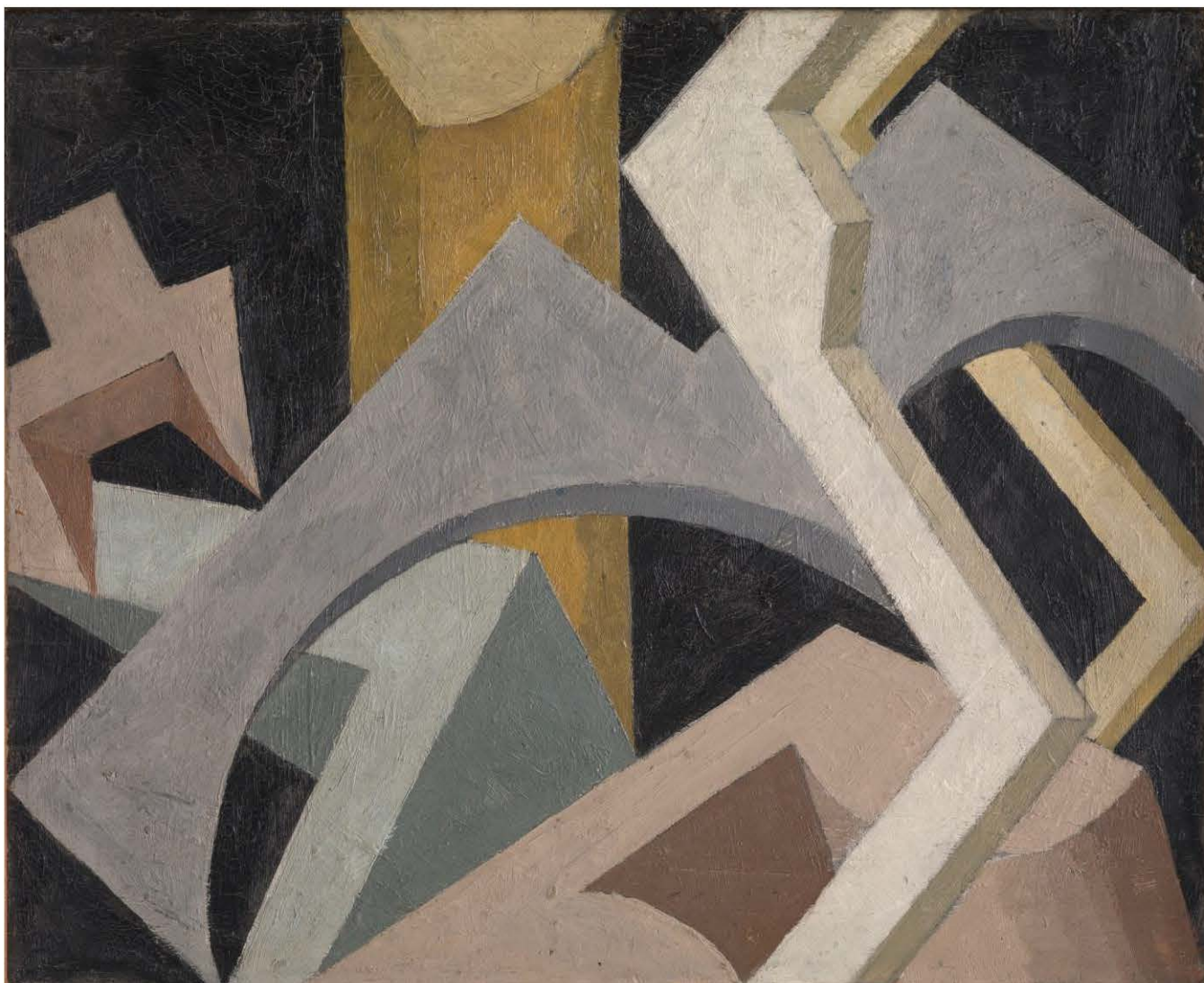


## Symposium: Call for Papers

**Radical Women: Jessica Dismorr and her Contemporaries**  
**7 & 8 February 2020**

Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, West Sussex  
Supported by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art



Jessica Dismorr, *Abstract Composition*, c.1915, oil on wood, 41.3 x 50.8 cm © Tate, London 2019

# Symposium: Call for Papers

## Radical Women: Jessica Dismorr and her Contemporaries 7 & 8 February 2020

Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, West Sussex

Supported by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

The Radical Women Symposium at Pallant House Gallery will explore new ideas relating to modernist women in early twentieth-century Britain, and their connection to art, literature, gender and radical politics. It will take place during the first-ever museum exhibition of Jessica Dismorr (1885-1939) to be held at Pallant House Gallery from 2 November 2019 to 23 February 2020. The exhibition explores the work of Dismorr and the modernist women she was associated with throughout her career - taking Dismorr as a central figure with which to explore women artists in the Slade School of Fine Art in the early 1900s, the Rhythm group and Vorticism, to modernist figuration of the 1920s, and the abstract paintings Dismorr showed with anti-fascist groups in the late 1930s. Other artists included in the exhibition are: Dorothy Banks, Anne Estelle Rice, Barbara Hepworth, Rita Kern-Larsen, Elizabeth Muntz, Winifred Nicholson, Betty Rea, Edith Rimmington, Helen Saunders, Dorothy Shakespear, Marguerite Thompson Zorach and Ethel Wright.

Dismorr's was a ground-breaking career at the forefront of the modernist avant-garde in Britain, but art history has favoured her brief time as a Vorticist. While papers on this period are welcome, this symposium will also seek to broaden the focus, looking at Dismorr and her women contemporaries' art and literature in relation to current issues and debates in art history. We welcome papers from all disciplinary and theoretical perspectives, and are looking for new research that engages with themes such as modernism and gender and radical politics and women's art.

The accompanying book by Dr Alicia Foster will publish a collection of Jessica Dismorr's poetry for the first time and we are particularly interested in research on the art of Dismorr and her contemporaries in relation to modernist literature, and in research on modernist women who worked across the boundaries of art and writing. The Radical Women exhibition will be accompanied by an exhibition of the American Pop artist and feminist Jann Haworth's 'Work in Progress' mural, which pays tribute to women's contribution to culture and society.

In terms of historical period and artists, we would like to explore the following moments and figures:

- Modernist women and the campaign for women's suffrage
- Rhythm: artists including Anne Estelle Rice, Ethel Wright, Marguerite Thompson Zorach and Dorothy 'Georges' Banks
- Vorticism's women: Helen Saunders and Dorothy Shakespear, and Vorticism in relation to women
- Women in the 7 & 5 Society and the London Group in the 1920s and 1930s
- Anti-fascism and women artists: The AIA and Die Olympiade Onder Dictatuur
- Women artists and their representation in art history
- Women artists and modernist literature

Please send abstracts of up to 400 words to Becky Lyle [b.lyle@pallant.org.uk](mailto:b.lyle@pallant.org.uk). Please include your name, affiliation, contact details (including phone number and email address) and a short biography with details of any recent publications.

The deadline for receiving papers is **Monday 23 September 2019** (9am). We will aim to contact successful speakers with the timings of their slot by mid-October 2019 at the latest.

## Further details

### Timings

The Symposium will take place on Friday 7 February evening and throughout the day on Saturday 8 February at Pallant House Gallery. Provisional timings are as follows:

Friday 7 February	17:30 – 18:00	Registration and refreshments (provided)
	18:00 – 19:30	Keynote speech
	20:00 onwards	Followed by dinner at Pallant Restaurant (additional charge for delegates)
Saturday 8 February	10:00 – 10:30	Arrival and refreshments (provided)
	10:30 – 13:00	Morning speakers
	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch (provided)
	14:00 – 17:00	Afternoon speakers (with short break for refreshments at 15:30)

### Costs

The Symposium has been generously supported by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art.

Speakers will be able to claim travel expenses (up to £100) and receive up to £50 towards any accommodation costs on the Friday evening. In addition to the main symposium refreshments, speakers will also receive dinner at the Pallant Restaurant on the Friday evening.

Delegate tickets will be £25 and include refreshments and lunch. This will not include dinner on the Friday evening but there will be an opportunity for delegates to book onto this dinner and pay an additional fee.

Delegate tickets will go on sale via the Pallant House Gallery website by mid-September 2019.

Visit the Pallant House Gallery [website](#) for more information on the exhibition.