

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**Challenging Materials:  
Joshua Reynolds and Artistic Experiment in the Eighteenth  
Century**

A collaborative event organized by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and The Wallace Collection

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at The Wallace Collection, Goodison Lecture Theatre

---

09.00 - 10.00 Private view of Joshua Reynolds: Experiments in Paint

10.00 - 10.15 Introduction: Mark Hallett (Director of Studies, Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art) and Christoph Vogtherr (Director, The Wallace Collection)

Session 1 – Chair: Mark Hallett, Paul Mellon Centre

10.15 - 10.35 Marcia Pointon, Professor Emeritus in History of Art, The University of Manchester  
Finish and Unfinish: Reynolds's portrait of Marie Countess of Schaumburg-Lippe?

10.35 - 10.55 Helen Brett, Painting Conservator, Tate and Martin Postle, Deputy Director, The Paul Mellon Centre  
'New Light on an old Warhorse': Joshua Reynolds's portraits of Lord Ligonier

10.55 - 11.15 Questions

11.15 - 11.45 Coffee break

Session 2 – Chair: Hayley Flynn, The Wallace Collection

11.45 - 12.05 John Chu, Research Cataloguer, Tate Britain  
Experiment, Excess, Patronage: Joshua Reynolds and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of Dorset

12.05 - 12.25 Iris Wien, Marie Curie/IPODI Fellow, Technical University Berlin,  
'Character as experiment: Reynolds's: A Strawberry Girl and his Boy Holding a Bunch of Grapes'

12.25-12.45  
Gallery  
Rica Jones, Conservator of Paintings, formerly at Tate  
**'I can vouch for them to be authentick and just, either from my own experiments and observations, the information of persons of undoubted veracity who have practised them, or clear deductions from unquestionable principles': an appraisal of Robert Dossie's 'Handmaid to the Arts' and the climate in which it was produced in the 1750s**

12.45 - 13.15  
Questions

13.15 - 14.45  
Lunch break

Session 3 – Chair: Alexandra Gent, The Wallace Collection

14.45 – 15.05  
Sophie Reddington, Paintings Conservator, Private Studio and Andrew Loukes, Curator of Exhibitions and Collections, Petworth House, National Trust  
**Toil and Trouble: The history, materials and restoration of Reynolds's largest work**

15.05 – 15.25  
Art  
Mark Aronson, Chief Conservator, Yale Center for British  
**Canvas, a Time Based Media: Joshua Reynolds's portraits revealed through X-radiography**

15.25 - 15.45  
Elizaveta Renne, Keeper of British and Scandinavian Paintings (16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century), State Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg  
**The painting which 'might be called great if it were more correct: it might perhaps have been correct had it not attempted to be great'**

15.45 – 16.15  
Questions

16.15 - 16.55  
Coffee break

Session 4 – Chair: Mark Hallett, Paul Mellon Centre

16.55 - 17.15  
Cora Gilroy-Ware, from September 2015, Huntington Library/California Institute of Technology  
**"Her swelling breast palpitates": life and death in the works of William Hilton**

17.15 - 17.35  
Martin Myrone, Lead Curator for Pre-1800 British Art, Tate Britain  
**Painting after Reynolds (After 1813)**

17.35 - 18.00  
Questions/wrap-up

18.00-19.00  
Drinks reception at The Wallace Collection