

The Third Meeting of the British Women Artists 1750-1950 BAN Sub Group

# **OPENING STUDIO DOORS: a Collaborative Write-a-thon**

plus Recording Sessions for the Sub Group's New  
Podcast Series 'Voicing Current Research'

10.00-17.00, Friday 25 November, 2016

The Tree House, Berrick Saul Building, University of York



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
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**BRITISH ART**  
subject specialist  
**NETWORK**

This **Opening Studio Doors, a collaborative Write-a-thon** event will build on the open and enthusiastic attitude to knowledge sharing displayed by members at our Second Meeting, 'A Studio of One's Own' (Edinburgh, May 2016). The artist's studio has long been a major subject of art historical inquiry, but exhibitions and publications which have explored the studio as a concept and space have most often examined male artists' studios. Our Second Meeting confirmed that the study of women's studios deepens our knowledge about their work, lives, and receptions. There we collectively identified the need for a scholarly and informative resource on the subject. This, our Third Meeting, will provide the opportunity for Sub Group members to pool their collective knowledge and harness it in the form of a co-authored resource that will outline what is currently known about the forms, uses, representations and meanings of women's studios. The outcome will be published freely and openly on our website (<http://hoaportal.york.ac.uk/hoaportal/britishwomenartists1750-1950.jsp>) in html and pdf format. It will encourage and enable future research on the subject. The Write-a-thon is inspired by the productive involvement of a number of our members in the 'Art+Feminism: Still Invisible Edit-a-thon' co-organised by Glasgow School of Art and the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art journal *British Art Studies* (Glasgow, 25 May, 2016) and the successful Hack-a-thon format frequently adopted by software developers.

## Schedule

10.00 - \* Welcome with tea and biscuits \*

10.15 - **Introduction** by Katie J T Herrington (Sub Group Leader)

10.30 - **Discussion of the content of the resource and formation of a strategy for writing it**

### **Themes may include:**

- Existing Literature pertaining to artists' studios and the problem of gender bias
- Forms of Women Artists' Studios (with consideration to distinctions between amateur and professional artists and of domestic duties)
  - Studio practice in art schools
  - Professional artistic groups' shared Studio spaces (including how women artists worked with their female and male peers)
  - Ad-hoc studios in the domestic setting of the home
  - Bespoke studio-homes (designed and/or built by/for women artists)
- Studios Abroad
- Studio Practices
  - Painters' Studios
  - Sculptors' Studios
  - Materials and props
  - Studios as sites for entertaining patrons/selling work (including open studios)
  - Teaching and the role of students and apprentices in women's studios
- Representations of women artists' studios (in artworks, documentary photographs, sketches, records and notebooks)
- The role of the studio in the formation and shaping of a woman artists' identities

N.B.: The incorporation of exemplar case studies of particular artists' studios is encouraged.

10.45 - **Writing** (members will split into pairs/small writing workshop teams. Each team will workshop on one theme and, by the end of the day, they will have produced a text (approx. 400-1,000 words in length), complete with title, references, bibliography and useful web links, and identified copyright free images to illustrate it.

12.30 - \* Lunch \*

13.00 – **Sub Group Business Meeting** including presentations and discussion about the key events for 2017 from Andrea Fredericksen and Helen Downes (UCL Art Museum) and Patricia DeMontfort (University of Glasgow)

14.00 – **Writing** (\* Tea and cake \* will arrive at 14.30)

16.00 - Roundtable Discussion of the activities of the day

**Recording Sessions for the Sub Group's New Podcast Series 'Voicing Current Research' will take place in the Centre for Modern Studies office throughout the day**

Members wishing to record a podcast that will give voice to their research profiles in the A to Z of Sub Group Members and Map of Researchers on our website will be asked to give an answer lasting 1 minute to each of the following questions: How does your research engage with the work of historical women artists? Why is research in this area an important endeavour?