

One of the benefits of belonging to an organisation like The Arts Society, is the opportunity it offers for receiving new insights into the world of artists. One such was a recent outing to the auctioneers Lyon & Turnbull to a private viewing and talk on 'The Scottish Colourists: Works from Private Collections'.



Charlotte Rostek and her team welcomed us and gave a brief summary of upcoming sales including a rather special jewellery selling fair 'Elements' which is taking place in their Edinburgh premises from the 2nd to the 5th of November. She then handed over to Carly Shearer who works at their Edinburgh office and specialises in Scottish Paintings & Sculpture.

She began by telling us that the works on paper were often preparatory studies for later works, as illustrated by an oil by Fergusson which was on display along with two preliminary sketches in watercolour. (Perhaps surprisingly the oil was not in the same collection as the sketches).

They offer a 'window' on the artist's progress. (Fergusson believed that work with oils was not everything).

Carly told us about the close friendship between Peploe and Fergusson and of their time in Paris which had produced some of the most delightful works in the exhibition - sketches of Parisian ladies-who-lunch wearing rather eye catching hats!

Another painter on show was George Leslie Hunter (one of whose works is shown above) who had a special love for Lower Largo in Fife and later Loch Lomond. He was known to water down his oil paints later in his career and this may have been due to his realisation of what could be achieved with water colour and pastel and ink drawings as illustrated by the works on show here.

After the talk, over tea and coffee, we were able to have a closer look at the paintings and Carly was very happy to answer questions. Interestingly the Colourists' paintings and drawings on paper were sold later but were not part of the established commercial process during the time when the Colourists were at the height of their powers.

Once again our thanks to the team at Lyon & Turnbull. The exhibition continues until 27th October.