

## **SSN Study Day 'Reflections: Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites'**

Organised by The National Gallery

Supported by the Pilgrim Trust

**30 November 2017, 11 am – 4 pm, The National Gallery**

The final SSN Study Day for 2017 will be held on 30 November 2017 and coincides with the exhibition 'Reflections: Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites' currently held at the National Gallery and developed in collaboration with Tate.

Featuring key loans from Tate's Pre-Raphaelite collection, the National Gallery's 'Arnolfini Portrait' by Jan Van Eyck will for the first time be shown alongside paintings such as Dante Gabriel Rossetti's 'The Girlhood of Mary Virgin' (1848-9), William Holman Hunt's 'The Awakening Conscience' (1853) and William Morris' 'La Belle Iseult' (1858).

The exhibition explores the profound influence that Van Eyck's celebrated 'Arnolfini Portrait' had on the Pre-Raphaelite painters and their thoughts on empirical observation, draughtsmanship, colour, technique and the symbolic meaning of objects. The show also illustrates the way in which artistic motifs used by Van Eyck, such as the convex mirror, were adapted by the Pre-Raphaelites.

The exhibition is jointly curated by Susan Foister, Deputy Director and Curator of Early Netherlandish, German, and British Paintings at the National Gallery, and Alison Smith, Lead Curator of British Art to 1900 at Tate.

The Study Day will not only include free admission to the exhibition, but will in particular provide an exciting opportunity to meet the curators and hear more about how they developed the project. We will also explore the aims and main themes of the exhibition in a joint discussion.

### **Timings and overview**

11 am                      Coffee and registration (National Gallery, Wilkins Board Room),

*Followed by*

Presentation by Susan Foister, Deputy Director and Curator of Early Netherlandish, German and British Paintings (The National Gallery) & Alison Smith, Lead Curator of British Art to 1900 (Tate)

Self-guided tour of 'Reflections: Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites' (free admission)

1 pm                      Lunch (provided)

2 pm – c. 3:45 pm      Chaired discussion

To book a place, and to request a travel bursary, please email [ssn@ng-london.org.uk](mailto:ssn@ng-london.org.uk) by **Thursday 23rd November 2017**.