

**CONSIDER THE LILIES:  
Works from Dundee's Twentieth-Century Art Collection  
at  
THE FLEMING COLLECTION  
25<sup>th</sup> January – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2007**



Patrick, James McIntosh (1907-1998)  
A City Garden, 1940  
McManus Galleries and Museum, Dundee

A selection of important twentieth-century Scottish art from Dundee's McManus Galleries and Museum will be shown at The Fleming Collection, London, from 25<sup>th</sup> January until 5<sup>th</sup> April 2007. The exhibition will be exhibited first at the Dean Gallery, part of the National Galleries of Scotland, whilst major renovations take place at Dundee's McManus Galleries and Museum until Spring 2008.

The exhibition will include around sixty Scottish masterpieces from 1910-1980, which have rarely been shown outside Dundee. Many of the leading artists of the period will be featured including Edward Baird, John Bellany, the Scottish Colourists, Stanley Cursiter, John Duncan, Will Maclean, Alberto Morrocco and James McIntosh Patrick, highlighting the best of Dundee's permanent collection in the Scottish and English capitals.

*Consider the Lilies* is the title of a painting in the exhibition by Peter Collins. The pot of three lilies represents Dundee's coat of arms, which symbolises the Virgin Mary, the city's patron saint. Dundee has an artistic heritage of which to be proud. Its unique position, situated on one of the most beautiful estuaries in Europe, amid the hinterlands of Fife and the Scottish north-east coast, has long been a source of creative inspiration. Many of the artists in the exhibition, such as Alberto Morrocco and James McIntosh Patrick, strongly identified with the city. The exhibition's connection to The Fleming Collection is heightened because Robert Fleming, the founder of Flemings bank, was born in Dundee in 1845, and he donated money to the city throughout his life. He was awarded the Freedom of the City in 1929.

McIntosh Patrick was born in Dundee and is one of Dundee's most celebrated artists. He first found success as an etcher but the market for etchings collapsed during the Great Depression prompting him to concentrate on painting. *A City Garden* (see front page), one of his most accomplished paintings, was purchased by Dundee in 1940, the year in which it was made and exhibited at the Royal Academy in London. It shows the artist's back garden, which he painted while waiting to be called up to the army. Also included in the exhibition are *Autumn, Kinnordy*, 1936, the third in the artist's celebrated *Four Seasons* series which made Patrick's reputation as a landscape painter and *Tay Bridge from My Studio Window* of 1948, Patrick's first major painting after the war.

John Duncan is another very distinguished artist associated with the city. Duncan is renowned as the foremost painter of the late nineteenth-century Celtic Revival movement. He painted *The Riders of the Sidhe*, which were the Celtic fairy folk. Each year on Midsummer Night they ride forth to a sacred circle to initiate mortals into the

mysteries of their faith. Much of the imagery in the painting was inspired by Pictish symbol stones which Duncan saw in Dundee and Edinburgh.

Works by all four Colourists are displayed including *A Lowland Church* by John Duncan Fergusson (1874-1961). Fergusson was born in Leith and was self-taught. He moved to Paris in 1907 and soon assimilated and developed the latest developments in French painting. Whilst in Scotland in 1914 he painted a watercolour of nearby Lasswade Parish Church from which he developed *A Lowland Church* in 1916. The distinctive building, which was demolished in 1955, was originally designed by Robert Adam but was constructed by his brother-in-law John Clerk. The schematic design of the painting, the illusion of volume particularly in the trees and the hatched brushstrokes recall the work of Paul Cézanne, as well as Fergusson's love of voluptuous form and rhythmic contours.

Hanging alongside is a work entitled *Rain on Princes Street* by Fergusson's contemporary Stanley Cursiter. This is one of a series of seven paintings, all of 1913, inspired by the Italian Futurists, who were then at the cutting-edge of modern art. Cursiter was one of the very first artists in Britain to explore their ideas.

McManus Galleries and Museum is housed in a grand Victorian gothic revival building in Albert Square, in the heart of Dundee. It has been one of the City's landmarks since its foundation as the Albert Institute in 1867. It was re-named after Lord Provost Maurice McManus O. B. E, who championed a programme of works to save the building in the 1980s. The current £8 million redevelopment project, entitled 'Who We Are', will create a state-of-the-art cultural attraction of international standing.

An accompanying publication will celebrate Dundee's modern collection and the re-development of McManus Galleries and Museum.

December 2006

**The Fleming Collection is supported by the Fleming-Wyfold Art Foundation**

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Notes to Editors:

25<sup>th</sup> January – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2007

The Fleming Collection

13 Berkeley Street

London W1

Tel: 0207 409 5730

Fax: 0207 409 573

Website: [www.flemingcollection.co.uk](http://www.flemingcollection.co.uk)

Nearest Tube: Green Park

Opening hours: (Admission free)

Monday Closed to general public

Open by appointment for group visits and educational events 10am-5.30pm

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5.30pm

Sunday Closed

28<sup>th</sup> October 2006 – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Dean Gallery

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

Belford Road

Edinburgh EH4 3DS

Tel: 0131 624 6200

Fax: 0131 343 3250

Website: [www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

McManus Galleries

Closed from October 2005 until Spring 2008

[www.mcmanus.co.uk](http://www.mcmanus.co.uk)

The exhibition is accompanied by a lavishly illustrated permanent collection publication written by Alice Strang, price £9.95 +p&p; Bill Smith's biography *Robert Fleming 1845-1933*, published privately in December 2000, price £25 + P&P both can be obtained from The Fleming Collection, 13 Berkeley Street, London W1J 8DU. Tel: + 44 (0) 207 409 5733 Web: [www.flemingcollection.co.uk](http://www.flemingcollection.co.uk)

Those interested in supporting the *Who We Are* project to re-develop McManus Galleries and Museum are invited to contact John Stewart-Young, Project Director on + 44 (0)1382 432368 / [john.stewart-young@dundecity.gov.uk](mailto:john.stewart-young@dundecity.gov.uk).