

**ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM**  
**TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER**  
**MARY ACTON**

This ambitious and long overdue exhibition will bring together some of the finest works associated with the movement from around the world. London has seen retrospectives of the most famous proponents of Abstract Expressionism over the decades, but this is the first time since 1959 that the movement as a whole will be represented in one landmark show. It is an opportunity for us to re-evaluate an artistic phenomenon, and make the case that far from being unified, Abstract Expressionism was in fact far more complex and ever-changing. In addition to featuring work of the most celebrated artists associated with the movement: Kline, Pollock, Rothko, Newman, Still, de Kooning, Smith, Reinhardt and Gorky, the Royal Academy will also display work by lesser-known – but no less influential – artists to reveal the extraordinary breadth of a movement that gave New York City an artistic identity for the first time. The exhibition will be curated by the independent art historian Dr David Anfam, alongside Edith Devaney, Contemporary Curator at the Royal Academy of Arts. Dr Anfam is the preeminent authority on Abstract Expressionism, the author of the catalogue raisonné of Mark Rothko's paintings and Senior Consulting Curator at the Clyfford Still Museum, Denver.

This exhibition study day starts at the Art Workers Guild, Bloomsbury. Please join us for coffee at 10.30 (optional), the lecture at 11, and a light lunch with wine served at 1pm. After lunch, the day continues at the Royal Academy and ends there at 4:00 pm. £79 INSCAPE members, £89 non-members (£65 and £75 Royal Academy Friends). First time guests are welcome at no cost.



**PICASSO'S PORTRAITS**  
**TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER**  
**MARY ACTON**

At a time when Picasso would have been challenged both by the presence of fine portrait photography as an alternative to painted portraits, and by his own genius in making abstractions of reality, Picasso's portraits of family, friends and lovers are an astonishing response. This major exhibition of over eighty works, some from private collections being shown in the UK for the first time, focuses on the artist's portrayal of family, friends and lovers emphasizing the central role of Picasso's women in his protean portraiture. Blonde muse Marie-Thérèse Walter, with whom he had a clandestine affair from the mid-1920s to 1933, underwent constant transformations from instantly recognizable face to mythical goddess. Dora Maar inspired tragic grotesques, while mistress Fernande Olivier appears in many guises, and Françoise Gilot triggered images of dread and anxiety in his postwar canvases. Moving freely in technique between drawing from life, expressive painting from memory, and, humorous caricature, the portraits cover his long career.

This exhibition study day starts at the Art Workers Guild, Bloomsbury. Please join us for coffee at 10.30 (optional), the lecture at 11, and a light lunch with wine served at 1pm. After lunch, the day continues at the National Portrait Gallery, and ends there at 4:00 pm. £83 INSCAPE members, £93 non-members (£74 and £84 Art Fund members; £65 and £75 National Portrait Gallery members). First time guests are welcome at no cost.