



Evelyn Gibbs 1905-1991

Artist

Evelyn was born in Liverpool and later became a lecturer in art education at Goldsmith's College in London, publishing "The teaching of art in schools" an influential book in 1934. The college was evacuated to Nottingham in 1939 because of the war and she lived at 30 Clarendon Street, Nottingham and had a studio on Hounds Gate.

She was one of the most important artists of her generation and produced art for the War Artist's Advisory Committee 1939 – 45. She painted landscapes and figures in oils and gouache, and also was an engraver and etcher, winning the Rome Scholarship for Engraving. She exhibited at the Royal Academy Supplementary Exhibition, Leicester Galleries, London, etc. and has works in the permanent collections at the British Museum, Nottingham Castle Art Gallery etc.

She was a member of the Royal College of Art, London and founded the Midland Artists Group. In 1946 she was commissioned to paint an Annunciation scene at St Martin's Church in Bilborough. It shows the angel Gabriel telling Mary that she will give birth to Jesus but the scene is set in Bilborough with recognisable local features. This was commissioned to help build morale and community spirit after WW2. For many years it was thought that the mural had been destroyed in renovation work in 1970s but recently it has been rediscovered and restored and can be visited by the public. Pauline Lucas has published a book on Evelyn Gibbs 'Artist and Traveller'