

SEDBERGH SCHOOL ART & DESIGN TIMELINE



William Charlesworth
1837-41
A great art collector. Died in Naples
'A man of wide, but most unostentatious benevolence'.



Thomas Watson
1836-64
A student at the Royal Academy School and Associate of the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours. Studied in Florence and remained there throughout his life working as an artist.



John Kynnersley Kirby
School House 1909-11
Studied at the Slade School of Fine Art. In the 1940s he developed arthritis, which prevented him from painting, about which he became bitter. Living from 1929 at Stansted, Essex he completed much locally commissioned work portraying many ordinary people and local characters in their working environment. Exhibited paintings at the Royal Academy and in Paris and New York.

Leonard Boden, FRSA
Powell House 1925-28
Studied at the Glasgow School of Art then at Heatherley School of Fine Art in London and worked with his wife on illustrating books in the 1930s. Following WW2 he began to paint portraits professionally. Subjects included Margaret Thatcher, Pope Pius, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip. Among the honours Boden received were a gold medal at the Paris Salon, he was appointed a Freeman of the City of London, and a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers and was a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters.

Assheton Gorton
School House 1947-49
Studied architecture at Cambridge and Fine Art at the Slade. After designing about 50 TV plays he turned to art directing films. He was nominated for an Academy Award in the category Best Art Direction for the film *The French Lieutenant's Woman* and was the BAFTA nominated art director for Michelangelo Antonioni's 1966 film *Blowup*. After his retirement he wrote and illustrated children's books. Gorton credited his inspiration for design to the time he spent in Sedburgh and the Lake District as a child. His father was Winder housemaster and chaplain at Sedburgh.

Timothy Birdsall
Evans House 1949-55
Received his school colours for Art, and won the Murray Craigmile Art Prize and Sterling English Verse Prize. After graduating from Cambridge, he appeared on BBC's *That Was The Week That Was* and contributed to *The Sunday Times*, *Private Eye* and *The Spectator*. He regularly caricatured the then prime minister Harold Macmillan, Harold Wilson, and Lord Beaverbrook, who issued a writ against him. Sadly he succumbed to leukaemia, aged 27. After his death the BBC made a tribute programme and Bamber Gascoigne organised a posthumous exhibition of his works in London.



James Bruce-Lockhart
School House 1954-59
Gained a modern languages degree from the University of Cambridge in 1963 before beginning a career with the Foreign Office. However, this work was in fact a cover for his real work with MI6. In later years, Bruce-Lockhart became a published author, with works including a biography of Hugh Clapperton and *Dragon Days* about life in an English preparatory school. In retirement, Bruce-Lockhart settled in Suffolk and was notable as a watercolour artist, with several solo exhibitions.

Ralph Blacklock
Powell House 1958-63
Ralph inherited the family business Blacklock Jewellery, which was founded in 1832. In the last 50 years, Ralph has played a pivotal role in shaping the jewellery industry. He co-founded the Company of Master Jewellers in the 1980s. Blacklock Jewellery's excellence has been recognised with three finalist placements in the UK Jewellery Awards over the past 30 years, cementing its status as one of the UK's finest independent family jewellers.



Donald Parkinson
Winder House 1963-67
Donald gained a Ceramics BA at Cardiff University and was a former lecturer in Art and Design specialising in ceramics. In 2014 he set up Southport Ceramics Studio. The studio moved to Liverpool in 2018 and was renamed Baltic Clay with the aim to provide the space, support and tuition for beginner's and hobby potters to learn about the creative possibilities of clay.



Patrick Bourne
Powell House 1966-71
A dealer in British Art for over 35 years and a past Chairman of The Society of London Art Dealers. He left as Managing Director of The Fine Art Society to form Patrick Bourne & Co in 2014.



Patrick Bourne & Co.
PRIVATELY ADVISORS AND FINE ART DEALERS

Don Seed
Sedgwick House 1966-1971
Don studied art at Harrogate School of Art and Design and then Graphic Design at Canterbury College of Art. He worked as a freelance art director, visualiser and illustrator in London for clients including ITN News, Heinemann and BP and has worked on films including *Valiant* and *The Constant Gardener*. Don now lives and paints on the North Norfolk coast, specialising in watercolour.

Andrew Ratcliffe
Powell House 1962-63
Andrew is a figurative painter based in Cumbria. He studied at Burnley and Canterbury Colleges of Art and became a full-time painter in 1980. He has exhibited extensively in Britain and abroad, featuring several times in The John Moores and The National Portrait Gallery. Over the years Andrew has painted a considerable number of portraits including HM The King, Lord Kinnock, Betty Boothroyd and Sedburgh School Headmaster Roger Baxter.



Robert Hopper
Powell House 1960-64
Studied Art History at Manchester University. Assistant keeper and deputy principal keeper in fine art at Manchester's Whitworth art gallery. 1979, he joined the Yorkshire Sculpture Park's management committee and, in 1981, became director of Bradford art galleries and museums. 1988, the Henry Moore Sculpture Trust in Leeds was established with Robert as the founding Director. His biggest project was *Art Transpirence* in 1998; the largest exhibition of contemporary art held in this country.



Josh Redmayne
Hart House 2009-17
Josh left School in 2017 to study jewellery in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. In 2024 Josh opened the doors of J.T.R. Jewellery in Kirkby Lonsdale. Working mainly with sterling silver or nine carat gold, he crafts earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings inspired by the Lake District landscape in which he grew up.



Iona Lindsay
Laphon House 2014-16
Iona gained a BA in Fine Arts from Oxford Brooks University. She is an abstract painter, and contemporary art is her area of expertise. She is a teacher of art at an international school in Thailand.

Rhiannon Piper
Carnus House 2013-19
Rhiannon gained a BA in Fine Arts from Leeds University. She is a paintings conservator-in-training and oil painter with a deep commitment to both the preservation and creation of art. As a postgraduate student in the Conservation of Easel Paintings at Northumbria University, her work focuses on the technical and material aspects of paintings and carrying out conservation treatments. Founder of RPA Studio, where she shares and sells her work.



Lottie McAteer
Robertson House 2008-15
Lottie built her passion for art as an Art Scholar at School and graduated from Manchester School of Art in 2018. Based in North Yorkshire she is a professional pet portrait artist at Lottie McAteer Fine Art, incorporating her love for animals and the countryside into her work.



Jilli Allen
Robertson House 2002-04
Starting life as a Product Designer, Jill gained a first class honours degree in Consumer Product Design in Edinburgh, before working in the Fashion and Graphic Design industries in both Glasgow and Paris. Jill returned to her roots in the Eden Valley at the end of 2011 and started the Creative Design Consultancy.



Matthew Elwood
Winder House 1996-2001
After Sedburgh, Matt enrolled on the Art Foundation course at Newcastle College which led him to study Furniture and Product Design at the Kent Institute of Art and Design in 2006. He is now a watercolour artist and letterpress printer based in the North East.



SUNNY BANK GALLERY



Angus Richardson
Sedgwick House 1971-76
After 26 years of practicing traditional upholstery and cane and rush work, in 2012 Angus went to Inside Passage School of Fine Cabinetmaking in British Columbia. He makes bespoke pieces using Scottish hardwoods, leaning towards chairmaking, with emphasis on ergonomics. He is a member of The Scottish Furniture Makers Association.



Chris Blacklock
Powell House 1987-94
Chris is now the sixth generation Blacklock Jewellery owner. The connection to Sedburgh School is intertwined with the family's history and they have tried to reflect these values in 2025 through the design and creation of the 9ct yellow gold wolf's head lapel pin to commemorate Sedburgh's 500th anniversary.



Tim Bulmer
Powell House 1972-77
Attended Wimbledon Art College. Tim's etchings and watercolours can be seen in both private and commercial settings. In 2001 He won The Fine Art Trade Guild Print Artist of the year award and in 2003 he published his first book *The Road To Raque and Rouen*. His largest ongoing commission is for Gourmet Holdings PLC who employ Tim to do all the artwork for their establishments including the Bel and The Dragon chain.



James Stewart
Evans House 1974-78
James trained as an accountant and became Managing Director of a top London interior and graphic design consultancy in 1986. This started a lifelong interest in the arts. In 2003 he had a change in career, having moved to Arundel, where he set up a contemporary art gallery and the annual Arts Festival & Gallery Trail. In 2009 James was a judge on the panel for the National Open Art Competition (Chichester) and in 2010 he was a judge for West Sussex Artist of the year. In 2018 he was a Judge for the Sunday Times Watercolour Competition and co-founded of Akin, Arundel's Creative Collective.

Akin
Arundel's creative collective



Toby Wright
Winder House 1987-94
Following his BA degree in illustration from the UK, Toby graduated and taught at The Florence Academy of Art. He developed his career with various galleries from London to New York, balancing his personal figurative work and landscapes with various portrait commissions. As an artist aboard the Elysium expedition to the Arctic, Toby painted in the extreme conditions of Svalbard, Greenland, and Iceland.



George Peacock
C. 1819
Peacock was admitted as a solicitor in 1830 but was transported to Australia for forgery in 1837. While working as a meteorologist in Sydney he started exhibiting paintings. The surviving landscape paintings are now considered as early documents of Colonial Sydney.



Wolf von Trotha
Sedgwick House 1982-83
Having completed a banking apprenticeship and studied art history, Wolf has a career in consulting, documentation, inventory, cataloguing, provenance research, research, collection management and sale of works of art. His work includes provenance research, inventory assessment, planning, organizing, and implementing restitution claims.

Granary Square, King's Cross triptych by Trevor Burgess



Trevor Burgess
Evans House 1976-81
Trevor studied literature, going on to train and work as Assistant Curator at the Norwich Gallery. In 1997 he moved to Barcelona, studying on the Winchester School of Art MA European Fine Art, then in 1999 he moved to London. His paintings explore relationships, people and contemporary urban spaces often arising from his travels in Europe, India and Latin America. In 2015 he received a commission for the centrepiece of the King's Cross development in London. During his time at School he was given a financial travel prize that allowed him to go to France for a summer to paint and he mounted an exhibition at Sedburgh to display the creations from his tour.

Ben Borthwick
Powell House 1984-89
Gained an MA in Social Art History at Leeds University. Has been Assistant Curator at the Tate, Director at Artes Mundi, an independent curator and Artistic Director at Plymouth Arts Centre. Currently Head of Creative Programme at KARST, South West England's largest independent artist-led contemporary arts gallery and studio space.



KARST
CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Gregory Holt
Powell House 1984-90
Studied at Cardiff College of Art followed by a BA (Hons) in Fine Art at St. Martin's College, London. Influenced by Pop Art artists such as Warhol and the Neo Pop Art generation such as Damien Hirst. Now based in Switzerland.

