

WOMEN PIONEERS OF MORLEY



Celebrating Women's History Month 2024

WOMEN PIONEERS OF MORLEY

Our Founder

One of the most influential figures linked to Morley is undoubtedly Emma Cons; artist, social reformer, suffragette and founder of Morley.

Described as 'a woman of infinite resource', she was a true Londoner: forward-thinking, open-minded and determined to make a good life accessible to all. Determined to improve the prospects of the people of Lambeth, Emma started the Penny Lectures at what we now know as The Old Vic.

Strong coffee, political debates and topics such as phone usage, London air quality and women's rights characterised the discussions, which were available to the local working community for the cost of just 1p.

'Our work is to bridge the chasm which too often separates people'

Emma Cons.



Women Pioneers - Virginia Woolf (nee Stephen)

Virginia Woolf

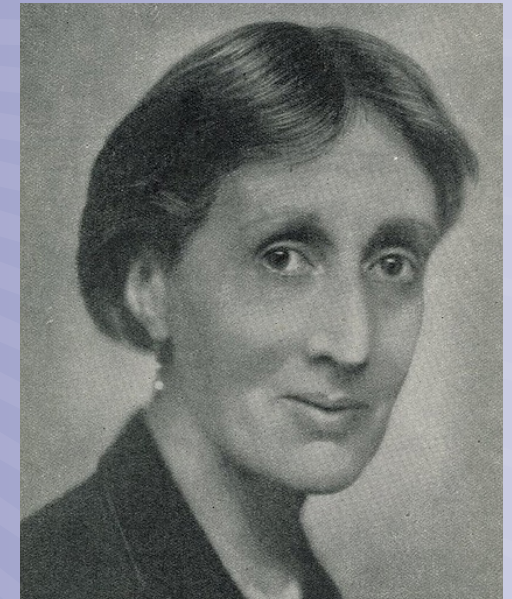
1882 - 1941

Writer Virginia Stephen also known as Virginia Woolf holds historical ties at Morley, as she taught at the college from 1905-07.

Virginia was just 23 when she was introduced to Morley. She had a long relationship with the Women's Co-operative Guild, and also regarded herself as a suffragist, as did Vice Principal Mary Sheepshanks, though neither were militant suffragettes.

Virginia Stephen was born into an affluent household in South Kensington, London, her sister was the painter Vanessa Bell. She was home-schooled in English classics and Victorian literature from a young age.

From 1897 to 1901, she attended the Ladies' Department of King's College London, where she studied classics and history and came into contact with early reformers of women's higher education and the women's rights movement.



Women Pioneers

Eva Hubback

1886 – 1949
Morley College Principal
1927 – 1949

An early English feminist and Suffragette, Eva became principal of Morley College in 1927 and made her mark on the college with more comfortable chairs and better lighting to improve its atmosphere. Among her many innovations were open days, the first of which in 1929 attracted more than 2,000 people. She was a formidable letter writer, with many of her letters still existing in the college archives. Eva was also president of the National Union for Equal Citizenship and was elected to the London County Council. Her portrait can be found outside the Waterloo Centre as one of the famous Morley mosaics.



Nancy Seear

1913 – 1997
College Council 1970-94

Beatrice Nancy Seear was a British social scientist and politician. Nancy came to Morley in 1970 as Chair of the College council. She took an active role at Morley and chaired many important meetings, as well as being active in the campaign to save adult education. She was also a key player in the fundraising for the Community Building, which still stands at Morley today, bearing her name.

Caroline Martineau

1844 – 1902

Born in 1844, Caroline was one of the earliest teachers at Morley College and was principal from 1891 until her death in 1902. She was always known for her generosity and keen sense of social purpose. Her last and most generous gift to the college was a physics laboratory. Caroline's portrait can be seen outside the Waterloo Centre in the form of a mosaic painting, literally putting her mark on Morley as an important female figure of our history.

Women Pioneers - Dr Fiona Murray

Head of School for Health, Education, Social and Applied Science

Fiona completed a BSc in Pharmacology where she finished top of her class, followed by a PhD in Physiology with Biomedical Science which was funded by the British Heart Foundation. During her PhD, Fiona carried out lab-based research into the role of sphingolipids in vascular smooth muscle cell function and has had her work published in a number of scientific journals.

Upon returning to the UK in 2016, Fiona began teaching science at the Waterloo Centre before becoming Programme Manager for Science. In July 2022, Fiona became Head of School at the North Kensington Centre where she is delighted to oversee the growing science curriculum.

Fiona is passionate about expanding access to STEM subjects for under-represented groups, and, in particular, about increasing the number of women in science.



Women Pioneers - Christine Mhando

Programme Area Manager for Fashion

Christine Mhando earned a BA honours degree in Fashion Design from the University of Creative Arts. Following her academic journey, she garnered significant experience in the fashion industry, working with various brands and suppliers catering to the high-street market. Eventually, she embarked on her entrepreneurial journey, founding her own brand, Chichia.

The ready-to-wear line was stocked in independent boutiques worldwide, including major cities like London, Johannesburg, Copenhagen, Madrid, Tokyo, and Urban Outfitters stores in New York. The brand received notable recognition from renowned publications such as Elle, Grazia, Marie Claire, Cosmopolitan, Architectural Digest, and Vogue Italia. Chichia had the privilege of showcasing its collections at the prestigious V&A Museum, William Morris Gallery, and Now Gallery.

Notably, global icon Beyonce was a fan and wore the brand while performing on stage, and Chichia also collaborated with the online giant ASOS to produce collections.

After a decade of running her brand, Christine decided to transition to the realm of education. In 2018, she completed an MSC in Applied Psychology in Fashion, focusing her research on the psychological well-being of individuals in the fashion industry, particularly designers, graduating with Distinction. Christine has been teaching in further education since 2018, currently serving as the Programme Area Manager for Fashion at Morley College Chelsea Centre for Creative Industries. She is committed to nurturing and inspiring young creative minds while advocating for sustainability across all aspects of her teaching.



Maggi Hambling

M MORLEY GALLERY

Maggi Hambling Exhibitions

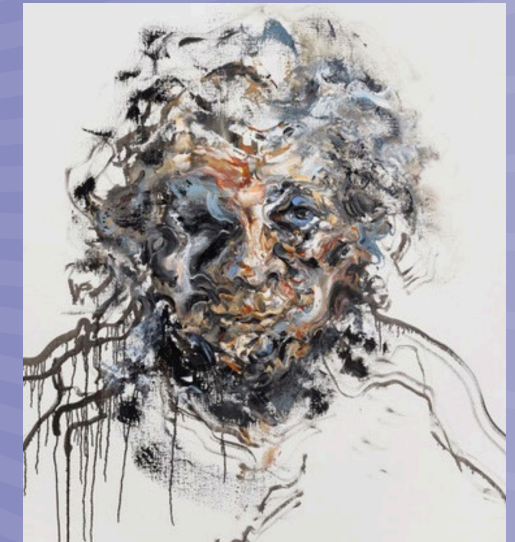
Maggi Hambling Teacher:
6th March - 21st March 2024

Private View: 5th March 6-8pm
Where: Morley Gallery

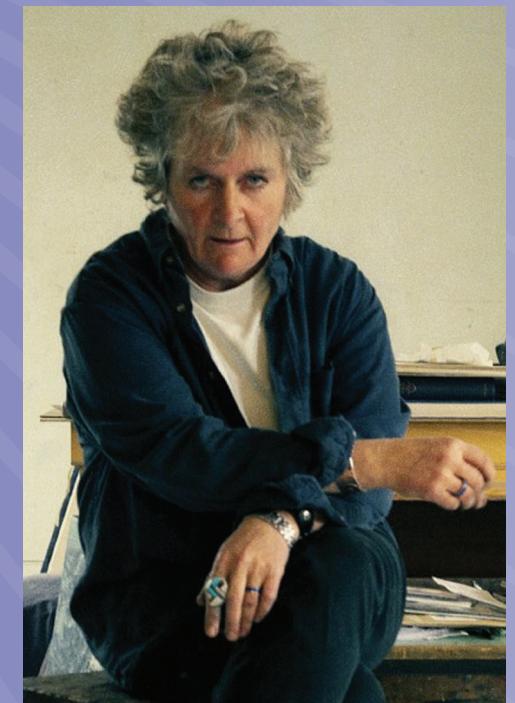
Maggi Hambling is known as one of our greatest living artists, but fewer people are aware that she is also a truly exceptional teacher. In 2024 she will have been teaching at Morley College London for 55 years. Some of her pupils have gone on to become successful artists, but all of them insist that studying under Maggi has changed their lives and the way they see the world. To celebrate Maggi's decades of work at Morley College London, there will be a show of work by her students, past and present.

Maggi Hambling's art can be found in the National Portrait Gallery, Tate Collection and British Museum and her sculpture 'Scallops' celebrating Benjamin Britten can be seen on Aldborough Beach in Suffolk.

Scan the QR code below for more information:



Self Portrait Maggi Hambling



Women Pioneers - Alice Tai MBE

Access to HE Science

Alice Tai, MBE, is a British parasport swimmer who competes in the SB8, SM8 and S8 classifications for swimmers with impaired muscle power. Alice was born with bilateral talipes (club foot) and had undergone 13 corrective surgeries before the age of 12 years old.

From a young age Alice enjoyed swimming and in 2011 began competing internationally. She has won multiples medals at the world championships, European championships, Commonwealth Games and the Olympic Games. In the December of 2016 she was awarded an MBE.

She applied to Morley's Access to HE: Science diploma in 2018. Due to commitments with her competitive swimming schedule she was unable to begin until after the mid-term break of term one. This was seven weeks into the course. Normally we wouldn't accept learners at this stage of the diploma, however Alice's exceptional commitment and academic capability was evident. Taking this and her exceptional circumstances into account we accepted her on to the programme.



Throughout the programme she showed the determination and commitment that had driven her to such success in the swimming pool. Training in the early hours of the morning and in the evening, Alice would attend class in the Science lab three days a week. Despite her busy schedule Alice was enthusiastic in class and an active participant in lessons.

Alice went on to successfully achieve the diploma in July of 2019, and gained a place at Middlesex University to pursue her dream degree of Neuroscience.

Penny Lecture: The Maltreatment of the child Jane in Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre and Modern Standards of Child Safeguarding

Presented by: Caroline Ings-Chambers
Date: 28th March 2024
Where: Waterloo
Time: 6-7pm
Tickets: Free

Socially forward looking elements in Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre frequently focus on the adult Jane's strong sense of self as a Victorian woman, her conviction of her equality with men and within the social class system.

Even as a child, Jane's sense of self and independence is highly developed. Brontë depicts the child Jane's responses to the systematic maltreatment of a child within the home to highlight the psychological and intellectual complexity of the child.

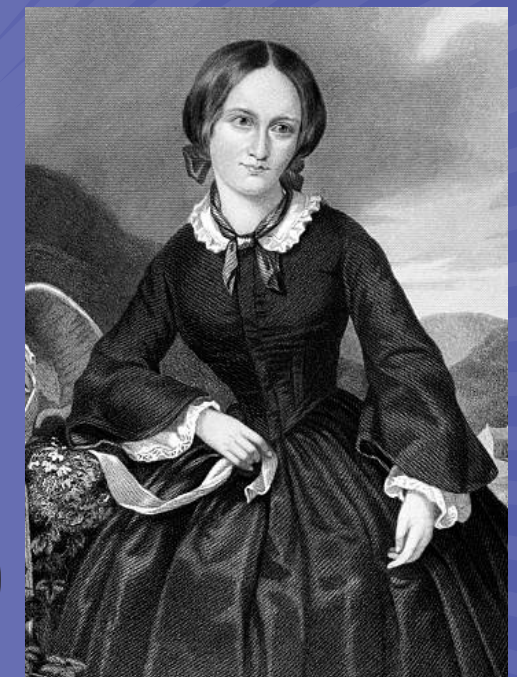
In so doing, she raises objections to Victorian norms in the treatment of children and describes forms of child abuse which are today widely recognised in modern government policies for child safeguarding.

Scan the QR code below for more information:



Jane's treatment in her adoptive home and at Lowood charity school is illustrative of how a sense of an individual's place within the social class system can be systematically inculcated during childhood in order to control behaviour and expectations for adult life.

This talk explores parities between the maltreatment of the child Jane with modern definitions of child abuse. References for this analysis are drawn from the UK Government's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges' (2023).



Poetry Happening: Chelsea Centre for Creative Industries

Date: 1st – 31st March 2024 across the Chelsea Centre for Creative Industries.

As part of Women’s History Month, staff and students at the Chelsea Centre will be creating a month-long “Poetry Happening” - an audio-visual installation of chosen poems that, to us, signify aspects of women’s experiences across diverse cultures and historical periods.

These will be displayed around the Chelsea Centre and changed on a weekly basis each Friday. The event will include a participatory element.

In each of the three mid-term exhibitions in March, our students will be curating a section dedicated to women’s creativity. The exhibits will be on view during the following exhibitions:

Fridge: HE Fine Art & Access to HE students: 29th February – 6th March 2024

Puppets: UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma Creative Practice students: 11th – 15th March 2024

Interim: UAL Level 4 Foundation Diploma in Art & Design and Fashion students: 21st – 28th March 2024

Penny Lectures: A penny lecture by explorer Elise Wortley, aka Woman with Altitude, on Wednesday 13th March at 2pm and by architect Emily Rissom of R2 Studio Architects on the 27th March at 2pm.



4. Mirroring each other
Are you looking at Me?
Or Me looking at you?
See yourself from each others eyes
Never despise others
Never underestimate yourself

4. 镜子的彼此
是你看着我
我等着你
从彼此的眼上看到自己
所以
永远不要鄙视别人
永远不要轻视自己

Hai Qing He
ESOL Student

‘Hai Qing He, 2023 ESOL student’



**MORLEY
RADIO**



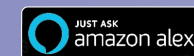
To celebrate Women’s History Month, Morley Radio has curated a page highlighting some of our content produced over the last few years. Featuring a selection of podcasts related to Women’s History month including the Morley Mosaics series, The World of Science as well as an interview with internationally acclaimed painter, sculptor and long-time Morley tutor, Maggi Hambling.

Scan the QR code to listen in to our selection of our series for **Women’s History Month**



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