

PRESS RELEASE

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NUDES IN THE ATTIC: SURPRISE DISCOVERY MADE ON EVE OF ARTIST'S CENTENARY EXHIBITION

Remarkable drawings in a 'new' form by the veteran artist Hannah Frank have been discovered just before her centenary exhibition opens on her 100th birthday – 23 August.

Visitors to the 'Hannah Frank, A Glasgow Artist 100th Birthday Exhibition' now have a chance to see this significant new discovery of 17 Hannah Frank original works in a medium that we do not normally associate with this artist. Fiona Frank, the artist's niece and champion, made the find during a last minute rummage in a suitcase held in the loft of the care home where Hannah Frank now lives.

Fiona explained: "We've discovered many of Hannah's artworks in this suitcase over the last five years. I'd noticed some pieces of sugar paper there but assumed they were packing materials. Then something made me take a closer look. To my amazement I found, inside each piece of folded sugar paper, 17 coloured drawings of various figures done in pastel. We think she did them during life classes at the Glasgow School of Art where my Aunt studied for many years."

These drawings are quite unlike the artist's distinctive 'trademark' black and white works. Here she used vibrant colour - bright red, an electric blue - and they are less linear and more three-dimensional yet there is still a haunting melancholy about these figures which is associated with many of Hannah's black and white works.

Artist Ann Marie Foster, who has run Hannah Frank art workshops, said: "What a find! Hannah captures an essence with such economy of line. They are evidence of her drawing skill and technical facility and demonstrate the draftsman/womanship underpinning the black and white line drawings."

Previously it was thought that Hannah Frank had done less than a handful of pieces in colour.

Fiona explained: "We did have some watercolours and pastel drawings from her schooldays, and coloured drawings she sent to her niece and great-nieces Doreen, Barbara and Eva. These are included in a new book 'Hannah Frank: Footsteps on the Sands of Time - A Hundredth Birthday Gallimaufry' which will be launched at the 100th Birthday Exhibition private view on 22 August."

She added: "These drawings are a remarkable, integral part of the history of Hannah Frank's journey as an artist and we urge people to come along to the exhibition, to celebrate the wonderful art Hannah produced over a 75 year career and to appreciate the vibrancy, the vitality in these newly discovered life drawings."

Andy Scott, Scottish artist and sculptor, will speak at the exhibition's preview evening [22 August] and, apart from the new drawings, visitors to the exhibition will see a large selection of Hannah Frank's works, many never before exhibited, plus family sketches, self-portraits and extracts from her illustrated diaries. A

special exhibition of Glasgow University Magazines from the 1920s and 30s showcases Hannah Frank's own contributions to the publication.

There will be a rare opportunity to acquire an original Hannah Frank drawing or sculpture as some of these will be for sale at the exhibition which runs until 11 October and is the final show in a five year international tour of Hannah's work.

- *Hannah Frank, A Glasgow Artist, 100th Birthday Exhibition, 23 August - 11 October 2008, Glasgow University Chapel, Glasgow. Tel: 0141 330 5419. Monday - Friday 9 am – 5 pm. Sat 23 Aug and Sat 11 Oct 9 am – 11 am. Sundays 12 noon - 4pm .*
- *'Hannah Frank: Footsteps on the Sands of Time - A Hundredth Birthday Gallimaufry', edited by Fiona Frank and Judith Coyle. Published by the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre in association with Kennedy & Boyd. Paperback with support from the Scottish Arts Council. Price: £15.95*
- www.hannahfrank.org.uk

Notes for Editors

Important Dates:

- **Photo opportunity for press: Monday 18th August.**
- **Exhibition available to view from Tuesday 19th August.**
- **Private View: Friday 22 August Glasgow University Chapel, 5 - 6.30 pm. Speaker confirmed: Andy Scott, artist and sculptor.**

Full press pack available containing Hannah Frank background information, biography and details of past exhibitions. Please contact Judith Coyle (details below) if you require one.

High resolution images and high quality photos of Hannah Frank and Hannah Frank art available.

Contacts:

Fiona Frank, artist's niece and champion

T: 07778 737681.

E: fionafrank@soundboard.f9.co.uk W: www.hannahfrank.org.uk

Judith Coyle, PR for Hannah Frank Art. Tel: 01524 60383. M: 07845 499 343.

E: judith@judithcoyle.co.uk

Ray McHugh, Senior Media Relations Officer, University of Glasgow.

Tel: 0141 330 3535 E: r.mchugh@admin.gla.ac.uk