

DOROTHY HAWKSLEY

1884-1970

Dorothy was sister to Charles Hawksley. She was a noted artist and exhibited at the Royal Academy.



Dorothy Webster Hawksley 1917

'Dorothy Hawksley was a talented, yet little known, artist of the early/mid twentieth century. She was born in London, where she lived all her life, studying at the Royal Academy schools, teaching at King's College for two years, and exhibiting widely at venues including the Fine Art Society, the Paris Salon and the Royal Academy. Her work consists mainly of portraits and subject pictures in watercolour, but she also painted in tempera and oil.'

The National Portrait Gallery

Dorothy Hawksley was the daughter of a maker of surgical instruments with an interest in the work of John Ruskin. Her maternal grandfather had been a painter of marine pictures and therefore she did not face any parental opposition when she showed signs of wanting to become a painter.

Her formative schooling in drawing was at a small art school run by the watercolour painter Edward Clifford and Charles Orchardson (son of William Quiller Orchardson). She saw the Burne-Jones memorial exhibition in 1898 and as Clifford had been a friend of Burne-Jones it is likely that they had discussed his work. Her art certainly shows something of an influence from the pale maidens of Burne-Jones.



Property of a Lady by Dorothy Hawksley

'She later attended Clifford and Orchardson's classes at the St. John's Wood Art School after they moved there, before she progressed to the Royal Academy Schools in 1906. She was awarded a silver medal for a drawing from life and the Landseer Scholarship in 1908. She began to exhibit at the Royal Academy in 1909 and continued to show there almost every year until 1964.'

Sotheby's

Dorothy died in 1970 and her ashes now lie buried in the grave of her brother Charles and his wife.

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