

The Pre-Raphaelite Society
Founded in 1988

You are invited to an illustrated lecture
to be given by

CYNTHIA GAMBLE

JOHN RUSKIN'S SHROPSHIRE LAD - OSBORNE GORDON -
AND THE PRE-RAPHAELITE MOVEMENT

On Saturday, 22nd. MAY, 2010, at 11.00 a.m.

Reception and Coffee at 10.30 a.m.

in the Undercroft of St.Philip's Cathedral,
Colmore Row, Birmingham.

Cynthia Gamble charts the trajectory of Osborne Gordon, from his education at Bridgnorth School, Shropshire, to his studies and career at Christ Church, Oxford, where he tutored John Ruskin. That marked the beginning of a lifelong friendship. In 1860, Gordon became rector of the country church at Easthampstead, Berkshire, that was "of the worst character". He transformed and embellished it with the help of his circle of the best craftsmen in the land, among whom were Edward Burne-Jones and William Morris. Gordon filled the church with their treasures, including the great east window depicting *The Last Judgement* (an interesting comparison may be made with the window of the same theme in St Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham). After Gordon's death in 1883, memorials to him were placed in the Easthampstead church: a tablet by John Ruskin, windows by Burne-Jones and a mosaic by Thomas Graham Jackson.

Cynthia Gamble brings the intricate story up to date with the recent discovery of Jackson's hidden treasure, an extraordinary mosaic pavement with a wave-like pattern of different coloured marble. The mosaic, concealed beneath layers of carpet and rubber underlay for many decades, is in need of urgent restoration and an appeal has been launched. The estimated cost is £8,000.

Dr Cynthia Gamble is a visiting Fellow of The Ruskin Library and Research Centre, Lancaster University, and Vice-Chairman of the Ruskin Society. She is the author of *Proust as Interpreter of Ruskin: The Seven Lamps of Translation* (Summa Publications, 2002) and *John Ruskin, Henry James and the Shropshire Lads* (New European Publications, 2008), a work that was inspired by her Shropshire heritage. She has co-authored many works on Anglo-French cross currents such as *'A Perpetual Paradis': Ruskin's Northern France* (Lancaster University, 2002) and *Ruskin-Turner. Dessins et voyages en Picardie romantique* (Musée de Picardie, Amiens, 2003), and finds particular inspiration in working with two languages and cultures. She contributed 14 entries to the *Dictionnaire Marcel Proust* (Honoré Champion, Paris, 2004), a work that was awarded the prestigious Prix Émile Faguet de l'Académie Française. Although currently based in London, she has lived and worked in Belgium and France for considerable periods of time and has taught at *lycées* in Quimperlé and Grenoble and in schools, colleges and universities throughout England. She is a graduate of the Université de Grenoble and London University.

Copies of Cynthia's new title *John Ruskin, Henry James and the Shropshire Lads* (2008) will be on sale at this event.

ADMISSION: £7.00, payable in advance.

Friends are welcome.

Please note that event/entrance tickets are not issued in advance of the lecture.

Please make cheques payable to 'The Pre-Raphaelite Society' and send with

the detachable slip to:

Phone: 0121 449 9078 Mobile (on day of lecture): 07739 892309

Frances Buchanan, Events Secretary, Flat 37 Lorne Court

School Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 9ET, before 15th. May, 2010.

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Lecture by Cynthia Gamble, on Saturday, 22nd. May, 2010.

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