

***Duke in Depth: Bloomsbury Vision & Design***  
**February 27 - 28, 2009**

"...the best is conversation – real conversation – the exchange of sentiments and ideas between people completely disarmed and at their ease, people without fear or suspicion, having no axes to grind, seeking neither to impose nor display themselves, seeking truth by way of pleasure. Conversation is a delight known to the civilized alone."

– Clive Bell, in *Civilization*, 1928

This weekend is organized around three conversations in the spirit of the interdisciplinary, intellectual interests, and friendly ethos of the Bloomsbury Group. Each session, moderated by Duke faculty, will include presentations and exchanges by experts as well as conversations between scholars and audience. Participants will have the opportunity to continue discussions with the guest speakers beyond the sessions and throughout the weekend.

<b>TIME</b>	<b>PROGRAM</b>	<b>LOCATION</b> (if determined)
<b>February 27, Friday</b> 11:00 a.m. – noon	Registration	Sheafer Mall
Noon – 1:15 p.m.	Luncheon	Von Canon
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	Conversation I: <i>The Art and Artists of Bloomsbury</i> Julian Bell and Simon Watney Moderated by Donna Zapf, director of Graduate Liberal Studies Artist and art-historian <b>Julian Bell</b> , the grandson of Vanessa Bell and grandnephew of Virginia Woolf, will share his experiences of growing up among senior artists and intellectuals from Bloomsbury. As a writer on modernism, Bell is also interested in placing the Bloomsbury he knew in a broader international perspective. <b>Simon Watney</b> has written extensively on contemporary art and social issues, including critical examinations of HIV/AIDS, gay identity, and on Bloomsbury art and artists. A personal friend of Duncan Grant, Watney has written a monograph on Grant that is one of the important publications in the field.	
3:15 – 4:15 p.m.	<i>Carrington and Strachey at Tidmarsh</i> Duke Graduate Liberal Studies alumni Joshua Bond A.M.'08, Jason Chumley A.M.'03, and Naomi Lambert A.M.'06 perform a staged reading of the letters of artist Dora Carrington and writer-biographer Lytton Strachey. The letters portray their deep and exceptional love against the backdrop of Bloomsbury. Their steadfast relationship was the common thread woven through a creative and intellectual existence filled with unconventional love affairs that lasted the rest of their lives and into death.	
6:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Reception and Dinner at The Nasher Followed by a private viewing of the exhibition <i>A Room of Their Own: Bloomsbury Artists in American Collections</i> Enjoy a festive reception and dinner, followed by a private viewing of the exhibition <i>A Room of Their Own: Bloomsbury Artists in American Collections</i> . Introduction of exhibit will be given by <b>Tony Bradshaw</b> , author, and owner of The Bloomsbury Workshop, specialist dealers in the art of Bloomsbury. Expert Docents for the viewing include Julian Bell, Tony Bradshaw, Craufurd Goodwin, Simon Watney, and curator of the exhibition, <b>Nancy E. Green</b> , the Gale and Ira Drukier Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at Cornell's Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art.	Nasher Museum of Art

## February 28, Saturday

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Conversation II: *Bloomsbury Literature in America*

S. P. Rosenbaum and Gretchen Gerzina

Moderated by Craufurd Goodwin Ph.D.'58, James B. Duke Professor of Economics

S.P. "Pat" Rosenbaum is a distinguished emeritus literary scholar from the University of Toronto whose extensive work on Bloomsbury literature is classic. He will discuss 'Bloomsbury on America', which involves defining and 'undefining' the Bloomsbury Group and surveying their various attitudes towards some Americans and their culture.

**Gretchen Gerzina** is the Kathe Tappe Vernon Professor in Biography and chair of the department of English at Dartmouth College. Her teaching includes Victorian literature, African-American literature, Black British literature, and biography. Her book *Carrington: A Life of Dora Carrington, 1893-1932* is the only biography of this important Bloomsbury artist. Gerzina will address issues of gender and race in Bloomsbury literature.

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Conversation III: *Education for the 21st Century: Bloomsbury and the Liberal Arts*

Michael Malone

**Michael Malone**, prominent novelist, screenwriter and member of Duke's theater studies department will lead a panel of distinguished scholars in a freewheeling, probing discussion of Bloomsbury in the context of the liberal arts.

More than any others of their time, the Bloomsbury Group advocated education for life as well as for employment. In thinking about education, they were convinced that the imaginative life was critical, and the arts and literature essential elements. Roger Fry's Omega Workshops and Virginia Woolf's Common Readers were attempts to implement their philosophy of liberal education. Buffeted by war and economic depression, they never wavered in their commitment to education in the liberal arts, and from Maynard Keynes to E.M. Forster, offered moving testaments to their value.

Bloomsbury ideas are fresh and of urgent contemporary relevance. Speakers from earlier events and others will reconvene in lively exchange.

**This conversation is sponsored by Duke's Graduate Liberal Studies in honor of the program's twenty-fifth anniversary.**

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Reception and Dinner

Von der Heyden Pavilion, Perkins Library

Viewing: Library Exhibition of Bloomsbury Material

*How full of life those days seemed": New approaches to Art, Literature, Sexuality, and Society in Bloomsbury*, an exhibition of books, manuscripts, and other items related to the Bloomsbury Group and the Hogarth Press. The members of the Bloomsbury group explored alternative ways of living and fresh ideas in the arts and social sciences. Their shared spirit of collaboration, community, and inquiry spurred the creation of works as diverse as Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, J.M. Keynes's *General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money*, and Roger Fry's study of Cezanne. This exhibit in the Perkins Gallery will feature books and manuscripts from the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library documenting the activities of the group's members, including Woolf, Keynes, Fry, Vanessa Bell, Lytton Strachey, and Duncan Grant, and of the Hogarth Press, created and operated by Woolf with her husband, Leonard.

8:30 – 10:00 p.m.

*The Waves*

Reynolds Theater

*The Waves* is the world-premiere adaptation of Virginia Woolf's most textured and dream-like stream-of-consciousness novel by Jay O'Berski, lecturing fellow in theater studies at Duke. Uniting theater, dance, and music, this workshop production of *The Waves* tells the story of six friends who advance from childhood through old age together. While unable to live in harmony, they are brought back, by old ties, into each other's lives like waves on a shore. Woolf's many-layered poetic searching asks deep questions about the nature of friendship, loss, beauty, and insanity.

Created expressly for Duke in Depth and the yearlong celebration of Bloomsbury at Duke, this project will draw from members of Duke's departments of theatre studies and music, the American Dance Festival, Transactors Improv Company, Ghost & Spice Theatre, and the Little Green Pig Theatrical Concern.

Optional programming is available on Saturday at the times listed below. \*\*\*Capacity is limited for these sessions.

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Guided tour of Bloomsbury printed materials exhibit

Rare Book Room, Perkins Library

Will Hansen, assistant curator of collections, RBMSCL, Duke Libraries

A guided tour of the exhibition, "*How full of life those days seemed*": *New approaches to Art, Literature, Sexuality, and Society in Bloomsbury*, an exhibition of books, manuscripts, and other items related to the Bloomsbury Group and the Hogarth Press. The members of the Bloomsbury group explored alternative ways of living and fresh ideas in the arts and social sciences. Their shared spirit of collaboration, community, and inquiry spurred the creation of works as diverse as Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, J.M. Keynes's *General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money*, and Roger Fry's study of Cezanne. This exhibit in the Perkins Gallery will feature books and manuscripts from the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library documenting the activities of the group's members, including Woolf, Keynes, Fry, Vanessa Bell, Lytton Strachey, and Duncan Grant, and of the Hogarth Press, created and operated by Woolf with her husband Leonard. Join Will Hanson in the Rare Book Room for a special look at these extraordinary pieces.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Block printing in the tradition of the Bloomsbury artists

Smith Warehouse (transportation provided)

William Fick '86, visiting assistant professor of the practice of visual arts

This workshop will demonstrate the process and techniques used by the Bloomsbury artists to make woodcut prints. This will include preparing a drawing for the wood block, carving the block, and printing the block. Related relief print and lithographic methods will be discussed and demonstrated. A selection of Bloomsbury books and woodcuts from the Duke Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library will be displayed. There will also be a brief tour of the Smith Warehouse studios.