

'I Was a Rich Man's Plaything': Pop Art in Britain

Date/Time	Wednesday 4 th March 2026 (18.00)	Price	N/A
Venue	Zoom	Lecturer	Dr Ben Street

The earliest manifestations of what came to be called Pop Art were felt not in America but in Britain at the very beginning of the 1950s. Artists such as Eduardo Paolozzi, Richard Hamilton and Nigel Henderson spearheaded a new approach to popular culture in visual art. Later, artists such as Pauline Boty, Peter Blake, Jann Haworth, Colin Self, David Hockney and Derek Boshier helped develop this approach in works that provide a different version of Pop Art to that practiced in the USA. This lecture will consider this difference and discuss these artists' relationship to contemporary music and film.

Lecturer

Dr. Ben Street is an art historian, author and lecturer. He has written many books on art for general audiences and is a contributing writer for Art Review, Apollo and the Times Literary Supplement. He teaches for the University of East Anglia and the University of Oxford, and has been an educator and lecturer for many museums in the UK and USA.