

# THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE

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*The journal of record for new discoveries and attributions in art*

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Picasso in London, 1919

The first detailed account of Picasso's nine-week stay in London reveals where the artist went and whom he met while he collaborated on the Russian Ballet's masterpiece *The Three-Cornered Hat*. This article in the October BURLINGTON MAGAZINE will be required reading for anyone interested in Picasso and the rich cultural life of London after the First World War.

Pablo Picasso visited England only twice in his lifetime – in 1919 to work for the Russian Ballet and in 1950 to attend the World Peace Congress in Sheffield. This beautifully illustrated account of the first of these visits contains a wealth of new information on this important moment in the Spanish artist's career. Although Picasso's nine-week stay in London is recorded in several biographies, never before has such a detailed picture been assembled, bringing together aspects of his professional and social life. The article has been written by JAMES BEECHEY, a writer on twentieth-century French and British art, and RICHARD SHONE, Editor of THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE.



Picasso came to London to design the set, costumes and front-curtain for the ballet *The Three-Cornered Hat*, with flamenco-inspired music by Manuel de Falla and choreography by Léonide Massine. The whole enterprise was overseen by Serge Diaghilev, the great impresario and founder of the Russian Ballet. From late May to late July, Picasso worked on his designs in a scene-painting studio in Floral Street, Covent Garden (where a plaque marks the spot), and witnessed the rapturous reception of the world-première of the ballet on 22nd July at the Alhambra Theatre, Leicester Square. The article discusses Picasso's life at the Savoy Hotel, his daily progress in Floral Street, the people he met, an interview he gave (recently discovered) and the tremendous party given in his honour by John Maynard Keynes and Clive Bell in Bloomsbury, at the end of his stay, where the guests included Aldous Huxley, Tamara Karsavina, Lytton Strachey and André Derain.

NOTE TO EDITORS: in any coverage of this important issue, please ensure THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE is acknowledged.

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