

THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE

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The journal of record for new discoveries and attributions in art

PRESS RELEASE

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Two Post-Impressionist artists in London



La Chaîne Simpson, by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. 1896. Colour lithograph, 82.8 by 120 cm. (Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris).

The articles in the September issue of *The Burlington Magazine* are devoted to twentieth-century art but the issue begins with two discoveries about major late nineteenth-century figures: Vincent van Gogh and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. Both artists are well known for their connections with London and the two articles amplify this.

In Max Donnelly's article, we find Van Gogh admiring two large cartoons for stained-glass memorial windows of a mother and her daughter, at the premises of Cottier & Company in Pall Mall. This was in 1876, before Van Gogh had decided to devote himself to painting and when he was still trying to enter the Church. He mentions the two striking designs in a letter to his brother Theo. The author has discovered photographs of these designs which were made to commemorate Georgina, Countess of Northesk (1811–74), and her daughter, Lady Margaret Carnegie (1848–71), in windows in St Andrew's Church, Owslebury, Hampshire (where the windows are still *in situ*). Van Gogh's appreciation of art and his overriding religious feelings are encapsulated in this early incident.

Toulouse-Lautrec's passion for sport of all kinds is well known but he was particularly captivated by the relatively new craze for bicycling. In early June 1896 he spent several days in England and visited the Catford Cycle Track to watch international, competitive cycling. He had been commissioned to design a poster advertising the new Simpson cycle chain and on his return to Paris swiftly produced *La Chaîne Simpson*, a vivid depiction of a race, with the surrounding countryside beyond Catford in the background. The author of the article, Anna Gruetzner Robins, offers new details on this fruitful episode which also produced several studies and a second lithograph, *Cycle Michael*.

NOTE TO EDITORS: IN ANY COVERAGE OF THESE ARTICLES, PLEASE ENSURE THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE IS ACKNOWLEDGED

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