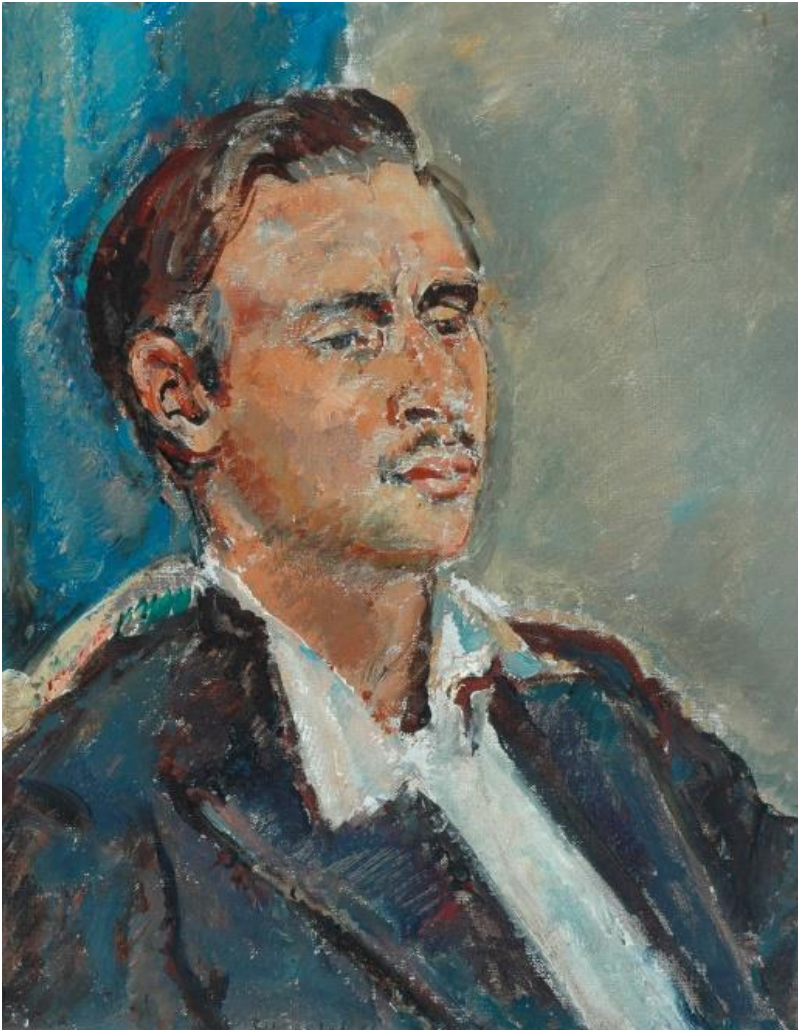


We hope you enjoy this painting from the Pannett Art Gallery

Leo Walmsley by Dame Ethel Walker (1861 – 1951)



Artists try to portray the character of the person they are painting.

Why do you think the artist has painted the subject looking off to the side?

What do you think the artist is trying to say about the subject's character?

Do you like looking at paintings of people? Or do you prefer other subjects? If so what do you prefer?

Born in Edinburgh, Dame Ethel Walker was a Scottish painter and occasional sculptor. She studied art mainly in London, including at the Slade School of Art where she took painting classes with Post Impressionist artist, Walter Sickert.

Her large body of works encompassed a range of genres, including flowers, seascapes, landscapes and mythical subjects.

She is best known for her portraits of the female form, paying particular attention to the detail of her model's expression and temperament. Her impressionistic paintings capture the human spirit, emphasising the mood of the moment.

In 1900 she became the first woman member of the New English Art Club, where she built a reputation as one of the outstanding British women artists of her period. She was later elected an Associate of the Royal Academy.

In 1925 Ethel Walker was one of the founder members of the Fylingdales Group of Artists, professional painters who exhibit together and still stage an annual exhibition at the Pannett Art Gallery. The first meeting of this group was held in Robin Hoods Bay.

It was through this connection that she met the writer Leo Walmsley, son of painter and fellow founder member of the Fylingdales Group, Ulric Walmsley.