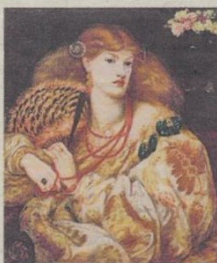


● The Pre-Raphaelites And Italy Oxford

As their name suggests, Italy was important to the pre-Raphaelite brotherhood. This 19th-century gang pursued artistic revolution with vividly hued and highly sexed paintings looking back to the strong colours and simplicity of medieval times. But what was their relationship to Italy and its art? That's the question posed by the first show



in the Ashmolean's new art space. Though of Italian heritage, the group's leader, Dante

Gabriel Rossetti had never been there. Perhaps he preferred to preserve Italy as a landscape of the mind, creating his sumptuous portrait of a redhead, Monna Vanna, in response to an ideal of Venetian beauty. Alongside such big names, the show includes rarities like Edward Burne-Jones. **ss**
Ashmolean Museum, Thu to 5 Dec

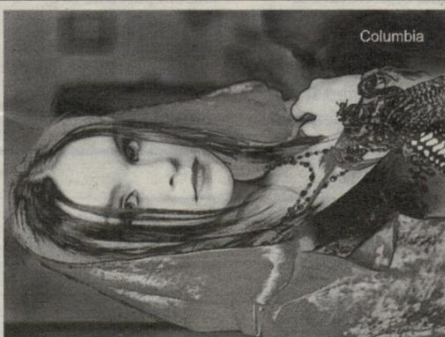


● Thomas Scheibitz London

German artist Thomas Scheibitz seems to filter almost everything into his pop-bright, blocky abstract paintings and sculptures, from comic-book graphics to old master painting to magazine flotsam. In tracking these brainwaves, drawing is key. While he shows new work in west London, at east London's Drawing Room, his sketchbooks and drawings by artists who inspire him are on show. Work by peers such as Tacita Dean, Thomas Demand and Andreas Slominsky sits beside that of an older generation. There's a detailed cartoonish study by Swedish painter, poet and performance artist Oyvind Fahlström, while one of Fahlström's inspirations, Robert Crumb, provides a dose of satire. One discovery here is Scheibitz's fellow German Hirschvogel, whose inky gremlins (pictured) hark back to gothic folk tales. **ss**
The Drawing Room, E2, Thu to 31 Oct; Sprüth Magers, W1, Fri to 30 Oct

● Michael Fullerton London

With their delicate light and careful staging, Michael Fullerton's portraits hark back to the genteel days of Reynolds and Gainsborough. Perhaps his real subject, though, is power and its covert mechanisms. Painted from photographs, these have veered from Paddy Joe Hill, wrongfully convicted of an IRA bombing, to the mother of Vidal Sassoon. His latest show, Columbia, includes sculptures, paintings, screen prints and moving images in a museum-style display. Perhaps his

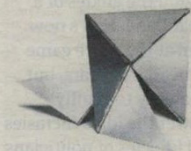


most intriguing subject here is Alan Turing, the ill-fated early computer scientist who is thought to have killed himself with a poisoned apple, now the symbol for the

eponymous global super-brand. Turning tradition on its head, Fullerton offers us political bite. **SKYE SHERWIN**
Chisenhale Gallery, E3, to 24 Oct

● Lygia Clark London

The great Brazilian artist Lygia Clark turned the gallery into a touchy-feely place, where people could get physical with her work and each other. This show – amazingly her first in the UK since the 1960s – largely traces Clark's career development, from concretist works on paper to geometrically abstract



collage and finally her famous interactive sculptures. Included here are prototypes from one of her best-known series,

Bichos, or Animals, from 1960. Clark likened these hinged aluminium works to dorsal fins, although their folding planes also call to mind origami creatures. Like a paper game, they're made to be handled and rearranged, inviting gallery-goers to get stuck in. **ss**
Alison Jacques Gallery, W1, to 9 Oct