

Paul Delaroche: Painting History

Dates	Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 November 2022
Times	14.00-16.00 GMT
Location	Online (Zoom Webinar)
Tutor	Clare Ford-Wille
Level	All Levels



Paul Delaroche: *Edward V and the Duke of York in the Tower*, 1831 (detail)

Course Description

Paul Delaroche (1797-1856) is best known for his monumental paintings depicting dramatic moments in history. While the Wallace Collection displays a number of more intimately-sized works by Delaroche, they nonetheless typify his ability to bring history and literature vividly to life.

Featured in the new display, *The Lost King: Imagining Richard III*, his evocative replica painting of *Edward V and the Duke of York in the Tower* is our inspiration to take a closer look at this remarkable artist, whose dramatic scene-setting, meticulous detailing and fascinating character relationships demand attention. Why did this French artist represent so much English history and literature? How were his paintings originally received, and where do they fit within the wider context of the history of art?

Session One

We'll start our course by exploring *Edward V and the Duke of York in the Tower* – both the artist's replica in the Wallace Collection and his enormous original work in the Louvre, Paris. Several of Delaroche's paintings now in the Wallace Collection were shown at the Paris Salon; in this session, we'll also consider why exhibiting at the Salon was so prestigious during his lifetime. Even today, the impact of Delaroche's monumental works can cause museum visitors to stop in their tracks. How might the scale, composition and painting technique be indicative of the artist's strategy for success at the Salon?

Session Two

In our second session we'll discuss the dynamic painting *The Execution of Lady Jane Grey* – now on display in the National Gallery, London and first shown in the Paris Salon in 1834. Close examination will help us understand how important historical accuracy was to the artist, and the effects of the high illusion achieved in his rendition of Lady Jane's execution. We'll also consider the popularity and relevance of the *tableau vivant*, in which costumed actors would adopt static poses and how Delaroche's works relate to popular theatre of the time.

Course Tutor

Clare Ford-Wille is an associate lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London; she also lectures regularly for other institutions including the V&A museum, the National Trust, The Arts Society and the Art Fund, as well as leading groups to places of art-historical interest in Europe, Armenia and the USA.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Joining Information and Format

This course will be taught through [Zoom Webinar](#). Each course session duration is 120 minutes, including a five-minute break and time for Q&A with the tutor.

Tickets are for both dates. Ticket holders will be emailed the Zoom link, Webinar ID and Passcode 24 hours in advance of the first course session, which should be retained for accessing both sessions of the course.

Course Recording

This course will be recorded. Within 48 hours of each course session, ticket holders will be emailed a link to view the recording, which will be available for one week only.
