



Family, Friendships, Landscapes: Rex Whistler: Inspiration (Rex Whistler: Inspirations)

By Hugh Cecil, Mirabel Cecil

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The author of *In Search of Rex Whistler* explores the influences behind Whistler's works

The artist Rex Whistler (1905–1944) loved creating imaginary landscapes, whether for his murals or for portraits or book illustrations. But his inspiration came from the real landscapes of Italy, the architecture of Rome and, in England, from the countryside of Wiltshire and Dorset. It was against these backgrounds, too, that his closest friendships were formed, with Stephen Tennant, Cecil Beaton, Siegfried Sassoon, and Edith Olivier and with the writer and academic Lord David Cecil. *Family, Friendships, Landscapes*, like its companion volume, *Love and War*, includes much previously unpublished material, in this case largely from Rome and from the collection of the Paget family, at Plas Newydd on the Isle of Anglesey, where Whistler painted his most famous mural.

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Review

From reviews of In Search of Rex Whistler: 'A superb new biography...which throws new light on the artist's complex world, and marks the resounding reclamation of his reputation.' Financial Times 'Not merely a delight to read, well researched and carefully organised, but also lavishly illustrated and beautifully designed.' Country Life 'Sharp-nosed and perceptive.' Times Literary Supplement

About the Author

Hugh Cecil and Mirabel Cecil are the coauthors of Clever Hearts, which won both the Duff Cooper Prize and the Marsh Biography Award, *Imperial Marriage*, and In Search of Rex Whistler.

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