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# atelier at sbma



Left: Members on the dance floor at Murray's Club, Soho, London, circa 1920s.



Right: William Orpen, *The Black Cap*, 1928. Oil on canvas. SBMA, Gift of Robert Straus Estate.

## SBMA Celebrates the Bright Young Things of London's Jazz Age at Fall Atelier

### *A Dance to the Music of Time*

Saturday, November 5, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

October 12, 2016—Atelier returns on Saturday, November 5 for an evening of “gilded fun,” inspired by the current Santa Barbara Museum of Art (SBMA) exhibitions *British Art from Whistler to World War II* and Cecil Beaton's *London's Honourable Scars: Photographs of the Blitz*. This lively event revisits what some called the “unredeemed triviality” of London's Bright Young Things. The across the pond peers to F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway's “lost generation,” these young socialites reveled in extravagance and glamour, inventing and perfecting ostentatious indulgences that were famously immortalized in writings by authors such as Nancy Mitford and Evelyn Waugh, both members of the group. Cocktails, costumes, pranks, and treasure hunts that stopped traffic—everything was “divine, darling” and simply too much.



Cecil Beaton, *Dr. Johnson Outside His Church*, circa 1940. Gelatin silver print. SBMA, Gift of Ala Story. © The Cecil Beaton Studio Archive at Sotheby's



Jim Connolly

#### Highlights of the evening include:

**After Midnight in Mayfair Scavenger Hunt:** No need to hail a London Cab or take the tube, but travel through the galleries with an artist-designed faux/real treasure hunt prompted by period props and details from paintings on view. Collect clues, then race back for a prize and Polaroid portrait documenting victory in this anything-but-ordinary scavenger hunt.

**Tunes from the British Music Hall:** Sing along to silly or sentimental piano favorites in Preston Morton Gallery performed by **Sam Hobel**, or dance to the retro rhythms of **Ulysses Jasz** on the Museum's front steps. Founded in 1998, and a steadfast staple of the Santa Barbara jazz scene, Ulysses Jasz specializes in pop jazz standards from the 1920s and 30s. In Davidson Gallery, listen to stirring samples of Churchill and other orators who strengthened Londoners during the blitz making it England's “finest hour” between sets by **Jim Connolly** on

double bass—another immensely talented local musician and composer, known for his work with Lit Moon Theater Company and his ensemble The Gove County Philharmonic.

**“Let Frivolity Reign”: The Country House Party Interactive Installation:** Sip from flights of potent punch created by the master mixologists of **The Good Lion** as you leave your mark on a lavish and theatrical country house party by creating a visual diary page, pairing the words of the Mitford sisters and Evelyn Waugh with stunning images by Cecil Beaton—legendary designer, photographer, artist, and member of and documenter of the Bright Young Things.



Cecil Beaton



**Snackin’ and Sippin’ at the Savoy:** Feeling peckish? Take the edge off with a nibble from passed trays of posh canapes by **Fire & Ice Museum Cafe**. And if all else fails, rely on the magic of Harry Craddock, head bartender at the American bar in London’s Savoy Hotel, who may be the only bartender ever immortalized by a wax statue in Madame Tussauds! His *corpse reviver* (reimagined by The Good Lion) created in 1925, will have you back on the dance floor.

Atelier exposes the seductive dark indulgence behind the playful attitude of youth caught between two world wars. **Fancy Dress and brittle wit encouraged.** Use your “imaginative vision against the play-it-safers” to reinterpret the era’s “aristocratic bohemian” party clothes, or don a costume from one of the many extravagant theme parties—the White Party, the Mozart Party, the Sailor Party, the Impersonation party, to name a few—and join us for a devil-may-care dance to the music of time!

Tickets include hors d'oeuvres, wines, and signature cocktails.

**\$25 SBMA Members/\$30 Non-Members**

Purchase tickets at the Museum Visitor Services desks or online at [tickets.sbma.net](http://tickets.sbma.net).

### **Special!**

Receive ONE FREE Atelier admission when you become an SBMA Member today!\*

As a Member, you enjoy discounts on lectures, classes, and purchases in the Museum Store and Cafe throughout the year. Please call 805.884.6490 or stop by the Visitor Services desks before November 4, 2016 to take advantage of this special offer.

*\*Offer applies to new Members only, no Student memberships*

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The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is a privately funded, not-for-profit institution that presents internationally recognized collections and exhibitions and a broad array of cultural and educational activities as well as travel opportunities around the world.

Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

Open Tuesday - Sunday 11 am to 5 pm, Free Thursday Evenings 5 – 8 pm

805.963.4364 [www.sbma.net](http://www.sbma.net)