

A Tate/CCW Agendas Event

## **The Idea of the Art School in Early Nineteenth-Century Britain**

Manton Studio, Tate Britain Millbank SW1P 4RG  
Tuesday 8 June 2010, 2pm -5.30pm

Speakers:

**Professor Sir Christopher Frayling**

**Dr Martin Myrone, curator, Tate Britain**



Sir Henry Cole

**Philip Schofield, Professor of the History of Legal and Political Thought in the Faculty of Laws and Director of the Bentham Project, University College London**

**Dr Malcolm Quinn, Reader in Critical Practice, CCW Graduate School, University of the Arts London**

**Richard Whatmore, Professor of Intellectual History and the History of Political Thought, University of Sussex**

The first publicly funded art school in Britain, the School of Design, opened in 1837. This seminar shows how the idea of the art school, as it was developed in the Select Committee on Arts and Manufactures of 1835/6, situated art, knowledge and pedagogy within public space. Following the Reform Bill of 1832, the idea of the public and the idea of the art school were brought together, in distinction from what was seen as the ambiguous, semi-private status of the Royal Academy of Arts. In this seminar, internationally acknowledged experts on the intellectual and artistic life of early nineteenth-century Britain, will consider the idea of the art school in relation to the philosophy of utilitarianism, ideas of political economy, the role of the artist and the administration of public culture. Current debates on art school pedagogy and 'the educational turn' in art practice in the UK, have largely ignored the historical origins of the British art school. This seminar brings together staff and students from University of the Arts London, the 'Art School Educated' project at Tate Britain and from other institutions, to situate the idea of the art school within the development of a public visual culture in Britain in the early nineteenth century.