

Orpen's Pupils

Although William Orpen only came over to teach for a couple of weeks each term his influence on Irish Art lasted well into the 1950's . He was a breath of fresh air - Beatrice Elvery in her book "Today we will only gossip" describes him :- "As a teacher Orpen brought about a revolution in the life-class. The students were allowed to talk and smoke. As it was almost impossible to get a female model for the nude in Dublin he brought girl models from London. Some of them added much to the social life of the bohemian element in the city".



Fig. 20. William Orpen and some of his students including Margaret Crilley



Fig. 21. Group at "Young Irish Artists Exhibition 1903" including Frances Beckett, Dorothy Elvery, Lily Williams, Beatrice Elvery and Estella Solomons.