

# A Guided Tour of Stained Glass by Charles J. Connick and his contemporaries in Newton, Brookline and West Roxbury, October 5th – 6th, 2013

We invite you to enjoy the unique opportunity organized by the Charles J. Connick Foundation. This year we will also be joined by an invited group of supporters of Historic New England.



*St Elizabeth Window,  
All Saint's Church, Brookline.  
Photo credit Ian Justice.*

One hundred years ago, **Charles J. Connick** (1875-1945) opened his studio-workshop at 9 Harcourt Street in Boston's Back Bay, inaugurating a dramatic new phase in the history of stained glass in the USA. Unlike most of his predecessors, who had tried to replicate the effects of naturalistic paintings in their windows, Connick believed that stained glass was fundamentally an architectural art. It could only achieve its fullest expressive potential through its unique ability to manipulate light and color, and through symbolic rather than realistic imagery, lessons that Connick had learnt from his study of medieval glass in Europe and from the work of contemporary exponents of the Arts & Crafts Movement in England. In all his early endeavours, Connick was supported by his friend and patron Ralph Adams Cram (1863-1942), the great architect and cultural commentator – whose 150th anniversary is celebrated this year.

The early achievements of Connick's career are the theme of this Guided Tour. As well as studying the artist's first independent commissions, we shall see Connick's work in the context of stained glass by the preceding generation of American glass artists and firms – John La Farge, L. C. Tiffany and Sarah Wyman Whitman – and of work by contemporaries such as H. E. Goodhue and Henry Wynd Young who shared his convictions about the craft's twentieth-century development. There will also be an opportunity to see magnificent windows by Connick's Irish counterparts, the artists of Dublin's An Túr Gloine studio, as well as spectacular modern-Gothic architecture by Ralph Adams Cram and his partner Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue and by two other leading

architectural practices, Maginnis & Walsh and Allen & Collens.

The Tour will be led by Peter Cormack MBE, FSA HonFMGP, Vice-President of the British Society of Master Glass-Painters, Honorary Director on the Connick Foundation's Board and author of the forthcoming monograph *Arts & Crafts Stained Glass* (to be published in 2014).

Tour Program (*all times approximate*):

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH**

**Meet the bus at St John's Church, 297 Lowell Ave, Newtonville MA 02460 at 8:30 AM**

### **All Saints' Church, Brookline. 9:15 AM**

All Saints' is one of the most significant early churches designed by the partnership of Cram, Wentworth & Goodhue. Begun in 1898 but not completed until 1926, it is in the English late-medieval 'Perpendicular' style initially favored by Cram. The church has important stained glass by Harry Eldredge Goodhue (brother of the architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue) and an outstanding sequence of windows by Charles Connick, including his two earliest independent commissions, dating from 1910 and 1912.

### **Chapel, Newton Country Day School, Newton. 10:30 AM**

Designed by the influential Boston architectural partnership of Maginnis & Walsh, the School was originally built (1925-28) as Sacred Heart Convent. Charles Maginnis commissioned the Chapel's eight windows (1927) from the *An Túr Gloine* (Tower of Glass) stained glass studio of Dublin. The windows were designed and made by six of the studio's artists – Alfred Child, Michael Healy, Catherine O'Brien, Hubert McGoldrick, Kathleen Quigley and Ethel Rhind. They are amongst the most important examples of work by members of the Irish Arts & Crafts Movement in the USA.

## **Greek Evangelical Church, Newton Center. 11:45 AM**

The church was formerly Newton's First Congregational Church and was designed in a free interpretation of late Gothic by Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge in 1903-04. As well as stained glass by H. E. Goodhue, there is the very first window – *Christ Preaching* (1913) – designed and made by Charles Connick in his newly-opened studio at 9, Harcourt Street, Boston. Connick's slightly later window in the church's Children's Chapel shows his rapid stylistic development in his formative years.

### **LUNCH 12.30 – 1.15**

## **Trinity Church, Newton Center. 1:30 PM**

George Chickering, the architect of Trinity (built 1915-17), based his design on the famous fifteenth-century Chapel of King's College in the University of Cambridge (England). The consulting architect was Ralph Adams Cram, who almost certainly advised on the selection of stained glass artists. The eccentric English-born William E. Roberts created the principal altar window, but much of the other glazing is the work of Charles Connick and his studio.

## **Second Congregational Church, Newton. 2:15 PM**

Second Church (built in 1916) is one of the most accomplished modern-Gothic churches built by the Boston partnership of Allen & Collens (architects of 'The Cloisters' in New York City, and also of Newton City Hall). The church's earliest stained glass is by Henry Wynd Young (of New York), a Scottish-born exponent of the Arts & Crafts idiom, who worked closely with fellow Scotsman J. Gordon Guthrie. Further windows were added by Reynolds, Francis & Rohnstock (who had all previously worked in Connick's studio) in the 1920s, and by Charles Connick and his studio in the 1930s and later.

Return to Newtonville at approximately 3:30 PM

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH**

**Meet the bus at St John's Church, 297 Lowell Ave, Newtonville MA 02460 at 12:30 PM**

## **First Parish, Brookline. 1:00 PM**

Designed (1891-93) by Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, First Parish exemplifies the eclectic style of church architecture that preceded the era dominated by Ralph Adams Cram. The church's rich collection of stained glass is equally eclectic, presenting a fascinating exposition of the history of American stained glass from the 1890s to the 1940s. Among the artists represented are L. C. Tiffany, Sarah Wyman Whitman, Heinigke & Bowen, Redding & Baird, H. E. Goodhue and Charles Connick.

## **Emmanuel Church, West Roxbury. 2:30 PM**

Emmanuel is one of several churches in the Boston area designed by the Revd. Herman Gaylord Wood. Begun in 1893, the building was completed in 1907. The church's many fine stained glass windows include examples by John La Farge (1897) and an important series by Charles Connick spanning the period 1915-1940.

## **Charles J. Connick Exhibition at Jackson Homestead, Newton. 4:00 PM**

The afternoon will conclude with a guided tour of the special Charles J. Connick Exhibition at the historic Jackson Homestead in Newton. The exhibition includes designs, paintings and stained glass by Connick, who was for many years a resident of Newton.

Return to Newtonville approximately 5:00 PM.

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Saturday, Tour and Transportation  
\$45.00 per person, *Lunch Included*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday, Tour and Transportation  
\$25.00 per person

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday and Sunday  
\$55.00 per person

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to The Connick Foundation.*

*Mail to: The Connick Foundation, 37 Walden St, Newtonville MA 02460.  
Register online at [www.cjconnick.org/education/tour](http://www.cjconnick.org/education/tour)*