

## Dorich House Museum

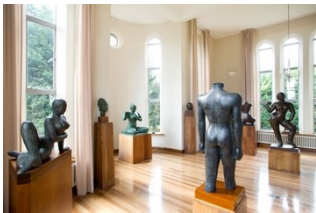
*by Jill Wilkins*



Dorich House was the home of the sculptor Dora Gordine and her husband the Hon. Richard Hare, who was an expert in Russian art. It was designed in the 1930s by Gordine herself as a working space, gallery and a top floor apartment on Kingston Hill overlooking Richmond Park.

Following Gordine's death in 1991, the house was acquired and renovated by Kingston University and is now open to the public. It also operates as an international centre to promote and support women creative practitioners.

The house had fallen into disrepair and had been occupied by squatters. Some of Richard Hare's collection of Russian artefacts were sold to fund the renovation. The ground and first floor spaces comprise a plaster studio, a modelling studio and a gallery and were devoted to the production and display of Gordine's work. On the top floor was their small apartment and roof terrace, where views of Richmond park can be enjoyed.



The Museum hold the world's largest collection of Dora Gordine's sculptures, paintings and drawings, spanning her artistic career. Their apartment also displays an important collection of Hare's Russian art and artefacts. The visit begins with a fascinating film about Dora and Richard's life and work.

You can imagine a whole life embodied in this unique house – the artistic and the domestic – from the plaster casts in the ground floor modelling studio, through the light-filled sculpture gallery, to their cosy apartment on the top floor and the roof terrace.

The Museum is open from Thursday to Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm, with guided tours (highly recommended) at 11.30 am on Fridays and Saturdays.

<https://www.dorichhousemuseum.org.uk/>