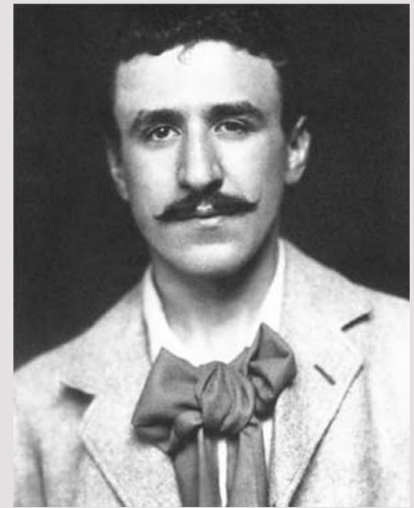


Artist Fact Sheet

**Charles
Rennie
Mackintosh**
1868 - 1928

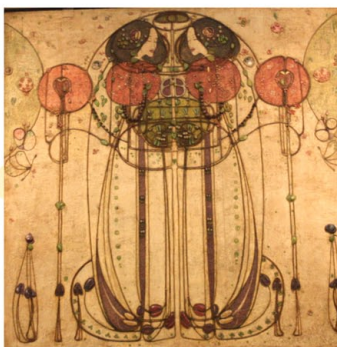


Charles Rennie Mackintosh was born in Glasgow on 7th June 1868. He became an apprentice architect for a company in Glasgow. He enrolled in evening classes at Glasgow School of Art in the 1890s. Here he won prizes for his work and an award that allowed him to take a tour of Italy and study the architecture there.

Charles also met three friends at the School of Art. The group became known as 'The Four' and were Charles, James Herbert McNair and the sisters, Margaret and Frances Macdonald. They produced new art and designs which became known as the 'Glasgow Style'. In 1899 McNair and Frances Macdonald married. Charles married Margaret Macdonald the following year.

As well as architecture, Mackintosh designed furniture and produced other art work such as posters and water colours. In 1896 Charles was asked to design a new building for the Glasgow School of Art. He designed Glasgow's Queen's Cross Church, the Scotland Street School and two large private houses, 'Windyhill' in Kilmacolm and 'The Hill House' in Helensburgh.

A Glasgow woman, Miss Catherine Cranston, asked Mackintosh to design the interior of her tearooms. This opportunity gave Charles the freedom to experiment with his designs. He provided the tearooms with furniture (including his famous high-back chairs), light fittings, wall decorations and even the cutlery. You can still visit the tearooms in Glasgow today.



Gesso panel designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh



Stained glass window at The Hill House, Glasgow



Glasgow School of Art,

In his own lifetime Mackintosh's work was not well known in Scotland. In Europe, however, Mackintosh's style was quickly appreciated and in Germany and Austria his work received the status that he never truly gained at home. Mackintosh's designs were influenced by geometric shapes, the natural world, Scottish Baronial architecture, Celtic and Japanese art. Today Mackintosh-influenced artwork and designs, like his rose design, have become hugely popular and can be found on anything from fabric, home accessories, stained glass, bags, and wallpaper, to furniture, jewellery and even food!

Mackintosh died in London on December 10th 1928.