

Caroline Maclean

Writer - Non-fiction

Caroline Maclean grew up in London and studied English at Oxford, and lived in New York and Boston before dragging her American husband back to London. Her first book *The Vogue for Russia* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015) told the story of why Russian arts and literature appealed to British modernists like Virginia Woolf and Mary Butts. She has written for the *London Review of Books* and the *Times Literary Supplement*.



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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details

Notes

**CIRCLES AND
SQUARES: THE LIVES
AND ART OF THE
HAMPSTEAD
MODERNISTS**

2020

Bloomsbury

A spellbinding portrait of the Hampstead Modernists, threading together the lives, loves, rivalries and ambitions of a group of artists at the heart of an international avant-garde.

Hampstead in the 1930s. In this peaceful, verdant London suburb, Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson have embarked on a love affair – a passion which will launch an era-defining art movement.

In her chronicle of the exhilarating rise and fall of British Modernism, Caroline Maclean captures the dazzling circle drawn into Hepworth and Nicholson's wake: among them Henry Moore, Paul Nash, Herbert Read, and famed émigrés Walter Gropius, founder of the Bauhaus, and Piet Mondrian, blown in on the winds of change sweeping across Europe. Living and working within a few streets of their Park Hill Road studios, the artists form Unit One, a cornerstone of the Modernist movement which would bring them international renown.

Drawing on previously unpublished archive material, Caroline Maclean's electrifying *Circles and Squares* brings the work, loves and rivalries of the Hampstead Modernists to life as never before, capturing a brief moment in time when a new way of living seemed possible. United in their belief in art's power to change the world, her cast of trailblazers radiate hope and ambition during one of the darkest chapters of the twentieth century.
