

## Glasgow's Iconic Buildings:

ENGLISH-  
SPEAKING  
UNION



# GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART

167 Renfrew Street



Image © Alan McAteer

### SUMMARY:

The Glasgow School of Art is the most celebrated building of world-renowned architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The building was built as the result of a design competition, which was won in January 1897 by the Glasgow-based architecture practice Honeyman & Keppie, where Mackintosh worked. The first part of the building was built 1897-99, and then a second phase was built in 1907-1909.

The design of the building is highly original and is said to blend Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau architectural styles. As well as designing the building Mackintosh designed furniture, interior decoration and fittings.

Since completion over 100 years ago, the Mackintosh building at the Glasgow School of Art fulfilled its original purpose as a working art school, housing the fine art students and staff, at the heart of Glasgow School of Art's campus on Garnethill.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2014 a fire damaged the west wing of the Mackintosh building including some studios, the Library and some archival stores. It is currently being restored.

### THINK ABOUT:

- What other buildings were being constructed at the same time as the School of Art? Are they similar or different?
- What did people think about the building at the time it was built? How could you find out?
- How does the design of the building relate to its use as an art school?
- Mackintosh attended the School of Art himself - who else has attended the school in the past?
- Look at plans of the building, and think about the way people would move around the spaces.

### FIND OUT MORE:

Historic Environment Scotland List Description, <http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB33105>

Glasgow School of Art website, <http://www.gsa.ac.uk/>

Glasgow School of Art, RIBA Website, <https://www.architecture.com/Explore/ExhibitionsandEvents/Mackintosh/Explore/GlasgowSchoolOfArt.aspx>

Glasgow School of Art, [http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/glasgow\\_school\\_of\\_art.html](http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/glasgow_school_of_art.html)

Mackintosh Architecture, catalogue entry for Glasgow School of Art, <http://www.mackintosh-architecture.gla.ac.uk/catalogue/pdf/M134.pdf>

News report on the 2014 fire, *Glasgow Has Lost its Beating Heart*, The Scotsman, <http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/culture/art/moira-jeffrey-glasgow-has-lost-its-beating-heart-1-3421782>