

# SEMINAR 5

## WILLIAM HOGARTH: KEY CONCEPTS & IDEAS

- specialised in painting narrative sequences of prints on a topical theme
- was influenced by Newton's theory of gravity
- considered by art historians as the first independent artist
- expressed in his visual art the disenfranchisement of the Protestant majority
- created a genuinely popular visual art form
- considered to be the founder of a tradition of subversion and dissent in British art

## VOCABULARY TO DESCRIBE HOGARTH AND HIS PAINTINGS

- to be the guilty conscience of a nation
- pride comes before a fall
- to be the chief chronicler of life
- painted parables also known as painted novels
- a self-appointed scourge
- to enjoy seeing vice punished and the profligate ruined
- an example of the extreme moralising Protestant imagination
- to regard life as a form of imprisonment
- the iconoclast's hammer and the regicide's axe became the engraver's tool
- a career independent of the patronage of the wealthy
- a sense of duty felt by artists to themselves
- vicious, dark, world-hating art
- innocence always turns to depravity
- hopes are always disappointed
- ambitions turn out to be built on sand
- passions always turn sour
- Napoleon once dubbed the English as a nation of shopkeepers
- every carefree before leads to a sad embittered after
- to rail vigorously against sth
- to not be a lovable artist
- a black-and-white engraving
- amiability would have lessened him
- sb's sooty, grubby view of society
- a visual story of horrid inevitability
- a journey from innocence to pox-ridden death
- to fall into the clutches of sb
- a become a kept mistress of sb
- to stage a diversion
- to descend to the life of a common prostitute
- each plate impeaches a different sin
- a steady slide down towards the pit

- portraits laden with ominous details
- to portend doom
- a scene of drunken affray
- to show a particular affinity for satire
- to gloat over the misfortunes of others
- artists resigned to the role of rich man's servant-cum-tradesman