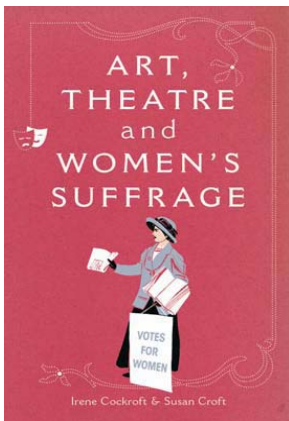




Press Release June 2010

ART, THEATRE AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE By Irene Cockroft and Susan Croft

To accompany a major exhibition at the Museum of Richmond



According to figures from the Centre for Women and Democracy, the percentage of female MPs elected on May 6th 2010 has risen to only 21.5% of the total – about a dozen extra women in the Commons.

At a time when many are reluctant to adopt the label 'feminist', and when the movement towards proper female representation is almost at a standstill, this timely celebration of creativity during the suffragette campaign reminds us that women's role in the politics of the nation should not be taken for granted.

From the sublime enamelled pendants of the artist Ernestine Mills to the extreme performances of the Actresses' Franchise League, this book explores the many weird and wonderful ways the suffragettes chose to publicise their cause.

ART, THEATRE AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE invites us to marvel at the imagination, talent and sheer commitment of some quite brilliant individuals and their work.

Featuring writers, artists and performers such as Cicely Hamilton, Inez Bensusan, Elizabeth Robins, Ernestine Mills, Ellen Terry, Edith Craig and more.

Irene Cockroft is a curator, author and lecturer, specializing in the involvement of women in arts, crafts and suffrage. She is also the great niece of suffrage artist Ernestine Mills. Her writing includes: *New Dawn Women - Women in the Arts & Crafts & Suffrage Movements at the dawn of the 20th Century*.

Dr Susan Croft has done extensive research and published widely on women playwrights. Her work includes: *Classic Plays by Women* (Aurora Metro 2010); *Votes for Women and other plays* (Aurora Metro 2009) and *She Also Wrote Plays* (Faber 2001).

To be published in conjunction with the HOW THE VOTE WAS WON exhibition of suffragette art, writing and memorabilia at the Museum of Richmond from May to September 2010 and the HOW THE VOTE WAS WON playreading at the Orange Tree Theatre on 19th June 2010.

Publication: July 15th 2010. ISBN: 978-1-906582-08-1. Price: £7.99.
With b/w photos. Category: History / Culture / Women's Studies.

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