

## William Hogarth

1697 - 1764

Painting in England began to develop later than in over European countries. The truly national school of painting was created during the 18th century. William Hogarth was the first great English painter who raised British pictorial art to a high level of importance.

His first work dates back from 1730. Among his best works are «Captain Coram», «The Shrimp Girl», serial «Mode Marriage».



«Captain Coram», 1740, oil



«The Shrimp Girl», 1740—1745, oil

His pictures of social life brought him fame and position in the society. One of his serials «Mode Marriage» consists of 6 pictures. «The Marriage Contract» is the first. This famous serial is really a novel in paint telling the story of the marriage of an Earl's son and city merchant daughter.



«The marriage contract»

Both fathers are sitting to the right. One of them an earl is proudly pointing to his family tree. The other is reading the marriage contract. The Earls son is looking at himself with pleasure in looking glass. The daughter of the second man is playing with her wedding ring and listening to the complements of a young lawyer. The subject matter of the picture is the protest against marriage for money and vanity.



«Shortly After the Marriage»

The second picture describes a morning of a married couple. The husband and wife not interested in each other. There are signs that the marriage has already begun to break down, amidst evidence is the open posture of the wife that indicates unfaithfulness and a lady's cap in the husband's coat pocket.



«The Visit to the Quack Doctor»

The third scene takes place in the room of a French doctor. The viscount, unhappy with the mercury pills meant to cure his syphilis, demands money back, while the young prostitute next to him dabs an open sore on her mouth, an early sign of syphilis.



«The Toilette»

In the fourth, The Toilette, after the death of the old Earl the wife is now the Countess and she has become a mother. The lawyer invites her to a masquerade. A group of visitors on the left listen to an opera singer, accompanied by a flautist.



«The Bagnio»

In the fifth painting, The Bagnio, the new Earl has caught his wife in a bagnio with her lover. Masks on the floor indicate that the couple have been at a masquerade. The young Earl has followed them and is dying from a wound inflicted by Silvertongue, who escapes through the window, while the Countess pleads forgiveness.



«The Lady's Death»

The final scene takes place in the house of the Countess's father. She has taken poison on learning that her lover has been hanged for the murder of the Earl.

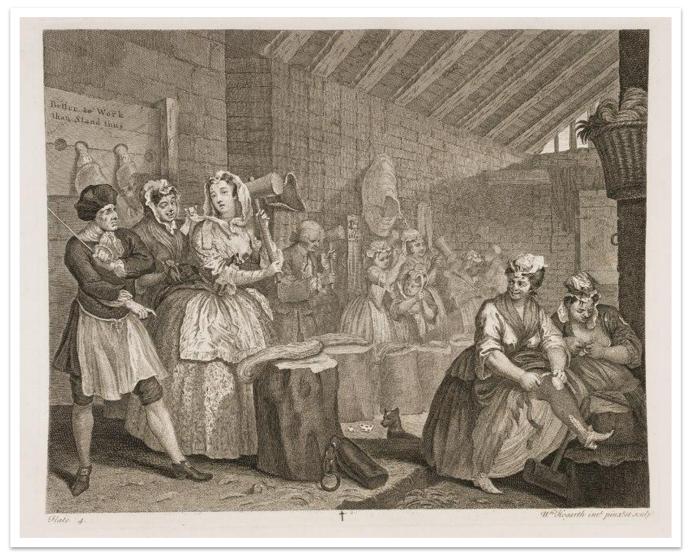
The pictures are exhibited in the National Gallery, London.

# Hogarth was sure that success came to him due to hard labor. He wrote «Genius is nothing, labor is diligence».















Painter and his Pug, 1745



Portrait of Inigo Jones, English Architect

### THANK YOU FOR WATCHING!