



# Discover the Paintings You Own

## The Hidden Heritage of Suffolk Revealed

### By The Public Catalogue Foundation

Galleries and civic buildings in the UK probably hold the greatest publicly owned collection of oil paintings in the world. However, an alarming four in five of these paintings are not on view! Have you ever wondered what paintings lie in the storerooms of your local museums or art galleries, or hang on the walls of your council offices?

The Public Catalogue Foundation, a registered charity, has the answer, with its acclaimed county-by-county series of catalogues: Oil Paintings in Public Ownership. Suffolk has 1791 oils in 39 collections. They are brought together for the first time in one handsome volume, and each painting is illustrated in full colour.

Collectively, the oil paintings in Suffolk are particularly interesting. The collections are rich and diverse, but also all relate in a significant way to the county in which they are housed. A wide range of artists and paintings are represented: great names in the history of British art such as Gainsborough and Constable who were born and brought up here; the Suffolk School of landscapes artists which followed; 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch masterpieces, originally purchased for Suffolk stately homes; a celebration of horseracing seen in the highest quality paintings in the collections at Newmarket; and a museum where almost every picture relates specifically to the Suffolk Punch heavy horse. Groups of portraits of important Suffolk families include the Cullum family, prominent from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards, the Garrett family of industrialists, and the circle of Britain's first professional woman artist, Mary Beale. There are even 'portraits' of ships for the seamen who crewed them, by 'pierhead' painters of Lowestoft; and hitherto little known oil paintings of considerable historic interest, discovered throughout the county by the Suffolk Catalogue's researcher.

The Suffolk, or other available catalogues are available in hardback (£35) and softback (£20) and may be purchased from selected participating collections, at [www.thepcf.org.uk](http://www.thepcf.org.uk), by emailing [pcforders@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:pcforders@blueyonder.co.uk) or by contacting Debbie Holland on telephone: 0870 128 3566.