



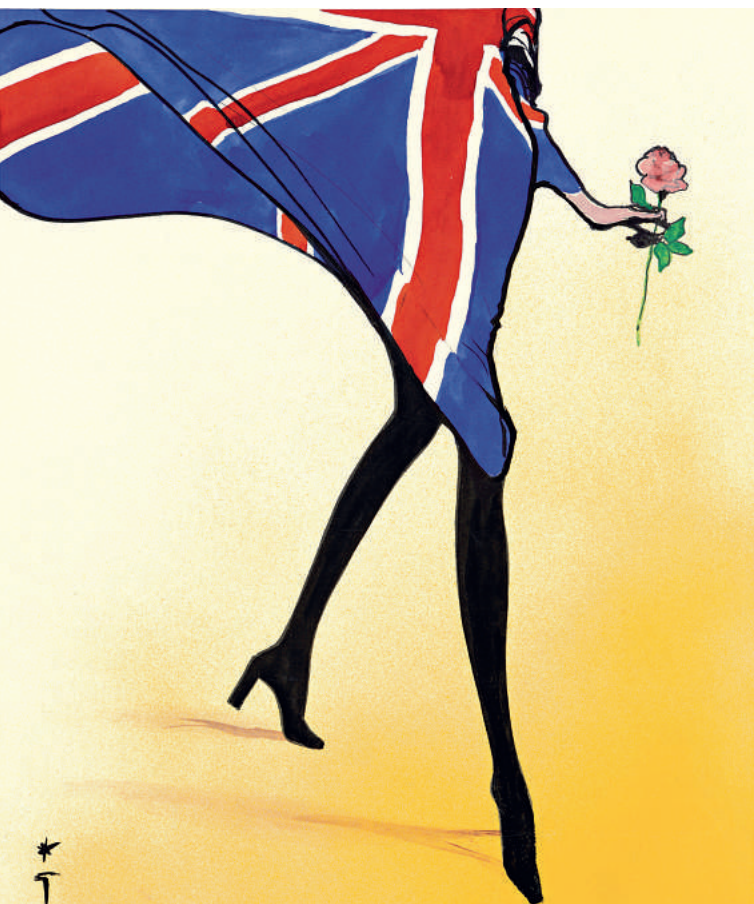
ART

DRAWING EUROPE TOGETHER

Celebrating a century of
influential illustration

An English Pre-Raphaelite, a French modernist and a Belgian art nouveau painter are three of the diverse artists featured in a new exhibition that honours their distinct but significant contributions to the field of commercial illustration. Spanning 100 years from the period of the belle époque onwards, the selection encompasses outstanding designs for book covers, posters, interiors and magazines, including work by Romain de Tiroff, better known as Erté. Dubbed 'the father of art deco', this Russian-born French illustrator produced almost 2,000 drawings and 240 covers for *Harper's Bazaar* in the 1920s and 1930s, as well as writing fashion pieces and a society column. On show are *Sports d'Hiver*, his brightly coloured cover illustration for the February 1933 issue – a 'new fabrics & travel' special – and a delicately executed depiction of a dancing couple, seductively titled *L'Invitation à la Valse* (1936). Brilliant examples of draughtsmanship in their own right, they also form part of a wider story that charts European society's changing tastes over the course of a century. FH

'The Influencing Image: A Century of Commercial Illustration and Design' is at *Stephen Ongpin Fine Art* (www.stephenongpin.com) from 26 November until 21 December.



Clockwise from above: Erté's *'Sports d'Hiver'*. His *'L'Invitation à la Valse'*. George Barbier's *'Sur L'Herbe'* (1923). René Gruau's *'Woman in a White Dress'* (1985). His *'A Woman in a Union Jack Dress, Holding a Rose'* (1973)

