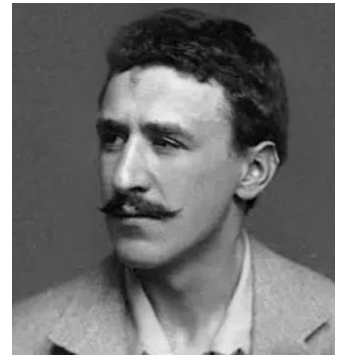


Charles Rennie Mackintosh

Charles Rennie Mackintosh was a Scottish architect, designer, and artist. He is famous for:



- Designing unique buildings, furniture, and decorative objects with simple shapes and floral patterns.
- Mixing natural forms, especially flowers, with geometric lines.
- Creating beautiful interiors, including **The Willow Tea Rooms**, with his wife **Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh**.
- Working as part of **The Glasgow Four**, a group of innovative young artists in Glasgow.
- Painting delicate watercolours later in life, inspired by landscapes and nature.
- Designing one of the most admired buildings in the world: the **Glasgow School of Art**.

Childhood

- Born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1868.
- He was one of eleven children in a big family.
- He had a childhood illness which caused a limp, so he spent lots of time sketching and reading.
- Loved nature, especially plants and flowers, and drew them often.
- Enjoyed exploring old buildings and dreaming of what he could design.
- His father worked for the police and supported his interest in art.
- From a young age, he was thoughtful and imaginative.
- He liked to make his own patterns and symbols.

Education

- Studied at the **Glasgow School of Art** while also working as an apprentice architect.
- Took evening classes where he met **Margaret Macdonald**, her sister Frances, and **Herbert MacNair**.
- Together, they became **The Glasgow Four** – a group of artists who created new, exciting designs.

- He and Margaret developed a unique style mixing nature, fantasy, and clean lines.
- Inspired by Japanese art and architecture, which can be seen in his simple but elegant designs.
- Learned both technical drawing and decorative design skills.
- Was encouraged to be creative and try new ideas rather than follow old styles.
- Gained attention in Europe for his bold, modern work.

Career

- Worked at the architectural firm **Honeyman and Keppie**, where he became a partner.
- Designed the famous **Glasgow School of Art**, considered one of the best buildings of its time.
- Created **The Willow Tea Rooms** and other stylish interiors in Glasgow with Margaret.
- Exhibited work across Europe with Margaret and The Glasgow Four, especially in Vienna and Germany.
- His designs influenced the **Art Nouveau** and **Modernist** movements.
- In later years, he moved to the south of France and became a full-time watercolour painter.
- Though his career faded in his lifetime, today he is celebrated worldwide as a design pioneer.
- His collaborations with Margaret were central to many of his most loved creations.

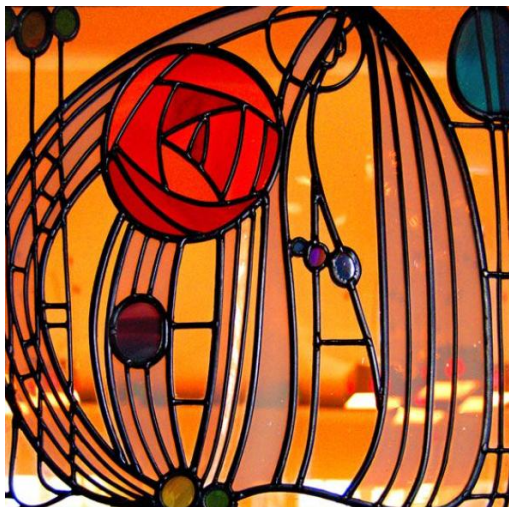
Quotes from Charles Rennie Mackintosh

"Art is the flower — life is the green leaf."

"There is hope in honest error; none in the icy perfections of the mere stylist."

Art

Stained glass panels with Mackintosh Rose design



The Glasgow
School of Art
Library



Watercolour work



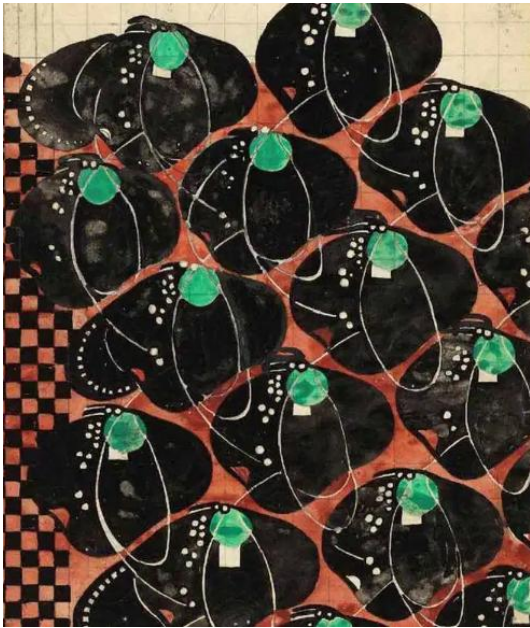
Fairyland

Fritillaria



Bouquet





Textile designs

Stylized flowers and chequer work

Posters: Poster for The Scottish Musical Review



Furniture: The high backed chair



Architecture and interior design

Hill House



The fireplace at Hill House



78 Derngate: Interior in the Art Deco style



The library of the Glasgow school of Art