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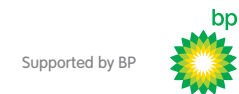
Opening hours 10.00–17.50 daily
Late opening first Friday of each month
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The HAPPILY DEPRESSED Collection

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Picture credits:
John Piper *Dylwyn Church* © The Piper Estate
Abraham Solomon *Waiting for the Verdict*
Walter Richard Sickert *Ennui*
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George Frederic Watts *Hope*
Augustus Leopold Egg *Past and Present, No.1*

BP British Art Displays 1500–2007



BRITAIN
TATE

The HAPPILY DEPRESSED Collection

Let's get things clear: you're a little bit unusual – but you already know that, don't you? The thing is, not many people choose the Happily Depressed Collection. But just in case you grabbed this leaflet without putting much thought into it, let us warn you that we are about to take you through some of the saddest and darkest images that the human soul has ever produced. This Collection may unsettle you. Unless, of course, you're happily depressed.

Dylwyn Church is an obvious one. Revel in the gothic splendour of this gloomy graveyard.

room
20



Waiting for the Verdict by Abraham Soloman will surely put you on the slippery slope to depression. Whatever the subjects have done, the look on their faces tells you they are in a lot of trouble. Time to move on before you get to the point of no return.

room
13



Ennui is the title of this piece which literally means 'boredom'. Sickert has painted the frustration of being in a loveless marriage. The figures face away from each other even though they are in close proximity, they are utterly uninterested and miserable, is this making you feel better or worse?

room
16



room
15

While wandering round the gallery we recommend you hum a Radiohead track (The Smiths and Pink Floyd can suit the mood too). *Hope* by George Frederic Watts isn't the first title that comes to mind for a collection such as this. But on closer inspection you'll see that *Hope* is blindfolded and attempting to make music on a broken 'lyre', which isn't the cheeriest image. Perhaps it should have been called *Despair* instead.

Only if you really dare challenge depression will you be able to stare at Augustus Egg's *Past and Present No. 1*. The room has the saddest atmosphere. A husband has just discovered his wife's infidelity. The falling house of cards symbolizes the collapse of the family unit, and things get worse in the two accompanying paintings. If this journey has made you a little sad, then we recommend the I Like Yellow Collection, which tends to cheer people up. And if you're still happy, then we were right: you are a little bit unusual.

room
13

