
ArtPATHS-Modern Art History

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July-December, 2021, vol.2, n.3

ISSN:2459-3699



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Collecting people: History, sociability and the assembling of knowledge

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Abstract: This essay explores and analyses the relationship between knowledge and sociability in eighteenth-century England through a discussion of two female collectors and their collections. The nature of collection especially by elite women, are compared with a parallel sites that attracted visitors from a diverse range of professions, nationalities and political persuasions.

Key words: modern art, history of collection, sociability, display of knowledge .