

## In Memoriam : Roger Cardinal

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## **In Memoriam**

### **Roger Cardinal**

DFS is sad to relate the passing of Roger Cardinal, a much-treasured member of the *comité d'honneur* of a review he held in considerable esteem. Roger studied at the University of Cambridge, completing a rare, beautiful and as yet never published doctoral thesis on the conception of love in surrealist writings. Teaching initially at the University of Manitoba, where I met him as I was completing my M.A., Roger left for a short period as lecturer at the University of Warwick only to take up a position at the University of Kent at Canterbury where he rose to the rank of Professor of Literary and Visual Studies, moving between the vast areas of poetry and art. His earliest book, *Surrealism : Permanent Revelation*, was written at a time when he was also offering brilliant insights into a broad range of contemporary poets and eventually editing the influential *Sensibility and Creation* (1977), but soon the arc of his fascinations opened further, leading not only to the work for which he is today undoubtedly principally known, *Outsider Art* (1972), but to a full spread of elegant critical exploration, with titles such as *Figures of Reality* (1981), *Expressionism* (1984), *The Landscape Vision of Paul Nash* (1989), *The Cultures of Collecting* (1994). His most recent work centred upon the work of a wonderfully subtle English *art brut* artist, Madge Gill, a book he never quite had time to finish, but which will be brought to a happy conclusion by one of his students from the notes he left. Roger was a warm-hearted, brilliantly spontaneous thinker and friend. He was also a genial and generous teacher from whom I myself benefitted greatly when he became my doctoral thesis director at Canterbury. He will be greatly missed by his wife Agnès and their two sons, Daniel and Felix, as well as by many friends.

*Michael Bishop*