

• Edward Burne-Jones, Wirral

These 30 or so drawings and watercolours by the enduringly popular 19th-century painter should fit perfectly within the musty enchantments of the Lady Lever. A glimpse will be afforded, for instance, of a rare loose-leaf edition of the artist's Flower Book. Working on the series for over 16 years, Burne-Jones's ambition of uncovering the secrets of folklore flower names resulted in little more than sentimental clichés. It's easy to ridicule Burne-Jones and his penchant for mermaids and swooning maidens. Yet there must be something in these reveries for them to contagiously haunt the national psyche for well over a century. *Lady Lever Art Gallery, to 12 JanRC*

Photograph: PR



