

### [h3]National Collections[/h3]

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[h4]George Trevelyan was elder statesman of the New Age movement.

The sitter was the artist's great-uncle and the portrait was inspired by a very early feature in the landscape of Parker's memory, a legendary Trevelyan family house party to mark George's retirement in 1972, also attended by the artists Mary Fedden and Julian Trevelyan (pictured above right with Parker as a boy that weekend).

The 10 years of self-styled apprenticeship leading up to the painting's execution began as Neo-Expressionism dominated what Parker knew of the art world in the mid '80s and a New Yorker bought early [Camberwell](#) figures when the artist was 18. To find some context for the isolated figure he moved to Spain, where Shchukin's [Matisses at the Reina Sofia](#) showed the revolutionary effect of light on a painter who travels south.

Parker began painting outdoors in the [Spanish landscape](#) and then indoors when a student at Newcastle Polytechnic. Parker's first important solo show (Dibujos-Havana 1991) explored where interior and exterior meet, in the paradoxical world of Cuba at the end of the Cold War.)/[h4]

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[h4]Following Parker's return from Cuba, graduation and subsequent establishment of his own studio in Wimbledon, he received his first commission from the National Trust Foundation for Art to paint his grandmother, Northumbrian piper [Patricia Jennings](#) (1915-2013, above centre), who lived at [Wallington](#) until 2011, always

encouraging the artist to paint there, with originality of thought and freedom of action.

Three more portraits hang at [Wallington](#) in Northumberland, which was the first country house and entire estate to be 'settled on' the National Trust in the 1940's. This decision was made by JP's great grandfather [Sir Charles Trevelyan](#) (1870-1958, pictured left) whose socialist era resonated for me in Cuba. Geoffrey (right) became the 5th baronet of Wallington but it was Patricia who lived there and presented an uncompromising family link.

Below left: 'Twelve Tribes' from [Durham University](#)

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Above centre and right: The artist's father Brian Parker (1934-2002) from Richmond Borough Council Collection

[Art UK](#) online home for every public collection

[Awakening Consciousness](#) selected lectures by the artist's great-uncle [Sir George Trevelyan](#) [  
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