

Fanny Eaton

(23 June 1835, Jamaica – 4 March 1924, Hammersmith and Fulham)

Fanny Eaton (23 June 1835 – 4 March 1924) was a Jamaican-born artist's model and domestic worker. She is best known as a model for the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and their circle in England between 1859 and 1867. Her public debut was in Simeon Solomon's painting *The Mother of Moses*, which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1860. She was also featured in works by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, John Everett Millais, Joanna Mary Boyce, Rebecca Solomon, and others.

Eaton and her mother made their way to England some time in the 1840s. By 1851 she is recorded as living in London, at 9 Steven's Place, St Pancras, with her mother, and working as a domestic servant. In 1857 she married James Eaton, a horse-cab proprietor and driver, who was born on 17 February 1838 in Shoreditch. Together, they had 10 children, born in the years 1858-1879.

It was during this period of Fanny Eaton's life as mother and new wife that she began modelling, both for the Royal Academy of Arts School of Painting (where she was paid 5 shillings each for her modeling sessions, with her maximum recorded schedule reaching three sessions in a single day, for the Pre-Raphaelites, and for other less well-known artists of the period.

By 1881 Eaton had been widowed and was working as a seamstress. In the final years of her life, Eaton worked as a domestic cook on the Isle of Wight for a Portsea-based wine merchant and his wife, John and Fanny Hall. By 1911, however, Fanny is said to be residing with family in Hammersmith with her daughter Julia, son-in-law Thomas Powell and grandchildren Baden and Connie Powell. After a long life as a working-class émigrée, Fanny Antwisle Eaton died in Acton on 4 March 1924 at the age of 88 from senile decay and syncope. She is buried in Margravine Road Cemetery in Hammersmith.



Fanny Eaton, in John Everett Millais's *The Pearl of Great Price* (detail) 1860, British Museum



Dante Gabriel Rossetti, *The Beloved* (Fanny Eaton, rear, second from right), 1862, The Tate Gallery



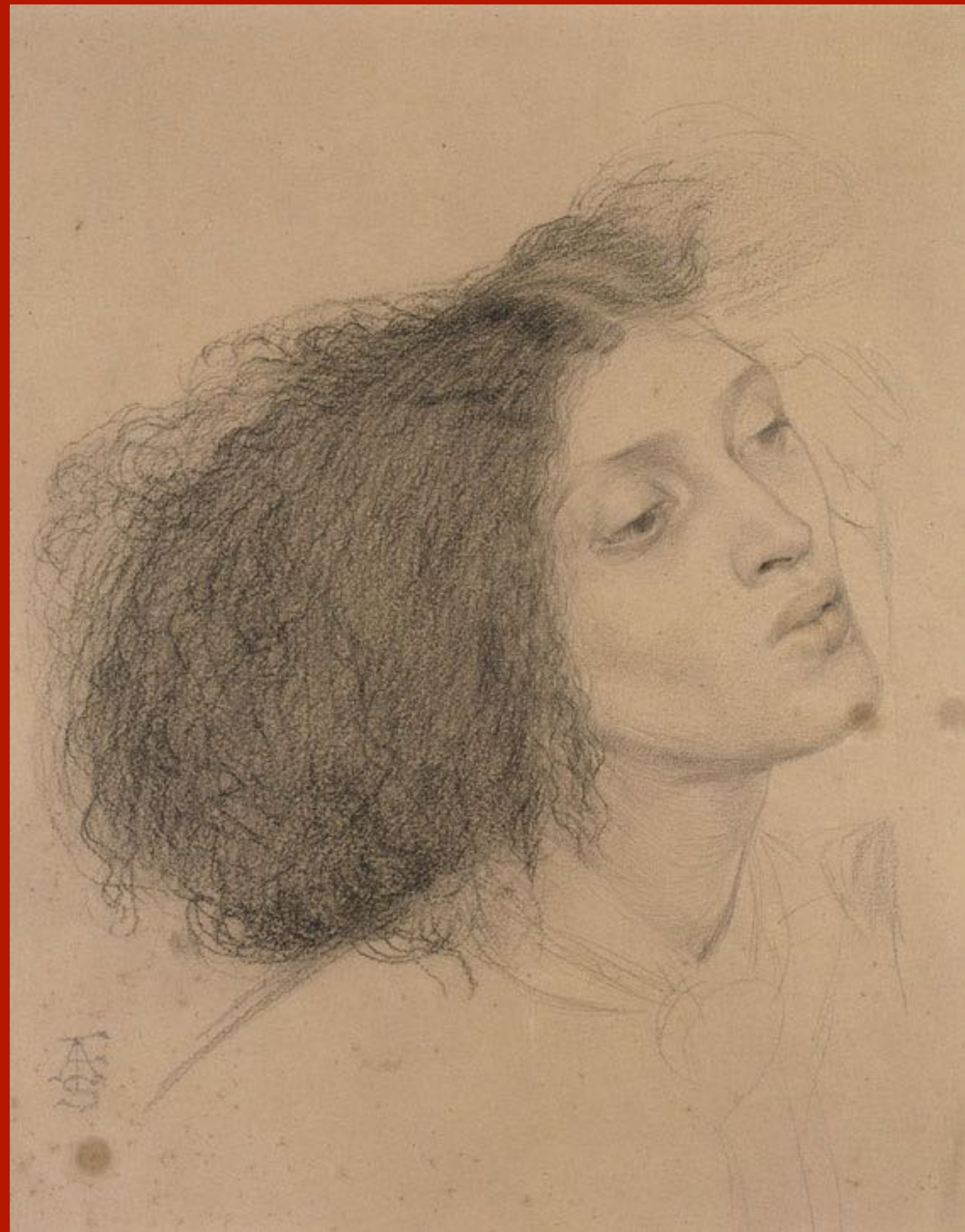
FREDERICK SANDYS

Fanny Eaton, profile portrait 1860 drawing in black, red, and white chalk. Frederick Sandys (the British Museum)





Joanna Boyce Wells - Head of a Mulatto Woman (Mrs. Eaton)



Fanny Eaton as Morgan de la Fey (1862) Frederick Sandys, Victoria and Albert Museum



Sophie Diao, Google Doodle for Fanny Eaton. Courtesy of Google.
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Portrait Of Fanny Eaton Simeon Solomon



The Mother of Moses
1860, oil on canvas by Simeon Solomon (1840–1905)



The Mother of Sisera 1861
Albert Joseph Moore (1841–1893)