

MONTHLY TALKS

5 February 2020. The Mystery of Holbein's Ambassadors.

Anthony Russell

The Ambassadors is recognised by the National Gallery as one of its greatest treasures. It tells us much about the state of Europe at the time it was created.

4 March 2020. The History of the Fountain Pen.

Mark Hill

The pen is mightier than the sword! It adds personality and individuality to communication in an age when the art of hand writing has largely been left behind.

1 April 2020. James Whistler and the Gentle Art of Making Enemies.

Douglas Skeggs

James Whistler was averse to sentimentality and moral allusion in painting, a trait that did not always please his friends and patrons.

6 May 2020. Augustus John, King of Bohemia.

Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes

He was a larger than life character and the top portrait painter of his generation. This lecture tells the fascinating story of John's unusual lifestyle.

3 June 2020. The Honourable and Dishonourable Art of Acting.

Malcolm Jones

Actors were often seen as rogues and vagabonds in the past. Respectability was not established until the start of the 20th century.

1 July 2020. The Odd Couple - The Gardens of Lutyens & Jekyll.

Steven Desmond

This joint partnership became the talk of Edwardian society. Separately they were interesting, curious, isolated. Together they proved irresistible.

2 September 2020. Art and Architecture in Docklands Past and Present.

Sue Jackson

Exploring the transformation of the London Docklands over the past 25 years.

7 October 2020. The History of the Royal Academy.

Caroline Knight. NOTE AGM at 10:30

How did this institution begin, what was its purpose and who were its founding members?

Subscription period commencing 1st Nov 2020:

4 November 2020. Raphael – A Master in the Making. (500th Anniversary)

Sian Walters

Raphael was one of the '3 Giants of the High Renaissance' in Italy, yet he died at only 37. We explore how he achieved this extraordinary rise in status.

2 December 2020. The Magic of Pantomime.

Ian Gledhill

A history, interspersed with personal anecdotes from the speaker's years of working (and appearing) professionally in pantomime.

40th Anniversary Lecture:

Wednesday 29 July 2020, 7pm at Midhurst Rother College.

NOTE THIS IS AN EVENING EVENT!

Caravaggio

Guest Speaker *Andrew Graham-Dixon*. £25 for members, £35 for guests. Includes drinks and canapés afterwards.

SPECIAL INTEREST DAYS

Wednesday 25 March 2020. Beyond Earth – From

Stone Age to Space Age. A history of the world in clay.

Two lectures plus lunch, followed by a road show.

Lars Tharp

Wednesday 21 October 2020. A History of Art – A Journey of Discovery.

Three lectures plus lunch.

Leslie Primo.

EXCURSIONS

Tuesday 28 April 2020.

Visit to the Royal Naval College, Greenwich – by coach

Wednesday 13 May 2020.

Champs Hill. Exhibition of Sussex Painters – shared transport

Thursday 11 June 2020.

Gertrude Jekyll/Edwin Lutyens gardens near Godalming – shared transport

Note: this excursion is scheduled to match the topic of our July talk

