

Arts Society Borders Guide to Lectures

2024—2025

Member of the Arts Society



Tuesday 17 September 2024 at 10.30am

Simon Rees

“The Hanseatic League”

Beginning in Lübeck and Hamburg in the 13th century, the Hanseatic League eventually linked some 60 European cities in a series of trade agreements that transcended national bounds. Riga, Tallinn, Stockholm, Bruges, London, King’s Lynn, Nuremberg, Bremen, Danzig, Stettin and Königsberg were all connected by an intricate series of contracts, defended by armed forces and a powerful navy, and vital to the economic prosperity of each city. The Brick Gothic style of architecture developed during this period.

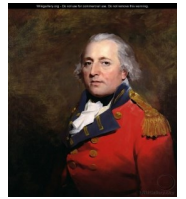


Tuesday 15 October 2024 at 10.30am

Amanda Herries

“Eye to Eye with Raeburn”

Raeburn who died 200 years ago, was one of Scotland’s most talented and prolific artists. After returning from the Grand Tour, he painted the portraits of many influential and powerful Scots, in the centre of the age of Enlightenment – Edinburgh.

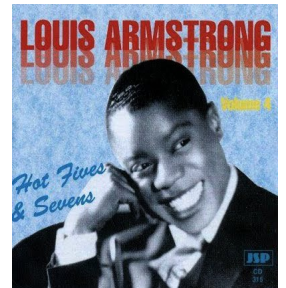


Tuesday 5 November 2024 at 10.30am

Sandy Burnett

“The Age of Jazz”

Jazz is one of music’s most important genres: a fascinating blend of rigorous structure, free-wheeling creativity, close-knit ensembles and imaginative improvisation. Drawing on his experience both as musicologist and gigging musician, Sandy can shed light on jazz from the inside. His talk covers the early years of jazz up to the Second World War, and touches on the disparate influences which lay behind the emergence of jazz. Musical illustrations range from the blues, ragtime and the very first jazz recordings through to classics by Louis Armstrong’s Hot Five and the Duke Ellington Orchestra, and the dawn of the Swing Era.



Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 10.30am

Maria Chester

“Lord of Sipan: The Tutenkhamun of the Americas”

The pyramid of Lord Of Sipan was built in the 1st Century, on the northern coast of Peru, and was filled with outstanding grave goods. His people, the Moche, were noted for their monumental constructions and irrigation systems as well as elaborately painted ceramics and metal work, much of which was found in the tomb.

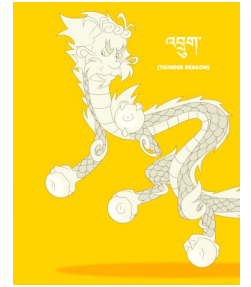


Tuesday 21 January 2025 11am

Zara Fleming

“Bhutan: The Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon

”A general introduction to the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, known by its inhabitants as Druk Yul or land of the Thunder Dragon. This is a reference to the Drukpa tradition of Vajrayana Buddhism that permeates every aspect of Bhutanese life. This lecture explores the history, art and culture of this extraordinary country, which for centuries has preserved its traditional Buddhist values. Over the last few decades there have been many changes



Tuesday 18 February 2025 at 10.30am

Timothy Walker

”Beauty in Truth—The Past, Present and Future of Botanical Illustration”

Cameras are now capable of taking very high-quality pictures, and yet the painting of botanical specimens persists with new Florilegium Societies still being formed. Why is a drawing and painting still considered to be superior to a digital image? This talk looks at the history of botanical illustration from the early herbals 1,500 years ago to the present day.



Tuesday 4 March 2025 at 10.30am

Paula Nuttall

“Urbino: Palace of the Courtier”

The ducal palace of Urbino is the most perfect of Italian renaissance palaces. It was the creation of the soldier-prince, Federigo da Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino, a showcase for his prodigious wealth and impeccable taste, and the setting for the ideal renaissance court described in Castiglione’s renaissance bestseller, The Book of the Courtier.



Tuesday 15 April 2025 at 10.30am

Sam Newton

“Sutton Hoo and the Master Workshop of the Wuffings”

An exploration of some of the artistic and technical wonders found aboard the funeral-ship berthed beneath Mound One at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk, burial place of the Wuffing kings of East Anglia. The central theme will be the superb jewellery of gold, garnet, and blue glass, which reveals such a brilliant synthesis of styles.



Tuesday 20 May 2025 at 10.30am

Andrew Prince

“Splendid Journeys”

Throughout history, travelling and journeys have been used as a way to display wealth, power and status, along with being a useful tool to control over mighty subjects. Today, we take a journey as a matter of course, not thinking really much of a distance of a hundred miles or more. In the past however, things were very different.



Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 10.30am

David Rosier

”Imperial Chinese Court Art and Portraiture – Emperors, Ancestors and Jesuits”

This lecture explores the origins and evolution of the nature and function of paintings created under an Emperor’s patronage by artists of the Imperial School of Art. Court art evolved separately from classical Chinese paintings and included portraiture plus scenes of court life and significant State Events.

