

The Arts Society Lomond and Argyll

2018-19 Lecture Programme

Collecting the Grand Tour

The origins of the Grand Tour, regarded as an essential rite of passage for the aristocracy and educated classes, date from the 15th century and incorporate the wonders of the ancient world from the Mediterranean to the Holy Land, reaching their zenith in the 18th and 19th centuries with the discoveries of Pompeii and Herculaneum. This talk, based on Marc's passion for collecting Grand Tour souvenirs and illustrated with examples from his own collection, is a fascinating insight into early tourist travel and collecting and its far-reaching influence on the fashion and style of a nation.

September 11th 2018



Marc Allum

Leonardo Da Vinci: The Science behind the Art

Leonardo said that nature must be his guide and that all art was based on a scientific understanding of everything depicted. His scientific drawings have made an incredible contribution to our understanding of anatomy, aeronautics, cartography, warfare and water engineering. This talk follows Leonardo's pursuit of his scientific investigations. May 2nd 2019 will see the five hundredth anniversary of his death.

October 9th 2018



Guy Rooker

The Guggenheims: A Dynasty of Art Collectors

The Guggenheim family amassed extraordinary art collections, and designed or acquired astounding buildings in which to display their art, their name even becoming a brand. This lecture examines the celebrated museums in New York, Venice and Bilbao as well as the stunning works they display. Professor Andrew Hopkins has worked in the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice and the Getty Centre in Los Angeles; his lecture is inspired by his experiences. He has a specific personal interest in Museums' architects, collections and founders.

November 13th 2018

Andrew Hopkins



From Rome to Stourbridge: 2000 years of Cameo Glass

Cameo glass first appears during the Roman Empire with such masterpieces as the Portland Vase. Lost for almost two thousand years, the Roman process was revived in 1876 with John Northwood carving the first accurate copy of the Portland Vase. George Woodall, Northwood's assistant, became the greatest cameo glass artist of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His masterpiece is 'The Moorish Bathers' plaque. In France, Emile Gallé adopted the technique for Art Nouveau creations as did Tiffany, in America. In 1916, the Orrefors factory in Sweden developed a variation called 'Gaal'.

December 11th 2018

Charles Hajdamach



Philip Reeves: Printmaker and Painter

Christopher Andreae looks at the work of Glasgow printmaker/artist Philip Reeves: lecturer at the Glasgow School of Art, 1954 to 1991. In the 1960s, Reeves introduced to the Scottish school the idea that etchings and other forms of printmaking could be as self-sufficient and significant as any art form. He encouraged painters to take printmaking seriously, rather than a side line. Although abstraction preoccupied him, his work related to specific places or experiences, both rural and urban. His prints and collages are surprising in their subtlety and fresh, meditative interplay of balance and imbalance, of reality and imagination.

January 8th 2019

Christopher Andreae



The Richest of Legacies: British Colonial Buildings of India

Commencing with a brief appraisal of attitudes towards the British Empire the lecture concludes with a quick look at efforts being made to preserve the buildings of the British Raj. Beginning with East India Company era churches and mausolea of the mid-17th century, the lecture takes us on a round India journey giving centre stage to the most impressive and unusual buildings of Madras, Mumbai and Kolkata, the military cantonments and hill stations. We finish with a glimpse at the grandest of imperial buildings: William Emerson's Victoria Memorial in Calcutta and Edwin Lutyen's Viceroy's house, New Delhi.

February 12th 2019



Anthony Peers

The Age of Jazz

100 years ago a group of American musicians docked in London, bringing one of the 20th century's most important musical genres: jazz, a fascinating blend of rigorous structure, free-wheeling creativity, close-knit ensemble work and improvisation. This lecture covers the early years of jazz from its beginnings to the start of WWII. As both musicologist and gigging musician, Sandy sheds light on jazz, from the inside. Illustrations range from early pre-impressions of Maurice Ravel and the earliest jazz recordings through to classics by Louis Armstrong, The Duke Ellington orchestra and the dawn of the swing era.

March 12th 2019



Sandy Burnett

Bhutan: Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon

Zara has travelled in Bhutan for over 40 years and gives a general introduction to the tiny Himalayan kingdom known, by its inhabitants, as *Druk Yul* or Land of the Thunder Dragon: a reference to the *Drukpa* tradition of *Vajrayana* Buddhism that permeates every aspect of Bhutanese life. The 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 innovations: roads, television and tourism. Can Bhutan maintain the fine balance between tradition and modernity and preserve its unique culture?

April 16th 2019



Zara Fleming

She died too soon: A study of Joan Eardley

Born in Sussex, Joan showed artistic talent from a young age and, after studying at Glasgow School of Art, made Scotland her home until her untimely death in 1963, aged 42. Her work is known for her twin passions: the country where she braved the elements to paint the wild forces of nature, on the North Sea coast of Aberdeenshire, and the town, where she was drawn to the equally wild elements of the Glasgow slums. She left a legacy of individual artworks: a raw experience of nature combined with a painfully moving expressiveness.

May 14th 2019

Amanda Herries



Modigliani and Bohemian Paris

Modigliani arrived in Paris in 1906 with a love of Italian Renaissance painting. He was soon involved in the group of progressive painters such as Picasso, Braque and Matisse. His Bohemian lifestyle, drug and alcohol dependence separated him from many other painters. This lecture traces his life through the cafés of Montmartre and Montparnasse. In 1916, he began painting sumptuous nudes and later met the love of his life, Jeanne Hebuterne. He died in 1919, from tubercular meningitis. His gravestone is inscribed 'Death overtook him as he came to glory'.

June 11th 2019

Julian Halsby

