

THE ARTS SOCIETY WALTON

PROGRAMME 2022

January 13th:
"How to pick a Favourite Church"
Janet Gough



Janet Gough has chosen one church from every diocese to illustrate the incredible story of our churches bound up with the story of England over the last 1400 years and shares with the audience how they might select their own favourites.

February 10th:
"It's not just Tchaikovsky"
Nigel Bates

Our lecturer takes us on a wide-ranging exploration of the music chosen by ballet choreographers through the years, proving that the right composition with the addition of the right moves and the right designs can create modern masterpieces and timeless classics.



March 10th
"Peggy Guggenheim"
Alexandra Epps



The 'poor, little, rich girl' who changed the face of 20th century art. Not only was Peggy Guggenheim ahead of her time but she was the woman who helped to define it. She discovered and nurtured a new generation of artists producing a new kind of art. Through collecting not only art but the artists themselves, her life was as radical as her collection.

April 14th
"Dr Johnson and Hester Thrale, Blue-stocking and Wit – the caricatures of the day"
Karin Fernald

In 1765, Samuel Johnson, aged 56, ill, lonely, living off Fleet Street among quarrelling dependents, was introduced to a wealthy brewer, Henry Thrale, and his witty and talented young Welsh-born wife, Hester. Their friendship would last 18 years, providing Johnson with hospitality and comfort



May 12th
"The Ups and Downs in the Lives of the Impressionists"
Carole Petipher



A tiny section of the Seine to the West of Paris which would have represented the perfect antidote to the claustrophobia of mid-19th century Paris, has been termed "the Cradle of Impressionism". The lives and early works of Monet, Renoir, Pissarro, Sisley and Morisot will be explored.

June 9th:
"Fashion, Fury and Feminism: Women's Fight for Change"
Tessa Boase

When Tessa Boase told the RSPB she wanted to write their early story, they refused to let her visit their archives. This lecture shines a light on the intriguing story of women's love affair with plumage – and of the brave eco-feminists who fought back on behalf of the birds.



July 14th:
"The State of British Craft"
Jonathan Foyle



The speaker has written over 100,000 words in the Financial Times Weekend on craftspeople: their passions, skills and materials. How and why do people transform raw materials into works of art? How do their hands and tools transform raw materials into works of utility and beauty?

September 8th
"Sixty Years on: Life in Britain as seen in 1960's films"
Colin Shindler

The 1960's is invariably referred to as the decade of change, but it was a decade of contradictions. Swinging London never reached Hartlepool and Mary Quant made little impact on Burnley although she probably made more on Walton-on-Thames. What does it look like now from a perspective of more than fifty years?



October 13th
"Food in Art"
Alan Read



How has art decorated eating places and how have the activities of trading in food, preparation and cooking been made the subject of paintings? How for centuries glorious food has made glorious art?

November 10th
"The Butterfly on the Lagoon: Whistler in Venice 1879-1880"
Julian Halsby

A detailed examination of Whistler's 18 months in Venice, starting with his court case against Ruskin which led to his bankruptcy, and ending with the restoration of his reputation and finances on his return. A story of misfortune followed by triumph.

