

WEDNESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2024: Moorish Architecture: The Legacy of a Vanished Kingdom


By Ian Cockburn: The classical origins that influenced the Moorish style is well-known, as well as the unique interior decorative style which gives their architecture its beauty and exotic appeal – an appeal so strong that the Christians sometimes copied it, even as they reconquered the territory from its Islamic rulers.

WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 2024: Vincent Van Gogh: Madman or Genius?


By Anthony Russell: This lecture considers exactly why, despite never selling a painting and his committing suicide in poverty, no art historian today denies Van Gogh's genius. There are extraordinary, little known facts to be revealed, while enjoying the remarkable range of his talent. Though seeming so extreme, the tragic story of his loveless life is deeply moving and his humanity makes a lasting impression.

WEDNESDAY, 3 APRIL 2024: Zaha Hadid: Architectural Superstar


By Drs. Helen Sijssling: Dame Zaha Hadid died on March 31, 2016 at the age of 65. Architectural historians of the future will recognise her as one of the most important architects of the early 21st century. She was born in Iraq and her reputation was global, but she made Britain her home. This lecture tells the story of her illustrious career.

WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY 2024: Master of Suspense: Alfred Hitchcock


By John Francis: After moving to Hollywood, Hitch created several masterpieces of cinema including Vertigo (1958) and Psycho (1960). Vertigo has been recently voted by critics as the best ever film, overtaking Citizen Kane. Together we will explore Hitchcock's dark films about human obsession. Taking a shower still fills many people with dread and foreboding thanks to the Hitchcock modern horror classic of 1960.

WEDNESDAY, 5 JUNE 2024: Japonism to Modernism: Japanese Influences on Western Art


By Suzanne Perrin: Following the opening of Japan to western trade in the 1860s, paintings, prints and artifacts from Japan came to Europe and the West, creating new styles and demand for all things 'Japanese': this continued into the 20th century and inspired artists to create daring new designs in architecture, space and design.

WEDNESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2024: The Anatomy of Collecting


By Marc Allum: This presentation will entertain us through the psychology, folklore and history of collecting through the millennia, as well as featuring great collectors throughout history. It also carries an insight into how the Antiques Roadshow works, is audience immersive and is illustrated with examples from the great historical collectors and with objects from Mr. Allum's own eclectic collection.

WEDNESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2024: Hidden Canvases: Street Art & The City


By Doug Gillen: *Hidden Canvases* explores the key stages in street art's growth examining the different elements and styles that comprise the scene with no rules. From the international superstars to the local underground heroes you are guaranteed to leave knowing your Invader from your Arz and who knows you might even start looking at the world a little differently.

WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2024: Rome, Art & Emperors: The Golden Age of Rome


By Dr. Paul Roberts: Rome's art and architecture were some of the finest of man's creations. In this talk, Dr. Roberts presents beautiful works of art - sculpture, mosaic, wall-paintings, silver and jewellery - to trace the history of this mighty city. The talk focuses on Rome's golden age – from 30 BC to AD 200, when Emperors filled the city with palaces, temples, theatres, libraries and other incredible monuments.