

9 July 2024: The Gilbert Collection

Dr Timothy Schroder

This collection of gold, silver and Italian mosaics was formed over forty years by Arthur Gilbert in Los Angeles. Formerly at Somerset House, it is now displayed in a magnificent group of galleries at the V&A. For some years Dr Schroder was curator of decorative arts at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and played a key role in the development of the collection. This lecture will focus on some facets of the collection: silver, gold and snuffboxes and allude to enamelled portrait miniatures, Italian micromosaics and pietre dure, and a unique insight into the man who formed it.

8 October 2024:

“Morocco Blue - Why and How Morocco got Painted Blue”

Elizabeth Gowing

This draws on Elizabeth’s time in Morocco in visits spanning more than 25 years. The lecture focuses particularly on the stories behind the blue pigment used for the fishing boats and doorways of photogenic Essaouira on the Moroccan coast, and Majorelle Blue developed and patented by French artist Jacques Majorelle in Marrakech in the 1920s. The story of Morocco’s blues takes us from Berber veils to Yves Saint-Laurent who restored Majorelle’s Marrakech garden, via Modernist Orientalist art and a protected mollusk...



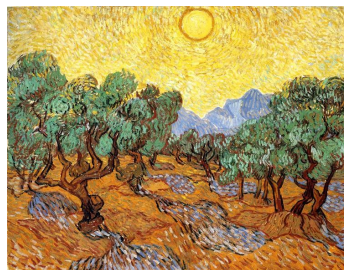
CC BY-SA 4.0: Fibrandao 1963-original]

12 November 2024:

“Vincent van Gogh: London, Paris and Japan” :

Juliet Musgrave

Vincent van Gogh’s life as an artist spanned an all-too-short ten years – the art that inspired him in London and Paris was not just that of his contemporaries but also Old Masters and the newly imported works by Japanese printmakers. An art world of galleries, magazines, a network of friendships and even a shop are at the root of Vincent van Gogh’s ideas – but how did they come together in London and Paris? Juliet follows Vincent to London and Paris, looking at how the people he met and the art he saw, and collected, influenced his work. The National Gallery is to mark its bicentenary with a blockbuster exhibition on Vincent van Gogh - September 2024 to January 2025.



PROGRAMME 2024



Square Chapel Arts Centre
10 Square Road Halifax HX1 1QG

Second Tuesday of the Month
12.45 for 1.00pm.

[No Lectures August, September & December]

Tickets for non-members are available from the Square Chapel Box Office prior to each lecture

£11 pp + booking fee : squarechapel.co.uk OR tel: 01422 353073



9 January 2024: Chinoiserie
Jane Gardiner

As trade routes opened between Europe and the Far East early 17C triggered a craze for Oriental goods, notably porcelain and lacquer and a consequent effect on taste, collecting and display. We look at how this affected European design creating whimsical, occasionally fantastical but a European-style on an Oriental theme which touched every branch of interior design and decoration through the 18C.



(Photo: Jorge Barrios—Public Domain)

**13 February 2024: “A Painter’s Life:
Nourished by the Past, Looking to the Future”**
Ghislaine Howard

How do artists live; what inspires them; why do some works deeply affect us? We look at how art of the past inspired Ghislaine; how a hand-print on a cave wall to paintings by Bonnard or Matisse can move us to joy, knowledge or tears. David Hockney, on Monet is quoted as saying “art makes me see” and that his eyes had been opened “to the beauty of a shadow on a leaf”.



(“Fishermen on Skagens Beach P S Kroyer)

**12 March 2024: “Fascinating Faces: British Characters
and their Portraits” :**

David Cross

Great and engaging characters fascinate us through their biographies. Some Europeans believe us to be obsessed by portraiture which captures appearance, character and dress of key individuals. German, Flemish and French artists were early sources but the emergence of Hogarth triggered a British School bolstered by Reynolds. We look at portraiture from the 16C to the present with the National Portrait Gallery as a key source.



(Joshua Reynolds “Self-Portrait—Public Domain)

Membership enquiries : email: halifax@theartssociety.org OR:

Membership, Arts Society Halifax, Norwood. Skircoat Green Road, Halifax HX3 0LJ

 **07486902962**

9 April 2024: “Northern Lights - Evard Munch and the Art of Scandinavia
Adrian Sumner

Name a Scandinavian artist!; most would name Edvard Munch personified by his angst-driven painting “The Scream”: marketed and merchandised mercilessly. He influenced Modernism and Scandinavian art at the turn of the 19C. Mythology, folk tales, spiritual landscapes, seascapes works by Simberg, Enckel, Hammershoi and others who should be household names. The lecture also covers Nordic architecture and design .



(Vilhelm Hammershoi: Artists’ Wife & Mother)

**14 May 2024: “Vitruvius Britannicus” at 300:
How Palladianism came to Dominate Architecture**
David Winpenny

Published in 1715, the 1st volume of “VITRUVIUS BRITANNICUS” (the British Architect) is arguably an important architectural book. It set out a new architectural style, namely Palladianism. Baroque had run its course and Palladian architecture as promoted by the 3rd Earl of Burlington took hold. David Winpenny looks at how this style gained its foothold, initially through Inigo Jones and progressively through the 3 volumes of “Vitruvius Britannicus” and its influence on many country houses.

(see image on front)

11 June 2024: Art of the Japanese Garden
Marie Conte-Helm

Introducing some of Japan’s most famous gardens, their context, their principles of garden design as it evolved. Nature and seasons show in paintings and gardens of all scales; Palaces, Buddhist temples and Zen-inspired dry landscapes with their symbolic content. Drawing on wider distinctive examples we see how they have been adapted to modern domestic settings and to Japanese gardens globally,



(CC BY-SA 3.0 “The moss garden at the Saihō-ji temple in Kyoto, started in 1339 “)

 **THE ARTS SOCIETY HALIFAX**