



Lectures are at 11.30am for 1 hour at the Manx Museum Lecture Theatre and are streamed live to Zoom for members who prefer to watch at home or work. Venues, times and costs for Events will be notified to members and on Facebook.



19 SEPTEMBER 2023: MARK MEREDITH

AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK: THE ART OF LORD DUVEEN



“Europe has a great deal of art, and America has a great deal of money”. Our opening lecture is a glimpse into the oft-times hilarious world of Lord Duveen, the British art dealer whose quintessential English wit and charm made it look easy as he convinced the hard-nosed, tight-fisted titans of Wall Street that “When you pay high for the priceless, you’re getting it cheap”. Frick, Mellon, Rockefeller, J.P. Morgan, Vanderbilt, etc all vied for his latest discoveries and until you were on his client list, you could be assured that you and your collection were still decidedly second rate.

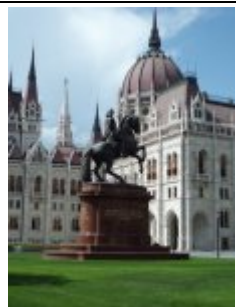
Picture: Joseph Duveen, 1st Baron Duveen. George Grantham Bain collection at the Library of Congress, USA

Mark has a passion for the history behind houses, and his special interest lies with the great American houses and their relationships with those in Europe. He is a writer and lectures regularly at societies, festivals and clubs in both Europe and the United States.

17 OCTOBER 2023: HUGH ELLWOOD

DAY OF SPECIAL INTEREST EVENT – TWO LECTURES AND LUNCH

BUDAPEST AND VIENNA – TALE OF TWO CAPITALS



BUDAPEST – DIVA OF THE DANUBE

Budapest, a fascinating mosaic of Central European influences from Habsburg to Turkish, from French to Slavic, is the ultimate turn-of-the-century city, united only in 1872 by the building of the first bridge across the Danube between Buda and Pest. In Pest, the neo-Classical unity of the buildings, enlivened by decorative flecks of Art Nouveau and extravagant eclecticism obscures the city’s medieval and Baroque past. In Buda, the winding medieval alleyways are lined with shallow-domed steamed baths built by the Turks, colourful Baroque palaces and the Royal Palace stretching back to the Middle Ages. There is an aesthetic tension in Budapest that matches the city’s stormy political history.



VIENNA – A WALTZ ON THE DANUBE

The turbulent history of Vienna has produced an amazing display of art and architecture. The Gothic spirit is powerfully symbolized by the cathedral of Stephansdom, which stands out in a city that is overwhelmingly Baroque. In the historic centre are the largely burghers’ dwellings and on the outskirts are the magnificent imperial residences and palaces. Vienna’s love of the arts is illustrated by the opera houses, theatres and museums that are found throughout the city. Running through the city are the flashes of brilliance of Jugendstil, Vienna’s own version of Art Nouveau, created at the turn of the century before the madness and destruction of the two world wars.

An architect and then visiting lecturer in the history of art and architecture at the University of Central Lancashire, Hugh Ellwood now lectures on art and architecture. He is also a watercolour painter. www.hughellwood.com

21 NOVEMBER 2022: IAN KEABLE

FROM HOGARTH TO PRIVATE EYE: HISTORY OF CARTOONS



Satire, caricature, speech bubbles, the writing of captions, etc had been around long before the word 'cartoon' was used in an 1843 *Punch* magazine in the sense that we know it today. In our talk, Ian tracks the early stages of cartoons and their evolution through the works of Hogarth and James Gillray. Copious illustrations abound from such masters of their craft as John Tenniel, John Leech, David Low, Vicky, Ronald Searle, Heath Robinson and Giles; and, bringing it right up to date, with Gerald Scarfe, Steven Bell and Peter Brookes.

Picture: The Plumb-pudding in danger. From 'The Caricatures of Gillray'. Hand coloured etching, plate size 26 x 36.2 cm. Published 1805. London

Ian Keable qualified as a Chartered Accountant and then became a professional magician. He now divides his time between performing magic, giving talks and researching and writing. www.iankeable.co.uk

19 DECEMBER 2023: PATRICK CRAIG

ENTERTAINING ANGELS UNAWARES – ANGELS IN THE BIBLE, MUSIC AND ART



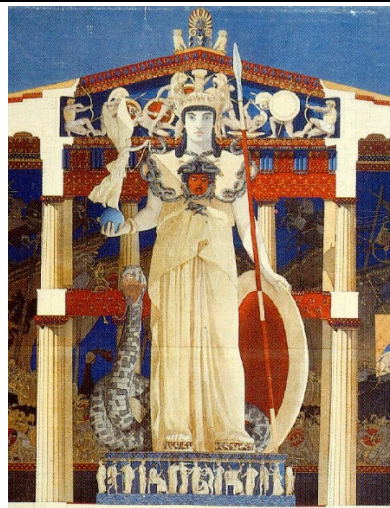
Angels don't speak, they sing and have inspired much wonderful music. Patrick investigates their roles as guardians, messengers and fighters through music by Britten, Elgar and Mendelssohn. Angelic words also feature in the liturgical texts that Patrick sung daily in St Paul's Cathedral, such as the Sanctus and Te Deum, and which will give us an opportunity to explore angelic music by Bach, Mozart and Walton. Patrick will call on some of the world's finest art and poetry to further expand this journey into the heavenly realm.

Picture: Annunciation. Fra Angelico. 1430. Santa Maria delle Grazie, San Giovanni Valdarno, Italy. Dimensions: 195 x 158 cm.

A Vicar Choral at St Paul's Cathedral, Patrick Craig also had a 20-year international career singing with the world-renowned early music consort *The Tallis Scholars*. He also sings with the award-winning group *The Cardinal's Musick*. He conducts this country's leading all-female professional choir, *Aurora Nova*, which he founded.

16 JANUARY 2024: TOM FLYNN

GOLD AND IVORY: MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE



Beautifully illustrated, full of surprises as well as controversy, Tom’s talk explores how the great colossal chryselephantine (gold and ivory) cult statue of Athena in the Parthenon, sculpted by the Athenian sculptor Phidias in the mid-fifth century BC, had a profound impact on later mixed media sculpture. The talk traces the use of the chryselephantine technique from its appearance in antiquity in the form of the Athena Parthenos to the rediscovery of the technique by Quatremère de Quincy in the late eighteenth century to the appearance of a small-scale recreation by Pierre-Charles Simart for the Paris International Exhibition of 1855. More controversially, the technique appears again in Brussels in 1897 where Art Nouveau sculptors were encouraged to use ivory harvested from the Belgian Congo for the International Exhibition in Tervuren.

Picture: Reconstruction of the Athena Parthenos, 1870s. Benoît-Édouard Loviot

Art historian, writer and art consultant, Tom Flynn lectures at UK and European universities. His extensive art interests include sculpture history. His most recent book, *The A to Z of the International Art Market* was published by Bloomsbury Press in 2016 and published in a Chinese edition in 2019.

TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2024: JACQUELINE HYMAN
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY EVENT – LECTURE AND LUNCH
GOING TO THE BALL



Queen Victoria was a great fan of the magnificent fancy dress balls which, reported in newspapers and magazines in great detail, were one of the grandest and most fashionable ways for a society hostess to make her mark. Today’s social media and influencers would literally have had a ball - who was there, what they were wearing, who designed their gown and the historical figure they represented. These balls became the elite event of the year. In 1897, the 700 invitations to the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire’s ball summoned guests to appear “in a historical costume dated earlier than 1820”. What an open field and the guests dressed to impress!

Jacqueline Hyman is an Accredited Conservator-Restorer of textiles. She has her own freelance studio established in 1982 and lectures and runs courses for The Arts Society, Embroiderers’ Guild, Lace Guild, Antique Collectors’ clubs and others. Jacqueline has appeared on Channel 4, BBC 2 and the Discovery Channel. www.textilerestoration.co.uk

19 MARCH 2024: STELLA LYONS
THE EDMUND PEEL MEMORIAL LECTURE
SOROLLA : PAINTING WITH LIGHT



In his lifetime, Joaquin Sorolla was considered the most famous artist to come from Spain. More Spanish than the Alhambra, more passionate than Flamenco, sunnier than a holiday in Marbella, he captured in his paintings all the exuberance of his native country. So why don’t we know more about him? Stella’s talk will explore the so-called Spanish ‘Master of Light’; from his paintings of sunlit beaches and gardens to scenes of fishermen and rural life, as well as portraits of the love of his life, his wife Clotilde.

Stella’s lecture is dedicated to the memory of Edmund Peel, The Arts Society Isle of Man’s late programme organiser, who had extensive knowledge of Sorolla’s work and booked her lecture.



Picture: Strolling along the Seashore. Joaquin Sorolla. 1909. Museo Sorolla collection in Madrid, Spain. Dimensions: 205 x 200 cm

Stella Grace Lyons is a freelance Art History lecturer, speaker and writer who has lectured across the UK and worldwide. She runs her own Art History lectures. www.stellagracylyons.co.uk

16 APRIL 2024: ANDREW HOPKINS

CREATION OF A PERFECT HOUSE: PALLADIO'S VENETIAN VILLAS



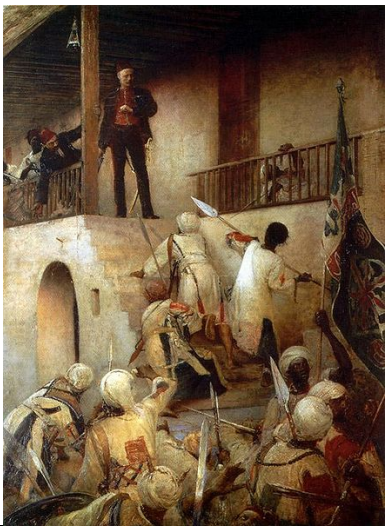
Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio's villas are his most celebrated accomplishment because of their beauty, practicality and, in cases such as the Villa Rotonda, its iconic image. The villas were also known through the woodcuts that illustrated Palladio's treatise the Four Books of Architecture, which meant that they were copied and imitated in Britain and America. Andrew's talk examines why his villas have such enduring appeal.

Picture. Aerial view of Villa Rotonda, Vicenza, 1566

Andrew Hopkins was awarded the Essay Medal of 1996 by the Society of Architectural Historians for part of his PhD on Venetian architecture. Previously Assistant Director of the British School at Rome from 1998 to 2002 and since 2004, Associate Professor at the University of L'Aquila.

21 MAY 2024: MAX JONES

GORDON OF KHARTOUM AND THE POWER OF ART: HOW A SINGLE PAINTING DEFIED THE CRITICS TO INSPIRE THE NATION



George William Joy's painting of the death of General Gordon in 1885, 'murdered' on the steps of the governor's palace in Khartoum by the Mahdi's dervishes, was ignored by critics and dismissed as inaccurate by scholars. In spite of such indifference, over the next century Joy's depiction of a heroic officer battling 'natives' was reproduced again and again in books and films, comics and toys. Using a wealth of unpublished illustrations, this lecture will explore why Joy's vision inspired generations and came to define how the British empire was remembered: as a force for good promoting civilization over savagery.

Picture: General Gordon's Last Stand. George William Joy. 1893. Leeds Art Gallery. Dimensions: 236 x 175 cm

Currently writing a new history of British heroes, and now teaching at the University of Manchester, Max was formerly a Fellow and Director of Studies in History at Christ's College, Cambridge. He specializes in the cultural history of war and heroism.

18 JUNE 2024: JAMES BUTTERWICK

THE DARK SIDE OF THE BOOM: THE MASS FAKING OF THE SOVIET AVANT GARDE



The mass faking of Soviet Avant Garde works reached a crescendo in January 2018 with an exhibition of 24 dubious works at the Ghent Museum of Fine Arts in Belgium. James will tell us of the history of these dubious paintings and the methods used to 'create' authenticity. The Soviet Avant Garde movement of Malevich, Chagall, Kandinsky, Exter, Popova, Rozanova, Rodchenko, Tatlin and countless others lasted until the advent of Socialist Realism in 1932. With the collapse of the Berlin Wall a flood of newly discovered works appeared on the Western and domestic markets of which up to 95% had neither verifiable provenance nor exhibition history, their authenticity supported only by documents from now discredited Russian and Western art historians and erroneous certificates of chemical expertise.

Picture: The Pianist by Lyubov Popova. National Gallery of Canada. 1915. Dimensions 106.5 x 88.7 cm

James Butterwick is one of the world's leading experts in Russian and Ukrainian Art which he began collecting and selling in 1985. James acts as a source of museum quality paintings with flawless provenance of both the Russian, Ukrainian and European School. He has a private gallery in London and speaks fluent Russian. www.jamesbutterwick.com

The Arts Society Isle of Man, which is not a charity, was formed in 1996 by an enthusiastic group who laid the foundations for today's local society. It is an autonomous unincorporated members society and pays an annual fee to The Arts Society (a registered charity in England and Wales, and Scotland) to access support functions and to assist with its activities.

New members are welcome. To join the Arts Society Isle of Man, contact Sue Creer on suecreer@hotmail.com or Liz Berry on lizberry@manx.net

A Lecture or Event may be cancelled or changed at short notice. Members will be advised by email and Facebook.