

DAY OF SPECIAL INTEREST

WITH

Mary Alexander

“WHY PARIS? - The allure of the city of light 1900 - 1945” Coming to a location Near You

A stimulating and enjoyable Special Interest Day. Exploring how and why the city of Paris has acted as both a magnet and cauldron of talent for aspiring artists and designers. Discover more about the key events and personalities shaping the 'City of Light' during the first half of the twentieth century. Looking beyond the mainstream, we will identify the creative individuals, including newly emerging female talents, who shaped the Parisian concept of 'modernity' in art, design, interiors, fashion, and photography.



Mary has thirty years' experience as a lecturer, with a BA in History and History of Art and an MA with distinction in History of Art from University College London. Experience includes public lectures in museums, tutoring for the Open University, visiting lecturer at Christie's Education in London, museum curator at Platt Hall, the Gallery of Costume, Manchester. Now a freelance lecturer to various arts, heritage and antiquarian societies. She also worked in Pentagram design consultancy in London and New York, organising conferences and special events. Author of various articles on design and visual awareness issues, her background combines an unusual blend of academic and visual communications skills. Lectured for ADFAS Australia and New Zealand in 2011, 2013 and 2016. Mary is an enthusiastic member and President of The Arts Society Glaven Valley.

LECTURE ONE:

Registration and Tea / Coffee from 10:00 am.

10:30 - 11:30 am.

La Belle Époque - city of pleasure and reinvention 1890s - 1914

LECTURE TWO:

11:50am. - 12:50

Partying into the Future 1920s and 30s

Lunch 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

LECTURE THREE:

2:00 - 3:00 pm. plus questions

Paris Exposition 1937, Occupation and Defiance



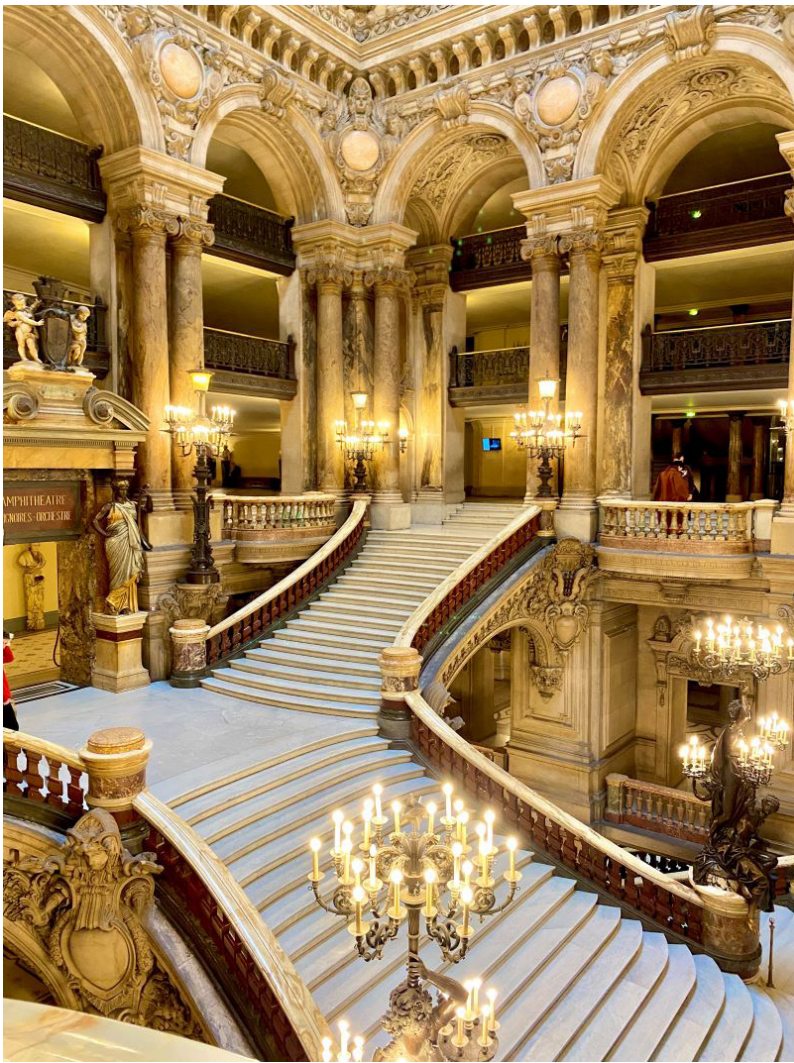
Jean Béraud
Théâtre du Vaudeville

Literary descriptions by Zola, Stein, Cocteau, Hemingway, and Fitzgerald will accompany the sumptuous visual details photographed especially for this purpose. Comparisons between the international Paris exhibitions of 1900, 1925 and 1937 will shed light on changing social/cultural issues, rapid technological change, and the key role of couture and fashion in French identity, especially during the German Occupation, and immediately after the Liberation.

Whether strolling along Haussmann's new boulevards, ascending the magnificent staircase of Garnier's Opéra House, calling into an artist's studio, cafe, nightclub, or couture fitting, we will recreate the sense of 'being there.'

Jean Béraud
Les coulisses de l'Opéra de Paris, 1889





*The Magnificent staircase
Garnier's Opera House*

“ This new Special Interest Day ‘Why Paris?’ has evolved by popular request from many societies who have enjoyed my ‘New York New York’ Special Interest Day. A similar inclusive and exploratory approach is used with location maps, using both contemporary and old photographs of the city, various art and design media, to share many of the questions which have fascinated me over the years.

“ Whether you know the city well or not at all, there will be new and exciting discoveries for everyone.



*Josephine Baker
'Charleston'*