

**The Arts Society**, founded in the UK over 50 years ago now has over 380 Member Societies in the UK, Mainland Europe, and New Zealand, with 37 affiliated Societies in Australia. Please see: [www.theartsociety.org](http://www.theartsociety.org)

**The Arts Society The Hague** was founded in 1991 and was then known as The Decorative and Fine Arts Society of The Hague. For 32 years it has given lectures on a wide-ranging variety of aspects of the Arts, with the aim of bringing people of all nationalities together through a shared curiosity for the arts, and through its lectures and other events, all of which provide inspiration and information. The 2023-2024 season continues this tradition: we have prepared an especially exciting programme of lectures and events for all lovers of the arts to enjoy.

e-Mail [thehague@theartsociety.org](mailto:thehague@theartsociety.org)  
Website <https://theartsociety.org/the-hague>

### Lectures are held at

Cultureel Centrum Warenar  
Kerkstraat 75, 2242 HE Wassenaar

Doors open at 19.15 hrs.

Lectures begin at 20.00 hrs.

Lectures can be seen live in the Warenar and/or hybrid (via Zoom) depending upon circumstances.

### Enjoy the advantages of joining **THE ARTS SOCIETY THE HAGUE**

- Free entry to eight lectures per season
- Reduced rates for all extra activities
- Receive by post the Society's top quality quarterly Magazine published in London



New members and guests are most welcome

Annual membership fee	€ 75
Membership fee for a couple	€ 140
Guest fee for non-members	€ 15

### Payments to

THE ARTS SOCIETY THE HAGUE  
NL90 INGB 0008 3198 36



## THE ARTS SOCIETY THE HAGUE



## Lecture Season 2023 - 2024

Patron:  
H.E. Joanna Roper CMG  
Ambassador of the United Kingdom

## LECTURE PROGRAMME 2023-2024

### **Tuesday 10 October 2023: Frank Woodgate** *Everything is Art, Everything is politics* *(Ai WeiWei)*

This lecture will examine the provocative and often beautiful work of the Chinese artist Ai Weiwei in the context of dissident art in China, Europe and South America, and examine some of his sources of inspiration, including the Russian Constructivist, Vladimir Tatlin, and the leading Dada artist, Marcel Duchamp.



### **Tuesday 14 November 2023: Rosamund Bartlett** *The Culture of Ukraine*



This lecture tells the multifaceted Ukrainian story through the shared culture which binds its diverse people together, including the sacred art and architecture of Kyiv inherited from Byzantium, the rich legacy of the Cossacks, and a treasury of poetry, painting and song. We will also look at the key role played by folk culture in the years before Ukraine's emergence as an independent nation.

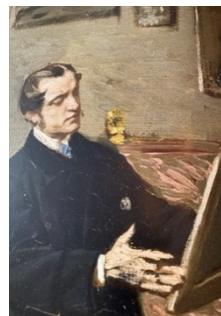
### **Tuesday 12 December 2023: Bertie Pierce** *The Dickens of a Christmas*

Dickens revived the Christmas traditions with his warm portrayal of Christmas in the domestic setting: plum pudding, turkey, games, dancing and family cheer by the hearth. Dickens was a man of extraordinary energy and talent: literary genius, reformer, public speaker, actor and amateur magician. In his lecture Bertie Pearce reveals a true Dickensian Christmas.



### **Tuesday 9 January 2024: John Sillevs** *Macchiaioli - Pre-Impressionist Movement in Italy*

The Macchiaioli were a group of Italian painters active in Tuscany in the second half of the nineteenth century. They strayed from antiquated conventions taught by the Italian art academies, and did much of their painting outdoors in order to capture natural light, shade, and colour. The movement originated with a small group of artists, many of whom had been revolutionaries in the uprisings of 1848. The artists met regularly at the Caffè Michelangelo in Florence to discuss art and politics. These idealistic young men, dissatisfied with the art of the academies, shared a wish to reinvigorate Italian art by emulating the bold tonal structure they admired in such old masters as Rembrandt, Caravaggio and Tintoretto.



### **Tuesday 13 February 2024: Rupert Willoughby** *Cool Marble! The Essential Guide to Greek Sculpture*



The Ancient Greeks invented the human portrait and their sculpture formed the basis of European art. Arguably, it has never been bettered. They produced statues of such beauty and realism that men are said to have fallen in love with them. A Classical scholar and teacher, Rupert elucidates some of their finest artistic expressions, including the controversial Parthenon or 'Elgin' marbles (the story of which is recounted in detail) and the Venus di Milo, celebrated survivor of a craze for 'naked Aphrodites'. Here is a chance to meet the Ancient Greeks in the raw. Contains nudity!

### **Tuesday 12 March 2024: Lucia Gahlin** *Wonderful Things - Tutankhamun:* *The Boy King, his Tomb and Treasures*

In 2022 the centenary of the excavation of Tutankhamun's tomb by Howard Carter in 1922 was celebrated. In this lecture Lucia explores the design and decoration of the most famous tomb in the Valley of the Kings; she discusses its discovery and the incredible finds sealed within.



### **Tuesday 9 April 2024: Jacqueline Cockburn** *Fantasy Comes from Ghosts:* *Gaudi and Other Catalan Architects*



Antoni Gaudí is well known and much loved. In this lecture, his work will be explored in detail. It will be shown how he engaged with nature and we will look at his public and private buildings and his relationship with a wealthy and demanding patron. Private shy and retiring he was also humorous and witty in his extravagant style.

### **Tuesday 14 May 2024: Sarah Burles** *Lord Fitzwilliam and his Bequest to Cambridge*

The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge was founded on the death of Richard, 7th Viscount Fitzwilliam in 1816. Who was Lord Fitzwilliam? What is his connection to The Netherlands?



How did he acquire his extensive collection and what prompted him to leave it to the University of Cambridge? These, and many other questions, will be answered in a lecture that will also discuss some of the key works in Lord Fitzwilliam's bequest.