



## *Radlett Art Society*

Dear Member,

It has been an unusual and different summer with so much change to our normal Society programme disrupted by the continuing virus and the unexpected heatwave that thankfully has now subsided.

As you are aware our normal lectures at the Radlett Centre were postponed after March but thanks to Frances Beasant (Lecture Organiser) and Gary Harding (Zoom Technician), we have managed to reschedule our remaining six lecture programme via Zoom.

The first was rescheduled in June, the second for July and we now have a full exciting and diverse set of lectures continuing on zoom into November. Both lectures that were held to date were successful with a good membership attendance and very favourable reports in this newsletter.

The next lecture is Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August, full information on page 2. Members will have been sent the Zoom link. If you are a member and do not have this please contact the membership secretary, Myrna Sayers, or Gary Harding. You can use the contact form on our website.

We know the experience is not the same as the social experience created from real lecture evenings, but in the mean-time we can still enjoy our excellent lectures online at home, meet and greet friends virtually and hope that 2021 will see us back to a more traditional program venue. Stay well and engaged.

Yours

Adam Lewis

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MEMBERS ABLE TO ACCESS THE INTERNET**

**To participate in our lectures now showing on ZOOM, please contact**

**Gary Harding:**

**[Radlett.Art.Society@gmail.com](mailto:Radlett.Art.Society@gmail.com)**

**Gary will be pleased to advise you how to join and enjoy our 2020 programmes online while restrictions on theatre attendances last.**

## FUTURE LECTURES

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August – 7.45pm for 8pm – via Zoom Meeting**

**ARTEMISIA GENTILESCHI (1503 – 1656) REDISCOVERED**

**A PREVIEW OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY EXHIBITION (EXCLUSIVE preview of the exhibition paintings due to open in November).**

**CLAIRE FORD-WILLIE BA.** lecturer for **Birkbeck College, London University** for for over 30 years & **NADFAS, the ART FUND** and the **NATIONAL GALLERY.**



**Self Portrait as the Allegory of Painting 1638-1639**

This major UK exhibition of Artemisia's work, includes her best known paintings, two versions of her iconic and viscerally violent **'Judith beheading Holofernes'** as well as her self portraits, heroines from history and the Bible. In this confident later work, Artemisia Gentileschi presents an allegory of painting using her own self-portrait as the subject. Traditionally, painting was presented as a woman in allegorical scenes, giving Gentileschi a unique opportunity as a professional woman artist to present herself in the role. In doing so, she creates a realistic portrait of a painter at work, carefully rendering the tools of her trade such as the palette and brushes with quick and fluid brushstrokes

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - 7.45pm for 8 pm – Via Zoom Meeting**

**Lecturer: FRANCES ROSS MA VISUAL CULTURE.** Principal Lecturer at the London College of Fashion. Has published and presented art, culture and design



papers internationally. Will link famous artists collaborations from the 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> century with iconic fashion designers, photographers and socialites.

**Art & Fashion:**

**Collaborations from Elsa Schiaparelli & Salvador Dali to today**

**By Frances Ross**

**MA Visual Culture/Lecturer at London College of Fashion**

**On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 7.45 for 8.00 pm**

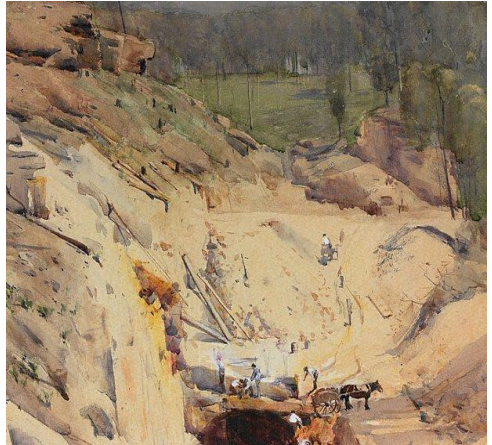
**9 case-studies of artists, fashion designers & photographers collaborations**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 7.45pm for 8pm Via Zoom Meeting**

**ART DOWN UNDER- AUSTRALIAN ART FROM THE CONVICT YEARS TO THE MODERN ERA**

**VAL WOODGATE** Lecturer and guide at Tate Britain and Tate Modern, also at many other London Galleries and for various art organisations.

Artistic responses to life in this strange - new continent were initially seen through European, and especially British artistic traditions. In the 19th century, **Australian Impressionism** and the **Heidelberg School** challenged the dominance of the 'Victorian' style, with **Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton** and others producing works which became Australian icons. The First World War was a watershed in Australian and New Zealand history. No longer subservient to Europe, artists now found their own language to depict the unique landscape and culture Down Under. At the same time, indigenous artists started to respond to contemporary life, while retaining many of the traditions of their ancestors.



*Arthur Streeton Blue Mountain Tunnel 1891*

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November – 7.45pm for 8pm – via Zoom Meeting**

**AMERICAN REALISM Lecturer: BARRY VENNING MASTER OF ARTS BA MA**

**The Arts Society Accredited**



*George Tooker – The Waiting Room - 1959*

This overview of American Realist Art from the late 19th Century onwards includes celebrated images by **Edward Hopper, Grant Wood** and **Andrew Wyeth**; also examined are **George Tooker** the 'Poet of American post-war anxiety', and **Archibald J Motley, African-American Chronicler of Harlem society**. lesser known but with no less remarkable talents.

## PAST LECTURES Previous Lecture Reports:

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020 8pm

Simone Bloom lectured on

### **BRAVE NEW WORLD: THE EXPRESSIONIST ART OF THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC**

Our first Zoom lecture was very successful and it was wonderful to be able to immerse ourselves in art and forget the Covid-19 gloom.

Simone covered the new forms of art created in Germany, from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century up to the rise of the Nazis. During this time of turmoil, Germany, produced much creativity in all the arts.

Simone discussed many artists and their influences. These included, Ludwig Kirchner, Max Pechstein; Emil Nolde; Franz Marc; Paul Klee and Wassily Kandinsky. Their styles varied, but they were among the founders of Expressionism – an emotional revolt against industrialisation.

This, in turn, influenced Picasso, Braque and others, who were eventually the founders of other movements, such as Fauvism, Cubism, Dadaism and Constructivism, out of which the Bauhaus emerged, Led by Walter Gropius. This movement included fine art, crafts and design.

From 1933, having suffered Hitler's profound disapproval, all these artists and movements were denounced as degenerate. Most of them dispersed all over the world. Thus, instead of being suppressed and disappearing, their talents became available to a much wider audience.

This was an interesting lecture, strongly relating artistic movements to the tumultuous social and political history in which they briefly flourished

**Muriel Beaver**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020 8pm**

**Ian Swankie lectured on**

**FROM BRONZES TO BANKSY:  
AN ARMCHAIR TOUR OF PUBLIC & STREET ART**

Our second Zoom lecture was a great success. Ian led us on fascinating virtual walks around three areas of London: Westminster, the City and the East End.

As we viewed each slide, he gave us artistic and architectural information, spiced with interesting and often amusing anecdotes.

We learnt the height of Nelson's Column has been downgraded from its original statistic of 185 feet, to its more recent remeasurement of 169 feet and that he has no eye patch. Landseer's Barbary lions were not placed in the square until 1867. Ian took the tour on to Westminster Bridge where Boadicea's chariot was clamped by Banksy; then on to see statues of famous people and sculptures by Henry Moore, Jacob Epstein, Sir Alfred Gilbert and Elizabeth Frink, among others.

Amusing stories continued on the second walk around the City. The magnificent column by Whitfield Partners in Paternoster Square also acts as a ventilation shaft for a service road under the square, the Paternoster Vents by Thomas Heatherwick are over an electricity sub-station and Elizabeth Frink's shepherd and flock of sheep were replaced on a lower plinth when the square was redeveloped.

After many more sights and accompanying anecdotes, it was off to the East End. Here we were introduced to a myriad of fascinating graffiti examples. These are constantly changing, so Ian takes new photos frequently. He demonstrated how quickly these witty and well executed works are produced by artists who are recognisable by their signature styles and methods. Surely a great Art Society outing in prospect?

**Muriel Beaver**

## **VISITS**

At the start of the summer, your Committee was hopeful of resuming some of our organised visits for later this year. Unfortunately, even with reduced restrictions on social distancing and partially relaxed limits on group gatherings, it is not possible to plan visits with any certainty. The latest updates on COVID19 new infections are not encouraging and there is no alternative at present but to prioritise members' safety. It is therefore with much regret that all remaining trips this year have had to be cancelled. I am looking to see if I can organise some 'virtual' trips later this year – look out for these!

I have started to provisionally rebook some of the missed trips, starting in April 2021. Details will be published once we are able to start to confirm things.

The 4 day holiday to Shrewsbury and surrounding historic houses and art galleries has also had to be postponed and has been rescheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. Those that have booked the trip this year have received details of how the rebooking will be managed. We currently expect to have some spaces available on the holiday and an updated itinerary and booking form will be published when available. If you are interested in going on it please let me know.

Hopefully, there will be more positive news for our members to look forward to in the New Year.

**Gary Harding**

## **Painting Sessions and Lecture for Artists**

**Peter Keegan for an evening lecture via Zoom on Thursday October 15th - 7.45 for 8.00.**

The talk will be titled "History of Colour". It will be about colour, the mixing of colours, the colour wheel, looking at colour and how it changes with different backgrounds and the use of colour in paintings, fashion and illustrated by using paintings by artists such as Monet, Turner etc. He concludes by mixing colours taken at random from the Dulux shade card and doing some painting.

The regular painting group that generally meet on a Thursday afternoon in Radlett to paint together and have demonstrations on occasions have now regrouped to meet (weather permitting) in members local gardens.

Further master classes and demonstrations may happen on zoom later in the year. For more information on this please contact Myrna Sayers.