

Programme 2023 to 2024

11th June 2024

A Curator speaks: What are museums for?

*A light-hearted but serious look by a Curator from the British Museum at the business of museums, and collecting, and how easy it is to lose one's way without introspection, vision and money.
Whose stuff is it anyway?
And what of the future?*



Irving Finkel

Venue and Time

Lectures are held at:

Bishop Perowne College, Worcester

Park in School car park and playground. Postcode is WR3 8LE. Please do not park on local roads.

You need to allow time for parking and signing in before the notices start at **7.50pm**. Doors open from 7.00pm and refreshments are available from 7.15pm for a small donation.

If people wish to view the lecture from the comfort of their own homes, lectures are streamed live. More information regarding this is available on the society website.

Visits

October 2023 - Tie-in trip to see the Frans Hals exhibition at The National Gallery.

October 2023 - Day Visit to Lord Leycester Hospital and St Mary's Church, Warwick.

November / December 2023 - 3-Night Trip to London.

April / May 2024 - Tie-In Day Visit to Sir Stanley Spencer Gallery, Cookham and Cliveden.

June 2024 - Day visit to RHS Bridgewater.

September 2024 - Day Visit Church Crawl with Tim Bridges.

All plans are provisional and subject to change. Theatre visits will be arranged when suitable performances are advertised. Please see the website for up to date details.



The Arts Society is a leading international organisation with over 90,000 members which provides opportunities to discover and support the arts of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Our Worcester Society meets monthly to hear informative, accredited lecturers share their specialist knowledge in all branches of the arts: fine art, sculpture, architecture, jewellery, textiles and more. We organise trips, events, local volunteering opportunities and study days.

We encourage membership but visitors are always welcome. See our website for more details.

To find out more

Visit www.theartssocietyworcester.org.uk for more information about the range of events we offer and an application form to join our Society.

Email: info@tasworcester.org
Membership: membership@tasworcester.org

Subscription: £42.50 per year
Visitors: £7.00 per lecture
Full-time students: £3.00 per lecture

Cover Image



The Potter's Vase is one of a pair created for the Paris International Exhibition in 1878. The design was inspired by the poem 'Keramos' by the poet Henry Longfellow and tells the story of the making of pottery.

This scene depicts The Painter and is surmounted by the heads of Michelangelo and Raphael with the colours chosen deliberately to emulate those used in the Renaissance.

TAS Worcester was happy to support The Museum of Royal Worcester by sponsoring this Showstopper Vase.



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12th September 2023

Frans Hals: A look behind the joviality and spontaneity!

Praised for his ability to paint likenesses that seem to 'live and breathe', Hals is one of the artists who tells us most vividly about the 17th century Dutch Republic and its Harlem citizens. A National Gallery exhibition of his work begins this month.

Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff



10th October 2023

London Bridged: 3,500 years of crossing the Thames

People were bridging the Thames in the Bronze Age – 1,500 years before the Romans built London Bridge. The last 200 years have seen over 50 new crossings over and under the river. Some are great feats of engineering, some are architecturally elegant. Every crossover changes the city's genetic code.

Charlie Forman



14th November 2023

Saints and their Symbols

The saints of the Christian Church begin in the Bible itself. St George and St Katherine may be familiar, but what about St Apollonia or St William of York? St Zita or Little St Hugh of Lincoln? Each has their unique tale, their distinctive symbol and their importance to the lives of the faithful.

Nicole Mezey



12th December 2023

London's Lost Department Stores

Starting on Oxford Street's 'golden mile', we go on a cultural tour of the capital's big stores – from snooty Marshall & Snelgrove, to Pontings, 'House of Value'; from Kennards' wart-removal service, to the live flamingos atop Derry & Toms; from Bodgers of Ilford, to Bon Marché of Brixton.

Tessa Boase



9th January 2024

John Singer Sargent: The Private Radical

An American expatriate artist, considered the leading portrait painter of his generation for his evocations of Edwardian era luxury. His work is characterized by his ability to draw with a brush, which in later years inspired admiration as well as criticism for a supposed superficiality.

Gavin Plumley



13th February 2024

'My Mother's decorator': Plasterer and Gilder to HM the Queen

From humble East End beginnings to Royal Palaces, Museums, Cathedrals and private homes and a royal warrant as "decorator and gilder to HM the Queen". A glimpse into some of Peter's finest projects, watershed moments and fascinating meetings.

Peter Hare



12th March 2024

The Follies of the Irish: Mad buildings for madder people

'Follies are joyful little buildings that aim to please'. These delightful buildings often defy categorisation and encompass mausolea and monuments; follies; grottoes; and garden buildings and have been famously described as 'foolish monuments to greatness and great monuments to foolishness'.

Tom Duncan



9th April 2024

A Village in Heaven: Stanley Spencer's Cookham

Few artists are as rooted in a place as Stanley Spencer and his beloved home village of Cookham. This Thames-side village was not only his birthplace, his home for most of his life, and even his nickname, but it dominated his imagination and was the inspiration and location for many of his greatest paintings.

Amy Lim



14th May 2024

Vases and Volcanoes: Sir William Hamilton and his collection

Sir William Hamilton was British envoy to the Court of Naples from 1764 to the end of the century. His collection was informed by the study and collecting of Greek vases and a fascination with volcanic activity; encouraged by the excavations at Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Jane Gardner



For more information go to www.theartsocietyworcester.org.uk