



**The Arts Society Bath Lecture  
Programme October 2021 to June  
2022**

**“Art for Learning but Mainly For  
Pleasure”**

For Information and Membership Details  
Contact us on [bath@theartsociety.org](mailto:bath@theartsociety.org)

Or visit our website  
[www.theartsocietybath.com](http://www.theartsocietybath.com)

The Arts Society Bath is a Member of the  
Arts Society

**All Lectures begin at 11.30am at Widcombe  
Social Club, Widcombe Hill Bath.**

**Lectures last about an hour.**



Widcombe Social Club is situated at the bottom of  
Widcombe Hill within walking distance of the Bus and  
Railway Stations. From the City the quickest route on  
foot ( a 10 minuet stroll) is to walk over the foot bridge  
at the rear of Bath Spa Rail Station. Cross over the A36  
at the pedestrian lights and turn left along Widcombe  
Parade(where there are lots of nice local shops and  
places to eat)

Cross over the junction with Prior Park Road. The  
Social Club is on the left at the bottom of Widcombe  
Hill.

The number 2 bus, from bus stop BK across the road  
from the train station will take you one stop to  
Widcombe.

There is very little parking locally. The closest car park  
is in Southgate which is not far from the Bus Station.



# Lecture Programme

## 2021/2022

A warm welcome to the Arts Society Bath 2021 to  
22 lecture programme. A new start at a new venue  
and at a new time (11:30 am)

Following our vacating the Assembly Rooms  
venue, our plan is to hold in-person lectures from  
4th October 2021 at Widcombe Social Club,  
Widcombe Hill .

However while there is still uncertainty about  
social distancing or any change in regulations, if  
we are unable to meet, our lectures will continue  
on-line on Zoom,

For Information and assistance please  
contact [secretary.bath@theartsociety.org](mailto:secretary.bath@theartsociety.org)

or visit our website at  
[www.theartsocietybath.com](http://www.theartsocietybath.com)

## 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021- Hans Holbein

Lecturer Rosalind Whyte



We explore the religious and political background of Holbein's times and the impact this had on his life and career as an artist. Focusing particularly on his two extended stays in England, we look at the impact he had on the development of portraiture and examine Holbein's close links with the Court of King Henry VIII during his second visit to England.

## 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 -Illustrating 'Alice'- Some Views of Wonderland

Lecturer Elizabeth Merry



Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland (published 1865) transformed children's literature. It has never been out of print. We start with the origins of the book and its first illustrators – and a host of artists who produced their own versions. We see how illustrators reflect different aspects of the book with their interesting artistic portrayals.

## 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021-In the Kingdom of the Sweets

Lecturer Nigel Bates



The Nutcracker ballet has delighted audiences at Christmas for decades. We take a close look at how this well-loved ballet takes its rightful place on stage and how the music of Tchaikovsky, along with story-telling, design, dance and a little bit of stage ingenuity come together to make this a magical escape for young and old.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022- A History of Western Paintings in 12 Masterpieces

Lecturer Alik Braine



From the beginnings of the Renaissance in 13th century Italy to the birth of Abstraction in the 20th century, this lecture charts the main developments of Western European Painting, focusing on a selection of acclaimed masterpieces. This dynamic lecture charts both the development of European paintings alongside the historical contexts in which they were created.

## 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022- Skin: John Singer Sargent and the Scandal of Madam X.

Lecturer Justin Reay



In 1883 a young artist in Paris implored a beautiful socialite to allow him to paint her. Over the following year John Singer Sargent laboured over his masterpiece, the portrait of Virginie Gautreau. The painting shocked its viewers, ruined Virginie's reputation and destroyed Sargent's career in Paris. However Sargent created a new life in England as the portraitist of high society. We examine prevailing attitudes and the public response to the painting known as Madame X.

## 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022- Georgian Town Gardens

Lecturer James Bolton



The gardening image of the eighteenth century is the Arcadian landscapes of William Kent or 'Capability' Brown. But this was not the whole story, plants were being imported throughout the century and planted by enthusiasts in the cities, such as Bristol and Bath. Gardens were being created for the wealthy and for working families. Here we look at the care and expense that created the Town Gardens of the 18th Century.

## 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022- Rachel Whiteread

Lecturer Linda Smith



Rachel Whiteread is a Turner Prize Winner, and one of the most important and respected British artists working today. Her preoccupation with the hidden spaces in between things has resulted in an extraordinary range of objects. This lecture gives an account of her career to date. The range in scale of her works is huge and can be extremely moving.

## 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022- The Collections of Napoleon and Josephine at Malmaison

Lecturer Carole Petipher



What was it that made Napoleon and Josephine one of the most followed couples in history? These questions can be answered giving a true insight into their character by exploring their collections at the Chateau de Malmaison. Paintings, personal objects, complete room layouts, and some magnificent pieces of porcelain are just some of the things on display.

## 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022- Watteau the Rebel: The Court v the Commedia dell'arte

Lecturer Timothy Wilcox



Watteau is usually thought of as the quintessential artist of the French Rococo: delicate, charming and dedicated to the pleasures of love, full of subtle wit and elegant conversation. This lecture explores how Watteau's immersion in the worlds of theatre, music and dance allowed him to create a parallel reality: one which resembled real life on the surface, while hinting at a different realm.