

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN e.V. is a registered association recognised by the German authorities as a charity. A donation certificate is obtainable for the membership fee and any other donations. The annual subscription fee is €85.00 per ordinary member or €100.00 per sustaining member.

Non-members are always welcome. The entrance fee for non-members is €15.00 per person and lecture. We offer a 50% student reduction.

THE ARTS SOCIETY house magazine is distributed to our members three times a year.

If you wish to **become a member**, please visit our website or contact our Membership Secretary:

**THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN e. V.**

**email: [ms.berlin@theartsociety.org](mailto:ms.berlin@theartsociety.org)**

**<https://theartsocietyberlin.com/membership-2/>**

## RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to renew your ordinary or sustaining membership, please transfer your subscription fee of €85.00 or €100.00 into the following bank account by **29 January 2024** at the latest:

**THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN e. V.**

**IBAN: DE57 1007 0848 0463 9365 00**

**BIC: DEUTDEDB110**

### Board

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*Honorary BEM*

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## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

**THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN e.V.** is a Member Society of THE ARTS SOCIETY in the UK, and was founded in 1996 as **BRIDFAS, British Decorative and Fine Arts Society Berlin**, with the aim to promote the appreciation and study of the fine arts in their widest sense and to stimulate a greater awareness of our international cultural heritage.

The lecture season starts in January and ends in November, including 8 lectures illustrated digitally by images and sometimes accompanied with music. All lectures are given in the English language by experts from the UK. They cover a wide and varied range of artistic, historic and cultural subjects.

Visits to local museums and places of historical interest as well as excursions in the vicinity of Berlin are offered and listed on our website.

**Patron: Kieran Drake**

**Deputy Head of Mission**

**British Embassy Berlin**

**THE ARTS SOCIETY** is the operating name of The National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) founded in Buckinghamshire, England in 1968 by the late Patricia Fay. It is a leading arts education charity with a global network of over 385 local Societies which bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts, and represents a worldwide membership of over 90,000. Its aim was and is to stimulate interest in the preservation of the cultural heritage and it is an association based on the love of Arts. Each Society organises its own series of talks. Lecturers are recommended by THE ARTS SOCIETY, London, proven for their academic knowledge of their subjects and their lecturing ability.

And as NADFAS founder Patricia Fay once said:

***“Above all, NADFAS should be fun.”***

We, the Board, Committee and Members of THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN agree whole-heartedly.

**Come and find out for yourself!**

**[theartsocietyberlin.com](https://theartsocietyberlin.com)**



**THE ARTS  
SOCIETY  
BERLIN**

# LECTURE PROGRAMME 2024



**Former**

**British Decorative and Fine Arts Society Berlin  
(BRIDFAS Berlin)**

## **LECTURE PROGRAMME 2024 \*)**

Monday, 29 January 2024

**TOM THOMSON AND THE GROUP OF SEVEN**

**by Prasannajit de Silva**

The Group of Seven was formed with the aim of creating a distinctively Canadian art based on the country's natural landscape. The original members first came together in 1913, and first exhibited as a group in 1920. This lecture will explore examples of their work, which continue to hold great sway in relation to both Canadian art history and national identity. We will also consider their influences, the work of some of their forerunners – including Tom Thomson – and contemporaries, and ask whether they achieved their aims.

Monday, 26 February 2024

**SICILIAN SPLENDOURS: FROM GREECE TO THE NORMANS**

**by Dr Paul Roberts**

We look at the rich art, architecture and history of Sicily - the largest island of the ancient Mediterranean and, in the ancient world, the wealthiest.

First we see the Carthaginians, the first major invaders of Sicily and their distinctive, enigmatic culture, still visible on the small island of Motya. Afterwards come the Greeks, with beautiful cities such as Agrigento, and Syracuse and Segesta, filled with theatres and temples to the gods.

Then we see Roman Sicily, peaceful and prosperous, with cities such as Syracuse and Taormina, and the sumptuous 'mosaic villa' of Piazza Armerina. After Rome, and the new Rome of Constantinople, comes the invasion of the Arabs with their revolution in society and agriculture, and then Norman Sicily - an extraordinary artistic flourishing, culminating in the mosaics of the magnificent Norman basilicas.

Monday, 25 March 2024

**THE ART OF THE CARTOONIST**

**by Harry Venning**

Harry Venning has been a professional cartoonist for thirty years, during which time he has provided cartoons for several high profile UK publications (The Guardian, Radio Times) as well as for countless more obscure titles (British Journal Of Wound Care). In The Art Of The Cartoonist Harry will be tracing the story of cartoons and cartoonists over the last two hundred years, from Hogarth and Gilray to Herjé and Schulz, focusing on those artists who have made an abiding impression upon culture, language, history and, specifically, him. There will be humour, there will be history and there will be live drawing

**\*) Please note: We present all our lectures as hybrid events which means that they are held on-site at the Community Hall of The All Saints Church and, at the same time, online via Zoom. For more details, society news, the registration form for Zoom lectures and any changes in the programme, please visit our website [theartssocietyberlin.com](http://theartssocietyberlin.com)**

Monday, 29 April 2024

**THE ATHLETIC AESTHETIC - YOUR ARTS SOCIETY GUIDE TO THE 2024 OLYMPICS**

**by Simon Inglis**

From July to September 2024 Paris will host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. But whilst most onlookers will focus on sport, art and design will also play a part, as they have since the games began at Olympia nearly three thousand years ago. Greek art is replete with representations of athletes on vases, plates and bronzes. Every four years modern day hosts unveil dazzling new architecture, in the form of stadia, arenas, velodromes and swimming pools. The athletes themselves act as torch bearers for ever changing ideals of physical perfection. From nudity to Nike, from sand to synthetics, the Olympic story offers art lovers pure gold.

Monday, 3 June 2024

**7 pm: ORDENTLICHE MITGLIEDERVERSAMMLUNG**

followed by

**WHO'S GOT OUR PAINTINGS? THE STORY OF THE UK PUBLIC CATALOGUE FOUNDATION PROJECT**

**by Amanda Herries**

One man's quest to see a favourite painting at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge led to the remarkable project, now known as 'Art UK' (and online), which has catalogued over 210,000 thousand oil paintings in UK public ownership since 2003. The project now moves on to sculpture.

Cataloguers hunted down paintings in damp stores, clambered up dodgy ladders, unrolled masterpieces and sad tatters of canvas. Amanda knows! She was one of them. An extraordinary record has been created, which benefits from public interaction online and has become a wonderful resource for education and pleasure.

Monday, 23 September 2024

**GEORGE STUBBS (1724 - 1806):**

**“THE ENGLISH LEONARDO“**

**by Christopher Garibaldi**

Many art historians and critics have compared the work of Stubbs to that of Leonardo da Vinci, one even christening him the 'Leonardo of Liverpool' to reflect his humble origins as the son of a Liverpool leatherworker. The comparison can seem hubristic until one considers the intense scientific method and investigation that lay behind the production by Stubbs of his world-famous Anatomy of the Horse published in 1766 – a work which revolutionised the understanding and depiction of equine subjects.

This lecture looks at the life and work of this country's greatest animal painter, putting Stubbs in the context of British sporting artists of the eighteenth century more generally. It focusses on his depiction of equestrian subjects such as the National Gallery's Whistlejacket but also looks at the broader themes he addressed.

Monday, 28 October 2024

**BRITAIN VS BAUHAUS: MODERN DESIGN IN THE 1930s.**

**by Julia Musgrave**

Staatliches Bauhaus was an art school founded under Weimar Republic by the architect Walter Gropius. From 1919 to 1933 its tutors combined crafts and the fine arts in a radical new approach to design education.

Less well known is the influence of the Bauhaus and other German design schools on design and art education in Britain in this period. As the impact of the economic 'Slump' of c.1929-34 hit British manufacturing sales, many in local and national government took the view that Britain's struggling industrial base could be improved if moves were made to provide for better design education. This lecture looks at some of the work of the key artists involved in improving British design in this period – including Paul Nash, Eric Ravilious, Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and Roger Fry; and at Unit One – formed by Paul Nash in 1933 to promote modern art, architecture and design.

Monday, 25 November 2024

**CARDIFF CASTLE: A WELSH VICTORIAN CAMELOT**

**by Matthew Williams**

Far from being a ruin, Cardiff Castle is one of the most remarkable houses in Britain. Dating from the time of the Romans, centuries of change culminated in the complete transformation undertaken in the 1870s by the Marquess of Bute and his eccentric genius architect William Burges. They created a 'Feudal extravaganza' in fifteen highly imaginative interiors, including an Arab room, a Pompeian roof garden and rooms with an astrological theme. The lecture examines this wonderful building and the personalities of those involved.

## **WHERE TO FIND US**

**THE ARTS SOCIETY BERLIN** meets mostly on the last Monday of the month for eight lectures during the year at the **Community Hall of The All Saints Church, Hüttenweg 46, 14195 Berlin** (U3 Oskar-Helene-Heim, Bus 285 Waldfriedhof Dahlem) and **online on Zoom**.

**Lectures begin at 8 pm (on-site and online)**. Doors open from 7.30 pm for sale of wine and soft drinks. Zoom meetings start at 7.45 pm.

After the lectures you are cordially invited for wine and refreshments.

**Non-members are always very welcome!**

**More detail can be found on**

**[theartssocietyberlin.com](http://theartssocietyberlin.com)**