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May News

Dear Members

Thank you for reading our monthly news. This month: two films you might not want to miss, some date changes to note and a chance to offer your skills!

VACANCIES IN THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Arts Society Woodbridge (TASW) is a vibrant society of more than 400 members, financially robust and well run by our supportive Management Team (MT). Some of us have been in our roles for several years and soon it will be time to step away.

The following vacancies are coming up later in 2026 and we would ask that you please consider joining our collaborative team. Full training and shadowing is offered, so that there can be a smooth, efficient handover.

Treasurer (Nigel Barratt)

Minutes Secretary (Julia Ratcliffe)

Lecture Programme Co-ordinator (Carolyn Dicken)

To read the job descriptions of these roles, please [CLICK HERE](#)

LECTURE PROGRAMME



Last lecture

'Untouchable Art' with Viv Lawes

In April, we were pleased to welcome Viv Lawes who spoke on 'Speculation and the NFT: a phenomenon of our times'. Non-fungible Tokens operate in a digital space; they are codes which bestow a unique identity, authenticity and provenance to objects. They are ascribed commonly but not solely to art works.

In a complex, challenging but rewarding lecture, Viv addressed their purposes, processes and associated fields such as the cryptocurrencies of bitcoin and Ethereum. Her talk embraced not only these practical matters but also the philosophical challenges NFTs present for our understanding of the age-old question, 'what is art?'

The audience feedback gave a score of 'excellent'.



Coming next ... Monday 18th May

The Ballet Russes: when art danced with music

Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes

When Diaghilev created the Ballet Russes in 1909, he subsequently fused the latest in art, music and dance in spectacles that dazzled the audiences internationally. By amalgamating the creative disciplines he changed the course of ballet forever.

Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes is an experienced guide at Tate Britain and Tate Modern and she lectures at various art societies and institutions. She has a special interest in British art of the late 18th, 19th and early 20th century.

After gaining an MA in film and television practice, Jennifer had a long-standing career spanning 15 years as a television producer/director making documentaries and factual programmes for the BBC including 'Tomorrow's World', ITV and Channel 4.

Don't miss these films at The Riverside!

The Riverside Cinema presents two films in their May season which may be of special interest to you.

Sunday 24th May 'Frida Kahlo' (2020)

Friday 29th May 'Turner and Constable' (2026)

Booking as usual through the Cinema.

Some dates have changed

November lecture: change of lecture topic and speaker

We have had to find a new speaker for the lecture on 16th November which is in your current Programme, though the topic is very similar. Now, Simon Cottle will consider '*From the Sublime to the Ridiculous 1450 - 1900*'. He will trace the role of Venice as producer of fine glass during this period, focusing particularly on the Renaissance. We will update you on Simon's background and expertise in our monthly News for October, meanwhile you can find out more on our website [HERE](#) (scroll down to November lecture or find in 'Events Diary' link below)

Change of date for our AGM

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are having to change the date of our AGM from Monday 19th October to Monday 16th November. It will take place in our usual venue of the Riverside cinema, commencing at 10.00am. The lecture by Simon Cottle (see above) will follow at 10.45.

New features on our website

Our website has been upgraded.
Please take a look.

[Events Diary](#)
[Arts Society lectures on video](#)