

THE ARTIST IN QUESTION POUSSIN

TUESDAY 28 APRIL OR THURSDAY 7 MAY

Almost everyone gets Poussin wrong. His painting is vibrant, passionate, full of brilliant pigment, and his compositions thrilling to the core. Poussin needs time, to allow his magic to emerge from a slow reading. Then his figures dance, his colours sing and the depth of thought behind his varied work becomes apparent. His life was far from uneventful. Born in Normandy, he ran away to Paris at the age of eighteen, joined the court poet of Marie de Medici in Rome, won early commissions from Cardinal Barberini, fell ill, was nursed by Anna Maria Dughet, daughter of the painter, and married her. Commissions from Cardinal de Richelieu for Bacchanalian orgies followed, as, by contrast, did two sets of the Seven Sacraments, for the brilliant Cassiano dal Pozzo and Paul Freart de Chantelou. His last works, the 'Four Seasons', are among the greatest landscapes in European painting.

MEET 10.30 am coffee for 11 am lecture at Pushkin Society

ENDS 3.30 pm Pushkin Society

COST £85 members, £95 non-members, including coffee, light lunch with wine

THREE EXHIBITIONS IN PARIS

POUSSIN, CLAUDE AND VELASQUEZ

TUESDAY 12 TO THURSDAY 14 MAY

Please note this study day is perfectly complemented by INSCAPE's tour to the major Spring exhibitions in Paris, led by Nicholas Friend. Full details to follow.