

CULTURE
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SEPTEMBER

2018

DECEMBER

INSCAPE TOURS & CULTURE IN QUESTION LECTURES

A LOCUS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY AND LEARNING

WHO WE ARE



SINCE 2006

Nicholas Friend MA (Oxon), MA (Cantab), FRSA, co-Founder/co-Director of Inscape Fine Art Study Tours (1987), and co-Founder/co-Director of the CULTURE IN QUESTION lecture series (2004) has been teaching for 38 years in a variety of settings. He teaches and lectures throughout the UK, the USA and abroad. He has taught for Cambridge University, Sotheby's, the Wallace Collection, the National Gallery in London, and for numerous UK arts and heritage organisations. Founder/Director of Cambridge University's History of Art Summer School for twenty-five years, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Companion of the Guild of St. George. Nicholas lives in London and Berkeley.

Louise Goldberg Friend BA George Washington University; MA Tufts University, MFA Interior Architecture and Design, California College of Art, co-Founder/co-Director and Designer/Editor of the CULTURE IN QUESTION lecture series, co-Director and Editor of Programmes and Design for Inscape Fine Art Study Tours. Her work has included: teaching/coaching/supporting 'creative mastery' of diverse but related subjects in preschool and primary settings, museums and galleries, and in her studio; followed by an interior space planning and design practice; consultation for the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC: commercial space planning & interior design for Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill (architects) San Francisco, and individualized cooking classes for children and adult beginners. She dedicates the eclectic approach in her work to the intentions, aspirations and contributions of the late Dr. Herbert A. Goldberg and the late Violet Rose-Price Goldberg, her parents. Louise lives, and works in Berkeley, California with their son, David. In 2020 she will curate a multimedia exhibition of her creative work to date.



**'EDEN TO EMPIRE'
THOMAS COLE**

National Gallery Exhibition

Monday 10th September

Born in Bolton, England in 1801, Cole brought his experience of the dark satanic mills of Lancashire and of the paintings of Turner and John Martin to the burgeoning country of the USA, where he became the father of the Hudson River School. His paintings celebrate the vast paradise of unstained American landscape he saw while warning the nascent capitalist society of the dangers of imperialist ambition. This exhibition represents a rare chance to study paintings seldom seen outside the United States, such as his masterpiece 'The Oxbow'. Setting Cole in the context of his British contemporaries, the exhibition can be interpreted as a timely political warning to the young nation of the dangers of over-extension. The exhibition has been awarded five stars by 'The Times'.

Exhibition study days begin with a lecture in the Art Workers Guild, unless otherwise indicated. Coffee is served at 10.30, the lecture begins at 11, and a light lunch with wine is served at 1 pm. We then travel to the relevant gallery for the exhibition, and end, after an optional discussion, about 4.15 pm.

£83 INSCAPE members, £93 non-members, including exhibition entry (£75 and £85 NATIONAL GALLERY Friends). Your family, friends and neighbours who have not previously attended an Inscape lecture are most welcome to attend as our guests.



'Making Herself Up'
FRIDA KAHLO
 V & A Exhibition

Wednesday 12th September

Frida Kahlo de Rivera (1907-1954), a self-educated woman, a self-taught Mexican artist, with an impeccable eye for the handicrafts of her native culture, accomplished much in her life in spite of daily suffering from polio combined with chronic pain caused by a near-fatal road accident. Though a quasi "unacceptable person" a 'mestizo' i.e., a person of combined European and Native American descent, she married well-known Mexican artist Diego Rivera, and created memorable self-portraits. This unusual exhibition provides a rare perspective on the artist's colourful life through display of her most intimate personal possessions: especially her clothes, each a work of art, as well as other personal artefacts, and her remarkable autobiographical paintings. Altogether her possessions project a vibrant self-image, they represent her triumph over unremitting physical suffering and other personal pressures. This collection has not been seen before outside Mexico.

A lecture at the Art Workers Guild begins the day. Coffee is served at 10.30, the lecture begins at 11, and a light lunch with wine is served at 1 pm. We then travel to the relevant gallery for the exhibition, and end, with an optional discussion, about 4.15 pm.

£90 INSCAPE members, £100 non-members, including exhibition entry (£75 and £85 V&A Friends). Your family, friends and neighbours who have not previously attended an Inscape lecture are most welcome to attend as our guests.



THE FAMILY IN QUESTION
THE LYTTELTONS

Thursday 13th September

The Littleton/Lyttelton family had its origins in South Lyttleton, near Evesham, Worcestershire. Several members of the Lyttelton family were made knights, baronets and peers. The best-known Lyttelton now is probably the late Humphrey, beloved trumpeter and onetime chair of 'I'm sorry I haven't a Clue'. Humphrey himself came from a line of other distinguished Lytteltons whose several achievements over the past four centuries included: a Lyttelton who was tried for high treason, another executed for partaking in the Gunpowder Plot, another who married into the Temples of Stowe, another who founded Lucy Cavendish College Cambridge, another became the first chairman of the National Theatre; one female Lyttelton became a well-known poet, diarist and politician; another Lyttelton played exceptional cricket while a politician; and yet another was co-author of the Lyttelton-Hart-Davis letters, the finest correspondence of the 20c.

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SLOANE SQUARE

'SPOKES IN A WHEEL'

For the next chapter in our London Walks series, 'Spokes in a Wheel,' we turn our attention to Sloane Square as the centre of an imaginary wheel. For its inhabitants, - the Rangers- it is the hub of the known universe. The dignified streets leading to Sloane Square are remarkable for their proud architecture, including Wren's Chelsea Hospital; Eaton Square, the abode of the good, the great, and the neither; Victoria Station and Grosvenor Hotel, often unjustly ignored; 'Pont Street Dutch'; Holy Trinity Church, a masterpiece of the Arts and Crafts movement; and the department store Peter Jones, a fine example of early English modernism.

£55 members, £60 non-members per morning (excluding the cost of lunch). Each study day ends 1 pm followed by an optional lunch. *Please note that this series is limited to 15 participants.*

WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

SLOANE STREET

Please meet 11 am Knightsbridge station.

WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER

BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD

Please meet 11 am outside Queens Gallery, Buckingham Palace

WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER

KINGS ROAD

Please meet 11 am outside Chelsea Old Town Hall.



1666
THE YEAR IN QUESTION

Tuesday 2 October

The Great Fire of London destroyed some 1400 buildings; in his diary, Samuel Pepys describes the conflagration of the ruined city all around him. From the London perspective, this year answered to the doomsayers who predicted that the references to 666 in the Book of Revelation would signal 'the year of the beast'. Yet this was a year of cultural triumph: Milton completed *Paradise Lost*, Vermeer his largest and most complex work, *The Art of Painting*, and Bernini the magnificent colonnade of St Peter's. Margaret Cavendish writes the first work of science fiction *The Blazing-World*; Stradivari makes his Ex Back violin; The Herrenhausen garden, most magnificent baroque garden in Europe, is inaugurated; Molière's comedy *The Misanthrope* premières at the Théâtre du Palais-Royal in Paris. Isaac Newton invents differential calculus and with Robert Hooke discovers gravity; the English and the Dutch battle at sea in the second Anglo-Dutch War, recorded in vivid watercolour by Willem van de Velde, as it took place before his eyes.

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EDWARD BURNE-JONES

Exhibition at Tate Britain

Wednesday 3 October

Son of a humble Birmingham picture-framer, Edward Burne-Jones formed friendships with crucial figures of his time from very different backgrounds: the wealthy William Morris and Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the eccentric from an Italian immigrant family. On holiday from Oxford University with William Morris, studying the cathedrals of Northern France, the 20 year-old Burne-Jones determined to become a painter. Initially trained by Rossetti in his medievalist dream world, he quickly escaped the influence of his mentor to produce some of the most original work in stained glass and on canvas of the entire 19c. All his work demands close inspection, for in the flesh, rather than in slide or reproduction, Burne-Jones reveals that he was far more than a painter of escapist dreams: he was a brilliant draughtsman and a profound colourist, whether in oil paint, stained glass or tapestry. His achievements will be fully revealed in this his first solo exhibition for 40 years. Tate Britain has gathered his masterpieces from all over the country.

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£92 INSCAPE members, £102 non-members, including exhibition entry (£75 and £85 TATE Friends). Your family, friends and neighbours who have not previously attended an Inscape lecture are most welcome to attend as our guests.



THE NOVEL IN QUESTION
MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN 200

Monday 15 October

The first science fiction novel ever written, *Frankenstein*, leads us on an unsettling journey from the sublime beauty of the Swiss alps to the wind swept wastelands of the Arctic Circle. The narrative arose from a friendly competition for the best horror story by Lord Byron, Percy Shelley and 18 year-old Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin as they travelled together in the wilds of Switzerland. Mary Shelley won; perhaps her competitors stood no chance against such fierce intellect, insight and passion. Mary, daughter of the feminist Mary Wollstonecraft and the philosopher Godwin, creates the story of a grotesque experiment in which Viktor Frankenstein creates a hideous but sentient monster only to have the monster turn on him. In the process, Shelley engages us in a modern, uncannily prescient discussion of the dangers of artificial intelligence, especially the potential within robots for their carefully calibrated emotional systems to turn against their creators.

NB: It is not essential to have read the book for this study day, but if you would like to, (and we do urge you to, as it is an engaging story), we would recommend the Penguin Classics edition.

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FACETIME: A SHORT STORY OF PORTRAITURE

**THE NATIONAL GALLERY
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY
WALLACE COLLECTION**

FOUR MONDAYS: 22 OCTOBER, 12 NOVEMBER, 19 NOVEMBER, 3 DECEMBER

Portraits serve other purposes than capturing a mere likeness of the sitters or their beloved companion dogs. A portrait can enhance the sitter's status through the choice of artist, the size of the portrait, even through the narrative revealed in the background detail, whether of column, curtain, or landscape. Portraits may contain details of the sitter's interests and wealth as portrayed in a carefully assembled still life on an adjacent table. Often dressed in their finest costumes, the portraits may even serve to inspire future generations to at least value the good fortunes of their ancestors. All these many layers of intent and more posed particular challenges for the portrait painter.

MONDAY 22 OCTOBER

NATIONAL GALLERY

Bellini to Delacroix

Meet 11 am Sainsbury Wing Entrance, National Gallery. Ends 3.30 pm

MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY 1

Holbein to Lawrence

Meet 11 am Main Entrance, National Portrait Gallery. Ends 3.30 pm

MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER

WALLACE COLLECTION

Hals to Reynolds

Meet 11 am Main Entrance, Wallace Collection. Ends 3.30 pm

MONDAY 3 DECEMBER

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY 2

Sargent to Freud

Meet 11 am Main Entrance, National Portrait Gallery. Ends 3.30 pm

Cost: £70 members, £75 non-members, per day, excluding the cost of lunch.



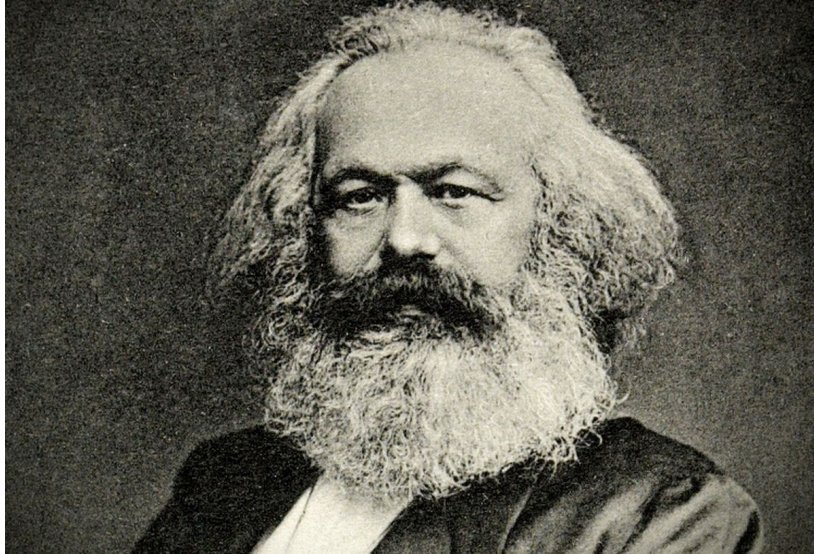
THE WIT IN QUESTION
OSCAR WILDE

Tuesday 4th December

Son of distinguished parents: a Irish Nationalist mother and Ireland's leading eye surgeon father, also an amateur archaeologist and folklorist, Oscar Wilde spoke French and German fluently and could write poetry in Latin and Greek. From this interesting upbringing Wilde went on to redefine the meaning of wit, not only making us laugh, but drawing attention to the human condition. But he lost everything after the giddy successes of '*The Importance of Being Earnest*' and '*Lady Windermere's Fan*', as he was condemned to prison for 'the love that dares not say its name'. Sentenced to two years hard labour, he tragically died in penury aged only 46. In a short life he left us enduring drama, short stories, novels and astute sayings; still relevant, and some say the best of their day.

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THE THINKER IN QUESTION:
KARL MARX 200

Monday 17th December

Born in 1818 into middle-class prosperity in Trier, Germany, the son of a lawyer who owned vineyards in the Moselle region, Karl Marx initially studied law and philosophy. The originality of his doctorate, demanding that theology must give way to philosophy, and his leftist political pamphlets, led him to Paris, where he met Friedrich Engels, the author of '*The Condition of the Working Class in England*'. The meeting, and his expulsion from Paris on political grounds, led him to political exile in England, where he and Engels worked on producing the Communist manifesto, eventually published in 1848. Was Marx the demon of 19c thought? The socialist dracula sucking the lifeblood of capitalist enterprise? Or a thinker whose ideas are ripe for re-appraisal? Was he misinterpreted by his followers, Lenin, Stalin, and Mao Tse Tung? We explore Karl Marx's life and the origins of his thought leading up to the Communist Manifesto, whose 170th anniversary is celebrated this year, the 200th after Marx's birth.

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THE PAINTER IN QUESTION
TINTORETTO 500

Tuesday 18th December

Born in 1518, 500 years ago, Tintoretto, 'the little dyer', was one of the greatest dramatists in the history of art. His speed of execution became legendary, and he was nicknamed 'Il Furioso', an Expressionist 400 years ahead of his time. His ambition was to combine the colouring of Titian with the compositions and muscular forms of Michelangelo. He was fortunate in being Venetian: here were the patrons, in the form of churches such as the unforgettable Madonna dell Orto, for which he produced three major works; the Doge's Palace, for which he produced the largest painting ever painted on canvas, the 'Paradiso', 74 feet long; the Scuola di San Marco, where he contributed the essence of the Venetian myth in his scenes of the Life of St Mark; and the Scuola di San Rocco, for which in a vast series of masterpieces he was given the latitude to explore to the full his sense of the dramatic excitement afforded by the Christian story. His handling of colour and light encouraged Ruskin to believe he was the king of renaissance painters, towering above Michelangelo, Leonardo, and Raphael. Was he right?

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LECTURES

SEPTEMBER 2018 DECEMBER

NATIONAL GALLERY: THOMAS COLE	MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER
V & A: FRIDA KAHLO	WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER
THE FAMILY IN QUESTION: THE LYTTETONS	THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER
LONDON WALKS: SLOANE STREET	WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER
THE YEAR IN QUESTION: 1666	TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER
TATE BRITAIN: EDWARD BURNE-JONES	WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER
THE NOVEL IN QUESTION: MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN 200	MONDAY 15 OCTOBER
LONDON WALKS: BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD	WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER
NATIONAL GALLERY: BELLINI TO DELACROIX	MONDAY 22 OCTOBER
LONDON WALKS: KINGS ROAD	WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY 1: HOLBEIN TO LAWRENCE	MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER
WALLACE COLLECTION: HALS TO REYNOLDS	MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY 2: SARGENT TO FREUD	MONDAY 3 DECEMBER
THE WIT IN QUESTION: OSCAR WILDE	TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER
THE THINKER IN QUESTION: KARL MARX 200	MONDAY 17 DECEMBER
THE PAINTER IN QUESTION: TINTORETTO 500	TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER

LECTURES

ART WORKERS' GUILD
QUEEN SQUARE
BLOOMSBURY
LONDON WC1N



PREMISES

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