

## ARTS NATIONAL LAUNCESTON SPECIAL EVENTS

Thur 20 March 25

Marc ALLUM

### The Chippenham Gladiator Bowl

Marc tells the amazing story of how, after moving into a medieval house in the market town of Chippenham, he was inspired to conduct an archaeological dig in his back garden based on historical evidence that King Alfred the Great's encampment was nearby. What he found was very different, as it transpired that his house is built on a Roman villa! This talk outlines the tales and finds from a fascinating personal endeavour that revealed 2000 years of history right under his feet.

### Bring an Object

One of Marc's most popular talks. It is based on the age-old Antiques Roadshow premise of people arriving with their personal objects and Marc spontaneously deciphering them to the audience. Always different and peppered with historical anecdotes, emotional tales and with high audience interaction, this is not an event to be missed.

Marc Allum is a freelance art and antiques journalist, writer and broadcaster based in Wiltshire. He is shortly to begin his 27th year as a specialist on the BBC Antiques Roadshow and has appeared on numerous television and radio programmes.

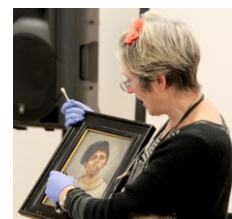
Marc regularly writes for mainstream magazines and is an author, antiques consultant and lecturer. He also runs a fine art valuation and consultancy service. Marc has his own unique style with interests ranging from pre-history to modern design and is a self-confessed 'collectaholic'.

He has a passion and reputation for divining the unusual through 'a desire to connect with history through the interpretation and pursuit of objects and their origins'. Marc has lectured widely for many years to several different organisations in both the public and charity sector, including travel companies, The National Trust, The WI and at many literary festivals including Cheltenham, Bath, Wells and Petworth. Marc is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

Wed 15 October 25

Sarah COVE

### The Paintings Conservation Roadshow



Sarah discusses the nature of oil painting materials, and common problems associated with the ageing and deterioration of, and damage to, easel paintings. These can be on canvas, panel, board or paper in a range of mediums: oil, acrylic, egg tempera, or mixed media. Problems can involve natural deterioration and neglect, sketches accidental damage, vandalism and even war! Modern

approaches to conservation and restoration will be illustrated with slides ranging from early Italian religious paintings via rapid oil on paper to 20th century British paintings and modern abstract works. Hints and advice on the care of paintings is given liberally throughout!

Sarah will then turn her attention to paintings that members bring along that they own for a hands-on 'Antiques Roadshow' style condition assessment and give recommendations for conservation. Advice on packing and transport is given beforehand.



## ARTSNATIONAL Launceston

Is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers:

- It promotes enjoyment and appreciation of art and culture through lectures and events;
- It supports Young Arts projects and Art Conservation scholars

ArtsNational Launceston is one of 38 societies helping to connect people with the arts and each other.

### THE LECTURES AND LECTURERS

- The lecturers are experts in their field from a variety of backgrounds and countries selected by our UK parent body The Arts Society (TAS), ArtsNational Executive Committee, and ArtsNational Launceston Committee.
- The lectures are selected by the ArtsNational Launceston Committee
- For more information about lectures and lecturers go to: <https://artsnational.au/societies/launceston>

### HOW TO JOIN

- Attend a lecture as a guest and take the opportunity to join or
- Visit <https://artsnational.au/societies/launceston>  
Click on Membership 2025 or
- Contact our secretary via email: [launceston@artsnational.au](mailto:launceston@artsnational.au)

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Single \$170 (earlybird 31 Jan 25 \$165)  
Couple \$320 (earlybird 31 Jan 25 \$300)  
Guests \$30/lecture (maximum 3 lectures)

All 2025 Evening Lectures are held at the  
UTAS Inveresk Campus, Launceston.

### TIME

5.45 for 6.00pm Start

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

About ArtsNational, its background, philosophy and the various societies and activities across the nation, visit the ArtsNational website: <https://www.artsnational.au>

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ArtsNational Launceston appreciates the support offered from The University of Tasmania, Rosanne Bender, Petrarch's Bookshop, The Launceston Club, Launceston CWA, Flying Colours Group, and The quietly reliable group of non-committee volunteers.

### DISCLAIMER

All event details are correct at the time of printing and maybe subject to change due to events beyond our control.



## ARTSNATIONAL Launceston

2025



*Nothofagus Gunii Gold* Rosanne Bender



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ArtsNational Launceston  
Digital 2025 Program

e: [launceston@artsnational.au](mailto:launceston@artsnational.au)  
[artsnational.au/societies/launceston](https://artsnational.au/societies/launceston)

CONNECT ENRICH INSPIRE

**Tue 18 March 25**

**Mark ALLUM**

**Auctioneers Tales – 25 Years in The Art Market**



With three decades under his belt & well recognised from The Antiques Road Show, Marc has gathered a wealth of experience and fascinating tales based on his work in the auction business. This insightful talk will both amaze and amuse as he recounts incredible stories of great discoveries and emotive situations.

**Thur 20 March 25**

**Mark ALLUM**

**Special Event  
Details Overleaf**

**Tue 8 April 25**

**Robert KETTON**

**"Life is very like a Railway"**

**A quotation from an apologue by Arthur Hugh Clough**



In a wide-ranging and eclectic lecture, Robert Ketton looks at the way in which Railways changed the world. From the introduction of standard time to the impact on the national diet and the redistribution of population, railways continue to have a huge influence on everyday life everywhere, except perhaps, in regional Australia. From fine art to architecture, from film and theatre to literature, Robert looks at the

social impact of the railway. Nations have gone to war by and because of railways. Railways have been the source of national unity and national disgrace. With the passion of an enthusiast, Robert will take you on an express journey through the past, present, and future of the railway.

**Tue 6 May 25**

**Simon WHITEHOUSE**

**A Haaandbag? The Importance  
of Being Oscar (& Earnest)**



This lecture explores Oscar's literary successes, beginning with The Picture of Dorian Gray, 1890, followed by 4 hit plays in 3 years. We focus on The Importance of Being Earnest, one of the funniest, most performed and most quoted plays in English. Described as 'A Trivial Comedy for Serious People', it was of its time and yet ahead of its time, satirising the shallowness of upper-class

Victorian society. Simon explores the hidden elements which the audience then (and now) were not aware of and we discover that for the author, this triumph heralded the beginning of his own fatal final act.

2025 also marks the 130th anniversary of the premiere of The Importance of Being Earnest.

**Tue 8 July 25**

**Maria CHESTER**

**Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera  
A volatile Relationship**



This duo of eccentric artists, political activists and vibrant human beings will captivate the audience. Frida and Diego were both exceptional in so many ways! This will be a talk about love, passion and art created by both of them in the first half of the 20th century. As an art historian, Maria's focus will be on their artworks, but their creations are always linked to the political situation, health and their own relationship.

**Tue 12 August 25**

**Dr Sophie OOSTERWIJK**

**The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam: Rembrandt's Night Watch  
and much more**



This lecture offers an introduction to the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam: the collection, the building, its history and the 10-year renovation (2003-13) that brought back the splendour of architect Pierre Cuypers's original neo-gothic decorations. The Rijksmuseum collection includes works by Hals, Rembrandt,

Vermeer and Van Gogh as well as medieval art, jewellery, musical instruments, Asian art and even an FK 23 Bantam plane from 1918. It also has Rembrandt's famous Night Watch – but only on loan! All this and much more will be revealed about the most famous museum in the Netherlands.

**Tue 9 September 25**

**Anna MOSZYNYSKA**

**Contemporary Female Artists from The Middle East and North  
Africa (MENA) 1990-2010**



This talk considers the fascinating range of women artists who have emerged from the Middle East, those still working in the region and those who now live elsewhere. Reacting against the exoticised depiction of women as seen in the West through 19th-century Orientalism, female artists from

the region have, since the end of the last century, re-examined visual notions of the gaze; engaged with contemporary society, religion and politics, and offered fresh insights into contemporary issues. Artists under discussion include Mona Hatoum, Shirin Neshat, Huda Lutfi, Zenib Sedira, Monir Farmanfarmaian and Shirazeh Houshiary.

**Tue 14 October 25**

**Sarah COVE**

**My Scrambling Affair: How Constable's Late Paintings  
Changed the Face of Modern Art**



Would you recognise John Constable R.A.'s 'late' oil studies? Constable's exuberant, almost abstract, brush and palette knife work shocked audiences for a full 50 years before Impressionism. In fact, the handling is so avant-

garde that it is impossible to tell what these paint strokes depict! Constable only sold 20 or so paintings in England during his lifetime, as their rough and 'specky' surfaces horrified audiences. By contrast, he sold many to forward-looking French art dealers and collectors. Consequently, his radical 'late' works influenced generations of French painters, making Constable a Forefather of Modern Painting. Sarah Cove's work reveals a 'Jackson Pollock of the 1830s'.

**Wed 15 October 25**

**Sarah COVE**

**Special Event  
Details Overleaf**

**Tue 11 November 25**

**Claudia CHAN SHAW**

**Beyond The Little Black Dress – Chanel**



Fashion is what's in vogue, the latest trend, the up to the minute. Fashion is ever changing. Yet, 100 years on, the designs and ideas created by Coco Chanel are just as relevant today. We have Chanel to thank for popularising the Little Black Dress, championing pants for women, and creating the first designer branded fragrance. Join Claudia Chan Shaw to discover Chanel's influence and the legacy of the Little Black Dress, showing that, as Chanel once said, "Fashion fades, only style remains".

**Followed by our 'Little Black Dress'  
Christmas Soiree**