

Thursday 10 September

The Dutch Golden Age in Six Paintings Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff



The 17th century in the Netherlands, the time of Rembrandt and Vermeer, of extra ordinary riches and incredible progress, known as the "Dutch Golden Age". Mariska will draw on six beautiful paintings, revealing their meaning, to show how the arts flourished in this tiny republic, discuss the Dutch, their cities, landscape, society, beliefs and artistic genres.

Mariska's original academic direction was psychology, before she turned to

her true love – the Arts. Whilst having her three children, she completed her BA and MA in Art History, majoring in The Dutch Baroque Arts from the 17th century at the Courtauld Institute of Arts. Through her own company, Art Historical London, she offers in-person and on-line arts history lectures, museum visits, courses, tours, travel and events from Amsterdam, London and New York.

Thursday 15 October

The Music of Trooping the Colour Dr Graham Jones



A fascinating personal account of the preparation of the music for that quintessentially British ceremony, The Queen's

Birthday Parade. Graham will take us behind the scenes, giving us a unique insight into music selection, rehearsals and the big event itself, held every June on London's Horse Guards Parade. He'll also ponder the relevance of music for such an event; is it truly relevant to today's modern world?

Graham is a former principal conductor of Her Majesty the Queen's Household Division and a Lieutenant Colonel. During his career he recorded over 40 albums. Graham was awarded an MBE for outstanding service to military music in 1993. Having retired from military service, Graham is enjoying a second career as a guest conductor, adjudicator, guest speaker, lecturer, clinician, recording consultant and educator.

Thursday 12 November

AGM and Inside Titanic: Unveiling Titanic's Intimate Secrets—Pieter de Vries ACS



This leading cinematographer tells how he descended almost 4000 metres below the waves to film the wreckage of the Titanic, for James Cameron's 3-D IMAX documentary Ghosts of the Abyss. Pieter will tell of his exhilaration and initial apprehension at journeying so far beneath the ocean's surface in a submersible craft. We'll see

segments of his work and hear behind-the-scenes stories about how cutting-edge remote camera technology unveiled Titanic's intimate secrets.

Pieter is a renowned documentary cinematographer whose incredible journey has taken him from the heights of the space shuttle to the depths of the North Atlantic Ocean. He has captured extraordinary moments in 185 countries around the world, over a career spanning more than four decades. The films Pieter has worked on have won many accolades, including Emmy and BAFTA awards.

About us

ArtsNational Melbourne is part of an Australia-wide association dedicated to connecting people and enriching lives through the appreciation of the arts.

Who are our lecturers? Our lecturers are international or local presenters, recognised experts and passionate in their field of interest.

Where and when do we meet? Ian Woolf Auditorium, Carey Baptist Grammar School, Gate 1, 349 Barkers Road, Kew 3101

Lectures are on **Thursday** evenings from 7.30pm to 8.30pm and finish with a light supper. Guests of members are most welcome. Attendance must be booked on the TryBooking website.

Guests: \$30 Members of other ArtsNational Societies: \$25
Students: \$15

Annual membership:

Single membership \$195
Double membership \$365
Youth (25 and under) \$110

How to join:

Scan the QR code or contact
artsnationalmelbourne@gmail.com



Or Veronica Rickard mobile: 0408 113 669



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Thursday 5 March

Tapestry: The Ultimate Wall Decoration Dr Susan Kay-Williams



The history of this glorious textile art form, revered in the Middle Ages and beyond, gracing the walls of royal and papal courts, churches, and the homes of the gentry across Europe. Susan will give us new insight into how tapestry became a grand visual medium from medieval times, from the master tapestry-makers of Flanders, to the Gobelins factory of Paris, exploring the evolution of tapestry, and the production of the world's most famous tapestry sets.

A former Chief Executive of the Royal School of Needlework, Susan is now a Fellow and Board member of the Society of Dyers and Colourists. With a lifelong interest in textiles and colour, she has produced two books: *The Story of Colour in Textiles*, and *An Unbroken Thread: Celebrating 150 years of the Royal School of Needlework*. Susan has lectured in North America, Asia and for the Victoria and Albert Museum, and across the UK.

Thursday 14 May

Bhutan: The Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon Zara Fleming



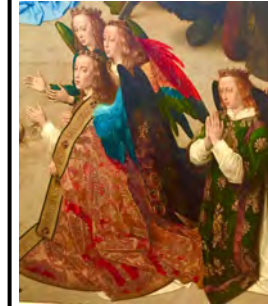
A window on the history, art and culture of the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, known by its inhabitants as Druk Yul or "Land of the Thunder Dragon", a reference to the Drukpa tradition of Vajrayana Buddhism that permeates every aspect of Bhutanese life. For centuries Bhutan has preserved its

traditional Buddhist values, but now the question is whether this tiny nation can maintain the fine balance between tradition and modernity without diminishing its unique culture.

Zara is a freelance lecturer, art consultant and exhibition curator, specialising in the art and culture of Tibet, the Himalayan areas and Mongolia. She has published many articles on Buddhist art and culture and has worked for the Victoria and Albert Museum, Bonn University, the Orient Foundation, the Royal Academy, Tibet House and Asia House. She lectures for museums, universities, Asian art societies, and private associations, and has been a guide on many tours to the Himalayas.

Thursday 9 July

Florence and the Birth of the Italian Renaissance Charlie Hall



What did the city of Florence possess in the 15th century that was key to the emergence of the ideas and culture of the (Italian) Renaissance? And why did it flourish so spectacularly? The story is so familiar. But was this something that was so effectively reported and propagandised by people such as Giorgio Vasari that we accept Florence was indeed where the Italian Renaissance emerged?

Charlie is a passionate arts educator, lecturer, and guide, based in London and Italy. He is Director of the highly regarded John Hall Venice Course for gap year students and leads tours in Italy. In addition, he is the designer and host of a series of art talks and events for the Soho House group of private member's clubs and has led courses for Christie's Education and The Serpentine Gallery 'Collector's Circle'.

Thursday 16 April

The Many Faces of Margaret Olley: Artist, Sitter and Patron—Anne Harbers



We'll explore the art and legacy of one of Australia's most significant still-life and interior painters, Margaret Olley (1923–2011). Known for her vibrant, colourful works, she held over ninety solo exhibitions in her lifetime, and was a significant philanthropist to art galleries across Australia. Her Paddington studio-home has been re-created at the Margaret Olley Art Centre at the Tweed Regional Gallery in Murwillumbah.

Ann is an independent art historian and lecturer focusing on European and Australian artists. She received her Master's in Art History from the University of Sydney in 2014 and now spends part of each year in The Netherlands working on her doctorate. Her current research delves into 17th century Dutch art, and European Art and Decorative Arts. She has published works on collecting, art and science, and lectured widely in Australia, Europe and the USA.

Thursday 18 June

Café Society Dr Peter McNeil



The world of glamour and bright young things, across the inter-war years into the 1950s, and the central role of fashion in making oneself available to be noticed. Peter will introduce us to the style icons and the great patrons of luxury: Diana Vreeland, Elsie de Wolfe, Millicent Rogers, Pauline de Rothschild, Mona Bismark, the Duchess of Windsor, Daisy Fellowes, and Grace Kelly, and explain the role of couture in shaping their public profiles.

Dr Peter McNeil FAHA, is a Distinguished Professor of Design History, and a leading international scholar in the fields of design history, fashion studies and material culture. He was Foundation Professor of Fashion Studies in Sweden, and Academy of Finland Distinguished Professor, Helsinki. He has published widely, including *Pretty Gentlemen* on the 18th century's Macaroni Men, and has worked with communities and museums around the world.

Thursday 13 August

Fashion, Feathers and Feminism: Women's Fight for change—Tessa Boase



When social historian Tessa told the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds she wanted to write their early story, they refused to grant her access to their archives. This was an irresistible challenge. We'll learn the intriguing story of women's love affair with plumage, and of the feminists who fought on the birds' behalf. From a Victorian tea party to a suffragette rally, to a milliner's dusty workshop, we'll revisit a world in which every woman wore a hat.

Tessa is a freelance journalist, author, lecturer and campaigner, uncovering the stories of invisible women from the 19th and early 20th centuries – revealing how they drove industry, propped up society and influenced politics. She is author of three books of social history, including *The Housekeeper's Tale: The Women Who Really Ran the English Country House*, and *London's Lost Department Stores: A Vanished World of Dazzle and Dreams*.