

Tales from a Camphorwood Chest November 19



From the Gold Rush to Shanghai in the 30s, to high fashion New York, join Claudia for the personal story of the strong women of her Aust/Chinese family and their famous design legacy.

Claudia Chan Shaw (Australia)

SPECIAL INTEREST MORNINGS Cinematographer Piet de Vries



- i. Vivaldi's 'Spring'
In Tokyo
- ii. Space Shuttle:
A Butterfly on a
Rocket

Friday 17 April

Social Historian Tessa Boase



The Fabulous
World of
London's Lost
Department
Stores

Wednesday 19 August



Subscriptions:
www.trybooking.com/DGDBF

ArtsNational Molonglo Plains

Arts National is all about the arts. Members subscribe to a series of enjoyable lectures across a broad spectrum of fine, decorative, contemporary and creative art forms. Australia wide, there are 36 local organisations.

Our Molonglo Plains Society was established in 2014 for those local members who prefer daytime lectures. We also provide opportunities for social events, such as theatre parties. ArtsNational Molonglo Plains proudly supports young artists through our Young Arts Grants program.

Our Lecturers

Our lecturers are experienced arts professionals who present informal, illustrated lectures that both explain and entertain. Lecturers travel from the UK and from around Australia.

Venue: location, times and fees

In 2026, 10 lectures will be held at C3 Auditorium, 116 Monaro Street Queanbeyan –entry via Rutledge St carpark. From February to November monthly lectures are held on Thursdays at 2.00pm. Membership: \$200 single; \$380 double. Visitors are welcome to attend at a cost of \$30 per lecture that includes afternoon tea.

For full details of 2026 program visit our home page at:
www.artsnational.au/societies/molonglo-plains



ARTSNATIONAL
Molonglo Plains



Nightingales and Roses – the Art of Iran

2026 PROGRAM

membership@artsnationalmp.au

ABN 238038951580

Florence on Foot: Walking the Renaissance City in Time of Plague February 19



With pestilence approaching in August 1630, Florence's health officials commissioned a society of aristocratic lay brothers to search the city's streets and alleys for signs of disease. This lecture is a journey like no other!

Nick Eckstein (Australia)

Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon May 21



This lecture explores the history, art and culture of the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, which for centuries has preserved its traditional Buddhist values. Will Bhutan be able to balance tradition and modernity successfully?

Zara Fleming (UK)

Showmen and Shopgirls: behind those famous London Department Stores August 20



Mr Gamage, Mr Selfridge & co created palaces for the coming generation. We look at the colourful human stories behind those famous facades, from the powerful men at the top to the humble shop assistants sleeping like sardines in the attics.

Tessa Boase (UK)

Igniting the Rainbow: Dramatic developments in colour in textiles in 19th C March 12



This lecture (aka '*Poison, Poo and Mad Scientists*') traces the move from natural colours at the end of the 18th C to the hundreds of new colours and shades by the end of the 19th C, used in everything from fashion to painting and household items.

Susan Kay-Williams (UK)

Nightingales and Roses: The Art of Iran June 18



The art of Iran is complex, vast and diverse. We'll look at the Safavid and Qajar dynasties and explore how they have informed contemporary art in Iran and the Persian diaspora, and contributed to global art histories of textiles, painting, photography and literature.

Sam Bowker (Australia)

Jan Van Eyck: God is in the Detail September 17



Van Eyck painted minutely decorated scenes, often not visible to the naked eye. Using technology, we'll zoom in to enjoy his depiction of flora, fauna, contemporary life in Flanders and even the lunar surface! We'll also learn of his groundbreaking innovations in art.

Marisa Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff (UK)

On Tour with the Queen: Fiji, Tonga, New Zealand April 16



One of our favourite lecturers, Piet was the cinematographer for a BBC documentary re-living the Queen's famous 1953/54 Coronation Tour. Gorgeous archival films are blended with contemporary footage to create a nostalgic time capsule of that tour.

Pieter de Vries (Australia)

Peggy Guggenheim: A Lifetime of Collecting July 16



Through the 1930s and the Second World War, Peggy Guggenheim established galleries and purchased modern art and today, in her palazzo in Venice, her collection remains one of the most iconic assemblages of 20th C art in the world.

Charlie Hall (UK)

Music Power October 22



From the earliest days music has been used in battle to help give soldiers courage, to communicate orders and to improve morale. This lecture looks at how music worked in warfare and how it is still relevant in today's military.

Graham Jones (UK)