



ARTSNATIONAL
Cairns

Welcome to ArtsNational Cairns

A place where curiosity meets creativity, and art lovers connect.

ArtsNational Cairns is part of a vibrant, not-for-profit network of over 5,500 members and 36 societies across Australia – all passionate about sharing and exploring the world of the arts. Our Cairns branch is a small, lively and welcoming community of locals who enjoy thought-provoking lectures, rich storytelling, and the chance to come together over a shared love of culture.

We host eight beautifully illustrated talks each year – all delivered by expert speakers in their fields. In addition to our lecture series, we also enjoy relaxed social outings throughout the year – visiting local exhibitions, trivia, and exploring Cairns' creative side together.

Whether you're a long-time art enthusiast or just keen to learn something new, you'll find a friendly space here to connect, be inspired, and enjoy the arts in good company.

Membership

Half-yearly membership is \$70 per person which includes:

- + entry to all 4 presentations
- + a free guest entry for a friend

Scan

for more info



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Contact Us

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www.artsnational.au/societies/cairns
www.facebook.com/ArtsNationalCairns

OCTOBER: Musical culture of the Caribbean with Graham Jones



July – October 2026 Calendar
Illustrated talks
+ socialising & refreshments

Venue: Stratford Library Meeting Room
11 Kamerunga Rd, Stratford
Doors open: 1:30pm for a 2pm start.
Tickets: \$25per person, members free.

Sunday 5th JUL

CHARLIE HALL (UK)

Peggy Guggenheim:
A Life Of Collecting

Declaring "I am a museum," Peggy Guggenheim lived exactly that way. From opening a London gallery to a single-minded buying spree in late-1930s Paris as German tanks advanced, she escaped with her collection to New York, later establishing her museum and finally settling into the unfinished palazzo in Venice. Her collection remains one of the most iconic assemblages of twentieth-century art.

This lecture is presented by arts educator and guide Charlie Hall, Director of the John Hall Venice Course and a tour lecturer for Kirker Holidays.



Sunday 9th, AUG

TESSA BOASE (UK)

Fashion, Feathers,
and Feminism:
Women's Fight For Change

When social historian Tessa Boase asked the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for access to its early archives, she was refused, a challenge she could not resist. This lively lecture explores women's love affair with fashion and feathers, and the early eco-feminists who fought back. From Victorian tea parties to Florida swamps and suffragette rallies, it reveals a world where every woman wore a hat. Shocking, entertaining, and moving, it remains her most popular lecture.



Sunday 6th, SEPT

**MARISKA
BEEKENKAMP
-WLADIMIROFF (UK)**



The Dutch Golden Age In Six Paintings

The seventeenth century in the Netherlands, the age of Rembrandt and Vermeer, was a period of extraordinary wealth and artistic achievement known as the Dutch Golden Age. Drawing on six key paintings, Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff reveals how art flourished in this small republic, exploring Dutch cities, landscapes, beliefs, society, and artistic genres.

Mariska trained in Art History at the Courtauld Institute and now runs Art Historical London, delivering lectures, courses, tours, and events across Europe and New York.

Sunday 11th, OCT

**GRAHAM
JONES (UK)**



The Music Of The Caribbean

Caribbean music is deeply shaped by colonial history, blending African, European, Indian, and Indigenous influences. Each island developed its own distinctive rhythms and styles, from calypso in Saint Kitts to jwé in Saint Lucia. This lighthearted, audio-rich lecture explores those origins through sound and story.

Presented by Dr Graham Jones, former Senior Director of Music, Household Division and Director of Music of the Coldstream Guards, with a distinguished career in performance, recording, education, and lecturing.

Want to contribute to Cairns ArtsNational events?

Join the committee!

Email cairns@artsnational.au today.