



THE ARTS
SOCIETY
TRURO

Tidal Pathways (detail) © Amy Albright

April 2022

NEWSLETTER

truro.theartsociety.org

Wednesday 13 April at 7pm

Paradise Lost and Restored by Tim Walker

Held in

*Mylor Theatre, Truro College,
and also online as Microsoft Teams*

The history of English garden design can be told in different ways, but rarely can it be told "through the lens" of one garden.

The Oxford Botanic Garden was founded at the beginning of the 17th century and its design bears all the hallmarks of 17th century design. Through the next 400 years successive *Horti Praefecti* (head gardeners) changed the features reflecting the art of gardening, and very occasionally the science of botany. This talk looks at how the art of gardening has changed, or perhaps has not, in four centuries in Oxfordshire and how the Oxford Botanic Garden now reflects garden design at the beginning of the 21st

century. The title of the talk refers to the fact that one of the motivations for garden design remains the desire to create paradise on Earth. The meaning of paradise may now be less rooted in the Biblical account of the rise and fall of man, but there is still a clear vision of what we would like the world to resemble.

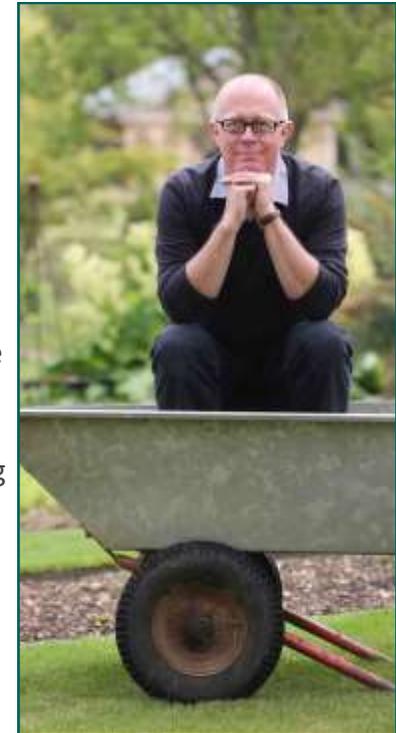


About the Lecturer

From January 1986 to July 2014 I worked at the University of Oxford Botanic Garden & Harcourt Arboretum, firstly as General Foreman, then as *Horti Praefectus* (from 1988) and finally as Director (from 2002).

Between 1992 & 2000 the OBGHA won 4 gold, 2 silver-gilt, and one silver medal at the Chelsea Flower Show London. In 2009 the OBGHA was one of seven Oxford collections to be awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize.

Since 1986 I have been giving lectures to gardening clubs, horticultural societies, WIs, and many other types of group. I have given more than 1,500 talks in Britain, Ireland, North America, and Australia to more than 100,000 people in audiences ranging from 20 to 350. Since 1992 I have been a research lecturer in the Department of Plant Sciences Oxford and I lecture to all three years of the Biological Sciences course. Some of these lectures are the basis of my public lectures.



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lectures.
Tim Walker

[If you wish to join the lecture online as a Guest, for a fee of £8, please click here and fill in the form](#) Please allow at least two days before the lecture date. The link will be emailed to you on the day of the lecture.

Arts Society Truro members will be sent the link automatically.

truro.theartsociety.org

New Members Welcome!

If you wish to join our Society please just **CLICK** on the link below and complete your Membership Application Form, then **submit** it to us.

Our annual subscription is £50 per person.

[Link to Membership Form](#)

You will find payment details on the form, however here are the BACS details.

Lloyds Bank: Sort code 30-98-76 A/C No 02189984

Please use your last name as your BACS payment reference

If you are unable to pay by BACS, you can send a cheque payable to The Arts Society Truro.

Please post this to:

The Treasurer, 6 Tehidy Gardens, South Tehidy, Camborne, TR14 0ET.

If you have any further questions about Membership then please contact:

Lois Humphrey, Membership Secretary

membership.astruro@gmail.com

If you would like to attend an on-line lecture as a guest, then **CLICK** on the link below to book.

Please apply at least 2 days before the lecture date.

[Link to Guest Application Form](#)



A few photos of AS Truro's visit to Wheal Martyn on 28th March.

Thank you to Joy for the photos.



Our visit to Wheal Martyn: a fascinating tour of the old china clay workings, given by retired clayman Steve - great day!



A New Project at the Cathedral

Calling all amateur or professional artists and history buffs!

At the Cathedral there is a corridor leading to the Restaurant which we have volunteered to update with some artwork reflecting the history of the Cathedral and how and when the building took place.

To do this, we have had permission to access the Cathedral archives in order to research its history, looking at documents, plans, letters and photographs in order to produce the eventual artwork. I am hoping that, among the members of our Society, there are a number of people interested in historical research and people who have artistic skills and could work to put together a display of these artefacts.

If we can put together a small team of interested people, we can meet at the Cathedral to discuss ideas and logistics.

This is a really exciting project; please think about joining us.

Contact Valerie at vltl@btinternet.com or phone 01872 862255.

We look forward to hearing from you!



VISIT TO SEE THE BLUEBELLS AT ENYS GARDENS TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

VISIT TO SEE THE BLUEBELLS AT ENYS GARDENS TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

Join a group from The Arts Society Truro and
visit the famous bluebells at

Enys Gardens, St Gluvias, Penryn TR10 9LB.

- 10.00** - Arrival - Garden tour with the Head Gardener Danielle.
- 11.30** - Coffee in Enys House, followed by a talk and tour of the ground floor, by Wendy Fowler, owner and descendant of the Enys family.
- 12.30** - Lunch - bring a picnic to eat in the beautiful gardens.

**Price: £16 to include entry, garden tour, coffee,
house tour and talk.**

[Please click here for an application form](#)



Wednesday 11 May at 7pm
The Age of Jazz by Sandy Burnett
Held in
Mylor Theatre, Truro College,
and also online as Microsoft Teams

Jazz is one of music's most important genres:

A fascinating blend of rigorous structure, free-wheeling creativity, close-knit ensembles and imaginative improvisation.

Drawing on his experience both as musicologist and gigging musician, Sandy can shed light on jazz from the inside. His talk covers the early years of jazz up to the Second World War, and touches on the disparate influences which lay behind the emergence of jazz. Musical illustrations range from the blues, ragtime and the very first jazz recordings through to classics by Louis Armstrong's Hot Five and the Duke Ellington Orchestra, and the dawn of the Swing Era.



Wednesday 8 June at 7pm
Stanley Spencer by Paul Chapman
Held in
Mylor Theatre, Truro College,
and also online as Microsoft Teams

The subject of this lecture is Stanley Spencer, an English 20th century painter who is considered a visionary and an eccentric. He was an independent artist who never joined any of the artistic movements of the time.

His work often expresses his fervent if unconventional Christian faith and his romantic and sexual obsessions.

Spencer saw military service in WW1 and was a commissioned War Artist in both WW1 and WW11. However he was rejected on occasions by the Royal Academy.

Spencer, while living his entire life in a Berkshire village, had two unconventional marriages and an attempted prosecution for obscenity all which makes his life as intriguing as his paintings.



Sandham Memorial Chapel containing many of Stanley Spencer's visionary paintings. (National Trust)

Live Lecture — Health and Safety

We were pleased that a good number of you felt confident enough to attend the first few live lectures and were satisfied with all the carefully considered Health and Safety requirements that needed to be in place. We wanted members to feel that everything had been done 'for the greater good' of everyone present at that meeting and we want the same for all meetings moving forward .

The March to June lectures should now be in the Mylor building.

The college themselves have stringent cleaning protocols in place to keep their students safe and they have their own Health and Safety Policy. We are required too to have our own Health and Safety Policy when we are using the college premises to take account of our members needs.

With this in mind we have come up with the following:

- * Windows and doors will be kept open in the Refectory to ensure adequate ventilation.
- * In the theatre the air conditioning will be on. We have found out that 'This space is ventilated with air handling units, so air is drawn in from outside then conditioned (either heated or cooled), then blown into the space, then extracted to the outside via a different grill. The air exchange is about 8 to 10 per hour'.

* On entry and during registration we would like face coverings to be worn. We would also like them to be worn throughout the lecture in the lecture theatre.

This is in recognition of Govt recommendations to suggest using masks in enclosed or crowded spaces, particularly with people you don't meet frequently.

* We think that most people will be happy sitting next to others during the lecture as long as face coverings are worn, but for those who might still feel vulnerable we will ensure that the front two or three rows have seating with a space left between each seat.

* Our tea and coffee will be served in disposable, re-cyclable cups.

* We would expect everyone attending the lecture to have had two Covid19 vaccination jabs and a booster.

If you would like a spaced seat at the front of the theatre, please get in touch with Membership Secretary, Lois Humphrey
membership.astruro@gmail.com



RENAISSANCE

FRIDAY 8 APRIL 7:30 - 9:00 PM

Classical music meets meditational minimalism and ambient chill!

John Law - "one of Europe's most adventurous pianists" - presents his stunning new music and visuals project: Renaissance.

Mixing samples of renaissance vocal music, taken from the Golden Age of European polyphony, with elements from minimalism, jazz and ambient chill and with mesmerisingly beautiful visuals as a backdrop, the resulting experience is one of beauty, meditation and mindfulness.

Performers:

John Law: Keyboards/Samples, **Jon Lloyd:** Saxophones
Patrick Dunn: Live Visuals (VJ) artist with *Tangerine Dream*
Doors Open at 19:00 - the event will be held in St Mary's Aisle
Tickets: £20 no concessions

Click here to book

<https://www.minack.com/whats-on/renaissance>



The Arts Society
South West Area
Spring/Summer Special
Interest Day

**Douglas Skeggs will be presenting 3 lectures on
The Great Magicians of Spanish Art - Velazquez, Goya and Picasso**

on Monday 20th June at Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre.

We start at 10.00 for a 10.30 lecture and will close around 3.15 - 3.30.

The cost of the day including the 3 lectures, coffee on arrival and a 2 course buffet lunch is £43.



[Click here for further information](#)

[Click here for booking form](#)



River Street, Truro, Cornwall

Opening Times: Tuesday–Saturday: 10am–4pm

Sunday–Monday: closed

Cornwall Space: From Steam to Satellites

Our new exhibition, in partnership with Spaceport Cornwall, all about Cornwall's past, present and future roles in space travel.

Until Mid 2022



STRIKING THE RIGHT NOTE

She was set to be an Olympic sprinter, but a chance accident set Chi-chi Nwanoku on the path to become one of the world's finest double bass players. She's also a pioneer for change. *Sue Herdman* meets her to discover what that means for classical music.

May 2020: an orchestra takes the stage on television's *Britain's Got Talent* and blows the audience away. The performance – a medley segueing from Strauss's *Also Sprach Zarathustra* to Beyoncé's *Crazy in Love* – is electrifying. But what also has the audience on its feet is the age of the players – just 11 to 22. To add to this they are majority Black and minority ethnic, part of the



Portrait: John Millar

Chineke! Junior Orchestra. 'And did you notice something else?' asks the orchestra's founder, Chi-chi Nwanoku. 'There was no conductor. They were on their own. And there were no music stands. We took those elements away. It was a lesson in working together and trusting in each other.'

As a majority Black and ethnically diverse orchestra, those young people were also sending a powerful visual message to children of colour. As Nwanoku has said: 'If even one Black or ethnically diverse child feels that their colour is getting in the way of their musical ambitions, then I hope to inspire them, give them a platform, and show them that music, of whatever kind, is for all people.'

Nwanoku founded the Chineke! Foundation and its flagship ensemble – the 'senior' orchestra – in 2015. It was Europe's first professional majority Black and ethnically diverse orchestra, created to support musicians of such heritage. She feels her whole career has been in preparation for Chineke! For over 30 years she has been at the forefront of the classical music world, playing with renowned ensembles – among them the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, which she co-founded – and teaching students at the Royal Academy of Music, where she is a professor. In 2017 she was awarded the OBE for services to music and the ABO (Association of British Orchestras) Award for 'the most significant contribution to orchestral life in the UK'.

For the full story of Chi-chi Nwanoku please click the link below

<https://theartsociety.org/arts-news-features/striking-right-note>

Francis Bacon (1909–92) was captivated by animals. Over his career he painted chimpanzees, elephants, owls, dogs, bulls and hybrid creatures inspired by stories from Ancient Greece and Egypt. He believed that the uninhibited behaviour of animals revealed primal drives and fears shared by humans. In his paintings he sought to pierce the veneer of civilisation to reveal raw and fundamental truths.

His 1969 oil on canvas, *Study for Bullfight, No.1*, is a tour de force, exploring the human instincts for power, danger, excitement and survival. Bacon's three bullfight paintings are exhibited together for the first time at the Royal Academy of Arts in a new show.

1. TRIO OF ART

Three versions of this painting exist today, perhaps reflecting the three tercios, or stages, of the bullfight. If Bacon initially planned them as a triptych (a favoured format for his later works), he left it incomplete. The panels were dispersed during his lifetime and he destroyed a fourth version, possibly a new attempt at a central panel – an act he often undertook for works he was dissatisfied with.

2. MAN, BEAST AND MOVEMENT

The bullfight pits man against beast, yet the swirling mass of intersecting curves challenges the distinction between human and animal. When making this work, Bacon drew upon memories and adapted photographs that captured the dance-like motion of the bullfight in blurs, seen in the painting as gestural sweeps of rich brown, ochre, purple and black.

3. PROVOCATIVE NATURE

'Bullfighting,' Bacon once said, 'is like boxing – a marvellous aperitif to sex.' His provocative humour admits close links between violence, voyeurism and eroticism. He relished a febrile atmosphere and found it illogical that people who condemned the cruelty of bullfighting might still wear furs and feathers, or eat meat. The form in the foreground might be a bloodstain, a shadow or even a cut of meat.



For further information on this story, please click the link

<https://theartsociety.org/arts-news-features/ring-francis-bacon>

Picture Credit: Francis Bacon, *Study for Bullfight No. 1*, 1969. © The Estate of Francis Bacon. All rights reserved, DACS/Artimage 2021. Photo: Prudence Cuming Associates Ltd

Lecturer Anna Moszynska, whose lectures 'Anthony Gormley' and Discovery Day 'Understanding Contemporary Art', has sent suggestions for further reading and a list of exhibitions you may like to visit (although they're spread around the country)!

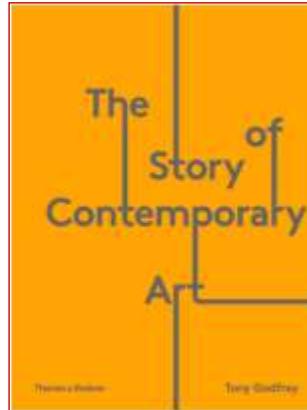


AST Programme Secretary Karen Kitson with Anna at last month's lecture.



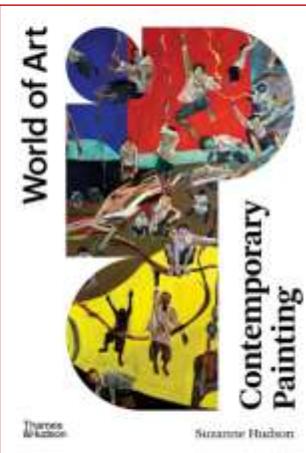
MALPAS STUDY DAY
UNDERSTANDING CONTEMPORARY ART
'Posing with Anna'

Tony Godfrey, *The Story of Contemporary Art*, Thames & Hudson, London, 2020



Exhibitions:

Ai Weiwei, *The Liberty of Doubt* at Kettle's Yard Cambridge until 19 June 2022

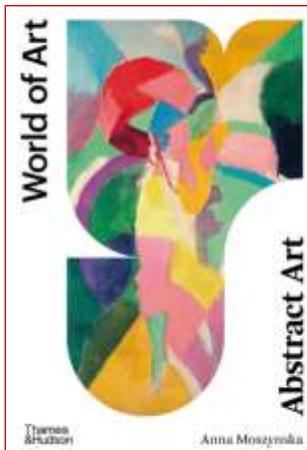


< Suzanne Hudson, *Contemporary Painting*, Thames & Hudson, London 2021

Jananne Al-Ani: *Timelines* at Towner Eastbourne until 22 May 2022



< Anna Moszynska, *Abstract Art*, Thames & Hudson, London, 2020 (revised ed)



Sheila Hicks, *Offgrid* at Hepworth Wakefield 7 April - 25 September 2022



Bridget Riley at The Lightbox, Woking until 10 April 2022



This is just a selection from Anna's lists, for her full list of suggestions please click below.

<https://truro.theartsociety.org/sites/truro.theartsociety.org/files/2022-03/Anna%20Reading%20and%20Exhibition%20list.pdf>