# **Our Society**

The Arts Society Truro is a society for people who enjoy, or are interested in, art in all its forms – architecture, painting, sculpture, wood carving, and everything in between. We meet to learn, and have fun together. We have monthly lectures in Truro, given by experts who are also great speakers; we learn and volunteer our help in various heritage projects; we hope to encourage young people in a love of art; and together we visit places of historic or artistic merit, both locally and further afield.

We are affiliated to The Arts Society, an international organisation, which provides us with super lecturers and trainers in heritage work.

We are always delighted to welcome new members – do come to a lecture, make new friends, become involved if you wish, but above all, enjoy yourself!

### **Attending as a Guest**

You are welcome to attend as a guest. The guest fee is £8 per lecture, payable at the Registration Desk on lecture night.

#### **Picture Credits**

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May: Houses of Parliament 1904, Monet,

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June: The Death of General Gordon,

George Joy, Wikimedia

**September:** Harmony in Grey and Green, Whistler, © The Tate, Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND (3.0 Unported)

October: © Julian Richards November: © Kate Strasdin

December: Oscar Wilde, Wikimedia

# Welcome to The Arts Society Truro

In this leaflet you will find details of our evening lectures held at Truro College, College Rd, Truro TR1 3XX from January to December 2024 Why not give one a try, as we would love to introduce you to our friendly society and the wide range of wonderful lectures we offer.

From 6 pm onwards please join us at Truro College for a coffee or a glass of wine. The lectures start at 7pm at one of the theatres at Truro College.

A chance to meet new people and to learn more about all that we have to offer.

For further information please contact
Membership Secretary
Lois Humphrey

e: membership.astruro@gmail.com Annual Membership: £55 (Jan to Dec inc.)

Please see our website for further details and an Application Form truro.theartssociety.org www.facebook.com/ArtsSocietyTruro

**Cover picture** 

Reflecting Intently (detail) © Amy Albright



# **Evening Lectures**

# January 10 Food and Art Through the Ages





This lecture is a whistle-stop tour of the history of food as artistic medium; starting with 16th century sugar sculpture and venturing all the way up to 3D dessert printing and beyond.

February 14 The Art of the Automobile by Roger Mendham

The Art Deco movement inspired a golden age of

car design, including the 'Great Gatsby era', when some of the most fabulous cars ever created were produced.



#### March 13 Once Upon a Time

# by Jeni Fraser



Many of our beloved fairy stories and Disney movies originated from much darker and deeper tales.

This lecture will reveal the violent nature of some not-so-happy-everafters.

**April 10 Murder Most Florid** 

by Mark Spencer

Plants are silent witnesses to crimes. This lecture explores how common plants like brambles can be used to help solve serious crimes such as murder, assault or arson.







Following in the footsteps of Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir we analyse what was new about Impressionist landscape paintings: their experiments with colour theory, new synthetic pigments, and, most importantly, the distinctly modern landscape that they chose to depict.

# June 12 Gordon of Khartoum and the Power of Art by Max Jones

George William Joy's painting of the death of General Gordon in 1885, 'murdered' on the steps of the governor's palace in Khartoum by the Mahdi's 'dervishes' was ignored by critics and dismissed as inaccurate by scholars, but became one of the iconic images of the British Empire.



# **September 11** James Whistler

# by Douglas Skeggs



This lecture explores the paradox of Whistler whose flamboyant and eccentric ways made him both admired and detested in equal measure yet whose quiet, meditative paintings ultimately assured him a place as one of the high priests of the Aesthetic Movement.

# October 9 AS Truro AGM followed by Inspired by Stonehenge by Julian Richards

Stonehenge will be examined as a piece of prehistoric architecture before looking at it's influence on painters, potters and poets over the centuries and how it has become a cultural icon.



# November 13 Dress Diary of Anne Sykes by Kate Strasdin

In 2016 Kate Strasdin was given an unusual volume. It contained over 2000 swatches of fabric



pasted into a marbled album but it had no provenance and no known background. Kate spent the next six years uncovering its secrets, discovering its author and the life that she led.

### December 11 Wilde About Oscar by Simon Whitehouse

Oscar Wilde: writer, wit & the first modern celebrity. From his childhood in Ireland to his artistic circle in Chelsea and glittering West End first nights, to the criminal trial of the age, we chart Oscar's extraordinary journey and discuss his enduring appeal & legacy.



#### **Visits and Tours**

We organise visits to places of architectural, artistic and horticultural interest.

These often include expert talks and private access to venues.

### **Young Arts**

The Arts Society Truro supports and sponsors a number of local Young Arts projects aimed at providing pupils and young adults with new exciting opportunities to learn and explore different creative arts.

#### **Volunteers**

The Arts Society Heritage Volunteers undertake many interesting projects: research, conservation and restoration in many different areas, and in Truro The Arts Society has a lively group of volunteers working in the Courtney Library in the Royal Cornwall Museum helping to conserve its large number of books.