

Tours

The Beauty of Slovenia and Lake Bled

14th - 19th October 2026



Guided tour of Lake Bled and Castle plus sightseeing in the old Baroque town of Ljubjana. We will also visit the cave systems of Postojna and the stud farm of Lipica where we will see the famous Lipizzaner horses. Also included is a cruise along the Adriatic coast.



Umbria

4th - 10th April 2027

Staying in Spoleto, we will have a walking tour to include the magnificent Duomo; Visits to Perugia, the home of St Francis of Assisi and to Sansepolcro, the home of Piero della Francesca to see his famous paintings and frescoes. Along with visiting some delightful Umbrian villages.

Other tours will be planned for 2027

Join Now:

Annual membership September 2026 – July 2027 is £50

To join, please CONTACT US via the website

www.theartsocietybeaconsfield.org.uk

and leave your name and telephone number.

Our membership secretary will contact you. The first lecture is complimentary.

CAN YOU HELP? WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.

New members are needed to join our very supportive committee. We would very much appreciate your help.

Talk to a committee member at a lecture or contact us via the website.

About Us

We are now **40 years old!** Through lectures, visits and study days, the society aims to promote knowledge and appreciation of all aspects of art. The lecturers and guides are outstanding, engaging and extremely knowledgeable.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW: We offer **10 LECTURES** a year from the 360 lecturers on the accredited list of The Arts Society, which are of an exceptional standard. Subjects range from Art and Architecture to Music, Textiles and Social History.



Lectures are held at The Fitzwilliams Centre behind St Mary's Church (HP9 2JW) on the first Thursday of each month (except for January, August and September). We have two sessions, **a morning group at 10.30** and **an afternoon group at 13.45**, when the lecture is repeated. Coffee is served before each session so that members can meet.

TAKE PART: We organise in-depth **STUDY DAYS** each year (with lunch!) with accredited lecturers. Recent **STUDY DAYS** include Oscar Wilde and The Forensic Eye.

GET INVOLVED: We provide funds to local schools and colleges, to a local care home and to Koestler Arts, the best known prison art charity in the UK. All our involvement is intended to help people, both young and old, take part in the arts.

VISIT: There are up to 3 visits a year sometimes to places not open to the public, with qualified cultural guides. Recent **VISITS** include Goldsmiths Hall and Kew Gardens Christmas Lights Trail.

TOUR: Over many years there have been very successful, tailored cultural **TOURS** throughout Europe and the UK, more recently to Northern Greece and Puglia.

*For more information on these interesting events,
scan the QR code or visit our website:*

www.theartsocietybeaconsfield.org.uk

New members are welcome and guests can trial a lecture if they are thinking of joining.

Please CONTACT US on our web-site.

Follow us on X @BfieldArtsSoc



LECTURES, VISITS AND STUDY DAYS 2026-2027

If you are passionate about ART and CULTURE and would like to meet similar people, in a friendly atmosphere, please join us for a lecture.

Bring this leaflet to your first lecture and enjoy FREE entry.

www.theartsocietybeaconsfield.org.uk



**THE ARTS
SOCIETY
BEACONSFIELD**

Enriching Lives through the Arts



AGM at 6pm followed by Tales from Vienna at 6.30pm

Wednesday 23rd September 2026 - Emma Johnson

Art, architecture, and music during Vienna's cultural heyday are vividly revealed including how the city united the musical giants - Mozart, Haydn, Gluck, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Strauss, Mahler, Bruckner and Schoenberg.



Bathers at Asnières, by George Seurat

Thursday 1st October 2026 - Steven Barrett

Seurat's Bathers at Asnières shows Parisians by the Seine; the lecture reveals his ambition, colour theory, Pointillism, and the painting's place in modern art history.



History of Colour. Blue!

Thursday 5th November 2026 - Alice White

Blue's symbolism spans cultures. From ultramarine, a pigment once shipped from beyond the sea, to ancient indigo, and accidental Prussian Blue. The colour inspired Impressionist painters and Japanese printmakers alike. Monet and Hokusai used it to reshape how art conveys emotion, memory and beauty.



How we laughed! The Golden Age of British Comedy

Thursday 3rd December 2026 - Tyler Butterworth

British comedy's 1970s-80s "Golden Age" defined a generation. In this affectionate lecture, we'll explore iconic shows, reveal the secrets of their success, and celebrate the stars who transitioned from Variety.



Thirty Years on from the Royal Academy's "Sensation" Exhibition

Thursday 4th February 2027 - Pamela Campbell-Johnston

"Sensation" (Royal Academy, 1997) propelled Young British Artists and controversy. Contemporary art surged mainstream as Saatchi-owned works reshaped careers and Britain's cultural landscape.



Ludwig Van Beethoven on the 200th Anniversary of his Death

Thursday 4th March 2027 - Sandy Burnett

Marking the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's death in March 1827, this talk explores the legacy of the transformative composer, featuring contemporary portraits and musical examples from his iconic works.



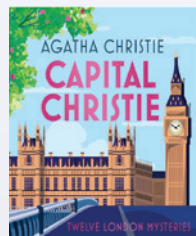
Whistler: "The gentle art of making enemies"

Thursday 1st April 2027 - Douglas Skeggs

Whistler, a witty and irreverent American artist, scandalized London society during the 1870s. Having moved from bohemian Paris, his radical ideas met strong opposition in England.

Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayer in London

Thursday 6th May 2027 - Richard Burnip



The two "Queens of Crime" are Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers. This talk examines how they depicted a rapidly changing London in the 1920s and 30s through their iconic detectives, Hercule Poirot and Lord Peter Wimsey. While writing in the same genre, they approached it with radically different styles.



How Art can save your life

Thursday 3rd June 2027 - Jacky Klein

Art anchors us in turbulent times. As Dorothea Tanning said, "it's a raft for sanity". Through mindful, slow looking, we explore works that ease heartbreak, loneliness, and fear, or spark curiosity, energy, and calm.

The Echoing Scream: The Birth of Expressionism

Thursday 1st July 2027 - Gavin Plumley



In 1893, Edvard Munch's The Scream gave voice to raw emotion, what we'd now call a panic attack. That piercing cry became the heartbeat of Expressionism: a movement that revealed life not as it looks, but as it feels. From Munch to Kandinsky, Klee, and Schiele, alongside the ideas of Nietzsche, Freud, and Schoenberg, this talk explores how art, music, and thought erupted with new intensity, forever changing how we see the world within.

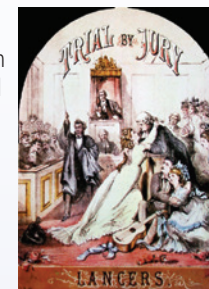
Study Days and Visits

STUDY DAYS:

Gilbert & Sullivan and Their Operas

Thursday 22nd October 2026 - Peter Medhurst

Beginning in 1871 with Thespis, WS Gilbert & A Sullivan collaborated on a further 13 operas. They developed an increasingly brilliant but fragile partnership. Their operas are rich in contemporary satire and witty personal allusions, drawing inspiration from everyday life in Victorian England. Peter Medhurst will show how each one was a direct product of the times in which they were written. *Booking opens 1st June 2026.*



Feast and Fantasy

Thursday 15th April 2027 - Nicole Mezey

Forks and salt-cellars, Bacchus and the Garden of Eden, medieval banquets, coffee-houses - through the centuries, food and its rituals have been celebrated, their world analysed and complex ideas of morality developed. At the home, food is an opportunity to flaunt money and status, with shifting fashions and styles of eating. Nicole Mezey examines the significance of food and feasting and its symbolism for faith, wealth and even gender. *Booking opens 1st February 2027*



VISITS:

Hogarth museum and Fuller's Brewery tour

Tuesday 6th October 2026

A free flow visit to the museum will take place in the morning. We shall be arranging lunch nearby followed by a one hour 45 minute tour of the Fuller's Brewery with tastings. Everyone partaking must be over 18! Probably not a problem!

Booking opens 1st August



Christmas Show at the Musical Museum in Brentford

Tuesday December 8th 2026

Enjoy a "mini concert" with a variety of seasonal music along with a Christmas themed Afternoon Tea and a glass of Prosecco. Included is a museum tour of their amazing array of musical instruments. Have you ever heard an Edison Phonograph or a Mighty Wurlitzer Cinema organ?



Other visits will be planned for 2027