

Lectures Oct 2025 to July 2026
Second Thursday of the month, 7.30 for 8pm



Art of the Cartoonist



London Bridges



Caravaggio



Manet & Music



Lee Miller



C20th Postcards



Paul & John Nash



Ivor Novello



Gwen John



Jan van der Leyden

James Allen's Girls' School Sixth Form Centre
Green Dale entrance and car park -
no access from East Dulwich Grove
Refreshments 7.30, lectures 8.00pm

Fees for 10 lectures at JAGS or on Zoom
£60 single, £110 double, students £12 pa

Guests £10 at the door - no booking required

web: www.theartssocietydulwich.org.uk
email: info@theartssocietydulwich.org.uk

EVERYONE WELCOME

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LECTURE PROGRAMME 2025-26

Second Thursday Oct-July, JAGS Sixth Form Centre
Green Dale entrance & car park, 7.30 for 8pm

9 October 2025: THE ART OF THE CARTOONIST (Harry Venning) a professional cartoonist for more than 30 years, Harry will trace the history of his profession from Cruikshank and Hogarth to more recent artists like Giles and Schulz, bringing events up to date with cartoons produced fresh from the page that very day.

13 November 2025: LONDON BRIDGED: 3,500 YEARS OF CROSSING THE THAMES (Charlie Forman) There have been crossings over the Thames since the Bronze Age, and the last 200 years have seen more than 50 new crossings under and over the river. Some are great feats of engineering; others are architecturally elegant. Every river crossing changes the city's genetic code.

4* December 2025: CARAVAGGIO (Rosalind Whyte) The most famous painter in Italy at the time, Caravaggio produced radical changes in pictorial style, particularly through his pronounced use of light and shade (chiaroscuro), inspiring hundreds of other artists. However, he was a notorious brawler and spent the last years of his life on the run from a murder charge. **NB first Thursday of the month*

8 January 2026: EDOUARD MANET AND MUSIC (Lois Oliver) Music was a constant theme in Manet's life and work. His wife was a gifted pianist and regular soirées were held at the family home. His pictures of musicians and audiences encompass the full range of Parisian musical culture. He also created cover illustrations for music composed by his friends.

12 February 2026: LEE MILLER - WITNESSING WOMEN AT WAR (Antony Penrose) Lee Miller, Antony Penrose's mother, was a woman at war. She shot faultless images for Vogue's haute couture in London's burnt-out streets, as well as documenting refugees from Europe, women accused of collaboration, those forced into slave labour or prostitution and the horror of concentration camp victims.

12 March 2026: POSTCARDS FROM NEAR AND FAR: PICTURING THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (Chloe Sayer)

Postcards have pictured our history across the globe, documenting the changing role of women, royalty, celebrity, cinema, aviation, cars, fashion, travel and more – but now that we have mobile phones, is the age of the postcard finished?

9 April 2026: PAUL AND JOHN NASH – BROTHERS IN ART (James Russell) Growing up in the shadow of their mother's illness, Paul and John Nash emerged as artists in a joint exhibition in 1913. Both served on the Western Front before working together as artists. While remaining close, their art moved in different directions after the war. This is an intriguing story of brotherly love, strife and competition.

14 May 2026: MUCH MORE THAN GATHERING LILICS: THE REAL GENIUS OF IVOR NOVELLO (John Snelson) 2026 marks the 75th anniversary of the death of Ivor Novello, whose career was extraordinary: composer, playwright, film idol and stage star. His reputation is sustained today by the romantic waltz song, but there is so much more to his genius than wistful nostalgia.

11 June 2026: GWEN JOHN (Lydia Bauman) Gwen John is known for the quiet strength of the solitary women in her portraits and the reflective stillness of her interiors. She was overshadowed by her famous brother Augustus, but she defied convention to forge her own existence in the heady art worlds of London and Paris. She was a progressive trailblazer, moving in a cultural circle that included her lover, Auguste Rodin.

9 July 2026: A DUTCH LEONARDO: THE EXTRAORDINARY CAREER OF JAN VAN DER HEYDEN (Rupert Dickens)

Van der Heyden's reputation pales in comparison with that of Leonardo, but at the height of the Dutch Golden Age was no less extraordinary. As well as being a brilliant painter and draughtsman, he was also an inventor, entrepreneur, administrator and marketing genius whose inventions included a mechanical fire engine and street lighting.

OUR SPEAKERS are drawn from 380+ accredited lecturers in The Arts Society's Directory, all of whom go through a rigorous selection process to ensure their level of subject expertise and presentation skills. We ask for feedback after every lecture, which is passed on to the lecturers and sent to The Arts Society to ensure that their speakers keep to a sufficiently high standard.

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND PARKING

There is no access to the Sixth Form Centre from JAGS main school nor the Music Centre in East Dulwich Grove. Go round the corner past JAGS Prep into Green Dale. Look for the recessed wrought-iron gates, push the button at the bottom of the stand on the driver's side, say you are with The Arts Society Dulwich and wait for the gates to open. Nearest rail station North Dulwich.

VISITS, WALKS & EVENTS As well as lectures, we organise walks, visits to places of artistic merit and events for members. Check the website to see what's on offer.

Our lectures are advertised in SE21 magazine, Dulwich Society eNews, the Nextdoor app and on the Dulwich Village noticeboard, as well as ad hoc local publications. Unlike other arts societies, we don't have a waiting list for membership, which is open to all.

contact

info@theartssocietydulwich.org.uk

website

www.theartssocietydulwich.org.uk