

Eastbourne Arts Circle



Newsletter Winter/Spring 2019



Events and lectures for 2019

www.eastbourneartscircle.org.uk

EAC Committee News



Helen Rufus-Ward (Chairman) and Helena Birch (Committee Member) have been busy promoting the *Eastbourne Arts Circle* in the Towner foyer, explaining about our fundraising for Towner and events programme.



Eastbourne Art Cicle talent presented a tribute to **Oscar Wilde on Sunday 7 October** this was well attended and most enjoyable! (from left Nicolas Chisolm MBE, Robin Gregory, Anne Gregory, Elizabeth Muir-Lewis & Dr Helen Rufus-Ward

TICKET BOOKING FOR EVENTS IN THE TOWNER ART GALLERY

Members: £10 non-members: £12. Tickets are available by post from Sir Philip Anson, 34 Martello Road, Eastbourne, BN22 7SS. Cheques payable to "Eastbourne Arts Circle" please include an SAE, or email address for confirmation. A postal Ticket booking form is available on our web site. Tickets also available from the Tourist Information Centre in Cornfield Road. Tickets at the reduced rate for members are ONLY available in advance from Sir Philip, or at the door, and are NOT available from the Council's Tourist Information Centre. Ticket Enquiries (01323) 411906 (Best before 10.30am weekdays). www.eastbourneartscircle.org.uk

EASTBOURNE ARTS CIRCLE Registered charity No 306339

Patron The Duke of Devonshire KCVO, CBE, DL
President The Mayor of Eastbourne
Chairman Dr Helen Rufus-Ward
Vice Chairman Elizabeth Muir-Lewis
Honorary Treasurer Sir Philip Anson
Honorary Secretary Christine Gawad

Advertising Elizabeth Muir-Lewis
Editor Claire Patterson-Snell
Committee Members
Helena Birch, Roger Burrell,
Yvonne Burrell
and Derek Irving

Cover Picture: Walter Sickert, *Bathers at Dieppe*, c. 1902-03, oil on canvas, 131.5 x 104.4, ©Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool. **See page 6 for lecture details.**

Chairman's Letter



Dear Members

2018 has been a successful year evidenced by the cheque for £10,000 that we will be presenting to the Towner. This year our contribution will be going towards a new Ravilious Library and Study Room, last year our £10,000 helped with the purchase of a Ravilious's Beachy Head art work. We will also be continuing our sponsorship of the Towner's Sussex Open Art Commission Award.

Over the past year we have had some brilliant lecturers like our sold-out Pre-Raphaelite lecture (please read Helena Birch's review on page 4) and events like the Oscar Wilde recital written and produced by Elizabeth Muir-Lewis. You will be glad to hear that we have an exciting and varied programme for 2019.

I am delighted to have some good news to report regarding the plight of the Pilgrims's Progress murals by Hans Feibusch in the crypt of St Elisabeth's Church Eastbourne. A group of local people are putting together a proposal to raise money to remove the murals (using the strappo method) and have them installed in a community gallery and arts centre in Newhaven. More on this story in the New Year.

In the auditorium on the 14th September, at our Hepworth and Moore lecture, our member Caroline Houston had a nasty fall and broke her hip. She stoically insisted on sitting through the lecture before being taken by ambulance to hospital. The committee sends their best wishes for her speedy recovery.

We do hope that you will be able to re-new your membership (the forms are enclosed with this newsletter) as we couldn't support the Towner the way we do without you. Recently, committee member Helena Birch and I set up a table in the Towner to promote our charity. Interestingly the majority of people that we approached were from Germany which just shows how internationally acclaimed the Towner is (worthy of our support!).

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year and look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas lunch and quiz on 1st December.

Please continue to support our efforts.
Helen

Date for you diary. Our AGM will be on 12th April 2019, followed by a great lecture by John Perrin on the artist Cy Twombly.

Pre-Raphaelites with Dr Alexandra Loske

Last October EAC and members attended a lecture on the *Pre-Raphaelites* given by Dr Alexandra Loske, a published Art Historian and Curator at Brighton Pavilion. This proved to be a popular subject with every seat sold in the auditorium. Dr Loske had lectured previously at the Towner and was well received by the audience, many of whom remembered her previous talks on 'Colour' and on the Impressionists. Listening to comments while waiting in my seat I sensed the enthusiasm and anticipation of the audience, and felt I was in for a good experience.



John Everett Millais, *Ophelia*, 1851-52,
oil on canvas, 76.2cm x 111.8cm,
©Tate Britain

I was not disappointed. We were introduced to the PRB - the Pre Raphaelite-Brotherhood consisting initially of Holman Hunt, Millais and Rossetti and looked at their major works.... *Ophelia*, *Mariana*, *the Hireling Shepherd*, *The Annunciation*, *Proserpine* and many others. The paintings were described in depth and details pointed out which made the images far more meaningful. It was interesting to examine the symbolism in the paintings, so easily overlooked. It was also interesting to note that, though popular today, many of their works were highly criticised at the time as not befitting Victorian society. Possibly, the artists' lifestyle at the time was also less acceptable to the establishment?

Dr Loske went on to look at the impact of the initial brotherhood and followed up with artists such as Lord Leighton, Waterhouse, Whistler and Morris who had all been influenced in some way, particularly in their depictions of beauty and accurate portrayal of nature.

The session ended with lively Q&A and I left the lecture with far more knowledge than when I arrived, and more appreciative of the legacy left by the Pre-Raphaelites to the Art world thanks to the expertise and entertaining delivery by Dr Alexander Loske.

Helena Birch

Unwrapping the Secret Life of Reliquaries

with Dr Helen Rufus-Ward

Friday 11 January 2019
2.30pm - 4.30pm

Towner, Carlisle Road
Eastbourne

The word 'relic' comes from Latin Reliquiae meaning 'left behind'. All reliquaries are hollow to hold a sacred relic such as the bone of a saint or a piece of the true cross. This lecture will examine many exquisitely crafted reliquaries – in all shapes and sizes – many wrought in precious materials such as gold, silver, ivory and enamel and some mass produced in base metal alloys. Also, to be revealed is the sensory way such reliquaries were engaged with and the cult of saints that underpinned their talismanic and apotropaic power. Concludes with an opportunity to handle a genuine 12th century reliquary!

Dr Helen Rufus-Ward is a published art historian, university lecturer and accredited speaker for the Arts Society (NADFAS).

Tickets £12
(EAC members £10)

See page 2 for full ticket details.



Reliquary Box, gold with garnets and precious stones, 350 – 450AD, ©Varna Archaeological Museum, Bulgaria,



Box reliquary of the True Cross, silver gold and enamel, Byzantine, 800AD, © Metropolitan Museum of art, New York

Painter of Modern Life: Walter Sickert and the Camden Town Group with Peter Scott

Friday 8 February

2.30pm - 4.30pm

**Towner, Carlisle Road
Eastbourne**



Walter Sickert, *Gallery of the Old Bedford Music Hall*, 1890s, oil on canvas, 127 x 77.5cm, ©National Gallery of Canada,

The Camden Town Group of painters, led by Walter Sickert, chronicled the changes in British society, and particularly in London, in the years before and during the First World War. They saw themselves as 'painters of modern life' depicting many of the challenges to the values of the nineteenth century. They painted portraits of working-class subjects and created images of women as explicit as anything being produced in Europe at the time. These works are recognisable for their use of bold anti-naturalistic colouring and noted for their striking images of the music hall which provide an invaluable record of the leisure pursuits of the Edwardian age. The Camden town Group had only a brief life, holding just three exhibitions, in June and December 1911 and December 1912, although the individual members worked on.

Peter Scott is a lecturer and guide at Tate Britain, Tate Modern, Dulwich Picture Gallery and Bristol Art Gallery. He also lectures for the Art Fund, Arts Societies and the National Trust and is a tutor for the WEA.

Tickets £12

(EAC members £10)



Creating Utopias: The life and work of Yehudi Menuhin with Nicolas Chisholm MBE

**Friday 8 March
2.30pm - 4.30pm**

Towner, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne

Yehudi Menuhin was arguably the most famous classical musician of the twentieth century. He was certainly the highest paid. His upbringing was unusual and as a legend in his own lifetime it is hardly surprising that many myths developed about him throughout his long career. A latter-day Paganini, his extraordinary charm and charisma kept him at the forefront of the musical world for seventy years. Nicolas Chisholm charts the rise and rise of this extraordinary musician and the influence he still has on the musical world today.

Before his retirement Nicolas Chisholm was Headmaster of The Yehudi Menuhin School for twenty-two years and worked closely with Yehudi Menuhin for the first eleven of them.

Tickets £12
(EAC members £10)

The Barber of Seville

By Giacomo Rossini

Introduction by Robert Ascott

Please note: This opera is sung in the original Italian with English subtitles

Friday 22 March

Starts at 2pm

Towner, Eastbourne



Giacomo Rossini



Starring: Cecilia Bartoli (pictured left), Robert Lloyd, David Kuebler and Gino Quilico. The conductor is Gabriele Ferro with the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra

We are delighted to be showing a fine recording of Rossini's popular opera the Barber of Seville. The premier was on February 20th 1816 in the Teatro Argentina in Rome, conducted by Rossini. The Barber is the first of the Beaumarchais trilogy of Figaro comedies. This recording has a superb cast with Cecilia Bartoli singing the part of Rosina, one of today's finest singers for this dazzling coloratura music.

The opera is a typical operatic story of intrigue and plots. Old doctor Bartolo, sung by Robert Lloyd, wants to marry the wealthy Rosina who is his ward, so does Almaviva, a Spanish Grandee (sung by David Kuebler). (For opera historians these are the Count and Countess in Mozart's Marriage of Figaro). Almaviva enlists the help of the Barber, Figaro sung by Gino Quilico and so begins a comic musical masterpiece. This sparkling and witty opera is brimming with famous arias. 'Largo al Factotum' is considered to be unequalled as a bravura aria, and figures among the best-known baritone solos in opera.

Tickets £12

(EAC members £10)

Art Lectures at Towner

Please attend our AGM starting at 1pm followed by the lecture below.

Cy Twombly: Painter, Sculptor and photographer with **John Perrin**

Friday 12 April
2.30pm - 4.30pm

Towner, Carlisle Road
Eastbourne



'Autumn' from The Four Seasons,
Cy Twombly, 1993-5, ©Tate Modern

Cy Twombly was one of the most influential artists of the 20th century - his canvases were often inspired by ancient myths or classical European literature and include painting, drawing, writing, poetry and images. In the 1950s at the time when abstract painting dominated the New York art scene he left America to live in Rome.

Cy Twombly's deeply sophisticated work is an expression of the language of memory and desire. His paintings are delicate, unrestrained and spontaneous; his work is created by an 'Encounter' with the canvas.

John Perrin will explore his work through high quality digital slides of his major paintings including his early work, several series of paintings including 'Quattro Stagioni' (four seasons) and some of his key sculptures.

John Perrin MA is a very experienced lecturer who runs regular WEA courses throughout Sussex on the Appreciation of Modern Art.

Tickets £12
(EAC members £10)

Let us help you achieve your objectives

- Retirement Planning
- Inheritance Tax Mitigation
- Investments and Wealth Management

CREATING, MANAGING AND PROTECTING WEALTH

Perspective (South East) Ltd

T: 01323 642568 E: enquiries.southeast@pfgl.co.uk

www.pfgl.co.uk/southeast

All our calls to and from our landlines and mobiles are recorded to meet regulatory requirements



Eastbourne Arts Circle Membership

For just £15 a year you can benefit from reduced prices on top quality lectures, receive regular newsletters, invitations to Christmas lunches and Towner exhibitions.

To join please contact Christine Gawad, Membership Secretary: on 01323 504086.

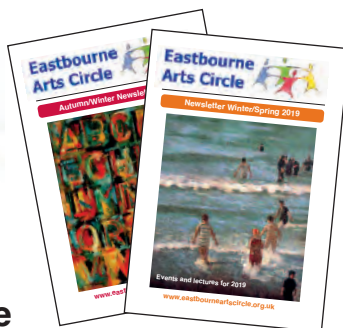
Please renew your membership with the form enclosed.

When you have read this newsletter please do pass it on to a non-member, so they can see for themselves the benefits of membership

Eastbourne Arts Circle



Supporting the Arts in Eastbourne



Advertising in the EAC Magazine

- The Eastbourne Arts Circle is a registered charity set up to support the Arts in Eastbourne. In particular it raises funds to support the Towner Gallery.
- It runs various events throughout the year including lectures on the visual arts, literature and music.
- The membership is around 350 and is increasing. Members are mainly in the 50 plus age bracket.

The magazine is published in A5 format three times a year and is sent to all members as well as being available to the public through various channels such as the Towner Gallery and the Tourist Information Office.

Space is available for advertisers in the Magazine at the following rates:

Full Page A5	£150
Half Page	£75
Quarter Page	£50

Rates are for one year and your advert will feature in all three issues of the magazine and the EAC web page. In addition, it is our intention to display all sponsors on screen at the beginning of selected events.

**To advertise or for further information please contact:
Sir Philip Anson at: ANSONPR@aol.com**



Informed

FINANCIAL ADVICE

**We provide independent financial advice,
using the latest technology, including our secure
Personal Finance Portal for our clients.**

**Retirement Planning
Investment Planning
Inheritance Tax Planning
Equity Release Specialists*
Care Fees Planning Specialists
Pre-Paid Funeral Plans**

We offer a free no obligation initial meeting and
will donate 10% of any initial fees to the
Eastbourne Arts Circle (please quote EAC 10).



**Bellcrest House, 114 Battle Road,
St Leonards on Sea, TN37 7AG**

T: 01424 434045 E: office@informedfa.co.uk

W: www.informedfa.co.uk

*Equity Release refers to Home Reversion plans and Lifetime Mortgages.
To understand the features and risks, ask for a personalised illustration.

The value of investments (including property) and the income
derived from them may go down as well as up.

T: 01424 434045 E: office@informedfa.co.uk

W: www.informedfa.co.uk