

## WHO ARE WE?

We are a member society of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) in the United Kingdom.

Patron of our society is the Honorary British Consul in Hamburg.

## OUR AIM

To promote a greater awareness of international cultural heritage and advance decorative and fine arts education.

## WHAT WE OFFER

Illustrated lectures in English on:

- ❖ architecture – landscape gardens
- ❖ collecting antiques – art
- ❖ furniture – sculpture
- ❖ silver – china
- ❖ music – literature

## WE ALSO OFFER

- ❖ weekend study days
- ❖ visits to local art galleries and museums
- ❖ outings to places of historical interest
- ❖ cultural tours to neighbouring countries.
- ❖ quarterly magazine from NADFAS

**Cover Illustration** *Plate XXIII from Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium. Solanum mammosum 1705 Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717)*

*Lecture by Twigs Way on 30 March 2017*

## TIME AND VENUE

Most of our lectures are held at DESY Hörsaal, Notkestraße 85, 22607 Hamburg and start at 20:00.

However we sometimes use other locations and sometimes start earlier, so please check our website before attending. Normally doors and wine bar open at 19:30.

## HOW TO FIND US

By public transport to Othmarschen S-Bahn, then Metrobus 1 to Hünengrab/DESY, or to Altona S-Bahn, then Metrobus 2 to DESY.

Ample parking space available.

## SUBSCRIPTION

Annual membership is €65 for single members and €120 for couples.

Guests are welcome to attend individual lectures at €12 (students €5) per lecture.

## MORE INFORMATION

Please contact one of the following committee members

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More details on the lectures and lecturers are on our website



# BRIDFAS

The British Decorative and Fine Arts Society of Hamburg e.V.

A member society of NADFAS



Lecture Season 2016-2017

## Programme 2016-2017

Thursday 15 September 2016

### ***Chinamania - the impact of Chinese porcelain on European taste, collecting and display***

*by Jane Gardiner*

When the very first Chinese porcelains found their way to Europe, the beauty and fragility of the material led to their being mounted with precious metal and treasured alongside other rare and exotic objects.

This lecture will examine the enormous and long-lasting influence that these Chinese porcelains had on European taste and culture and the whole history of interior design.

Thursday 13 October 2016

### ***The Founders and Treasures of the Wallace Collection***

*by Stephen Duffy*

The Wallace Collection, a national museum containing an outstanding array of paintings, furniture, porcelain, arms and armour, and other works of art, was brought together by five generations of one family between about 1780 and 1880. This lecture tells the fascinating story of the Wallace Collection's formation, and also presents many of its finest treasures.

Thursday 10 November 2016

### ***The World of William Shakespeare***

*by Nicole Mezey*

The 400th anniversary of the death of Shakespeare in 1616 gives us the opportunity to look at his visual and material world. This is an age of portraits and playbills, plots and parades, of theatres and timber frame, of a Virgin Queen and an anti-smoking, witch-hunting king – while little survives that can be associated with Shakespeare personally, this talk examines the visual and social changes which shaped him.

Thursday 19 January 2017

### ***An evening with Telemann and Brahms***

Guided tours of the Georg Philipp Telemann-Museum and the Brahms-Museum in the historic Komponisten-Quartier, Peterstrasse, Hamburg.

Thursday 16 February 2017

### ***Building Babylon in Eden – Art Treasures of New York*** *by Adrian Sumner*

New York is so crammed full of Old Masters, it's surprising there are any left in Europe. The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Frick Collection are wonders of this New World. The Guggenheim and Museum of Modern Art are unrivalled in their 20th century collections. This lecture takes us to the four corners of Manhattan Island, to see just what an unlimited supply of dollars can buy if your taste runs to the finest of fine arts and architecture.

## Study Day

Saturday 18 February 2017

### ***Art Deco – Art of the Jazz Age*** *by Adrian Sumner*

Art Deco, the Period Style of the 1920s and 30s, is ravishing, amazingly various, and endlessly fascinating. This lecture, illustrated with fabulous colour slides, looks at the planes and liners, the jewellery, textiles and frocks, the paintings, posters, pottery, bakelite and iceglass, as well as the remarkable personalities (from Clarice Cliff to Josephine Baker by way of Le Corbusier) that made the Twenties roar and the Thirties a headlong dash into World War Two.

Thursday 30 March 2017

### ***Maria Sibylla Merian - Artist, Scientist and Adventurer*** *by Twigs Way*

Maria Sibylla Merian was one of the most extraordinary women of the 17th century. Born into a family of artists, she became fascinated with the life cycle of caterpillars and moths. Leaving behind her marriage and her work as a successful flower painter, she sailed to Surinam in pursuit of rarities of flora and fauna, and produced the famous 'Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium'.

Thursday 27 April 2017

### ***The Genius of Antonio Stradivari*** *by Toby Faber*

Two hundred and fifty years after Antonio Stradivari's death, his violins and cellos remain the most highly prized instruments in the world. Loved by great musicians and capable of fetching fabulous sums when sold, their tone and beauty are legendary. Every subsequent violin-maker has tried to match them. Not one has succeeded. How can that be?

## ***Outing – Date and details to be announced***

Thursday 15 June 2017

### ***AGM followed by Peasant Pastimes?*** ***The Art of Pieter Bruegel the Elder*** *by Sophie Oosterwijk*

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (d. 1569) is probably best known for his colourful depictions of peasants making merry or toiling in the fields. He also painted religious scenes in the Netherland's countryside. His work was more than just charmingly naive. He was very much a townsman with a good eye for landscape, who painted for discerning collectors. He also lived in a time of religious and political turmoil that is evident in some of his 'darker' works.