



# BRIDFAS

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

## **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** is to promote a greater awareness of international cultural heritage.

## **WHAT WE OFFER**

*illustrated lectures in English on:  
architecture – landscape gardens  
collecting antiques – painting  
furniture – sculpture  
silver – china  
music – literature*

## **we also offer**

*week-end study days  
visits to local art galleries and museums  
outings to places of historical interest  
tours abroad  
exchange visits with **NADFAS** Societies in the U.K.*

## **TIME AND VENUE**

**DESY Hörsaal**, Notkestraße 85, 22607 Hamburg.  
*The lectures start at 20.00 hrs, doors and wine bar open at 19.30 hrs.*

## **HOW TO FIND US**

*By public transport to Othmarschen S-Bahn, then Metrobus 1 to Hühnengrab/**DESY** or to Altona S-Bahn, then Metrobus 2 to **DESY**.  
Ample parking space available.*

## **SUBSCRIPTION**

*Annual membership is **EURO 50**. Guests are welcome to attend individual lectures at **EURO 10** (students **EURO 3**) per lecture.*

## **MORE INFORMATION**

*please call:*

*Chairman:  
Membership Secretary:  
Publicity:  
or visit our Website:*

*Eileen Broadbent  
Barbara Hantschel  
Hans-J. Luthardt  
www.Bridfas.de*

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**Programme 2008/2009**  
**2008**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**  
Sarah Lenton

**Opera: The Living Melting Pot of Culture**

*This lecture with music is the result of years of writing articles and programme notes for the Royal Opera House. It charts the cross currents between opera and its cultural milieu and covers grand gesture, classical plots, court manners, enormous costumes, nationalism and dead heroines...*

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**  
Denise Heywood

**Cambodia: The Sacred Art of Angkor and Living Arts**

*The lecture explores the sacred art of the 12<sup>th</sup> century temple complex of Angkor, with special reference to mystical Angkor Wat, the biggest religious monument in the world, a recreation of the Hindu cosmos on earth covered in exquisite carvings. It highlights the brilliance of Khmer architects and reveals the stories of bas-reliefs relating to the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.*

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November**  
Jane Kelsall

**Pearls before Swine?**  
**The Story of a Royal Necklace**

*The long and interesting journey of a magnificent collection of pearls from their beginnings as a wedding present from Pope Clement VII to his niece Catharina de Medici, who became Queen of France. She later gave them to Mary Queen of Scots. Acquired by Elizabeth I they passed down through the British royal family. Now Queen Elizabeth II wears some of the "Hanover Pearls" as they are now called. But where are the others?*

**2009**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**  
Barbara Geiger

**Venus and Adonis**  
*by William Shakespeare*

*Barbara Geiger lived and trained in London and has performed this production at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe where it was acclaimed as an excellent performed recital of Shakespeare's poem. "Venus was adored by the Elizabethans, the Puritans, however, abhorred her and the 20<sup>th</sup> century ignored her completely."*

**Cover illustration:**

*An opera performance in Gotha (Ekhof Theatre).  
Feature of our September lecture.  
Photo: O. Ittershagen*

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February**  
Dr. Neil Faulkner

***Cities of Vesuvius: Art and Everyday Life in Ancient Pompeii and Herculaneum***

*Town planning, architecture, sculpture, mosaic and fresco supported by contemporary literature, will help reconstruct something of the fabric of everyday life. The world of public affairs, business and aristocratic display will be contrasted with the more private world of relaxation in town-houses and villas.*

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Valerie Woodgate

***The Life and Works of Pablo Picasso***

*This lecture examines the way Picasso's emotional life influenced what he painted and how he painted it. During his long life he loved many different women and each time he fell in love he would be carried away on a wave of creativity. When he fell out of love the fact would be revealed first in his paintings.*

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
**STUDY DAY**  
Valerie Woodgate

***Looking at Portraits – a very English Taste***

*For about 200 years after the Reformation portraiture was virtually the only subject in art in England. During this time most major painters working here were foreigners. From the 18<sup>th</sup> century on, outstanding British portrait painters such as Reynolds and Gainsborough came to prominence.*

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
Jo Walton

***Bernini and Baroque Rome***

*Rome is a city of many glories, from distant antiquity onwards and amongst her most remarkable churches, fountains and monuments are the spectacular works of Gian Lorenzo Bernini. Find out about his architecture, sculpture, paintings, fountains but also discover why such exuberance and magnificence became powerful weapons in a political and religious war.*

**May 2009**

***Bridfas Outing***

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June**  
Jackie Marsh-Hobbs

***Secrets of the Royal Pavilion:  
A Look Behind the Scenes***

*Built for George IV, its Indian exterior is complemented by its chinoiserie interior. In 1850 the Royal Pavilion escaped demolition. It was bought by Queen Victoria, excluding the lavish contents and fixtures taken to different Palaces. Later the Palace was changed to a civic building and the interior transformed back to its original splendour.*