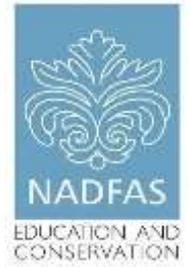




Marina Alta Fine Arts Society Newsletter



March 2017 Issue 2



Inaugural Meeting

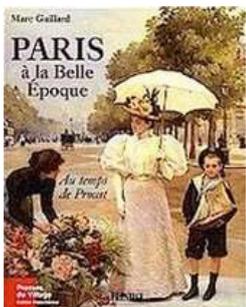
The inaugural meeting of MAFAS was held on the 19th Jan. 2017 at the Parador De Javea. Unfortunately winter arrived suddenly the night before and laid a blanket of white snow across the region with whipping winds causing havoc. Valiantly more than 120 members and guests braved the weather and attended our first presentation.

Our first presenter was the notable Harry Fletcher, not only being an artist in his own right Harry is an arts tutor, is a lecturer for the Open University in the UK, and has been a supporter of NADFAS for some years.

The presentation was a 'tour de force' of the Highlights of Spanish Painting including the artists Velazquez, Goya, El Greco and Dali, and most enthusiastically, of course, our own Joaquin Sorolla. Harry's analysis of the influence these individuals had on the works of Picasso and Monet, with humorous personal comments and anecdotes of the painters and their lives, kept the audience enthralled throughout. Harry enhanced his presentation with a wide selection of his own excellent illustrations and images reflecting the period, and finally, he answered a multitude of questions from the floor.

David Glover

The February Meeting



On 2 February we were fortunate to have Dr Anne Anderson giving the illustrated lecture; *La Vie de Bohème: artistic life in Belle Époque Paris*. This topic was only one of her many areas of expertise. It was delivered with enthusiasm and, not so much as a glance at notes, she kept everybody amused, enlightened and shocked in equal measure! We learned of the painters of the day gravitating to Paris and of the development of Impressionism and later Cubism.

We learned of the painters' lives and how their works developed as they influenced each other and were influenced by Asian and African art. It was clear that the Paris scene provided the right mix of light, colour and atmosphere, created by the cabarets, the dancers, and the artists' models and these influences often became the subjects of their paintings and their muses. This environment was coupled with the encouragement of the Paris art dealers and patrons such as Gertrude Stein.

It was very informative and enjoyable lecture.

Trevor Colgate

The March Meeting

Malcolm Kenwood Fakes and Forgeries

Malcolm is a former police detective specialising in art crime; he was formerly the Recoveries Director for the Art Loss Register. In his lecture he explained in a highly entertaining way how forgers of paintings and artefacts create their works - a notable example was Shaun Greenhalgh who sold "Egyptian", "Roman" and other artefacts and very possibly a "Leonardo" painting to major galleries.



We learned how one particular forger, John Drewe, created provenance documents which allowed John Myatt to pass his paintings - created in Dulux emulsion - off as genuine Monets, Lowrys etc. and duped the British Museum, the V & A, and Tate Britain into accepting these works. Although both forgers went to prison, there are still many of their paintings with "provenance" in public and private collections which have never been detected.

Jan Calderwood



Change of Presentation for April Meeting

The Lecturer for the 6th April Meeting will now be Charles Harris, global award winning creative director of International Advertising Agencies. His subject will be Romancing the Rails, the Golden Age of British Railway Posters (1923-1947).

Our Sponsors

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Change of name for NADFAS



From May **The Arts Society** will replace NADFAS as the name for our Society in the UK

Membership

Our membership has risen steadily since the inauguration of the society and we have decided to cap membership at 175 in order not to prejudice the comfort of members at meetings. We are aware of the problems with seeing the visual displays and have experimented with different room lay-outs, but we are also considering the viability of alternative accommodation.

A waiting list is now in operation which will provide priority for next year's membership. Contact secretary@mafas.org.uk to be put on the waiting list. Members' guests (pre-registered only by emailing secretary@mafas.org.uk) are limited to 12 per meeting to ensure screen visibility for all.