



## NEW COMMITTEE

New Committee members were elected at the February meeting of The Arts Society. Your committee members and contact email addresses are currently:

Tony Cabban	Chairman	<a href="mailto:chair@marinaaltaarts.com">chair@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Rod Anderton	Vice Chairman	<a href="mailto:vicechair@marinaaltaarts.com">vicechair@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Dodie Hodgkinson	Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@marinaaltaarts.com">secretary@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Gaby Ferenczy	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@marinaaltaarts.com">treasurer@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Jan Calderwood	Programme	<a href="mailto:programme@marinaaltaarts.com">programme@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
David Glover	Publicity	<a href="mailto:publicity@marinaaltaarts.com">publicity@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Andrew Ward	Committee	<a href="mailto:committee2@marinaaltaarts.com">committee2@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Helen Granville	Web Designer	<a href="mailto:webadmin@marinaaltaarts.com">webadmin@marinaaltaarts.com</a>
Jane Cobb (Co-opted)	Membership	<a href="mailto:memership@marinaaltaarts.com">memership@marinaaltaarts.com</a>

## APRIL 5TH MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Salones Canor, Teulada, and will commence at 11.00. (Registration and coffee from 10.00 to 10.50). Please be in seats by 10.55.

Daniel Evans, Art teacher and international travel guide will be talking about Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling

## MISSING MEMBER INFORMATION

On joining the association it is necessary to complete a membership application form. This information is used for the mailing list.

If anyone has a contact email address for *Jean Hicks* please contact the Secretary on [secretary@marinaaltaarts.com](mailto:secretary@marinaaltaarts.com)

Email addresses for the following have been rejected by our mailing system. Please contact the Secretary: *Alexandra Rudnai, Jane Venema*

... THANK YOU ...

## HOSTING SPEAKERS

We would be most grateful for offers to host the following Speakers: David Winpenny (Painting with Light) May 3; Christopher Garibaldi (Treasures of the Turf) Nov 1; Nicola Moorby (Late Turner) Dec 6. Hosting can include or exclude pick up from airport. Call Tony Cabban on 620 412 384 for more information

## ACCOUNT OF OUR LAST MEETING MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> 2018

### AL ANDALUS: SPAIN'S ART, POWER AND PASSION BY ANNE HAWORTH

The chronological boundaries of early Spanish history could be defined by two invasions. The first being the Alans, Suaves and the Vandals who crossed the Pyrenees around 409 and put an end to the Roman Imperial rule over much of the Iberian peninsula. This process was completed by the Visigoth conquest in 470. At the end of this period Islamic invaders from the south brought about the end of the Visigoth kingdom. We were shown a coin of this period, of King Leovigild, thought to be of the new style, minted in Toledo, with a bust of the King (with long hair), but no other symbols of royalty. We also saw a picture of the votive crown, given by King Reccesvinth (640 -72) to an unknown church, probably in Toledo. These crowns were hung over the high altar during major ceremonies. This, and other religious artefacts, were discovered in an area outside that city in 1849. The letters around the crown record the donor's name.

High above the Alhambra rise the white walls of the Generalife in Granada, a palace of storied recollections with the famous cypresses of enormous size which flourished in the Moorish times with echoes of fabulous stories. Here are preserved the portraits of many who figure in the drama of the reconquest, Ferdinand and Isabella, Poncede Leon, the Marquis of Cadiz. There is also a portrait once thought to be of the unfortunate Boabdil but now considered to be of Aben Hud, the Moorish King from whom descended the princes of Almeria.



*Boabdil*



*The Mezquita, Cordoba*

Anne delighted us with the history, mystery and beauty of Cordoba, a city rich in art with its origins most probably around 152B.C. due to its beginnings as a river port on the Guadalquivir River and entrance gate to the entire region of Andalucía. The Moorish invasion of 711 was based on an agreement of the life and religious beliefs of the inhabitants of the three religious cultures, Moorish, Christian and Hebrew who lived and traded peacefully side by side.

The mosque and cathedral are an example of maximum splendour. We were enthralled by the beauty, detail and variety of Anne's collection from the arcades of Abd-ar-Rahman to the naves of the polyfoiled arches by Al-Hakamii, the first paper producing factory in the western world. We admired beautiful patios and magnificent plazas. Although there are so many treasures, including a Roman sarcophagus, the main attraction resides in the splendid gardens which water, so important to the people of Iberia, is an unbelievable feature, as are the tiles and paintings with the predominant colour, blue.

Although many of us have previously visited Seville, Cordoba and Granada, Anne has shown us there is so much more to discover.

Rod Anderton

### SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to our sponsors for 2018 – Blevins Franks, LEXTAX Consulting, 100%Plumbing and Construction, Avalon International and Reliable Air Conditioning and also to Vicens Ash s.l. who support the Association. Their support keeps subscription costs lower.

## ARTS SOCIETY TRIP TO FLORENCE



On the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 25 members of the Arts Society (Marina Alta) went on a trip to Florence. Flying in via Pisa, the group briefly renewed their acquaintance with the leaning tower and then on by coach to their Florence hotel where one of the group's guides gave an hour talk on the history of Florence and the Medici family who 'ruled' the city for over 300 years.

*Florence street with Duomo*

Mention the city of Florence and two names spring to mind; the world famous Uffizi Gallery and the statue of David by Michelangelo. It was fitting therefore that the group started their tour with a three hour visit to the Uffizi and ended it on the third day with a visit to the Accademia Gallery containing the works of Michelangelo, including his magnificent sculpture of David. In between was a three day cultural extravaganza of art and architecture conducted by two excellent guides, taking in the Duomo, the Baptistery and its museum, the Palazzo Vecchio, the Palazzo Medici Riccardi, San Marco Museum and several churches and chapels.



*Michelangelo's David*



*The group in Piazza S Marco*

A "free choice" day offered members the opportunity to enjoy a return visit to previously visited museums or galleries, or visit other magnificent sites such as the Pitti Palace or travel further afield to Lucca, Sienna and Fiesole.

The gastronomic delights of Florence were not ignored as two group dinners were enjoyed and the local restaurants explored at both lunch and dinner. The group returned on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March after a most enjoyable trip, culturally and gastronomically sated. The group expressed their grateful thanks to Cherry and Tony Cabban for organising such an excellent tour.

Gaby Ferenczy

### ARTS FAIR 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018 AT SALONES CANOR, TEULADA



After the great success of our first Arts Fair, the committee has decided to hold another on Wednesday 26th September 2018. The exhibition will be at Salones Canor, Teulada. We are investigating the hiring of exhibition stands and additional lighting. If you would like to show your work at the Arts Fair we are giving The Art Society Marina Alta member artists, priority booking before opening the exhibition to other local art groups and artists. The cost of a stand will be €25 – €30 depending on the number of artists exhibiting, the cost of hiring exhibition stands and extra lighting costs. If you are interested, please email your name, telephone number and two photos of your artwork to [artsfair@marinaaltaarts.com](mailto:artsfair@marinaaltaarts.com) before 14th April.



Members at the exhibition



One of the exhibits

## TRIP TO "A GARDEN FIT TO PAINT" SOROLLA EXHIBITION IN VALENCIA

On March 15th Lindsay Hart organised a visit by 32 members of the Arts Society to the exhibition "A Garden Fit to Paint", a collection of paintings by Joaquin Sorolla at the Centre Cultural Bancaixa in Valencia. The exhibition tells of how Sorolla created a garden around the house he built in Madrid in 1911, now the Museo Sorolla, as an intimate family space of beauty, sensory delight and pictorial pleasure. The planting of the garden reflected the creation of his paintings, in his search for the right combinations of colour and shape, and the roses, lilies, irises and the many trees were offset by fountains, columns, statues and tiles lovingly collected in Andalucia.

The exhibition also includes paintings of gardens in Seville, Granada and Valencia, as well as some of Sorolla's oil and pencil sketches, together with fascinating photographs of, and letters to and from, the artist and his family.

The Centre Cultural is an excellent space to show these 50 paintings, very well-lit and with ease of access, the only drawback being that absolutely no seating is provided, so that there is nowhere to sit and enjoy a quiet and leisurely contemplation of these beautiful paintings.

Alison Tain

Thank you to Member Lindsay Hart for organising this trip on behalf of the association.

## MADRID TRIP OCTOBER 15-19<sup>TH</sup> 2018



The Arts Society Marina Alta is arranging a trip to Madrid from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> October. We will have guided tours of the six main museums in Madrid:

Museo del Prado, Museo de Arte Thyssen-Bornemisza, Museo de Reina Sofia, Museo Sorollo, Palacio Real, Museo de Belles Artes

Each tour will last approximately 2 hours and there will be free time during the day for you to spend more time in the museums on your own, have a break, take lunch, etc.

Total estimated cost (including the hotel as at 5/3/2018) €485 per person in a double room with breakfast.

For further information please contact Helen Granville ([trips@MarinaAltaArts.com](mailto:trips@MarinaAltaArts.com)) or telephone 965791423

