

Drawing the Line:

A Picture History of Graphic Art Monday 23 January

Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street,
Northwich CW9 5JN
2.00pm - £5.00 (£4.00 concessions)

Ingres believed that 'Drawing is the probity of Art' (or was it William Blake?). It is remarkable, then, just how great is the catalogue of scandalous, scurrilous, satirical and provocative drawings produced by great artists down the years.

Illumination and animation, childrens' books and alphabets, cartoon, caricature and comix, woodcut, etching and engraving, the variety and invention within the graphic arts amazes us (and shows us the pulse of history).

This informal chat by Adrian Sumner, profusely illustrated with colour slides, scratches the surface - from Raphael to Rugrats, from Gillray to Groening, from Dore to Disney, and back again. (no, I haven't forgotten Leonardo, or Egon Schiele, or Alphonse Mucha).



Pop Art:

A trip through the Kaleidoscopic art of the 1960s Monday 13 February

Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street,
Northwich CW9 5JN
2.00pm - £5.00 (£4.00 concessions)

Everyone seems to have a different memory of the 'Swinging Sixties'. There seems to be a cloud of mist (or is it smoke) shrouding the view. This illustrated lecture will attempt to bring the scene into sharp focus, looking at the incredible, often thrilling, variety of visual arts experiences on offer to a rapidly-expanding market, as the Age of Aquarius kicked in.

We will explore the great personalities of Pop Art (Eduardo Paolozzi, Richard Hamilton, Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenberg, Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenburg) as well as Op Art, Kinetic Art, Happenings, Assemblage, Abstraction, Colour-Field Painting, Nouveau Realisme, Psychedelia, Political Art, Underground Art, Posters, Magazines and Album Cover Art, Fashion, Childrens' Book Illustration, and the beginnings of Minimalism and Environmental Art.



From Apple to (Frank) Zappa, via Bridget Riley, Peter Blake, Robert Crumb, and dear old David Hockney, we will leave no stoned Stone unturned, and no Head unfed.

This lecture accompanies our heritage tour "Hockney's Bradford" on Saturday 18 February.

Art Treasures of New York

Monday 12 March

Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street,
Northwich CW9 5JN
2.00pm - £5.00 (£4.00 concessions)

New York is so crammed full of Old Masters, its surprising there are any left in Europe. The Metropolitan Museum of Art (bewildering in scale and truly a treasure house) and the Frick Collection (like visiting a very, very wealthy relative) are wonders of this New World, the Guggenheim and Museum of Modern Art unrivalled anywhere in their 20th Century collections. Plus, of course, New York is unquestionably the centre of the International Art Market and a hotbed of Contemporary Art and Artists.



And then there's the theory that it has the greatest works of art of the 20th Century in its Skyscrapers, and of the 19th in the Brooklyn Bridge. And don't even get me started on the Whitney, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Radio City Music Hall, the Rockefeller Plaza or the staggering range of Public Art boasted by the 'city that never sleeps'.

This lecture, illustrated, as you might expect, with all kinds of eyewitness slides, 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.

Gustav Klimt and the Vienna Secession

Monday 23 April

Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street,
Northwich CW9 5JN
2.00pm - £5.00 (£4.00 concessions)

This lecture marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Klimt and features the most gorgeous images imaginable, exploring the work of this most influential of artists.



The centre of the artistic whirlwind which was Vienna at the very beginning of the 20th Century, Klimt was a founder member of the Vienna Secession, which embodied the exotic local flowering of international Art Nouveau. With the architects Josef Maria Olbrich, Joseph Hoffman and Otto Wagner, and the designer Koloman Moser, Klimt revolutionized the Fine and Decorative Arts in Northern Europe, providing inspiration for generations of artists to come, a legacy passed on via the highly-influential Wiener Werkstatte.

In his subject matter and scandalous private life Klimt had a powerful effect on such younger artists as Egon Schiele and Oskar Kokoshka, contributing to the ethos of the Expressionist movement in Austria, Germany and beyond. Almost incidentally, these artists created a form which contained the seeds of Art Deco. Since the revival of interest in the 1960s, the reputation of Gustav Klimt has continued to grow. Today images of his work are recognised around the world, and he is admired and studied more than ever before.

Faerie Painting

Monday 28 May

Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street,
Northwich CW9 5JN
2.00pm - £5.00 (£4.00 concessions)

Fairies seem to exist in abundance in contemporary popular art; indeed hundreds of 'popular' artists seem to make a living from them, and from their darker cousins, witches, vampires, shapeshifters and the rest. However, the traditional fairy (small of stature, gossamer wings, shimmering and sparkling) is a comparatively recent thing, flourishing in any number only from the mid-19th century (in painting) and for perhaps 400 years before that in prose and poem.

It could be, of course, that 'fairy' is only the latest name for the far older phenomena which are the spirits of wood and field, stream and ocean, in which case the idea predates the Classical world, but becomes particularly relevant in the wake of the Industrial Revolution, when European Landscape/Countryside seemed increasingly threatened.

This lecture, illustrated by the usual gorgeous colour images, examines fairies in western art, with a particular focus on the spectacular period seen in Britain between 1850 and 1900, and the way these archetypal fairies change to confront the Great War, the Jazz Age, and even the Swinging Sixties.

The lecture accompanies an exhibition themed to "A Mid-Summer Night's Dream" by members of Cheshire Artists Network at Castle Park Arts Centre, Frodsham, including an event on 21 June to mark the Summer Solstice. The event includes poetry, installations, dance, music and a raku firing.

DAN
A Virtual Arts Centre for Northwich



**Art History
Lectures
with Adrian Sumner
Spring 2012**

**Bookings and
Further Information
01606 41597
www.danarts.org**



Registered Charity
No. 1144061

