



SPRING  
2024

# ROYAL OAK PROGRAMS



Primary underwriting provided by  
Mark Pigott, KBE

# PROGRAMS INFORMATION

## SPRING 2024 PROGRAMS

Royal Oak's Spring 2024 Programming will be a mix of online and in-person events. Please check our website for changes or additions.

### Support for Lectures

For the Spring 2024 season, primary underwriting provided by Mark Pigott, KBE.

We are grateful to loyal Royal Oak members for generously providing critical funding for online and in-person lectures this season. As of print date they include:

Donors: The Joseph and Robert Cornell Foundation; Stephen and Karen Tyler

Supporter: Marian Meaker Apteckar Foundation

Adopters: Thomas and Patricia Bain, Linda Pedro, Lynne R. Pickens, Roberta and Robert Young

### Register for Zoom & In-Person Lectures & Tours

Some lectures & tours will be held via Zoom. After registering on our website, you will receive an email with a link to the Zoom webinar or meeting. A reminder with the same link will be sent one hour before the lecture. A virtual waiting room is open starting 30 minutes before the lecture.

### Lecture & Tour Recordings and Rentals

Most lectures & tours will be recorded and available to rent. The link to the recording will be emailed to you at 12 p.m. (ET) the day after the live lecture or tour and will expire at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on the date listed. The video is available for streaming only, not for download. Copyright is held by the speaker.

### In-Person Events & Dress Code

The Royal Oak Foundation follows local health guidelines required **at the time of in-person event**. Masks are optional. Royal Oak is not responsible for venue dress code policies or requirements.

### Fees & Refunds

Royal Oak members receive a discount on **all** lectures. You must be signed into the website to receive the discount. We can turn your ticket into a tax deductible donation if you email us at least 48 hours before the lecture at [zoom@royal-oak.org](mailto:zoom@royal-oak.org).

**Royal Oak is not responsible for attendees' technology issues regarding viewing live or recorded lectures.**

### How to Register

Please register online at [www.royal-oak.org/events](http://www.royal-oak.org/events). If you have questions, please email us at [zoom@royal-oak.org](mailto:zoom@royal-oak.org) for the fastest response.

Cover: The best garden and east front of Chastleton House, Oxfordshire.  
Credit: ©National Trust Images/Hugh Mothersole

## Dear Royal Oak Members and Friends,

This season, Royal Oak is thrilled to offer captivating lectures and interesting tours. From delving into Chinese and Japanese influences on the NT's collection with curator Emile de Bruijn, to wandering through gorgeous Cotswolds gardens with historian Paula Henderson, our lecture programs will explore British art and architecture, history, landscapes, and design. As always, one of this season's lectures will be free to members.

Architectural historian Jeremy Musson will unravel the secrets of one of England's great country estates in "Wilton: An English Treasure House," while author and historian Adrian Tinniswood will talk about "Outsiders" in the English country house.

We are delighted to commission art specialist Patrick Monahan to research and speak about the elegant homes created by the multi-talented Noël Coward. We hope you will tune in as the architecture firm working with the NT, Connolly Wellingham, discuss the restoration plans already in full swing at Bath's Assembly Rooms—for which Royal Oak is raising \$1M to support the efforts to restore this national treasure.

Our popular digital tours of the UK will have us raising a glass to London's historic pubs with Rob Smith, who will unearth the tales behind England's beloved drinking establishments. Stephen Benton will shed light on the influence of Americans on London highlighting figures like William Waldorf Astor. We will travel north to explore Scotland with Rob Smith who will illustrate Dumfriesshire: including its castles, country houses, and stunning vistas.

Join us for our in-person tours including two chances to visit The Morgan Library on a curator led tour of the exhibition, *Beatrix Potter: Drawn to Nature*. We will explore the Art Deco wonders of NYC's Upper East Side with architectural historian Matt Postal, and go further afield into Brooklyn to discover the architectural marvels of Green-Wood Cemetery.

And, exciting news! We have launched our new Royal Oak website designed to streamline the membership renewal process and the event ticket shopping experience. Royal Oak members now enjoy exclusive access to a plethora of content including videos, links to past free-to-member lecture recordings, magazines, and more!

Thank you for all of your support, and we look forward to seeing you this season.

With warm regards,



Ian Murray  
Executive Director



The long canal and pavilion at Westbury Court Garden, Gloucestershire.

©National Trust Images/Andrew Baskott



# AT-A-GLANCE Please check your local time zone.

## MARCH

26	6:00 p.m. ET	Dwight Cleveland	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
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## APRIL

2	5:00 p.m. ET	<i>Tales on Tap: London's Historic Pubs</i>	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
4	2:00 p.m. ET	Emile de Bruijn	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
9	1:30 p.m. ET	<i>Exhibit Tour: Beatirix Potter, Morgan Library</i>	In-Person NYC
11	6:00 p.m. ET	Jane Marguerite Tippet	NYC In-Person or Rent
16	6:00 p.m. ET	Victoria Kastner	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
18	6:00 p.m. ET	Dr. Paula Henderson	NYC In-Person or Rent
23	2:00 p.m. ET	<i>Digital Walking Tour: Americans Abroad: 19th-and-20th Century Americans in London</i>	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
24	12:00 p.m. ET	Fergus Connolly and Charles Wellingham	Zoom Live Stream or Rent

## MAY

1	2:00 p.m. ET	Jeremy Musson	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
2	6:00 p.m. ET	Devoney Looser	NYC In-Person or Rent
7	5:00 p.m. ET	<i>Digital Walking Tour: Scenic Scotland, Dumfries</i>	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
8	6:30 pm CT	Jane Marguerite Tippet	Chicago In-Person
9	2:00 p.m. ET	Adrian Tinniswood, OBE	Zoom Live Stream or Rent
14	2:00 p.m. ET	<i>Walking Tour: Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn</i>	NYC In-Person
20	6:00 p.m. ET	Patrick Monahan	NYC In-Person or Rent
24	2:00 p.m. ET	<i>Exhibit Tour: Beatirix Potter, Morgan Library</i>	In-Person NYC

## JUNE

5	10:30 a.m. ET	<i>Walking Tour: Art Deco on the Upper East Side</i>	NYC In-Person
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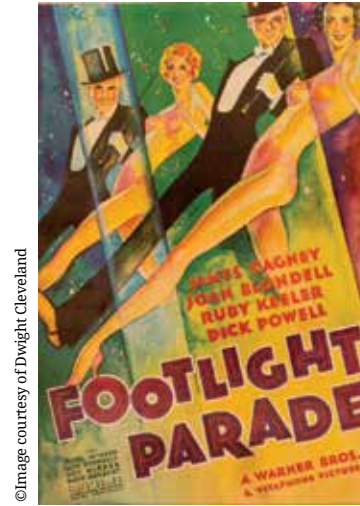
A Floral Border at Hidcote, Gloucestershire.

©National Trust Images/James Dobson

# PUBLIC LECTURES

Please note start times vary. Please check your local time zone.  
For full descriptions and speaker bios, please visit [www.royal-oak.org/events](http://www.royal-oak.org/events)

## ZOOM LECTURES & IN-PERSON NEW YORK CITY



©Image courtesy of Dwight Cleveland

*Footlight Parade*, Warner Brothers' 1933 classic starring James Cagney and Dick Powell paired with Ruby Keeler and Joan Blondell.

### Cinema on Paper: Collecting Film Posters

Dwight Cleveland

Private Curator

Tuesday, March 26  
6:00 p.m. (ET)

Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)

Zoom Recording:  
\$15 members;  
\$25 non-members and guests

### Borrowed Landscapes: The Influence of China and Japan on the English Country House

Emile de Bruijn

Assistant National Curator at the National Trust

Thursday, April 4  
2:00 p.m. (ET)

Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)

Zoom Recording:  
\$15 members;  
\$25 non-members and guests



©National Trust Images/John Hammond

An English lacquer cabinet, c.1690, in the Morning Room at Saltram, Devon.



## ZOOM LECTURES & IN-PERSON NEW YORK CITY

### Once a King: The Lost Memoir of Edward VIII

Jane Marguerite Tippet

Author and Royal Historian

**Thursday, April 11**  
**6:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Reception and book signing following.**  
The General Society Library, 20 W. 44th Street, NYC (Bet. 5th and 6th)

In-Person: \$35 members;  
\$40 non-members and guests

Zoom Recording: \$20 members;  
\$30 non-members and guests



*Duke & Duchess of Windsor at Waldorf Towers Apt. of Mrs. Engelhard. Vogue May, 1966.*

### A Collector's Country House: William Randolph Hearst

Victoria Kastner, Architectural Historian and Author

**Tuesday, April 16 | 6:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)**

Zoom Recording: \$15 members; \$25 non-members and guests



*The Assembly Room at San Simeon.*

©Hearst Castle/California State Parks

## ZOOM LECTURES & IN-PERSON NEW YORK CITY

### Cotswold Manors and Gardens

Dr. Paula Henderson

Architectural and Garden Historian

**Thursday, April 18**  
**6:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Reception following.** The General Society Library, 20 W. 44th Street, NYC (Bet. 5th and 6th)

In-Person: \$35 members;  
\$40 non-members and guests

Zoom Recording: \$20 members;  
\$30 non-members and guests



*Hidcote, Gloucestershire.*

©National Trust Images/James Dobson

### Preserving History: The Restoration of Bath's Assembly Rooms

Fergus Connolly, Architect  
and Charles Wellingham, Architect

**Wednesday, April 24 | 12:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)**

Zoom Recording: **Free to members**; \$25 non-members and guests



*The Tea Room at Bath Assembly Rooms, Somerset.*

©National Trust Images/ Dawn Biggs



## ZOOM LECTURES & IN-PERSON NEW YORK CITY

### Wilton: An English Treasure House

Jeremy Musson  
Architectural Historian

Wednesday, May 1  
2:00 p.m. (ET)

Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)

Zoom Recording: \$15 members;  
\$25 non-members and guests



*Southeast view of Wilton.*

Credit: From *Wilton House: The Art, Architecture and Interiors of One of Britain's Great Stately Homes* by John Martin Robinson, Rizzoli Electra, 2021

### In the Footsteps of Jane Austen: A Writer's Love of Bath

Devoney Looser, Regents Professor of English at Arizona State University

Thursday, May 2 | 6:00 p.m. (ET)

Reception following. The General Society Library, 20 W. 44th Street, NYC (Bet. 5th and 6th)

In-Person: \$35 members; \$40 non-members and guests

Zoom Recording: \$20 members; \$30 non-members and guests



*Sewing table in Boudoir at Saltram, Devon.*



*Miniature portrait of Jane Austen, 19th century.*

Left: ©National Trust Images/Andreas von Einsiedel. Right: ©Morgan Library & Museum.

## ZOOM LECTURES & IN-PERSON NEW YORK CITY



### 'Outsiders' and the English Country House

Adrian Tinniswood, OBE  
Professor of English Social History at the University of Buckingham

Thursday, May 9  
2:00 p.m. (ET)

Zoom Webinar (Live or Rent)

Zoom Recording:  
\$15 members;  
\$25 non-members and guests



*Portrait of Duleep Singh, Franz Winterhalter 1854.*

©Royal Collection/HM The King

### Designs for Living: Noël Coward at home

Patrick Monahan,  
Writer and Independent Art Advisor

Monday, May 20  
6:00 p.m. (ET)

Reception following.  
The General Society Library, 20 W. 44th Street, NYC (Bet. 5th and 6th)

In-Person: \$35 members;  
\$40 non-members and guests

Zoom Recording: \$20 members;  
\$30 non-members and guests



*Noël Coward and Lillian Braithwaite.*

Courtesy Library of Congress.

## CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

### Once a King: The Lost Memoir of Edward VIII

Jane Marguerite Tippett, Author and Royal Historian

Wednesday, May 8 | 6:30 p.m. (CT)

This lecture is preceded by a reception and book signing at 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Newberry Library, Ruggles Hall, 60 West Walton Street

In-Person: \$35 members; \$40 non-members and guests



Prince Edward, Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII (1894-1972).



CHECK OUR WEBSITE  
FOR LECTURE UPDATES.

## ROYAL OAK MEMBER TOURS

Digital tours are presented live and our guides will give an illustrated presentation with an accompanying talk. Some tours will be recorded and available for a limited period. In-Person Tours are not recorded. Please note start times vary and are all listed in Eastern time.

### ONLINE WALKING TOUR

#### Tales on Tap: London's Historic Pubs

##### Zoom Meeting (Live or Rent)

Tuesday, April 2 | 5:00 p.m. ET

Explore London's rich tradition of historic pubs with Footprints of London's guide, Rob Smith. For centuries, going to the pub has been a quintessential London pastime, and within the city, there exists a treasure trove of stories behind some of its most beloved drinking establishments. Rob will delve into the narratives behind a selection of his favorite historic pubs, each with its own unique charm and significance. Discover the intriguing tale of a pub that retains its license as a pawnbroker, boasting a storied history of loaning money to none other than King George IV. Journey to a former coaching inn, now under the stewardship of the National Trust, where echoes of bygone travelers still linger in its walls. Visit a pub ingeniously built around the remnants of an old windmill, a testament to London's ever-evolving urban landscape. Rob will even navigate the tricky, debated question: which establishment truly deserves the title of London's oldest pub? Join us as we raise a virtual glass to London's historic pubs and the captivating tales that have woven themselves into the fabric of the city's social and cultural tapestry.

**TICKETS:** \$30 members; \$40 non-members; FREE to Guardian and Patron Members



©National Trust Images/John Hammond

Inside The Crown Bar,  
Great Victoria Street, Belfast.



©National Trust Images/James Dobson

The Fleece Inn,  
near Evesham, Worcestershire.



## IN-PERSON EXHIBIT TOUR

### Beatrix Potter: Drawn to Nature

In-Person (not recorded)

Tuesday, April 9 | 1:30 p.m. ET

Friday, May 24 | 2:00 p.m. ET

Join Royal Oak as the Morgan Library takes us on this captivating tour through *Beatrix Potter: Drawn to Nature*, a celebration of the beloved author and illustrator's century-spanning legacy. Renowned for creating unforgettable characters like Peter Rabbit, Mr. Jeremy Fisher, and Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle, Potter's creative prowess and entrepreneurial spirit set her apart as one of the most celebrated children's authors in history. Explore the roots of her artistic inspiration, drawn from childhood summers spent in Scotland

and the English Lake District, and witness the impact of her famous menagerie of pets on her picture letters and published tales. This tour will showcase her botanical drawings, picturesque Lake District landscapes, and charming characters she featured in humorous letters to friends. Additionally, rare works and unseen photos from family albums will be unveiled, providing a more intimate glimpse into Potter's life. The exhibition not only honors Potter's literary contributions but also sheds light on her achievements as a storyteller, artist, and naturalist. Join us on this enchanting journey through the life and works of Beatrix Potter, a visionary whose influence continues to captivate audiences worldwide.

**MEETING PLACE: MORGAN LIBRARY**  
225 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10013

**TICKETS:** \$40 members; \$50 non-members



*The Mice at Work: Threading the Needle, Beatrix Potter, 1902.*



*Beatrix Potter at age 15 with Spot, her family's spaniel.*

## ONLINE WALKING TOUR

### Americans Abroad: Shaping Culture and Influence 19th-and-20th Century

Zoom Meeting (Live or Rent)

Tuesday, April 23 | 2:00 p.m. ET

Americans have left an indelible mark on London, shaping and influencing various facets of the city's landscape. From Harry Gordon Selfridge, a retail maverick who revolutionized the shopping experience, to Charles Tyson Yerkes, a key figure in the development of the tube network, Americans have played pivotal roles in transforming London. Witness the profound influence of figures like Waldorf and Nancy Astor, who transitioned from Americans to influential British politicians. London's cultural tapestry is enriched further by the presence of notable artists and writers, including James McNeil Whistler, John Singer Sargent, and T.S. Eliot, who chose

*continued*

London as their creative haven. The city's musical landscape, too, bears the imprints of American artists who forged a special connection with London. Icons such as Judy Garland, Paul Robeson, and Jimi Hendrix contributed to the unique bond between American musicians and the London scene. Join Stephen Benton on an insightful exploration as he shares the stories of these Americans who have not only left an enduring legacy and also have also significantly altered the fabric of London itself. From retail to politics, arts, and music, discover the diverse ways in which these artists have shaped and changed the dynamic city of London

**TICKETS:** \$30 members;  
\$40 non-members;  
FREE to Guardian and Patron Members



*Charles Sims, Introduction of Lady Astor as the First Woman MP, c. 1919.*

## ONLINE WALKING TOUR

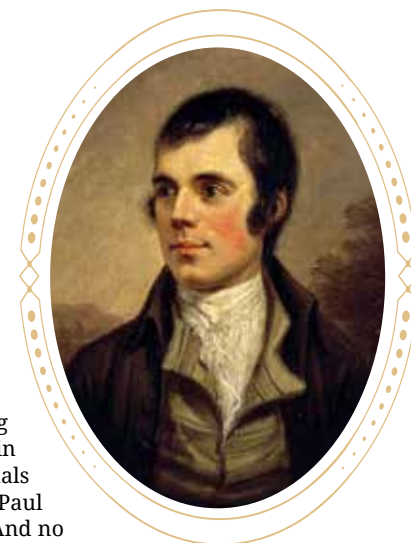
### Scenic Scotland: Dumfries

Zoom Meeting (Live or Rent)

Tuesday, May 7 | 5:00 p.m. ET

While not as widely recognized as the Highlands of the north, Dumfriesshire boasts an abundance of scenic beauty that rivals any other region in Scotland. Our guide Rob Smith will take us on a virtual journey through the breathtaking landscapes known as the Queen of Scotland of the South. We will explore the majestic rocky coastlines, traverse the rolling hills of the Southern Uplands Way, visit the sands of the Solway Firth, and uncover Dumfries' spectacular castles—including the iconic triangular fortress the only one of its kind in Scotland. We will hear stories of remarkable individuals hailing from Dumfriesshire, such as naval Captain John Paul Jones and the beloved author of *Peter Pan*, J.M. Barrie. And no exploration of Dumfriesshire would be complete without delving into the life and legacy of Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns...haggis not included.

**TICKETS:** \$30 members; \$40 non-members;  
FREE to Guardian and Patron Members



*Portrait of Robert Burns by Alexander Nasmyth, 1787, Scottish National Portrait Gallery*

## IN-PERSON WALKING TOUR

### Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn

Tuesday, May 14 | 2:00 p.m. ET

In-Person (not recorded)

Established in 1838 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006, Green-Wood Cemetery holds a distinguished place on the National Register of Historic Places, commemorating its architectural and historical importance. Spread across 478 acres and home to 600,000 graves and 7,000 trees, Green-Wood Cemetery stands as a testament to Brooklyn's early history and development. The grand main gate, crafted in the Gothic style by Richard Upjohn, welcomes visitors into this verdant oasis full of sprawling hills and sweeping views of the Manhattan skyline. Green-Wood boasts tombs adorned with ornate sculptural decorations. Its picturesque landscaping, inspired by landscape designer Alexander Jackson Downing and envisioned by David Bates Douglass, reflects a quintessential example of 19th-century rural cemetery design. Join our knowledgeable Green-Wood guide as we take a 90-minute walk through the cemetery, offering insights into its history, architectural marvels, scenic landscapes, and the fascinating people who rest beneath its tranquil grounds.

**MEETING PLACE: GREENWOOD CEMETERY, 500 25TH STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11232**

**TICKETS:** \$40 members; \$50 non-members



*Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn NY.*

## IN-PERSON WALKING TOUR

### Jazz Age Modern: Art Deco on the Upper East Side

In-Person (not recorded)

Wednesday, June 5 | 10:30 a.m. ET

In the mid-1920s and 1930s, a second wave of apartment construction left its mark north of East 68th Street, adding a fascinating group of frequently overlooked modernistic structures. Architectural historian Matt Postal will lead us on a walk through the neighborhood's distinguished historic district, highlighting Art Deco and Moderne works, including luxury apartment houses and stylish commercial buildings. Some are characterized by white metals, casement windows, and striking geometric details. Our route includes stops at 740 Park Avenue, commissioned by James T. Lee, father of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Manhattan's only Art Deco townhouse, the timeless Carlyle Hotel, and a limestone goddess salvaged from the legendary Ziegfeld Theater.

**MEETING PLACE: NORTHWEST CORNER OF LEXINGTON AVENUE AND 69TH STREET**

**TICKETS:** \$40 members; \$50 non-members



*The Carlyle Hotel entrance, NYC.*

# ROYAL OAK LECTURES



**Emile de Bruijn** studied Japanese at Leiden University, the Netherlands, and museology at Essex University, United Kingdom. After working in the Japanese and Chinese art departments at Sotheby's, he joined the National Trust where he currently has the role of Assistant National Curator of Decorative Arts. In 2017 he published the monograph *Chinese Wallpaper in Britain and Ireland*, and his latest book is *Borrowed Landscapes: China and Japan in the Historic Houses and Gardens of Britain and Ireland* (2023).

## BORROWED LANDSCAPES: THE INFLUENCE OF CHINA AND JAPAN ON THE ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE

From the 17th century onwards, Chinese and Japanese art and ornamentation influenced the design and decoration of interiors and gardens in Britain and Ireland. The importation of Chinese and Japanese luxury goods—lacquer, porcelain, embroidered silk, wallpaper—allowed designers and homeowners to incorporate these objects into their interiors. East India Companies also commissioned objects from Chinese and Japanese artisans, incorporating European forms and Western patterns. However, British designers and artisans also created their own fanciful interpretations of Asian styles and forms, often mistaking the original meaning or purpose behind the designs. These Western-created hybrid styles have been known as chinoiserie and japonisme and remain popular in decoration and design. Over the centuries, even as China and Japan became better known to Europeans, the fictional idea of what is 'oriental' remained prevalent in Western design. Emile de Bruijn, will explore the impact of Chinese and Japanese material culture on British historic houses and gardens, based on his new book *Borrowed Landscapes*. De Bruijn will illustrate how elements of Chinese and Japanese culture were admired but often misunderstood by Western craftsmen. He will also show how resulting designs were both idealized and caricatured. Finally, he will explain how the collection of Asian objects in British and Irish country houses and the use of Asian design elements in Western furniture was not just about appropriation but also reflected admiration and an attempt by designers to appeal to the senses and admiration of the beholder.



**Dwight Cleveland** is a real-estate developer in Chicago, Illinois who specializes in historic renovations. He began collecting movie posters in 1977, while in high school in MA, spurred on by his teacher's extensive collection. After moving to Los Angeles, he acquired posters from memorabilia dealers in Hollywood before moving back to the East Coast. At one point Cleveland had the largest privately held film poster collection in the world with 45,000 examples from 58 countries. Recently he has donated much of his collection to museums worldwide including the Cinema Museum at The University of Exeter in the UK. Part of his collection was featured in an exhibition Coming Soon: Film Posters from the Dwight M. Cleveland Collection at The Norton Museum of Art in Palm Beach and also illustrated in *Cinema on Paper: The Graphic Genius of Movie Posters by Assouline*.

## CINEMA ON PAPER: COLLECTING FILM POSTERS

The history of film and Hollywood has long captivated the imaginations of audiences worldwide. From the early days of cinema, movie posters and other ephemera have served as powerful tools to entice viewers and leave a lasting impression. One distinguished member of the Royal Oak Foundation, Mr. Dwight Cleveland, known by his internet handle "PosterBoss," eloquently described how poster artists "captured the soul" of films and "reduce the entire essence of a movie into a single vivid sheet". Driven by his appreciation for the graphic nature of movie posters, Cleveland began his collection in high school and has since amassed a remarkable archive of over 4,000 posters and related cinematic advertising. Spanning the years 1914 to 1953, with a concentration from 1910 to 1940, his collection features examples from iconic studios such as Warner Bros., Fox, MGM, Paramount, and RKO. Encompassing a diverse array of genres including musicals, comedies, Westerns, war films, sci-fi thrillers, and dramas, Cleveland's collection offers a rich tapestry of



cinematic history and a panorama of American culture. In his lecture, Mr. Cleveland will share his passion for collecting this captivating art form and explore its profound impact on popular culture. Drawing from his collection, he will showcase a selection of posters, highlighting their artistic diversity and international significance. Sharing posters from many countries, he will offer a fascinating glimpse into the global appeal of film posters. Join us for an enlightening discussion as Mr. Dwight Cleveland illuminates the artistry and cultural significance of film posters, providing insight into their enduring legacy in the world of cinema.



**Fergus Connolly** is from Lancashire and studied architecture at Glasgow School of Art, and London Metropolitan University. Fergus undertook the SPAB's Lethaby Scholarship in 2008, and was awarded first prize in the Georgian Group's Architectural Drawing Competition (presented by HRH The Prince of Wales), later that year. From 2003-2006, Fergus worked for Martin Stancliffe Architects. In the role of Cathedral Surveyors, the practice undertook St. Paul's Cathedral's largest phase of repair and reordering since its completion in 1711. At FCBSudios Fergus spent 8 years as church architect to Grade 1 listed Bath Abbey, and project architect for The Footprint Project. The project secured £10.5m of HLF support to repair and stabilise the collapsing Abbey floor. During his time at FCBS he also worked on Shrewsbury Flax Mill, Windsor Castle's Visitor Masterplan and new conservation studio for the Royal Collection. He authored The Burrell Collection's Statement of Significance. Fergus lectures and tutors across the UK on vernacular architecture.



**Charles Wellingham** grew up in Somerset and studied architecture at University of Plymouth and the University of the West of England, during which time his work was commended by the SPAB Philip Webb award and shortlisted for the RIBA President's Silver Medal. During 6 years at FCBSudios, Charlie was the project architect responsible for delivering the heritage led regeneration of Middleport Pottery in Stoke on Trent for the Prince's Regeneration Trust. The site was built in 1888 and has been home to the Burleigh factory for 150 years. As well as securing the continuation of Burleigh's craft, the brief sought to strengthen the economic sustainability of the grade II\* listed site by introducing additional complementary uses, education spaces and visitor facilities. The refurbishment was awarded a national RIBA award, a Civic Trust AABC Conservation Award and a Europa Nostra Prize for European Cultural Heritage Conservation Excellence. In 2014, he rejoined FCBS and was responsible for leading the design team overseeing the creative reuse of the former Guildhall court rooms in the heart of medieval Bristol. This included securing Planning and Listed Building Consent for the extension and conversion of the Grade I and II\* listed buildings into a hotel complex. Charlie is an associate lecturer at the UWE Architecture School and guest critic in the Part 2 Conservation Studio. Charlie was elected to join the Conservation Register in 2016.

## PRESERVING HISTORY: THE RESTORATION OF BATH'S ASSEMBLY ROOMS

Managed by the National Trust since 1931, the Assembly Rooms hold a special place in Bath's history and culture, offering contemporary visitors an immersive experience into the Georgian era. Join Royal Oak as we hear from Connolly Wellingham Architects. The architectural design and conservation studio, and appointed by the National Trust to assist with interior design and conservation of this significant showpiece, ahead of the Trust's resumption of management of the site. The project will assess the feasibility of revealing currently hidden layers of historic fabric throughout the Assembly Rooms and seek to tell a wider, immersive story of Bath's society heyday. Built during the Georgian era and designed by the esteemed architect John Wood the Younger, the Assembly Rooms have long been at the heart of fashionable society. Completed in 1771, these rooms were hailed as "the most noble and elegant" in the UK, hosting a vibrant array of social gatherings and events. The restoration project includes initiatives that promise to transform the Assembly Rooms into a true reflection of their Georgian heritage. Among these initiatives is the replacement of the modern staircases with a unique Georgian-inspired design. Additionally, the re-gilding of mirrors and marbling of columns will restore the room's opulence and grandeur, while new front doors will welcome guests with a touch of splendor. Removal of infill and installation of new light wells will flood the area with

natural light, recreating the original entrance experience. Also, upgrading to slimline double-glazed windows will ensure both preservation and comfort, allowing guests to enjoy the Assembly Rooms in all seasons. Join us as we delve into the restoration journey, combining historical preservation with modern innovation to breathe new life into this iconic Georgian landmark.



**Dr. Paula Henderson** has degrees in art history (University of Chicago, M.A.) and a Ph.D. in architectural history from the Courtauld Institute of Art (University of London). She lectures widely in Britain (where she lived for 43 years) and the United States and has published over 70 articles on English houses and their landscapes. Her first book, *The Tudor House and Garden: Architecture and Landscape in the 16th and 17th Centuries* (published by Yale University Press), won the Berger Prize for the outstanding contribution to the history of British art 2005. *Treehouses* (co-authored with Adam Mornement) was published by Francis Lincoln, also in 2005. She is currently completing books on London gardens in the age of Shakespeare and on the Landscape as Art. She taught courses for the Courtauld Institute of Art Institute, most recently for the V&A museum. She has lectured for the Paul Mellon Center for British Art, both Oxford and Cambridge Universities, Christie's Education, The Inchbald School of Design, the V&A museum, the Tate Gallery, The Garden History Society, Sir John Soane's Museum, among others. She led tours for the Courtauld Institute to Florence ('Gardens of the Medici') Derbyshire ('Elizabethan architecture') and the Cotswolds ('Gardens of the Cotswolds'). She is a Fellow of Society of Antiquaries of London and now splits her time between Nantucket, Massachusetts, and Williamsburg, Virginia.

## COTSWOLD MANORS AND GARDENS

The Cotswold hills with their mellow stone cottages, elegant manor houses and imposing castles contain some of the most important historic gardens in England. A virtual history of English gardens can be found traveling through Gloucestershire, parts of Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. Although little survives of the Roman and medieval periods, some very early gardens remain: Thornbury Castle and Horton Court are two remarkable early 16th-century gardens. From the 17th century, the restored gardens at Westbury Court are well known, while ghosts and remains of the late 17th-century gardens at Dyrham Park are more challenging to discover. The 18th century is represented in the poetic garden at Rousham, William Kent's best surviving landscape, as well as in Capability Brown's famous garden at Blenheim Palace. Quirkier examples of the English landscape are found at Painswick and Sezincote. Modern gardens, too, dot the counties: the Arts and Crafts garden at Snowhill and especially Major Lawrence Johnston's Hidcote Manor, which became a model for many later garden designs. This lecture covers the history of the English garden, using both famous and little known gardens, all set in an unspoiled part of England.



**Victoria Kastner** is a leading scholar and author about the architect Julia Morgan as well as about Hearst Castle, where she worked as historian for 30 yrs. She is the author of *Hearst Castle: The Biography of a Country House*, with a foreword by George Plimpton, published by Harry N. Abrams in 2000; *Hearst's San Simeon: The Gardens and the Land*, May 2009; and *Hearst Ranch: Family, Land and Legacy*. She co-authored *The Beverly Hills Hotel: The First 100 years*. In 2022, Victoria published; *Julia Morgan: An Intimate Biography of the Trailblazing Architect*. Ms. Kastner has lectured extensively on Julia Morgan, Hearst's art collection, and the history of collecting for many museums and groups: including at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the American Museum in Britain in Bath; and the Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. She has also written about Hearst, San Simeon, and Morgan for *The London Telegraph*, the American Institute of Architects, *Oxford University's Journal of the History of Collections*, and *The Magazine Antiques*.

## A COLLECTOR'S COUNTRY HOUSE: WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST

When Winston Churchill visited William Randolph Hearst's estate at San Simeon during Churchill's 1929 California tour, he was pleasantly surprised. Though he had been expecting "a Monte Carlo casino perched atop the Rock of Gibraltar," he found instead a stunning country house and an intriguing host. Hearst was an art collector in the 18th-century English tradition. Like William Beckford and Horace Walpole, Hearst personally selected every object in his vast collection, and determined its location. For 28 years, Julia Morgan—the first female architect to gain worldwide prominence—worked right beside him creating *La Cuesta Encantada* (The Enchanted Hill), as it was formally known. At San Simeon, Hearst blended English country-house traditions with Californian informalities. Charlie Chaplin, Cary Grant, and all the Hollywood set rubbed elbows with Calvin Coolidge and Bernard Shaw. Presiding as hostess was Hearst's companion, the actress Marion Davies. The end result was a quintessentially American country house with English style gardens: built by a media mogul, designed by a woman architect, presided over by a Hollywood starlet, and forever immortalized by a film—Orson Welles's brooding *Citizen Kane*. Victoria Kastner will discuss Hearst's extensive art collection—Renaissance tapestries, Mediterranean furniture, English silver, and architectural fragments galore—and provide lively anecdotes about the hilltop, in this examination of America's most glamorous country house and estate.



**Devoney Looser**, Regents Professor of English at Arizona State University, is the author or editor of 11 books, most recently the biography *Sister Novelists: The Trailblazing Porter Sisters, Who Paved the Way for Austen and the Brontës* (Bloomsbury US, 2022). She is also the author of *The Making of Jane Austen* (2017) and the editor of *The Daily Jane Austen: A Year of Quotes* (2019). Looser, a Guggenheim Fellow and an NEH Public Scholar, has published essays in *The Atlantic*, *New York Times*, *Salon*, *Slate*, *TLS*, and *The Washington Post*. Her series of 24 30-minute lectures on Austen is available through *The Great Courses* and Audible. Her next book, *Wild for Austen*, will be published by St. Martin's Press in 2025. In addition to being a quirky book nerd, she plays roller derby under the name Stone Cold Jane Austen.

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JANE AUSTEN: A WRITERS LOVE OF BATH

Bath, England, in the late 18th and early 19th centuries was a fraught, fascinating place, not only because of the supposed healing powers of its waters, but because of its notoriety as a marriage market. The popular spa town was imagined as a magical destination. Day-to-day life there, however, could fall short of the ideal, as Jane Austen's fiction so vividly describes. Emma's jilted Mr. Elton finds himself an equally odious wife there, with shocking speed. *Persuasion's* heroine Anne Elliot, we're told, "disliked Bath." Her sour older sister mistakenly predicts that "nobody will want" Anne in Bath, but there Anne eventually does find herself in love and beloved (again). In *Northanger Abbey*, heroine Catherine Morland and her circle hope Bath will supply the "adventures" she lacks in her home village. Catherine isn't disappointed, although her early experiences involve days of "looking at everybody and speaking to no one," and many of the friends she makes prove false ones. Thanks to these enduring stories, scenes, and characters, today's Bath has become a destination city for "Janeites", who retrace the Austen's steps in Assembly Rooms, concert halls, and the famous Pump Room. But what was Bath really like for a young, unmarried woman in this era, whether in search of adventure, authorship, marriage, love, or all four? Few letters survive from Jane Austen during the time she lived in Bath from 1801-05. Scholars also debate whether she was happy or miserable. In her lecture, Devoney Looser will revisit the question of Austen's happiness in Bath focusing on the years leading up to the Regency period. She will show Bath's many attractions and obstacles, as seen not only through the famous novelist's eyes, but in the accounts of other writers who visited during this transformational era.



**Patrick Monahan**, is a writer and independent art advisor, specializing in British paintings, drawings, and sculpture from the 18th century to the present. A native New Yorker, he is consulted by collectors and museums on both sides of the Atlantic, including the Museo de Arte de Ponce, Puerto Rico. His written work appears in *Country Life* and *Vanity Fair*, as well as in the exhibition catalogue "Flaming June: the making of an icon," Leighton House, London, 2016. He holds an MPhil from the University of Cambridge as well as a BA from the University of Chicago, both in art history. He lives and works in New York City, with regular visits to London.

## DESIGNS FOR LIVING: NOËL COWARD AT HOME

Noël Coward (1899-1973) was famously called "The Master" by Lord Louis Mountbatten for his talents as an actor, writer, composer, singer, director, producer, and painter. However, Coward was also an exceptional house designer who created elegant environments for himself and in which to entertain his celebrity friends: from the English countryside, to the Swiss Alps, and the hills of Jamaica. As a rising playwright of Drawing Room Comedies in the 1930s, he engaged society decorator Syrie Maugham—famous for her all-white rooms—to design airy, art-filled spaces which were fitting for his theatrical family, such as Gertrude Lawrence and Ivor Novello. Coward's 1932 comedy play *Design for Living*, starring himself, Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, faithfully captures this elegant avant-garde look in its stage surroundings. At the same time, Coward owned a half-timbered Tudor manor house in Kent, called Goldenhurst Farm, where he entertained guests with legendary weekend parties far from the prying eye of the London press. Coward emerged from World War II as well known English institution and carried his brand as a British *bon viveur* around the world. In London, he stayed in a suite at the Savoy Hotel, directing Elaine Stritch in his musical comedy *Sail Away*, playing in the downstairs theater. In 1956, he moved his residency from England and built in Switzerland, a chalet, named Chalet Coward, at Les Avants, near Montreux. There he hosted the cream of Hollywood, Broadway, and the West End who regularly visited—including Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, Audrey Hepburn, Sophia Loren, and Peter O'Toole. Finally, Coward built his favorite and last home—two villas in Jamaica: a large guest house, called Blue Harbor where he entertained friends like the Queen Mother, as well as a small cottage, called Firefly, just for himself. On the 125th anniversary of Noël Coward's birth, join *Country Life* and *Vanity Fair* contributor Patrick Monahan as he explores and illustrated Coward's life at home. He will explain how the places in which Coward chose to live influenced his most beloved plays and songs. He will illustrate some of Coward's many houses and tell stories from Coward's life, many he heard directly from Coward's friends, like Elaine Stritch.



**Jeremy Musson** is a leading commentator and authority on the English country house. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and sits on a number of boards and trusts including the Country House Foundation. He was awarded an M Phil in Renaissance History at the Warburg Institute, University of London, in 1989 and was Architectural Editor of *Country Life* from 1995-2007. Before joining *Country Life* in 1995, Mr. Musson was an assistant regional curator for the National Trust in East Anglia. He has written and edited hundreds of articles on historic country houses. Mr. Musson also presented 14 programmes on BBC 2, making up two series called *The Curious House Guest* in 2005-07, and he also lectures and supervises for academic programmes with Cambridge University, London University, Buckingham University, and the Attingham Summer School. Among his books include *Up and Down Stairs: The History of the English Country House Servant* (2009), *English Country House Interiors* (2011), *Robert Adam: Country House Design, Decoration & the Art of Elegance* (2017), *The Country House: Past, Present, Future: Great Houses of the British Isles* (2018), and *Romantics and Classics: Style in the English Country House* (Rizzoli, 2021).



## WILTON: AN ENGLISH TREASURE HOUSE

Wilton House, near Salisbury in Wiltshire, has been the seat of the Earls of Pembroke for over 400 years – it is now home to the 18th Earl and Countess of Pembroke. Like many great English country houses, Wilton was built on the site of a medieval abbey, in this case given by King Henry VIII in 1544 courtier Sir William Pembroke, later 1st Earl Pembroke (1501-1570). Wilton has been shaped by some of the most significant names in architecture and interior design. Some of the 16th-century house survives, but the most notable part of the house today is that remodelled in the 1640s for Philip Herbert, the 4th Earl of Pembroke (1584-1650), by Inigo Jones (1573-1652) and Salomon de Caus. It represents a significant moment in the transition to classically inspired architecture in Britain. Further alterations in the early 1800s included a magnificent cloister by James Wyatt (1746-1813) for the 11th Earl of Pembroke (1759-1852) designed to display a collection of classical sculpture. The Single and Double Cube state rooms designed by Inigo Jones and John Webb are considered some of the finest of English interiors, and the house contains the outstanding collections of classical sculpture and Old Master paintings. Architectural historian Jeremy Musson will illustrate the rich interiors and artistic masterpieces and show what they reveal about changing values and attitudes to art, architecture, and decoration, as well as the story of the Earls of Pembroke.



**Adrian Tinniswood OBE**, studied English and Philosophy at Southampton University and was awarded an MPhil at Leicester University. He has acted as a consultant to the National Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund. He is currently Senior Research Fellow in History at the University of Buckingham and Visiting Fellow in Heritage and History at Bath Spa University. He has lectured at several Universities both in the US and UK, including the University of Oxford and the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of 16 books on architectural and social history including *His Invention So Fertile: A Life of Christopher Wren*; *By Permission of Heaven: The True Story of the Great Fire of London*; *The Long Weekend: Life in the English Country House Between the Wars*; *Behind the Throne: A Domestic History of the Royal Household* and *Noble Ambition: The Rise and Fall of the English Country House*. Tinniswood was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2013 Birthday Honours for services to heritage.

## POWER & GLORY: 'OUTSIDERS' IN THE ENGLISH COUNTRY HOUSE

At the beginning of the 20th century, the owners of Britain's stately homes reveled in the halcyon days of glory and glamour. Nothing lay beyond their reach in a world where privilege and hedonism went hand in hand with duty and honour. The ancestral seats of ancient nobility stood cheek by jowl next to the palaces of Jewish bankers (Waddesdon Manor) and Indian princes (Elveden). Before World War I, Britain was a place where dukes and duchesses mixed with chorus-line dancers who had turned into aristocratic society hostesses. It was a world where self-made millionaires who had been raised in the slums of Manchester and Birmingham, or whose family were farmers, owned glorious country houses (Craagside). It was a world where Americans who restored and transformed English country houses (Hever Castle) were received in the highest social circles in Britain. Historian Adrian Tinniswood, OBE, will explore the English country house during this brief golden age, when stately homes in Britain were at their most opulent. He will illustrate and explain how for the privileged few—not born into nobility or an aristocratic lineage—life in the country house during this period was the best life of all.



**Jane Marguerite Tippett** is a historian and archivist. She graduated from University of Delaware with a BA in French, History and English Literature. She received her MSt. in History of Art from Wadham College, Oxford, where she wrote her dissertation on the centrality of provenance in the contemporary fine art auction market. Since graduating she has worked as a private archivist to high-net-worth families and interior design firms in New York City, Boston, and London.

*Once A King: The Lost Memoir of Edward VIII* (Hodder & Stoughton, October 2023) is her first book. Her next book, *Monsieur*, which will be published in May 2024, is a survey of the photographic work of Patrick O'Higgins, the biographer and longtime companion of Helena Rubinstein.

## ONCE A KING: THE LOST MEMOIR OF EDWARD VIII

Many people are familiar with the history of the Duke of Windsor, the former King Edward VIII who gave up the British throne to marry the twice-divorced American Wallis Simpson. Although an-often-repeated story, historian and author Jane Marguerite Tippett brings new insight through her astonishing discovery of the first and unedited drafts of *Edward's memoir A King's Story*, which were written with the assistance of *Life* magazine journalist Charles J.V. Murphy. Preserved in Murphy's archive, but overlooked by previous Royal scholars, Tippett uncovered the private manuscript that Edward created between 1947 and 1951. She also discovered hundreds of pages of interviews Murphy conducted with the couple in 1954, when he was working on the Duchess's biography. In her lecture, Tippett will explore the significance of this material, and how through Edward's writing we gain an entirely new understanding of his life as serving Prince of Wales. Tippett will scrutinize the ways in which Edward's writings shift our understanding of his importance in the history of the 20th-century British monarchy, and explore how this material may change people's perspective on the significance of his royal career.

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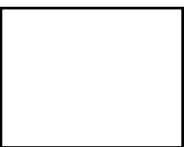
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*Detail of staircase, Elveden Estate, Suffolk.*

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