

ART HISTORY TALKS 2024

Monday mornings from 10am - 1pm | £35 including refreshments

Venue: Summer Lodge Country House Hotel, 9 Fore Street, Evershot, Dorset DT2 OJR

29 January: Great Bardfield Artists

A look at the work of the principal artists who lived in Great Bardfield, Essex between 1930 and 1970. Artists such as Edward & Charlotte Bawden, Eric Ravilious, Tirzah Garwood, John Aldridge, George Chapman, Stanley Clifford-Smith, Audrey Cruddas, Walter & Denise Hoyle, Sheila Robinson, Michael Rothenstein, Kenneth Rowntree and Marianne Straub.

19 February: Neo-Romantics

A look at the works of artists such as Paul Nash, Graham Sutherland, Michael Ayrton, John Craxton, Ivon Hitchens, John Minton, John Piper, Keith Vaughan and the painters who inspired them: William Blake, Samuel Palmer, Turner and Constable.

11 March: Sargent And Fashion

In portraits by John Singer Sargent (1856–1925), sitters assume elegant stances, the fabric of their dress richly depicted in broad, sensuous strokes of paint. Sargent brought his subjects to life, but he did much more than simply record what appeared before him. He often chose what his sitters wore and, even if they arrived in his studio dressed in the latest fashions, he frequently simplified and altered the details. Exploiting dress was an integral part of his artistry. (Exhibition of interest: Tate Britain - Fashion, identity, painting: explore the unique work of John Singer Sargent 22 February - 7 July 2024)

15 April: Paul Nash (1889 - 1946)

An artist who painted deeply romantic and lyrical landscapes subtly re-envisioned through the shards of modernism and the horrors of war. He was a prolific and hugely talented artist, writer, photographer, book illustrator and designer of stage scenery, fabrics, and posters. Although Nash embraced and encompassed many of the major twentieth century art movements, including Surrealism and abstraction, his intense love for nature and surrounding landscape always remained the primary subject of his work.

29 April: Pieter Bruegel The Elder (c. 1526/30 - 1569)

An enduringly interesting artist, Bruegel's early career as a print designer with his subjects of parables, peasant festivals and landscapes, continued to inform his later paintings. These images were insightful, innovative, and confronted contemporary issues within powerful compositions, skilfully structured, reflecting sophisticated artistic design that are still debated by scholars today. (Exhibition of interest: Ashmolean Museum, Oxford - Bruegel to Rubens:

Great Flemish Drawings 23 Mar - 23 Jun 2024)