



8 September 2023

FICTION, FALLACY, FAKE NEWS AND SPIN. PROPAGANDA IN ART THROUGHOUT THE AGES

Geri Parlby reveals that from ancient Egypt to the days of Nazi Germany, every picture tells a story—whether it is true or not is an entirely different matter.



13 October 2023

DANCING AND STRIPPING YOUR WAY TO A NEW LIFE: THE FULL MONTY AND BILLY ELLIOT

John Francis explores themes of humour, masculinity, identity, family and community using selected film clips and photographs.



10 November 2023

TOWN MOUSE, COUNTRY MOUSE. NATURE IN THE LIFE AND WORKS OF BEATRIX POTTER

Elizabeth Merry describes how Beatrix Potter's restricted and secluded childhood in West London led to Peter Rabbit's creation.



8 December 2023

"IO SATURNALIA" - HAPPY CHRISTMAS THE ROMAN WAY

Gillian Hovell shows how many pagan habits, from present giving to party hats, have been absorbed into our Christmas traditions.



12 January 2024

THE AGE OF JAZZ

Sandy Burnett sheds light on jazz from the inside, drawing on his experience both as a musicologist and a gigging musician.



9 February 2024

SUNKEN TREASURES OF THE EAST. TALES OF CHINESE SHIPWRECK

Marie Conte-Helm recounts salvaging operations which have enhanced our understanding of blue-and-white porcelain and its commercial impact.





8 March 2024 MONDRIAN'S EVOLUTION INTO ABSTRACTION

Mariska Beekenkamp-Wladimiroff charts Mondrian's evolution from figurative art to elemental colour field paintings.



15 March 2024 DISCOVERY DAY - PICTURING AMERICA

Jeni Fraser shows us how the often idealised and occasionally brutal picturing of America has much to do with changing attitudes.



12 April 2024

ART OF THE ISLANDS. AN INTRODUCTION TO EARLY MEDIEVAL ART IN BRITAIN 550-850 AD

Michelle Brown examines the different cultures in these islands before the Norman conquest, looking at their interaction and art work.



10 May 2024 THE CAR IN ART. THE CAR AS ART

Julian Richards showcases the beautiful and bizarre, the dynamic and creative – and sometimes unsettling – relationship between cars and art.



14 June 2024

AGM FOLLOWED BY

THE POWER OF JEWELLERY. ADORNMENT AND RITUAL FROM PRE-HISTORY TO PRESENT

Judy Rudoe explains how jewellery has been worn and used by different societies across time and across the world.



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