

Master's Programme 2020



The Art Workers' Guild

Thursday 9 January Master's Night

Alan Powers

William Morris and me

The new Master was told about William Morris at the age of 12, and became fascinated by his designs, his life and his circle. He speculates on how this impulse might have brought him to his present position.

Thursday 23 January

Emma Sewell

Wallace Sewell - colour, composition and collaboration

In 1992, Harriet Wallace-Jones and Emma Sewell launched Wallace Sewell, at Chelsea Craft Fair, with no real plan, except a passion for creating extraordinary woven textiles, designed by hand, but for industrial manufacture. Emma relates the journey of this small but diverse studio.

Thursday 6 February

PM Prue Cooper

Heathcote Williams: poet, playwright and countercultural activist

By turns idealistic, very funny, scholarly, and angry (sometimes all at once), Heathcote Williams used every creative means – words, images, performance – to challenge injustice and the hypocrisies of both right and left, and argue for a kinder, fairer world.

Thursday 20 February

Anthony Powers

Music and the English landscape

How English composers, from Elgar to the present, have been inspired by English landscapes; whether music can evoke landscape, and how twentieth century 'pastoralist' composers relate to traditions of landscape painting from Constable to Hockney.

Guild Closed due to Covid-19 pandemic – virtual meetings only

Thursday 30 April - Virtual

Alan Powers

AWG Quiz 1

Thursday 7 May - Virtual

Joe Whitlock Blundell

Locked down? Look up!

A short homemade film by Bro. Joe Whitlock Blundell containing a tour of some of the pictures in his house with AWG connections and a look at a few of the many Folio Society books illustrated by Guild members, including Glynn Boyd Harte, Angela Barrett, John Lawrence, Ian Archie Beck, Sophie MacCarthy, Christopher Brown, Llewellyn Thomas and Alan Powers.

Thursday 14 May – Virtual

Alan Powers

AWG Quiz 2

Thursday 21 May – Virtual

Jane Smith

The Bicorn Hat

Bro. Jane Smith explores her research on the Bicorn Hat.

Thursday 28 May – Virtual

Ian Archie Beck

AWG Quiz 3

Thursday 4 June – Virtual

Peter Burman

Robert Weir Schultz; How he brought glittering mirrors, inlaid and painted surfaces to add a touch of Byzantine glamour to a Scottish country house for the 3rd Marquess of Bute in the 1890s.

From the foundation of the Guild in 1884 onwards, Guildsmen have enjoyed working collaboratively with other Guildsmen. During the 1890s, Robert Weir Schultz was a favourite architect of the 3rd Marquess of Bute, a Mycaenas of architecture and architectural decoration. Bro. Peter is a trustee of the House of Falkland, acquired by the Marquess in 1887, and the Arts & Crafts layer added to an earlier house is quite remarkable.

Thursday 11 June – Virtual

Emma Barker

AWG Quiz 4

Thursday 18 June – Virtual

Rosie Wolfenden

Misshapes; The making of Tatty Devine

Bro. Rosie Wolfenden, co-founder of jewellery brand Tatty Devine, speaks on the process of curating *Misshapes: The Making of Tatty Devine*; their Crafts Council touring exhibition and book which tells the story of the last 20 years of their career.

Thursday 25 June – Virtual

Prue and Nicholas Cooper

AWG Quiz 5

Thursday 2 July – Virtual

Julian Bicknell

The Accidental Classicist

Past Master Julian Bicknell in conversation with Master Alan Powers, discussing the range and variety of his work over the past 35 years.

Thursday 9 July – Virtual

Hannah Coulson

AWG Quiz 6

Thursday 16 July – Virtual

Rory Young

Objects to Hand

A talk on various objects of interest from Rory's Gloucestershire home, taking us on a tour of sculpture, medieval ceramics, roundels and finials, and pot bricks, to name but a few.

Thursday 23 July – Virtual

Shawn Kholucy

Tailoring for a carpet, talk of Plato, Prior, pottery and plate; props for paintings. Shawn examines the background and thinking to a room he built three decades ago, exploring the strong Guild connections he discovered along the way.

Thursday 30 July – Virtual

Stephen Fowler

Rubbish Printmaking

Stephen's background in rubber stamp printmaking has progressed over last couple years into the use of recycled materials as an exciting alternative to traditional forms of print. During the Covid lockdown he has experimented with kitchen sink litho, tetra

pak collagraph, constructed collagraph, foam printing, plastic milk bottle dry point print and pasta machine printing.

Summer Break

Thursday 10 September – Virtual

Ian Archie Beck

Words and Pictures

A new short film about our Past Master and his work, made by his sons Ed and Laurence.

Thursday 17 September – Virtual

Lydia Beanland

On Print and Textiles

Lydia Beanland is a print and textile designer and decorative artist. Her love of cloth has taken her on many textile journeys, from the handloom cottons of Kerala, the industrial flat lands of the Punjab, bustling printing factories of Istanbul and Bursa and the Italian silk capital of Como in search of ties. Her work is fuelled by an inquisitive nature, combined with a passion for design and the decorative arts, the natural world, ancient history and fine art. She will talk through her design process and will discuss her latest works over lockdown, in which she has made a transition from fashion into painting and design for interiors.

Thursday 24 September – Virtual

Taslim Martin

Experiments and Play

Taslim gives an overview of his practice and takes a look at recent work he has made during the lockdown period.

Guild Reopens

Thursday 1 October – In person and virtual

Annette Carruthers and Mary Greensted

Ernest Gimson: Arts & Crafts designer and architect

Described by Pevsner as ‘the greatest of the English artist-craftsmen’, Ernest Gimson was a central, but elusive, figure in his time. The authors of the recent definitive book on his life and work will reveal his stature and contemporary relevance.

Thursday 15 October - In person and virtual

Bro. Rosemary Hill

Suddenly it's now: Paul Spooner and the School of Rough Automata

The late Sue Jackson's Cabaret Mechanical Theatre, a museum and amusement arcade in Covent Garden Market, opened in 1985. The exhibits were moving figures, variously large, small, comical and sinister. Thus was launched one of the most exciting and thought-provoking of the new craft movements of the decade.

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Thursday 29 October - Virtual

Bro. Matthew Eve

C. Walter Hodges: a life illustrating history

Guild member C. Walter Hodges (1909-2004) was a writer and illustrator famed for books on Elizabethan theatre, historical novels, illustrations for the Radio Times and classic children's books. Matthew Eve brings a personal perspective based on conversations and correspondence.

Thursday 12 November - Virtual

Will Hunter

Radical models for architectural learning at the London School of Architecture
With architecture schools becoming remote from the real issues of the profession and costing more for students, the London School of Architecture was founded in 2015 to combine job-based learning with project-based London sites. Will Hunter, the founder, tells the story so far.

Thursday 26 November - Virtual

Wendy Hitchmough

Omega dress

At the Omega Workshops, Vanessa Bell and other artists moved beyond the 'pin-cushion pretty' Arts and Crafts preoccupation with rational and artistic dress to create Cubist cloaks and brilliantly patterned buttonholes, crafted from painted and stiffened muslin.

Thursday 10 December Annual General Meeting (members only)