Programme

Introduction to Art History

Details

Tuesdays, 24 September to 10 December 2024, 10.30-13.00. Online.

Watch lecture recordings on demand, available at the end of each day, until Tuesday 4 March 2025.

Overview

So many periods of artistic developments, styles, and art movements! Have you ever wondered how to unravel these periods and feel confident about the context and history of the art produced? This course will be an introduction to Western Art from the Classical World to the Contemporary World. We will explore the many ways Art History helps us to unravel those different movements and styles. You will understand how artists have shaped our world. We will explore how techniques changed, how literature and music impacted on our artists’ lives and work, how women artists made an increasingly important contribution to the art world. Looking at architecture, sculpture, paintings, metalwork, ivory carving, photographs, drawings, woodcuts, lithographs, and objects we will explore hundreds of years of Western art and get to know the men and women who made it.

Your course leader

Dr Jacqueline Cockburn is an art historian and linguist. After a career in academic teaching at Birkbeck college, University of London and Westminster School, she is now a freelance lecturer. She is course director and lecturer at the V & A and also lectures at The Royal Academy, The Art Fund, Artscapades, The London Art History Society, The Arts Society and a number of private institutions. Her focus is European Art 1850-1950. Jacqueline is Managing Director of Art and Culture Andalucía running residential courses in Andalucía, Southern Spain in the art and culture of the region.
Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.

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**Week 1 – 24 September 2024**

10.30  What is Art History? Understanding Visual Analysis **Jacqueline Cockburn**
12.00  Classical Art and its Variants in the Ancient Greek and Roman Worlds **David Bellingham**

**Week 2 – 1 October**

10.30  Early Christian and Byzantine Art **Sally Dormer**
12.00  Medieval Art and Architecture **Sally Dormer**

**Week 3 – 8 October**

10.30  Rebirth – the Art and Culture of the Italian Renaissance **Kevin Childs**
12.00  Spain and the Discovery of the New World **Jacqueline Cockburn**

**Week 4 – 15 October**

10.30  The Northern Renaissance in 15th and 16th Century Europe from Jan van Eyck to Durer and Bruegel **Clare Ford-Wille**
12.00  Baroque and Rococo in 17th and 18th Century Europe from Bernini and Rembrandt to Tiepolo and Boucher **Clare Ford-Wille**
Week 5 – 22 October

10.30  The Rebirth of Classicism Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00  A Stormy World; Romanticism and Industrialisation Jacqueline Cockburn

Week 6 – 29 October

10.30  Truths, Visions and Nature: the Pre-Raphaelite Progress Justine Hopkins
12.00  Beyond the Lens; Realism Jacqueline Cockburn

Week 7 – 5 November

10.30  Becoming Radical; Impressionism Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00  An Alternative Reality: Symbolism in European Art Kathy McLauchlan

Week 8 – 12 November

10.30  From Cezanne to Munch; Pioneers of a Brave New World Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00  Art History, Ethnography, Anthropology Jacqueline Cockburn

Week 9 – 19 November

10.30  Squaring up to Cubism Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00  From Henri Matisse to Kathe Kollwitz and Beyond; Expressionism Jacqueline Cockburn

Week 10 – 26 November
10.30 Colour, Sound and Speed; Futurism Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00 Pioneers of Modern Architecture Greg Votolato

Week 11 – 3 December

10.30 The Weird and Wonderful World of Surrealism Jacqueline Cockburn
12.00 New York, New York; from Hopper to Pollock Jacqueline Cockburn

Week 12 – 10 December

10.30 Languages of Late Century Architecture Greg Votolato
12.00 Fresh Encounters: Contemporary Sculpture and the Public Space Anna Moszynska