

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY – WEDNESDAY 1 MAY 2024

To be held in the Dove Suite at The Ark, Turners Hill. Timing 10.00 - 15.00

How the Art Market developed from the Renaissance to the 21st Century

Lecturer: Dr Tom Flynn

We will look at how the European art market has evolved from a structure of commissioning and elite patronage by the wealthy princes of the Italian Renaissance, through to the commercial instincts of the merchant classes of Holland's Golden Age, and on to the impact of the Grand Tour on British tastes in the eighteenth century. We then explore the gradual appearance of a professional 'dealer' class in France and England in the nineteenth century before focusing on the speculative activities at work in the twentieth century art market. It's a fascinating story of capitalist self-interest, connoisseurship, commercial acumen, occasional bad behaviour and frequent sleight of hand. The lectures touch on the emergence of an entrepreneurial middle class in the mid-nineteenth century whose members sought to emulate the aristocracy through their consumer choices, leisure activities and aesthetic tastes. Conspicuous consumption — the eternal desire of successful people to display their success through the works of art they acquire — remains as powerful a driver of the global art market today as it was in Renaissance Florence.



Dr Tom Flynn delivering the keynote lecture at the Acropolis Museum in Athens for International Women's Day

Our lecturer for this series of talks is Dr Tom Flynn who is a UK based art historian, writer, and art consultant. He holds a First Class Honours degree in Art History from the University of Sussex, a Masters in Design History from the Royal College of Art and a doctorate from the University of Sussex. His interests include contemporary art, sculpture history, museology and the history of museums; art crime; issues in cultural heritage; and the historical development and professional practice of the European art markets. He is Senior Lecturer at Christie's Education, Adjunct Professor at Richmond, the American International University in London, visiting Senior Lecturer at Kingston School of Art, and teaches at a number of other UK and European universities. A former Henry Moore Foundation post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Sussex, he has written for numerous international art publications.

Lecture 1 - The Art Market from the Renaissance to the 19th Century



Quentin Matsys - The Money Lender

Lecture 2 - The Art Market in the 20th Century



Damien Hirst Sale

Lecture 3 - The Art Market in the 21st Century



Banksy at Sotheby's

**Please see application form for more information and how to attend this
Special Interest Day**