



STUDY DAY

Thursday 23rd November 2023

10.30– 3.00 at The Blue Ball Inn, Sidford

Art of Venice: The Lion of the Sea

By Douglas Skeggs

A welcome return of Douglas who has been a regular and much appreciated guest of our society over many years. He has been a lecturer on paintings since 1980. In that time he has given over 8000 lectures to universities, colleges and art societies and he is presently a regular lecturer on Christie's course, 'The History of Art Studies', and other London courses. Among his more improbable venues for lectures are the bar on the QE2, MI5 headquarters, the Captain's Room at Lloyds, and an aircraft hangar in a German NATO base. He is also a painter and author of five novels.

For three hundred years Venice was the most powerful city-state in the Mediterranean and this Study Day will look into the artists who have lived and worked in Venice during that time: their styles, their techniques and how each added his own unique contribution to the artistic legend of the city.

Lecture 1: "The origins of Venetian art" looks at the dawn of the Venetian style from the gemlike paintings of Carpaccio to the serene altarpieces of the Bellini. From their studio emerged the enigmatic Giorgione and then the highly influential artist, Titian.

Lecture 2 "The Golden Age" looks at the high years of Venetian art when Titian's works were commissioned by every patron in Europe, from the Pope to the Holy Roman Emperor. How his style was then turned and reformed by Tintoretto into turbulent flights of fantasy and how the last glories of the republic glow in the ceiling paintings of Tiepolo and the cityscapes of Canaletto.

Lecture 3 "Poets, painters & private lives" looks at the years of decline when the faded beauty of the city was rediscovered by Turner who painted it lost in shimmering light, by James Whistler, Bonnington and John Singer Sargent, by Henry James who set stories of delicate melancholy in Venice, and by John Ruskin.

The cost of the day including coffee and a light buffet lunch will be £35 per person.

-----To: Catherine Bech,
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Please reserve places at £35 each for the Study Day on 23rd November. I enclose my cheque payable to The Arts Society Sidmouth.

Name:

Email:

Phone no:

If you would prefer to pay by BACS, the account details are:

Sort code: 40-52-40 A/C: 00060214 Name: The Arts Society Sidmouth

If you do pay by BACS please email me first to ensure that the event is not fully booked. If you pay by BACS, there is no need to fill out this form.