

NEWSLETTER

The Arts Society of West Suffolk



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

and Happy New Year!

Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 10am*
Blackbourne Community Centre, Elmswell
A History of Art Criticism from Aristotle to Facebook
Mark Fisher

This lecture introduces the principles of arts criticism and how to put them into practice. Looking at the past as well as the present, it explores what lessons may be learned from history about the place of the artist in society and the role of the critic.

Mark Fisher is a freelance theatre critic and feature writer based in Edinburgh who has written about theatre since 1980. He is a theatre critic for *The Guardian*, a former editor of *The List* magazine and a contributor to publications all over the world. Mark runs workshops on the art and role of the critic for schools, universities and theatres. He is the author of "The Edinburgh Fringe Survival Guide" and "How to Write About Theatre".



***NB This lecture is on the second Tuesday in January**



Messenger or Missile - Glad tidings, gloom or perdition?

As promised, in this lecture Caroline Holmes gave us a whistle-stop tour of the history of Angels in Art from the Garden of Eden to The Angel of the North. Angels are considered as supernatural beings who serve as messengers and helpers of God to carry out

different divine duties. They play a central role in the three Abrahamic religions, Christianity, Judaism and Islam. These roles, as depicted in ancient and modern times, are illustrated by paintings, architecture and ecclesiastic or other references.. The art examples that were used to illustrate the use of angels and, the other side of the coin, the devil (e.g. a toad on an Adam & Eve painting) ranged from the Caedmon Manuscript (11th C) via Jan van Eyck (15th C) and William Blake (18th C) to Mark Chagall & Antony Gormley (20th C). An enthralling presentation. The mention of an Angel hierarchy was news to many but probably familiar to all from the last verse of 'O Come All Ye Faithful' that opens "Sing Choirs of Angels", there being 9 'choirs' in the Christian hierarchy. Judaism and Islam differ. Look for more detail in Wikipedia and search for 'Hierarchy of Angels'



Special Interest Day: 20th February 2024 Behind the Scenes at the Antiques Roadshow and its Great Discoveries

Please register your interest in this event
as soon as possible.

Pricing will be set in time for the January meeting
when payment will be requested.

VISITS

In an effort to reduce the cost of visits and to make them accessible to more members, we are looking for local places or events of interest to the society that we may visit. If you are able to suggest anywhere local, or that can easily be reached by train, that you would like to visit as part of an Arts Society trip, please contact our Visits Organiser, Julia Eeles on 01359 240838.