

May 2025

NEWSLETTER

The Arts Society of West Suffolk



Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd June
Blackbourne Community Centre, Elmswell
Doors open 9.45 am for Welcoming Coffee/Tea
10.30 am Annual General Meeting
10.45 am Indians, Buffalo and Storm:
The American West in 19th Century Art ... Toby Faber



Toby uses art of the nineteenth century to tell the story of the westward expansion of the United States from the first explorations and contacts with native Americans to the near extermination of the buffalo.

Toby Faber is an author and publisher, who has written books on the mysteries of Faberge eggs, the artistry of Stradivari and the history of Faber & Faber, the influential publishing house founded by his grandfather.



Please note that the AGM will be held at 10.30 am, immediately before this lecture, and you are therefore invited to take coffee and biscuits slightly earlier than usual from 9.45 am.

Euston Hall Opening Times 2025

19th to 22nd June

25th to 31st August

13th to 19th September

Still seeking volunteers! Our Heritage Volunteers are teams of committed non-specialist volunteers who work under the guidance of curators and other professionals to help conserve our heritage. If you are able to help in this way, full training will be given and you would be most welcome to come and join this happy band of volunteers.

Please contact Jean Gillard-Burton,
Heritage Organiser,
telephone 01359 244101
or email jeanburton512@btinternet.com



The Two Gustavs - Mahler and Klimt

Late 19C Vienna was a divided city. On the one hand deeply conservative but, on the other, a growing hotbed of artistic and musical creativity. Gavin Plumley's superb lecture took us to the worlds of the two Gustavs, Klimt and Mahler and their struggles against their traditionally minded opponents. Klimt's paintings, seen as both exotic and erotic, split Viennese opinion while Mahler's period of conducting the State Opera Orchestra, in spite of many triumphs, was equally controversial. His own compositions attracted particular ridicule.



The Secessionist movement, a radical group uniting progressive artists of all kinds, staged their 14th exhibition in 1902 and this brought the two Gustavs together, both creatively and personally. Their shared love of nature and their feeling that they were both outsiders forged an important bond.

Mahler's resignation from the Opera in 1907 led to his departure for New York. At the train station he was given a touching farewell by a large group of Secessionists, including Klimt, Schönberg and Webern. The lecture ended, suitably dramatically and movingly, with darkness and the words *Es ist vorbei* - it is over.

