



The Regency Society

LECTURES 2009–2010

VENUE: THE OLD MARKET, UPPER MARKET STREET, HOVE AT 7.00 pm, AGM AT THE ROYAL PAVILION
Entrance fee for talks: Members free on production of their Membership Card, Non-Members and Guests: £5 on arrival

Updated: May 22 2009

October 7th 2009

The strange case of the architect who vanished in the night – or who was Charles Rennie Mackintosh?

John McKean has published four books on Mackintosh's life and works, but when his major biography was published in 2000, much fuss accompanied his suggestion that Mackintosh may have had Asperger's – a condition much less well known among the general public a decade ago. Was that suggestion illuminating?

November 4th 2009

Singled Out – the story of the two million women left without the prospect of marriage after the First World War.

Virginia Nicolson, well known writer and grand-daughter of the painter Vanessa Bell. A trustee of Charleston near Fittlehampton, a home of members of the Bloomsbury Group.

Singled Out is a recent book by Virginia which tells the story of a generation of women, brought up in the unquestioning belief that marriage was their birthright, who discovered after the 1914-18 war that there were, quite simply, not enough men to go round. In the 1920s they were known as the 'Surplus Women'.

December 2nd

Georgian and Regency Musical evening with some readings.

Come and sample the sound of local music written for playing in Brighton and compare it with some of the other music which the dancers to the Brighthelmstoneth Baths Gallop and other delights would have also heard. Some readings from local authors will also be part of this for there was a considerable amount of poetry and several novels published in Brighton and in Sussex. Some of the music is played with the consent of the Sussex Archaeological Society who kindly gave access to their copies of it.

January 6th 2010

Classical Antiquity and the Georgian Garden

Roger White, expert on Georgian Gardens, architectural historian. Contributing Editor to *House and Garden* Magazine. Former Secretary of the Georgian Group and the Garden History Society.

From the early 17th century onwards Englishmen increasingly travelled to Italy, and especially Rome, whether to further their education, to start an art collection, or simply to have a good time, returning home full of their impressions of classical antiquity - or what they thought was antiquity. For the educated English gentleman of the 18th century, raised on the classics of Roman and Greek literature and fortified by the experiences of the Grand Tour, the evocation of antiquity, and of a lost Arcadia, was a preoccupation that frequently found expression in the garden. In creating the celebrated 'temple-scapes' of Georgian England, what did they think they were doing? And what relation, if any, did it all bear to reality?

February 3rd 2010

George IV as a Patron and a Collector.

Giles Waterfield, the Chairman of the Trustees of Charleston is well known for his work on the period and for publications such as *Servants in Art*.

George IV is well known to us all as a regular visitor to Brighton and the builder of the Royal Pavilion. But what shaped George's taste and what were his interests as a patron?

March 3rd 2010

Local architects at work in the City of Brighton and Hove c1860-1914.

Nick Antram Co-Editor Pevsner City of Brighton and Hove, Editor of Pevsner for East Sussex.

When working on the Pevsner Guide to the City of Brighton and Hove, Nick became interested in the architects who worked in the City such as Clayton and Black and the Lainsons. Their work played a major role in the layout and look of major parts of the City and brought some of the latest London styles here.

April 14th 2010 at the Royal Pavilion 7pm, before the AGM of the Society.

Geoffrey Tyack, Kellogg College, Oxford. Director: Stanford University Programme.

Where better to hear a new interpretation of the history and work of John Nash. Geoffrey Tyack, an eminent architectural historian, is writing a book on Nash, a man whose impact on the Royal Pavilion we all know of. He also designed two country houses in West Sussex. His development of Regents Park and Regent Street may have influenced Thomas Read Kemp who sought to build Kemp Town with its huge curved terraces and villas in a wooded setting at Queen's Park.