

Showcasing Art History public lecture series, season XI, 2016-2017

Autumn term: *Living with Architecture: Form, Meaning and Urban Experience from the Renaissance to the Present*

The Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre, Tuesdays 7-8 pm, followed by drinks
10 lectures, 4 October – 6 December 2016



Poised between aesthetics and utility, architecture mediates our daily existence more powerfully than any other art form. Where and how we are housed impacts on our chances in life, our health and mental wellbeing, and whether grown organically, or meticulously planned, our towns and cities have always encouraged us to move and behave in certain ways.

These lectures explore the aesthetic and formal aspects of a number of major episodes in European architecture and investigate what these forms have meant to their contemporaries, how architecture and urban space have been

experienced, represented and put to political use. Our speakers, all architectural and cultural historians of note, will bring a range of methodologies to bear on subjects from Renaissance Italy to present-day London. We will think about the great model for domestic architecture developed by Andrea Palladio, the organisation of public life in the Renaissance piazza, the remaking of London after the Great Fire and the experience of modernity in nineteenth-century Paris and London. Architectural style and ornament and the meanings they have generated are part of our debate, as are representations of urban life in other media, such as painting and photography. The series will conclude with lectures on a number of public housing experiments of the twentieth century and with a close and critical look at the impact of political choices and market forces on our urban spaces over the past three decades.

Speakers: Dr Georgia Clarke (Reader Emerita, The Courtauld), Dr Guido Rebecchini (The Courtauld), Dr Bruce Boucher (Director, Sir John Soane's Museum), Dr Lucy Jessop (Senior Investigator, Historic England), Dr Elaine Tierney (The University of Manchester), Dr Carl Magnusson (The University of Lausanne/The Courtauld), Dr Simon Sleight (King's College, London), Professor Mark Swenarton (The University of Liverpool), Professor Iain Boyd Whyte (The University of Edinburgh), and Anna Minton, writer, journalist, and Reader in Architecture (The University of East London).

Image: Canaletto, *Piazza di San Giacomo di Rialto*, 1760-69, Graphite, pen and ink (brown), ink (grey) on paper © The Samuel Courtauld Trust, The Courtauld Gallery, London

TIMETABLE

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|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| 4 October | Dr Georgia Clarke | Street Life: Exploring Urban Experiences between the Renaissance and Today |
| 11 October | Dr Guido Rebecchini | Visual Politics on the Street: Art and Rhetoric in the Rome of Pope Paul III (1534-1549) |
| 18 October | Dr Bruce Boucher | The Domestic Architecture of Andrea Palladio |
| 25 October | Dr Lucy Jessop | Architecture and urban planning in 17 th -century London |
| 1 November | Dr Elaine Tierney | Festivals, temporary structures and 17 th -century political urban culture in London |
| 8 November | Dr Carl Magnusson | Defining Architecture through Ornament |
| 15 November | Dr Simon Sleight | Representations of the 'Modern city': 19 th -century Paris and London |
| 22 November | Professor Mark Swenarton | Cook's Camden |
| 29 November | Professor Iain Boyd Whyte | Hitler's Berlin (provisional) |
| 6 December | Anna Minton | How we live now: the privatisation of public space |

PRELIMINARY READING

Georgia Clarke and Fabrizio Nevola, 'Introduction: The Experience of the Street in Early Modern Italy', *I Tatti Studies in the Italian Renaissance* 16 (2013), pp 47-55

Bruce Boucher, *Andrea Palladio: The architect in his time*, New York, London, Paris, 2nd ed., 2007

Christine Stevenson, *The City and the King: Architecture and Politics in Restoration London*, New Haven and London, 2013

Michael Snodin and Maurice Howard, *Ornament: A Social History Since 1450*, New Haven, 1996

Katie Scott, online essay 'Ornament: power and autonomy' accompanying her exhibition *ornament by design* at The Courtauld Gallery 2016 <http://courtauld.ac.uk/gallery/what-on/exhibitions-displays/archive/ornament-by-design/voices>

David Jordan, *Transforming Paris: The Life and Labors of Baron Haussmann*, Chicago, 1996

Donald Olsen, *The City as a Work of Art: London, Paris, Vienna*, New Haven, 1986

Alan Powers, *Modern, the Modern Movement in Britain*, London, 2005

Mark Swenarton, Tom Avermaete and Dirk van den Heuvel (eds.), *Architecture and the Welfare State*, London and New York, 2014

Anna Minton, *Ground Control: Fear and Happiness in the Twenty-first century*, London, 2012