

Lecture 24th March 2026



A Village in Heaven: Stanley Spencer's Cookham

Few artists are as rooted in a place as Stanley Spencer and his beloved home village of Cookham. This Thames-side village was not only his birthplace, his home for most of his life, and even his nickname, but it dominated his imagination and was the inspiration and location for many of his greatest paintings. This lecture will look at Cookham's place in Spencer's art, and how it was central to his unique vision of English domestic and spiritual life.



Image: Pictureboxblue.com

Speaker: Amy Lim



Dr Amy Lim is an art historian and curator, specialising in British fine and decorative arts from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries. She is curator of the Faringdon Collection at Buscot Park, Oxfordshire, and the Stanley Spencer Gallery, Cookham, as well as being a Departmental Tutor at Oxford Lifelong Learning. Amy has curated and contributed to numerous exhibitions, including *British Baroque: Power and Illusion* (Tate, 2020), *Now You See Us: Women Artists in Britain, 1520-1920* (Tate, 2024) and *Love & Landscape: Stanley Spencer in Suffolk* (Gainsborough's House, Sudbury and the Stanley Spencer Gallery, 2025-6).