

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY – TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2022

To be held in the Dove Suite at The Ark, Turners Hill. Timing 10.00 - 15.00

Subject: Armchair Travel consisting of 3 Lectures

Lecturer: Jane Angelini BA MA

Lecture 1 – St Petersburg: The Venice of the North St Petersburg is an epic city, founded in defiance of nature in a region of swampy marshland as Peter the Great's "window to the West". The city that evolved is a remarkably harmonious collection of baroque, rococo, neoclassical and art nouveau buildings that reflect his taste and that of his successors. The large sweeping vistas, the ordered architecture, the majestic palaces reflected in the waters of the canals make St Petersburg hauntingly beautiful. The museum collections are outstanding and unlike any other.

Lecture 2 – The Jewel in the Crown: Arab and Norman Sicily In the middle of the 11th century, at the time of the Norman Conquest, Palermo was one of the greatest commercial and cultural centres of the Muslim world. It was a busy metropolis with over 300 mosques, abuzz with markets, exchanges, craftsmen and artisans and all around were parks and pleasure gardens with fountains and running streams, so typical of the Muslim world. In 1072 Palermo fell to the Normans, taken by Roger I. During the 12th century Palermo became the most intellectually active and artistically eclectic centre in Europe; the great cathedrals of Cefalu, and Monreale, the Palatine Chapel of the Norman Palace, and the small church of Santa Maria Dell'Ammiraglio, witness to a brilliant fusion of Norman, Arab and Byzantine art and architecture.

Lecture 3 – Venice and the Contribution to Lively Venetian Women Venice is, quite simply, the most beautiful city in the world. A thousand years of independence, of sailing and trading, many centuries of a flourishing commercial empire and a unique position, have resulted in the harmonious growth of a beautiful entity. La Serenissima (The Most Serene City) holds an appeal which goes far beyond the sum of its many palaces, churches and monuments. This talk will provide a visual experience of the city, exploring some of the monuments and works of art that best represent its culture and spirit, especially during the Renaissance period. Against this background the role of women in Venice will be discussed, although famed throughout Europe, for most their life was a less than enviable silent subjugation to men and destiny. A handful of exceptional sixteenth century Venetian women - nuns, patricians, courtesans - managed to make their own way, academically, socially, and economically, leaving their mark on history.

Agenda: Timings are approximate

10.00	Arrival and Coffee
10.30	First Lecture – St Petersburg: The Venice of the North
11.30	Comfort Break
11.45	Second Lecture – The Jewel in the Crown: Arab and Norman Sicily
12.45	Buffet Lunch
13.45	Third Lecture – Venice and the Contribution to Lively Venetian Women
15.00	Finish

Cost: £36 which includes morning coffee and buffet lunch with a choice of sandwiches, fresh fruit, chocolate brownie, wine and coffee

Closing date: Monday 3 October 2022

Contact Rosemary Chamberlain on 01342 322940 or jandrchamberlain@sky.com so that we know that you wish to attend as numbers will be restricted.

Payment by Internet Banking

Account 96664339 (The Arts Society Turners Hill)

Sort Code 60-07-17 using the reference "TH October SID"

Please note: Once the society has committed to expenditure, refunds cannot be made except when The Society cancels the event. Where a member is unable to attend due to illness or other unforeseen circumstance and the event is sold out, and The Society has a waiting list, The Society will endeavour to resell the tickets on behalf of the member. This does not prevent a member making their own arrangement to pass on or resell a ticket to another person. (Please inform the organiser if this happens).