

2020 Lectures:

ADFAS societies present a series of quality lectures by leading UK and Australian experts. Each lecture is followed by light refreshments and a convivial social forum.

Events will take place at the **Passchendaele Room, Tamworth War Memorial Town Hall** unless otherwise indicated. Meet at 5.45 pm for 6.00 pm start.

Friday 6 March – Catherine Wallace

A tale of two Barbaras – Barbara Hepworth and Barbara Tribe

Famous sculptors, Barbara Hepworth and Barbara Tribe, made Cornwall their home for much of their lives. Barbara Hepworth (1903-1975) became a leading light in the modernist movement in British art, representing Britain at the Venice Biennale in 1958. She was made a Dame in 1965. Barbara Tribe (1913-2000) came from Australia. She became a member of the Royal Society of Portrait Sculptors in 1953 having made many notable portrait busts of Australian Servicemen in London during the war. The lecture looks at the similarities and differences in the work of these two pioneering 20th century female artists.



Friday 3 April – John Neylon

A tale of two studios: Hans Heysen and Nora Heysen

The Hans Heysen story of the artist who opened Australians' eyes to the beauty of the bush and inland, is well known. More recently, his daughter Nora has stepped out of the shadows of her father's reputation to claim her own place within Australian art as an artist in her own right, to win the Archibald Prize, and as the first woman to be appointed as an Australian war artist. This lecture traces a unique story of two creative journeys separated by an independence of spirit but, as revealed by a remarkable body of recently published correspondence between father and daughter, linked by a love of art.



Friday 15 May – Alan Read

The Sculptures of the Parthenon, or How Lord Elgin Gained and Lost his Marbles

In the two centuries since they were removed from the Parthenon by Lord Elgin, the meaning and significance of the 'Elgin marbles' has changed dramatically from architectural decoration to disputed cultural objects. This lecture looks at the response to these artefacts over their time in Britain, from the original controversy over their purchase to the current debate surrounding the restitution of the marbles to the new Acropolis Museum in Athens.



Friday 12 June – Dr Stephen Cunneen

Phillip, the Colony, the Convicts and the Arts

In January 1788 Governor Phillip, together with 750 convicts, about 500 marines, sailors and medics began a unique experiment in social development on an inhospitable and isolated shoreline. Despite the harsh climate, floggings and executions, a viable society slowly emerged amid the high drama of cross-cultural relationships. Under Phillip's inspired leadership artistic expressions such as engravings, theatre, dance, music and fine arts were encouraged.



Friday 10 July – Kate Strasdin

Dress Detective: Miss Fisher's Wardrobe Revealed

The phenomenal success of the Miss Fisher's Mysteries TV series had a great deal to do with a glamorous protagonist and the aesthetic of 1920's Melbourne. This lecture looks at fashions in the 1920s and the designers who were influencing style and developments that were



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changing the way people thought about clothes. It is also a look behind the scenes, creating Phryne Fisher's world and the flapper style so synonymous with the decade. It was a period that began to embrace sportswear, leisurewear, shortened hems and outrageous parties. The masculine wardrobe was changing too.

Friday 14 August – Dr Caroline Shenton
Venue: Tamworth Regional Gallery

Packing Up the Nation

This is the gripping and sometimes hilarious story of how a band of heroic curators and eccentric custodians saved Britain's national heritage during World War II. As Hitler's forces gathered on the other side of the Channel, men and women from London's national museums, galleries and archives forged extraordinary plans to evacuate their collections to safety. Utilising country houses from Buckinghamshire to Cumbria, tube tunnels, Welsh mines and Wiltshire quarries, a dedicated team of unlikely heroes packed up their greatest treasures in a race against time during the sweltering summer of 1939, dispatching them throughout the country in a series of secret wartime adventures.



Friday 11 September – Sandy Burnett
The Amadeus Myth: Mozart and his World – Culture and Society in Late 18th Century Vienna

Classical music reached a peak of perfection in Vienna during the last three decades of the 18th century, an era in which every household worth its salt had a Kapelle or band of musicians to keep everyone entertained. The refined discourse of the string quartet was held to be the highest form of musical art; the elegant interplay of its various string instruments likened by Goethe to "four intelligent people conversing". This lecture examines the perfect storm of circumstances that made this era possible.



Friday 16 October – Dr Kathy McLaughlan

Urban Noir: Edward Hopper's 'Nighthawks'

Edward Hopper's paintings of urban life are typically characterised by a sense of loneliness and alienation. The most celebrated is 'Nighthawks' which depicts three men and a woman gathered in a brightly illuminated restaurant in New York. We are given few clues to the identity of these people. It is the inexplicable quality of this scene that has made it so intriguing and has turned 'Nighthawks' into one of the iconic images of 20th century urban life. The lecture considers the background to this masterpiece and offers possible reasons for its lasting fascination.



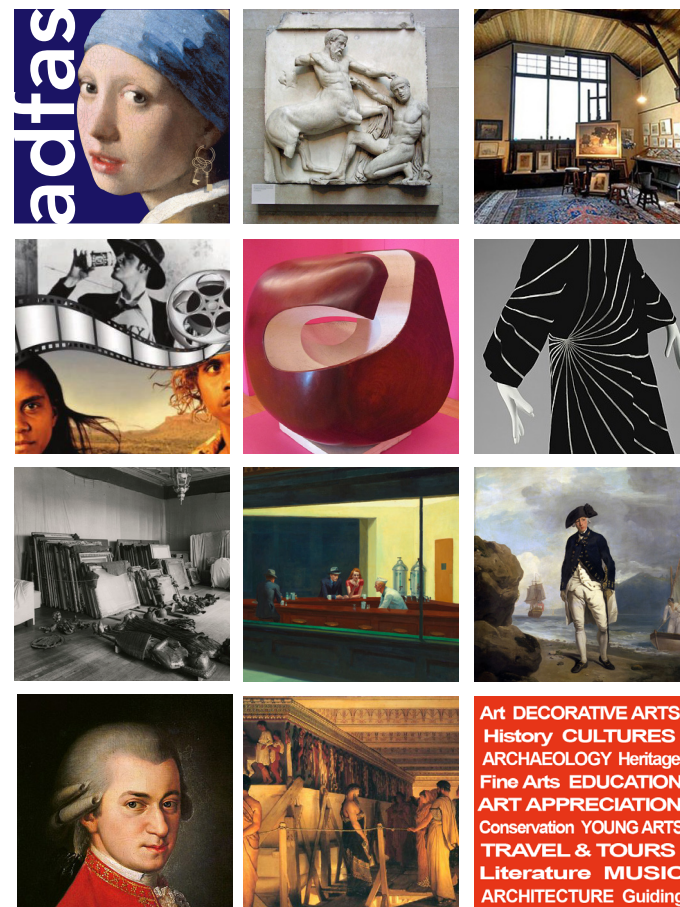
Friday 13 November – Dr Karen Pearlman
"Telling our Stories" Images and Ideas in Three Waves of Australian Film

Australian film rose to the world's attention as a distinctive cinema in the 1970s and early 80s with a series of beautifully shot and performed period dramas such as Picnic at Hanging Rock, My Brilliant Career, and Breaker Morant. These films created a lyrical and bittersweet image of Australia for world audiences. A decade later "The Glitter Cycle", created a very different image, this one covered in sequins. Strictly Ballroom, Muriel's Wedding and Priscilla, Queen of the Desert painted Australia as rambunctious and gleefully spectacular with stories of individuals prepared to overthrow colonial etiquette and dance the night away. We are now experiencing a new wave of attention from local and international critics and audiences for the distinctive work of Indigenous filmmakers. This lecture will look at examples from these three 'waves' of Australian Cinema and consider the different ways our film industry tells 'our stories' and projects an image of Australia to the world.



Association of Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies

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