

EXTRA EVENTS (SEPARATE CHARGES APPLY)

4TH NOVEMBER 2025

Tour of the two Liverpool Cathedrals



20TH JANUARY 2026

**Day of special interest -
Unravelling the Silk Road
Speaker: Chris Aslan**

Three textile roads wound their way through Central Asia: the famous Silk Road, and the Wool and Cotton Roads. Speaker Chris Aslan unravels the strands of their tangled history in three lectures on this Day of Special Interest.

2ND JUNE 2026

Visit to Astley Hall, Chorley

MEETINGS

The Society meets at 11am and 1.30pm on the third Tuesday of a month (Sept – June) at: Cheshire View, Plough Lane, Christleton, Cheshire, CH3 7PT

CONTACT DETAILS

membership.chester@theartsociety.org
events.chester@theartsociety.org

MEMBERSHIP

The Arts Society is a National Charity, founded in 1965 to support and promote arts education. It supports a wide network of Societies across the UK, Europe and other parts of the World.

Joining the Chester Society offers you:

- Free admission to our outstanding monthly lectures from September to June
- Initial free talk for guests
- Days of Special Interest and visits
- The Review magazine which is published three times a year
- Opportunities for volunteering as part of the Community Arts programme
- A chance to learn more about the arts, meet new people and have fun

SUBSCRIPTION

The subscription for 2025-26 is £60.

Days of special interest and visits are charged separately.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Website:

<https://theartsociety.org/chester>



PROGRAMME 2025/2026





16TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Eric Ravilious: Networks of Art and Design

Speaker: Julia Musgrave

Art Historian Julia Musgrave will look at the work of British painter, designer and book illustrator Eric Ravilious. We will hear how his career developed with the help of Rothenstein and Nash and will learn about some of his friends and inspirations.



9TH DECEMBER 2025

Louis Comfort Tiffany: a rebel in glass.

Speaker: Brian Healey

Professional artist and designer Brian Healey will take us on a journey through Louis Comfort Tiffany's work and experiments. Tiffany spent decades exploring the creative possibilities of glass from vases and lampshades to the most elaborate stained-glass windows and mosaics.



21ST APRIL 2026

The Subtle Science and Exact Art of Colour in English Garden Design: why gardening can rank as a fine art
Speaker: Timothy Walker

Gertrude Jekyll once wrote "in a garden we are painting a picture". As an accomplished watercolour artist, she was familiar with the principles of using colours, but felt that in gardens these were neglected. Timothy Walker will explore how to apply these principles, while examining the ways in which a border is different from a painting.



21ST OCTOBER 2025

Henry VII's State Bed

Speaker: Jonathan Foyle

In 2010 a wooden bed frame was removed from a Chester hotel and auctioned off as a Victorian Gothic revival bed. The buyer, Ian Coulson, surprised by the craftsmanship, style and its age, contacted historian Jonathan Foyle for advice, who - in his talk - will unravel the facts behind this remarkable find.



17TH FEBRUARY 2026

Constable and Turner: rivals for greatness

Lecturer: Ed Williams

British art in the early 19th century was dominated by Constable and Turner. Both challenged convention and were to herald changes in British art with their groundbreaking approaches. Ed Williams will look at how they pitted themselves against the academic establishment and each other, to secure the status of preeminent painter of their day.



19TH MAY 2026

The Ballets Russes: when art danced with music

Speaker: Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes

Sergei P Diaghilev, Russian art critic and founder of the Ballets Russes, which revolutionised early 20th-century arts and continues to influence cultural activity today. Jennifer Toynbee-Holmes will look at the Ballets Russes that dominated the world's ballet stages from 1909 until his death in 1929.



18TH NOVEMBER 2025

Contemporary Artists: Antony Gormley and Anish Kapoor.

Speaker: Rosalind Whyte

Gormley and Kapoor are among the most well-known sculptors working in Britain today. Their work provides an interesting insight into contemporary views and preoccupations in Britain. Rosalind Whyte will explore the common ground and the differences between them.

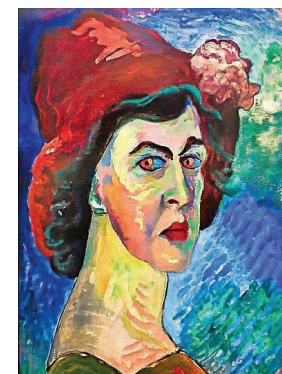


17TH MARCH 2026

An Actor's Life for me?

Speaker: Tyler Butterworth

Drawing on his own experiences as both a child and as an adult actor, Tyler Butterworth reveals the pains and the pleasures of a career in the theatre. We will learn about the intricate processes of putting on a play from the actor's perspective, from the casting session to the curtain call, and how to deal with stage nudity.



16TH JUNE 2026

The Women who made Modernism

Speaker: Cindy Polemis

In 1901 a cartoon appeared in the German magazine, 'Simplicissimus' which said there were two types of women painters: the ones who get married and the others; neither had any talent. Cindy Polemis will look at Kollwitz, Modersohn-Becker, von Werefkin and Münter, who were to become the pioneers of the German avant-garde.