



13 September 2019
THE ART OF THE KIMONO

Suzanne Perrin explains how kimonos, designed for special occasions and everyday wear, denote the rank, class and age of the wearer through the patterns and symbols woven and dyed into the kimono.



11 October 2019
THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD

Jo Mabbut describes the spectacular event in June 1520 when two Renaissance princes in their 20s, Henry VIII and Francis I, met to ratify an Anglo-French alliance.



8 November 2019
DOUBLE DUTCH: SYMBOLS, EMBLEMS IN 'DOUBLE ENTENDRE' IN DUTCH GENRE PAINTING.

Lynne Gibson enables us to read the subtle hints and double-entendre spoken through the hidden language of symbols, emblems and motifs in Dutch genre painting.



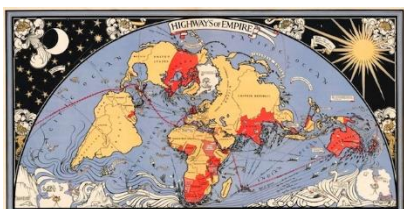
13 December 2019
SALVADOR DALI: DRAUGHTSMAN AND DESIGNER. A RENAISSANCE ARTIST IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Julia Musgrave introduces us to Dali who as well as being a painter was also an engraver, sculptor, architect, designer and science enthusiast – a Renaissance artist in the twentieth century.



10 January 2020
THE MAGIC OF PANTOMIME

Ian Gledhill brings some personal anecdotes to the history of this peculiarly British institution, from its origins in 16th century Italian commedia dell'arte through the influence of 19th century music hall.



14 February 2020
IMAGES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE

John Stevens looks at a variety of paintings, buildings and objects from across the Empire to give an insight into how the British viewed themselves and their subjects in the 19th and 20th centuries.

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13 March 2020

IMPERIAL EASTER EGGS OF CARL FABERGE, BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

Tony Faber explores how Faberge's ingenuity and creativity in the relentless search for novelty provides a fabulous quirky illustrated history of the decline of the Romanovs.



17 April 2020

A PROLIFERATION OF PATTERN: WALLPAPERS 1920-2000

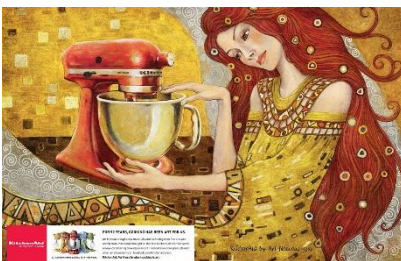
Jo Banham surveys the development of wallpaper production and design across the twentieth century, dispelling the idea that Modernist interiors equate with plain walls.



8 May 2020

THE BRITISH LANDSCAPE TRADITION: THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH TO RICHARD LONG

John Francis takes us on a journey starting with Mr and Mrs Andrews, through our 'national identity' portrayed by Turner and Constable, on to 1950's urban landscapes and ending with the sculptures of Richard Long.



12 June 2020

MAD MEN AND ARTISTS: HOW THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY EXPLOITED FINE ART

Tony Rawlins shows examples of the original works, the creative processes and the (not always successful) resulting adverts.



15 November 2019

SID

NORDIC VISION: SCANDINAVIAN PAINTING C1880-1914

Scandinavian Painters embraced the "modern" in terms of technique and subject matter, following in the footsteps of the French Naturists and Impressionists. In the 1890s many northern artists turned inward, both physically and mentally, to explore Symbolism, Edvard Munch being the most notable example of contemporary angst.



20 March 2020

SID

GOLD OF THE GODS: TREASURES OF SOUTH AMERICA AND THE SEARCH FOR EL DORADO

Gold in South America had a spiritual importance. Its brilliance evoked the Sun - the golden disk that nourished the Earth. In Peru and Colombia, goldsmiths made some of the most spectacular treasures of the ancient world. Cast and hammered, gold was transformed into sacred offerings for tombs and temples. Europeans, by contrast, saw gold as a commodity - the ultimate symbol of wealth.