



12 September 2025

GREAT OPERATIC RIVALRIES - HANDBAGS AT DAWN?

Tim Murfin, an opera singer, looks at some of opera's greatest rivalries, spats and tiffs, from throw-away remarks to full-on public fighting.



17 October 2025

SPANISH PAINTER OF SUNLIGHT: JOAQUIN SOROLLA

Gail Turner brings us a touch of sunlight and optimism as we look at Sorolla's delightful paintings of women and children in various locations in Spain.



14 November 2025

THE ART OF THE CARTOONIST

Harry Venning, a professional cartoonist, traces the history of his profession and demonstrates with live drawings some of the tricks of his trade.



12 December 2025

THREE WISE MEN - GOLD FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH. THE TRADITIONS OF THE MAGI

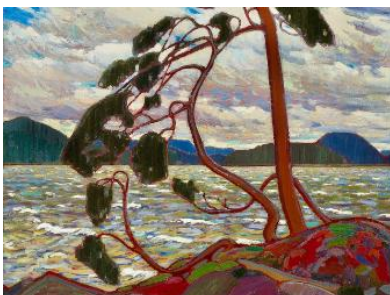
Christopher Bradley takes us on a journey around the Middle East, Constantinople, Milan and Cologne in search of the anonymous three wise men.



13 February 2026

160 YEARS OF LONDON UNDERGROUND DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

Mark Ovenden shares his knowledge about graphic design, cartography and architecture in public transport, guiding us through the need for cohesion as the Underground expanded.



13 March 2026

WILD MEN OF THE NORTH - TOM THOMSON AND THE GROUP OF SEVEN

Ross King brings us a group of Canadian painters who forged a national school of avant-garde landscape painting that was recognised on the international stage.

10 April 2026

DAVID HOCKNEY - BLONDES HAVE MORE FUN

Frank Woodgate looks at David Hockney's changes in media and style from the early 1960s early graffiti-like paintings, through naturalism and on to his recent work.



8 May 2026

THREE GREAT FAMILIES AND THEIR GARDENS...

Caroline Rayman combines the histories of these notable families with the gardens they have created in the English countryside.



19 June 2026

MUSIC IN ART

Sophie Matthews explores instruments depicted in selected works and then gives live musical demonstrations on replicas of these instruments.



10 July 2026

NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T - THE ART OF VISUAL DECEPTION

Bertie Pearce delights us with a whistle-stop tour of art that fools, surprises and amuses the viewer, from Magritte to Arcimboldo and Escher to name a few.



16 January 2026 – DISCOVERY DAY

COALBROOKDALE TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE

The legacy of the Industrial Revolution on technology, art, ceramics, design, architecture and everyday life.



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