

ART HISTORY 2 : 2017

Our topic for our main programme of 2017 was **Art Nouveau and Art Deco**. We began with a comprehensive introduction to Art Nouveau, looking at its origins in Britain with the Art and Crafts movement and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and how it developed in Europe and across the world in terms of architecture, graphic design, fine arts, decorative arts and retail. Members then chose aspects of Art Nouveau which they wished to research and present in more detail: the work of *Charles Rennie Mackintosh; Gustav Klimt; Art Nouveau posters; Arthur Liberty; and Art Nouveau architecture in Barcelona*. In May, we moved on to study Art Deco with presentations on *Charles Holden and London Underground Stations, Eugene Savage, Eltham Palace* and, finally, *Three Art Deco Buildings in New York City*.

At the end of our main six-month study block, we decided to base our shorter autumn study block on **Artists of West Cornwall** - the artists' colonies which had settled in Newlyn and Lamorna in West Cornwall from the mid-19th century. This is why for our Film Month we watched the film 'Summer in February' which was loosely based on a true story set in the colony at Lamorna, near Newlyn.

Between September and November we researched and presented the work of the following artists who lived and worked in Newlyn and Lamorna: *Stanhope Forbes*, who was known as the 'Father of the Newlyn School'; *Elizabeth Armstrong Forbes; Walter Langley; Percy Craft; Norman Garstin; Dod and Ernest Procter*, and *Harold and Dame Laura Knight*.

Our December meeting again took the form of a Christmas lunch and a quiz on the year's work.

