

Our February Study Day

**GREAT TARTS IN ART:
High Culture and the Oldest Profession**

LINDA SMITH MA

Tuesday February 6th 2018 at CLEY VILLAGE HALL

Doors open at 10.00am for a 10.15am start

This day examines the portraits and careers of some of history's most notorious mistresses and courtesans in order to take a generally light-hearted look at changing attitudes to sexual morality down the ages. It also charts the rather complex and ambiguous attitudes of art and society towards the numerous and anonymous working girls at the lower end of the scale. Very much a social history, it places the art carefully in context, revealing many little nuances and meanings in well known works which might not otherwise be immediately apparent to the modern eye. It is, of course, full of scandalous anecdotes and stories.

Starting in the 17th century Britain, the talk takes a look at portraits of Charles' II's best known mistresses then to the 18th century and the era of Hogarth, whose modern moral subjects dealt with the issue of prostitution in hilarious and fascinating detail. The sumptuous portraits of Sir Joshua Reynolds, Thomas Gainsborough and others illustrate the careers of some well known courtesans of the period. Then to the 19th century, staying in Britain initially, looking at the influence of stolid middle-class attitudes to sex and the Fallen Woman but the scope of the discussion widens into France where works of Manet, Degas and Renoir feature. In the 20th century, radical new artistic techniques were applied to this age-old subject by artists like Picasso, Vlaminck and Sickert in the early part of the century; and it continues to appear right up to the present day.

Linda Smith MA is a well qualified Art Historian, with a special interest in British Art and the Art of the 20th century. She is an accredited Arts Society lecturer and an experienced gallery guide especially at Tate Britain and Tate Modern in London where she works as a guide and Lecturer.

This is a very popular Study Day and early booking is essential. The day begins at 10.15am.

Coffee is served at 11.30am and a two course lunch at 12.45pm.

The final lecture starts at 2.00pm and the afternoon will end at approximately 3.30pm.

The fee for the Study Day is £29 per person. Please make cheques payable to The Arts Society and enclose a stamped addressed envelope and reply to:

Patricia Spencer, The Barn, North Walsham Road Suffield NR11 7AJ. Telephone 01263 768164

The closing date for this study day is 23rd January 2018

Name/s

Address

..... Telephone

I enclose a cheque for £..... and a stamped address envelope.

I am a member/waiting list member of The Arts Society Glaven Valley

Any special dietary requirement