

*The*  
**TURNER SOCIETY**

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

## PROGRAMME

APRIL TO DECEMBER 2011

---

### LONDON, PAUL MELLON CENTRE

**Wednesday 13 April, 6.30 p.m.**  
**Paul Mellon Centre for British Art**  
**16 Bedford Square, WC1**  
**32nd Kurt Pantzer Memorial Lecture**  
**'THE SUN IS GOD – OR IS IT?**  
**J.M.W. TURNER AND CHRISTIANITY'**  
**Lecture by Cecilia Powell**  
**Entrance free, without ticket**  
**Wine will be served after the lecture**

Although Turner is reputed to have declared 'The Sun is God' shortly before he died in December 1851, there can be little doubt that Christianity in its various manifestations played a significant part in his life. From his youth onwards Turner's art was often inspired by ecclesiastical buildings and the example set by the most profound earlier painters of religious subjects, such as Titian and Rembrandt. Turner's lifetime coincided with an upsurge in religious sentiment and important developments in the practice of Christianity in England, including the building of thousands of new churches by the Church of England and the Catholic Emancipation Act. This lecture by Cecilia Powell, Editor of *Turner Society News*, will show that Christianity was more central to Turner's art than is commonly supposed.

---

### LONDON, TATE BRITAIN

**Friday 3 June, 6.30 p.m.**  
**Tate Britain, Millbank, SW1**  
**Joint event with**  
**The Friends of Turner's House**  
**VISIT TO THE EXHIBITION WATERCOLOUR**  
**Introductory talk by Andrew Wilton**  
**Meet in the foyer of the Atterbury Street entrance**  
**Members will need to purchase**  
**exhibition tickets individually**

This controversial exhibition has received mixed reviews, but remains well worth visiting. Its range is enormous, from mediaeval manuscripts to twenty-first-century creations. The part played by Turner in the exhibition's narrative is a deep mystery for Turnerians to plumb.

---

### TWICKENHAM, SANDYCOMBE LODGE

**Saturday 30 July, noon**  
**Sandycombe Lodge, Sandycombe Road, Twickenham**  
**'BRING YOUR OWN' PICNIC**  
**IN TURNER'S GARDEN**  
**No charge but ticket needed,**

**which will give directions**  
**Requests for tickets to**  
**Catherine Parry-Wingfield,**  
**11 Montpelier Row, Twickenham TW1 2NQ,**  
**enclosing a stamped addressed envelope**

Sandycombe Lodge is awaiting renovation and is likely to be closed to visitors for an indefinite period. In the meantime, this is an opportunity for members to visit Turner's country retreat and see the building, with its Soanian echoes, before renovation commences. An informal picnic will take place, in the garden (weather permitting). Drinks will be provided, but bring your own lunch.

---

### MARGATE, TURNER CONTEMPORARY

**Saturday 17 September, all day**  
**Joint event with**  
**The Dickens Fellowship**  
**A DAY IN KENT WITH TURNER AND DICKENS**

This will be the Society's inaugural visit to Turner Contemporary. After making their own way to the new gallery in Margate, members of our party will hear an introductory talk on the gallery and have an opportunity to tour the building and its exhibits. After lunch in Margate, we shall set off around 2 p.m. along the dedicated Turner/Dickens route to Broadstairs (approximately four miles) which mostly follows an ancient footpath, along which scenes are now displayed illustrating Turner's and Dickens' lives and times. In Broadstairs we shall visit Dickens House Museum, where, weather permitting, we shall have a cream tea in its garden. Further details will be issued nearer the date to members who notify their interest in joining this excursion.\*

---

### LONDON, PUSHKIN HOUSE

**Friday 30 September, evening**  
**Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, WC1**  
**Musical recital: Natalia Kouznetsova's compositions**  
***THE PRINCE OF THE ROCKS –***  
***THE WORLD OF J.M.W. TURNER***

Turner Society member Natalia Kouznetsova has long been interested in the interaction between the arts. This formed her research subject at Astrakhan Conservatoire and the Gnesin Russian Academy of Music in Moscow. The symphonic song cycle *The Prince of the Rocks* unites Turner's art with English poetry from Shakespeare to Masfield including Turner's contemporaries and the artist himself.

Fifteen tickets have been kindly reserved for members who request them and donate £5 to the Turner Society.\* Alternatively, tickets may be purchased direct from Pushkin House (www.pushkinhouse.org or 0207 7269 9770).

statement about the wars with France. The lecture offers a reading of this difficult painting in the light of the controversy, also taking into account its colouring, symbolism, and allusions to literature and mythology.

### LONDON, SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES

### LONDON, PAUL MELLON CENTRE

**Thursday 20 October, 5 p.m.**

**Saturday 10 December, 2.30 p.m.**

**Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1**

**Paul Mellon Centre for British Art**

**Joint event with**

**16 Bedford Square, WC1**

**The Society of Antiquaries of London**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**'MATTHEW COTES WYATT'S**

**followed by**

**WELLINGTON STATUE (1846) AND**

**'TURNER IN TWICKENHAM'**

**TURNER'S HERO OF A HUNDRED FIGHTS (1847)'**

**Talk by Catherine Parry-Wingfield**

**Lecture by Jan Piggott**

**and the**

**Entrance free but ticket required\***

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Mulled wine and mince pies (£3 per head)**

The Turner Society has been kindly invited to attend one of the regular lectures of The Society of Antiquaries of London held in their historic premises at Burlington House.

The agenda for the AGM will be circulated separately.

This lecture will throw new light on the greatest Fine Arts row of nineteenth-century London, the commission for the bronze equestrian 'Monster Statue' of Wellington by Matthew Cotes Wyatt and its installation atop Decimus Burton's Arch on Constitution Hill in 1846. Royal Academicians were asked individually by the government if the statue should come down; except for Turner and one other, all recommended its removal. Two letters from Turner in reply have recently come to light, and his misgivings will be discussed in the context of his relations with the Wyatt family and his admiration for Wellington, 'the Saviour of Europe'. *The Hero of a Hundred Fights*, picturing the casting of the statue, and shown at the Academy in 1847, was Turner's last

Catherine Parry-Wingfield, President of the Friends of Turner's House and Twickenham resident, will examine the artist's relationship with this Thames-side area on the fringe of London.

**\* Requests for tickets should be sent to Cecilia Powell, 28 Grove Lane, London SE5 8ST, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope (and, where appropriate, donation). Tickets for the recital on 30 September will be issued on a first-come first-served basis. For all events, please return any unwanted tickets before the event date so that they may be offered to other members.**

**Members are reminded that they are most welcome to bring friends to Turner Society events.**

### **Please use or photocopy the form below as convenient**

**THE TURNER SOCIETY** was founded in 1975, the bicentenary of the birth of J.M.W. Turner RA, to promote interest in the life, work and influence of Britain's greatest painter.

**The Society offers members a varied events programme.** This includes lectures by experts, visits to the Prints & Drawings Room at Tate Britain and exhibitions on Turner and his contemporaries, and trips to see private collections not generally open to the public.

**Members receive an illustrated magazine** containing articles, reviews, news and information about Turner.

**To join us, please complete this form and send it to:**

**BCM Box Turner  
London  
WC1N 3XX**

**or**

visit our website:  
**www.turnersociety.org.uk**  
and pay via the  
Society's Paypal account

#### **2011-12 RATES**

UK individual member: £25  
Each additional member at the same address: £12.50  
Overseas individual member:  
£25 (surface mail) or  
£37.50 (airmail)  
Life member: £500  
UK corporate member: £50  
Overseas corporate member:  
£50 (surface mail) or  
£62.50 (airmail)

#### **APPLICATION FORM**

Please pay in sterling and make your cheque payable to The Turner Society. The annual renewal date is 1 July but those who join after 1 January (and pay any revised rate of subscription) receive membership until 30 June of the following year.

Name (capitals please) .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone ..... Email ..... Date .....

Eligible for Gift Aid? Shall we supply a Gift Aid Declaration .....