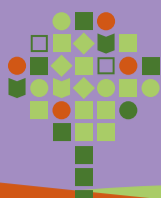


Insight



Autumn News At The Institute



Although the start of the autumn term already seems like a distant memory, it is still not too late to take a short course at The Institute before Christmas. In response to popular demand, we have introduced an increasing number of attractive short courses and one day workshops which run throughout the year. Take a look at our website www.hgsi.ac.uk or pick up a copy of the prospectus to see what is on offer now.

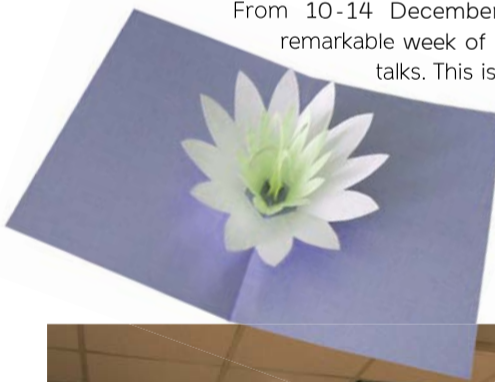
Starting on 6 November, you could join 'Exploring London Museums and Galleries' – a 5 week course which offers you the opportunity to visit museums and galleries accompanied by a specialist tutor who will give introductory lectures.

Or, for something completely different, why not 'Try Cartooning' – this 5 week course starts on 8 November and will guarantee you an experience like no other. Also on 8 November, 'Focus on Asian Film' begins, the latest in our popular film studies courses which will transport you to India, Japan, China and Thailand – and back to East Finchley.

If you prefer to stay indoors in a nice warm kitchen, there are a number of short 6 week cookery courses to choose from: 'Wintery Soups and Healthy Salads' starts on 5 November; 'Sweet Pastry Making with Confidence' starts on 8 November and 'Quick & Easy Vegetarian Cooking' starts on 10 November.

The Fashion & Textiles department has a whole range of stylish short courses and one day workshops on offer over the winter months. Take your pick from: 'Alter Your Clothes with Confidence' (10 November), Machine Knitting (10 November), 'Knitting 101' (16 November) and 'Cable Knitting with Confidence' (30 November). On 30 November, there is a real first at The Institute: a 'Pop-Up Card Workshop' taught by Michael Caputo, an award-winning paper engineer from New York. And, getting into the seasonal spirit, we also have a 'Fun Festive Decorations Workshop' on 7 December where you can make your own decorations to adorn your home over the holidays.

From 10-14 December inclusive, we are hosting a remarkable week of short courses, workshops and talks. This is a unique opportunity to come along and experience a range of creative activities including silk screen printing, printmaking, flower arranging, stained glass, art and sculpture – and a whole lot more besides – so put the dates in your diary now and, for more details, check The Institute website www.hgsi.ac.uk nearer the time.



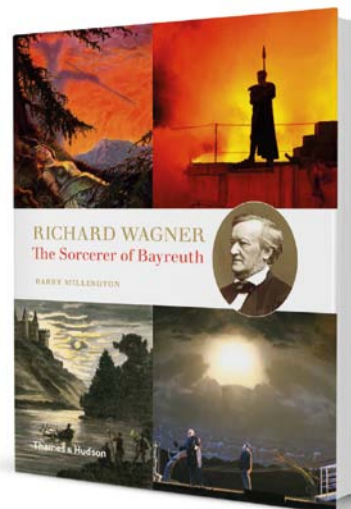
Richard Wagner: The Sorcerer of Bayreuth

Richard Wagner was a giant amongst composers whose extraordinary influence has barely been equalled in the history of music. Yet beside the intoxicating richness of his work, he is a man who has polarised opinion during his life and afterwards.

Barry Millington, a leading expert on Wagner, tackles the issues and controversies surrounding his life and, drawing on recent scholarship, presents them in a new light. It is a mark of how Wagner has entered the popular imagination that his reputation as an incorrigible egoist, a philanderer, an unscrupulous wife-stealer and an anti-Semite has come to define him. Yet this one-dimensional cartoon image of the man masks a more honest and complex portrait. Millington's biography examines Wagner's relationships with women, and especially his

wife, Cosima, and his mistress, Mathilde Wesendonck, his fetish for wearing silks and satins, his self-promotion as a 'brand', his anti-Semitism and Germanness and his turbulent legacy both of the Bayreuth Festival and of Wagnerism itself.

His knowledge of Wagner is particularly fascinating in the chapters on his works which challenged musical convention through their richness and tonal experimentation. He focuses much attention on the thirteen operas, where he draws on recent sterling musicological research. In his opinion, the Ring Cycle, one of the most ambitious works of art ever conceived, is simply one of the enduring pillars of Western civilisation. It is fitting then, on the eve of his bicentenary that Richard Wagner's legendary work and powerful personality is radically reappraised and



celebrated in this finely illustrated biography.

Barry Millington, who lives in Denman Drive, is one of the most distinguished Wagner scholars in the world, is chief music critic for the London Evening Standard and the editor of The Wagner Journal.

Richard Wagner: The Sorcerer of Bayreuth
Barry Millington
Publication date: 29 October 2012
Price: £24.95

Henrietta and the Suburb Library

Henrietta would have been delighted with the volunteer librarians at the Garden Suburb Library. Henrietta and Samuel were always very keen to provide books for all classes of people. In the 1870s, they were newly married and set up home in the vicarage of St Jude's, Whitechapel. They quickly made a library for parishioners and anybody with a reference. Books were usually given by well-wishers, like we give books to Oxfam, and after three years they had a library of 638 books – Scott, George Eliot, Dickens, Gaskell, Kingsley, Trollope and Yonge – the 'light literature' of those days, as well as non-fiction. There were also picture-books for children. Every Tuesday evening Henrietta, helped by Miss Bullwinkle and Mrs Turriff, would issue books. "I sat a little apart and chatted with all would-be readers, first to learn their tastes, and then by degrees to advise volumes a little further along the path selected, and so on until taste was awakened and authors recognised."

In 1884 the Barnetts opened Toynbee Hall and in 1886 a new room was added for a students' library. By 1900 they had 7,500 books, mainly given by Bolton King and mostly on economic or social topics. They lent books to other centres to help the University Extension classes.

The Public Libraries Act enabled local councils to establish libraries, subject to a

referendum. In the 19th century there were many enabling acts which permitted councils to provide services if they wished to. Toynbee Hall residents canvassed voters so effectively that 4,400 out of the 6,100 voters on the register voted and a majority of four to one voted in favour of the library. Passmore Edwards gave £6,500 for the building and in 1892 it was opened by Lord Rosebery. The Barnetts planned the layout of the library, with a children's section, a room for lectures and a small natural history museum. The library movement spread across East London and by the time the Barnetts left Whitechapel for Westminster there were six public libraries.

Henrietta planned a big library for the Suburb and in 1910 Andrew Carnegie promised £7,000 to build it. The Library was to be next to the Friends Meeting House, the site of the electricity sub-station in North Square. But Hendon and Finchley Councils wanted libraries in their town centres so refused to fund it. This was a great disappointment to Henrietta. She opened a library in the Institute and many residents gave books.

She always thought that advice and discussion about books was important and in 1924 she formed a book group in the Suburb. This Novel Reading Club was very popular from the start. Members were

welcomed to her house at 1 South Square by Marion Paterson and coffee was served 'with Mary's far-famed cakes'. Mary Blade, Henrietta's cook, made cakes for the Institute socials as well as for Henrietta's many tea-parties. At the first meeting of the Novel Reading Club, she explained the aim of the club: "Our aim is greater knowledge of each other's minds. People know each other's looks, circumstances, character. We aim at knowing each other's minds. It is not a class. There is no teacher; we are each of us to teach, to learn and all of us to study. The plan is for each of us to buy the same edition of the book selected (in a cheap edition) to read at home and to mark the passages that strike us."

After reading a few novels, they studied the biography of one of the authors, and in the summer would visit the places to which he had made special reference. They read both classics and modern books. Every third or fourth evening was set aside for each member to read a passage from one of their favourite authors. "To close the evening Dame Henrietta would sum up most delightfully with her usual humour and generally with sly hits at anything with which she had not agreed." From 1935 Henrietta was too ill to preside, attendance declined and the society ended with her death in 1936.

MICKY WATKINS

Sunday afternoon concerts

The third series of Fellowship Autumn Sunday afternoon concerts will take place from the 28 October - 9 December. The concerts, which last about one hour, are followed by drinks and a chance to talk to the artists. Anyone who would like a series leaflet can pick one up in the entrance to Fellowship House in Willifield Way.

Alternatively you can call in at our box office at 46 Denman Drive NW11 6RH or telephone us on 8455 9840. Tickets are priced at £8 each.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28
Thomas Gould Violin with Christopher Devine Piano play a selection of Chopin Nocturnes which have been transcribed for Violin/Piano. This concert is

prior to making a recording of all the Nocturnes.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11
Iain Farrington Solo Piano. Iain was recently seen at the Olympics playing the piano with the LSO during the Mr Bean sketch. He will be playing pieces by Elgar, Howells and his own compositions.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18
Lucy Simmonds Cello and Eleanor Turner Harp. They will be playing a selection of works for this interesting duo including pieces by Faure and Bruch as well as a solo Bach suite for Cello and a solo Harp piece by Da Fallo.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25
Sarah Power soprano and Victor Sicard baritone return to sing a

selection of opera duets with Anna Cardona on the piano.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2
The exciting Honeymead Trio led by Tamsin Waley Cohen, who played at the last night of the St Judes proms, will be playing Bach's Goldberg variations transcribed for string trio.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9
The Jubilee quartet played in the first series of concerts. They return with an exciting programme starting with Janacek's quartet "intimate letters" followed by a beautiful early work by Webern and conclude with the haunting quartet by Mendelssohn, which was written following the death of his sister and just a year before his own death.

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