

Art and Travel in the Mediterranean, 1600–1900

Held at the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, London

‘The grand object of travelling is to see the shores of the Mediterranean’

Samuel Johnson, 1776



In the history of British travel since the late sixteenth century, the Mediterranean has always played a prime role and inevitably captured the imagination like no other European region. Travel to the Mediterranean was stimulated by its art and architecture and in return inspired new art, collecting and art criticism. Images drawn, painted or photographed on these journeys by very diverse travellers – artists, antiquarians, scientists, ethnographers, diplomats, navy personnel, amateurs and tourists, to name just a few – have fulfilled a whole variety of purposes. This lecture series, organized by the National Maritime Museum’s Centre for Art and Travel and generously hosted by the Paul Mellon Centre, attempts a new overview of the subject from the seventeenth to the early twentieth century.



Above: 'Italianate harbour scene with the monument of Ferdinand I de 'Medici at Leghorn', 1670, by Hendrik van Minderhout, BHC1873

Cover image: 'The Darsena delle Galere and Castello Nuovo at Naples', 1703, (detail), by Caspar van Wittel, BHC1900

26 November 2009

The Origins of the Grand Tour and the Discovery of Art

Edward Chaney, Southampton Solent University

10 December 2009

'Present under the rose...' Stratford Canning, his Greek artist, and the last chance to see Turkey before the Tanzimat

Charles Newton, former curator, Victoria & Albert Museum

For full abstracts and biographies, see nmm.ac.uk/CART

Venue

Seminar room
Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art
16 Bedford Square
London WC1B 3JA

Travel

Nearest tube stations include Tottenham Court Road, Goodge Street or Russell Square

21 January 2010

'These inhuman traffickers in flesh & blood': British artists and the slave trade in Egypt

Briony Llewellyn, independent art historian

4 February 2010

Revolving Mirrors: Britain and Spain from the Armada to the Spanish Civil War

David Howarth, University of Edinburgh

18 February 2010

'Hellas... in one living picture': British artist travellers in Greece

Jenny Gaschke, National Maritime Museum

Time

18.00 start; 19.00 drinks; 19.30 finish

Further information

All lectures are free of charge and there is no need to book, but if you wish to reserve a place please email research@nmm.ac.uk or call 020 8312 6716

All information correct at time of print but may be subject to change

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