

**GHS Winter Lecture Series
on the theme of 'internationalism' to mark the year of the London Olympics**

Crossing the Pond: the 18th Century Anglo-American Seed and Plant Exchange

Kath Clark, Joint Principal Gardener at Painshill Park

6.30 pm, Wednesday 1 February, The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street

This talk will explore the impact of the influx of new 'exotic' plants from North America on the craze for garden improvement in the eighteenth century. It will focus on the seed and plant exchanges of John Bartram of Philadelphia and Peter Collinson of London, and will use Charles Hamilton at Painshill as an example of their influence on planting schemes and their effect on the landscapes and gardens. It will also reveal something of the ways in which this network widened the clientele for the new plants and ensured their continuing legacy today.

Gardening on the Edge: Ireland's Coastal Gardens and Demesnes

Terence Reeves-Smyth,

Senior Inspector of Built Heritage with the Environment and Heritage Service, Ireland

6.30 pm Wednesday 8 February, The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street

Coastal gardens of the 17th and 18th centuries in Ireland were created in spite, rather than because of, their location. Early attempts to plant successful shelter belts were not always successful and it was not until the 19th century that landowners began to successfully cope with the harsh and exposed conditions of coastal districts with their salt-laden winds. Success here was followed by a growing appreciation of the horticultural benefits of Ireland's wonderfully mild (though wet) maritime coastal belt. Gardens began to be intentionally sited to take advantage of its equable climate, as at Sir Peter Fitzgerald's garden at Glanleam, Co. Kerry, which was begun in the 1830s. In subsequent decades a string of other famous coastal gardens were created, such as Rossdohan, the Gamish Islands, Derreen and Fota. Today most of Ireland's finest gardens lie within twelve miles of her coast.

The Way Forward: Gardening is Happiness

Elizabeth Banks, President of The Royal Horticultural Society

10th Annual GHS Lecture at the RHS

6.30 pm, Wednesday 15 February, Royal Horticultural Halls & Conference Centre

In this lecture, Elizabeth Banks will talk about the plans for the future of the RHS, its international outreach, as well as her own work, particularly in relation to historic gardens, which over three decades has covered three continents.

Orchids: the Epitome of the Exotic

Christopher Bailes, Curator of the Chelsea Physic Garden

6.30 pm, Wednesday 29 February, The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street

Orchids have for centuries symbolised the exotic and mysterious. Their remarkable diversity in form and flower has attracted scientists and gardeners alike, and they were described by Darwin as 'universally acknowledged to rank amongst the most singular and most modified forms in the vegetable kingdom'. During the heyday of orchid discovery and exploration their allure was, if anything, enhanced by their perceived intractability in cultivation. The 19th century, however, saw a revolution in growing techniques, leading to an explosion of interest in orchids. This presentation will review the history of orchid cultivation through the centuries to the present day, where orchids are now a staple supermarket flower.

An Historical Garden between Landscape and Architecture

A conservation project for the Renaissance Nymphaeum and the Tower in Palazzo La Marmorata

Francesco Alberti La Marmorata,

Landscape Section of Biella's Observatory for Cultural Heritage and Landscape

6.30 pm, Wednesday 14 March, The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street

The lecture will touch on the key concepts of the European Landscape Convention and its implementation over the last 10 years. It will look at the role of historic gardens in landscape conservation, particularly in the Piedmont region of Italy, taking as a starting point Palazzo La Marmorata in Biella. This will be an account of how one individual has strived to conserve his own historic property within a system of institutional support which differs from that operating in the UK and how this has led towards the conservation of other people's historic gardens in his locality.

Contact The Garden History Society:

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Website for press information: www.gardenhistorysociety.org/press

Venues and Times 2012:**10TH Annual GHS Lecture at the RHS****Lecture by Elizabeth Banks (15 Feb)**

Royal Horticultural Society Halls and Conference Centre.

Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QD (Victoria, St James's and Pimlico Stations).

Doors open at 5.45 pm, lecture starts at 6.30 pm.

Lectures by Kath Clark (1 Feb), Terence Reeves-Smyth (8 Feb), Christopher Bailes (29 Feb), Francesco Alberti La Marmora (14 Mar) at

The Gallery, 70 Cowcross St, London EC1M 6EJ (Farringdon Station).

Doors open at 6.00 pm, lectures start at 6.30 pm

Tickets

RHS: £15.00 in advance for members of the GHS and RHS, £18.00 for all tickets purchased at the door. (The Lawrence Bar will be open from 5.45 pm, refreshments not included in the ticket price).

The Gallery, Cowcross Street: £8.00 in advance for members of the GHS, £10 for all tickets purchased at the door (one glass of wine included).

SEASON TICKET FOR ALL LECTURES: £43.00 members, £54.00 non-members.

Booking form can be downloaded from www.gardenhistorysociety.org/events

THE GARDEN HISTORY SOCIETY is widely recognised for its expertise and advice. In its role as statutory consultee, its professionally qualified conservation officers are consulted by government agencies and local authorities on a wide range of issues affecting historic parks and gardens. The Garden History Society also

- promotes the study of the history of gardening and horticulture in all its aspects
- promotes the conservation of historic parks, gardens and designed landscapes, and advises on their restoration
- encourages the creation of new parks, gardens and designed landscapes.

*The events at The Gallery are supported by Alan Baxter & Associates
The event at The Royal Horticultural Hall and Conference Centre is supported by
The Royal Horticultural Society*

The Garden History Society

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