



Bath Decorative and Fine Arts Society

Art Deco: High Style in the Roaring Twenties



The term Art Deco was not used to describe the style of the 'Roaring Twenties' or the Jazz Age until the 1960s. It was taken from the Exposition Arts Decoratifs held in Paris in 1925, where Paris emerged as the leader of style in the post World War period. The Germans were not allowed to show, the Americans had turned their back on Europe and the English it would seem had put all their energy into the Empire Exhibition of the previous year. Consequently the French came out on top, with the glass of Lalique, the furniture of Ruhlmann, the jewellery of Cartier and lacquer of Dunand. It was the world of haute couture and the Beau Monde or 'beautiful people'. But Le Corbusier was also present at the 1925 exposition, one of the pioneers of Modernism, the style which was to make itself felt, in terms of popular culture, in the next decade. This illustrated lecture will trace the development of Art Deco and the impact of Modernism in the 1920s and 1930s, through dress, architecture, interiors, furniture, glass, ceramics, metalwork and jewellery.

Lecturer - Anne Anderson. With a first degree in archaeology and a PhD in English, Anne was a senior lecturer in Art and Design History at Southampton Solent University for 14 years. During 2009-2010, Anne worked on Closer to Home the reopening exhibition at Leighton House Museum, Kensington. She has curated three national exhibitions, including The Truth About Faeries (2009-11) and Under the Greenwood: Picturing the British Tree (2013). Her book on The Perseus Series was published for the Edward Burne-Jones exhibition (2018). She has held several prestigious fellowships.

Date and Time: 11.00 am, Monday 12th. April 2021.