

Not only artists, everyone needs time off to soak up good impressions, to 'feed the soul'. This day of talks is designed to give you the best such food, in good company and in one of the most beautiful settings in Oxfordshire.

Fee: £50 includes refreshments and buffet lunch.

Pre-booking is essential. To obtain form/s call or email us, as below.

Finding Waterperry

From Oxford take the A40 towards London and turn off at the Wheatley exit, before reaching the motorway. Follow the brown signs to Waterperry Gardens.

From London and Banbury, leave M40 at Junction 8 and follow the signs to Wheatley and then to Waterperry Gardens.

SATNAV—use OX33 1LG

Car Parking

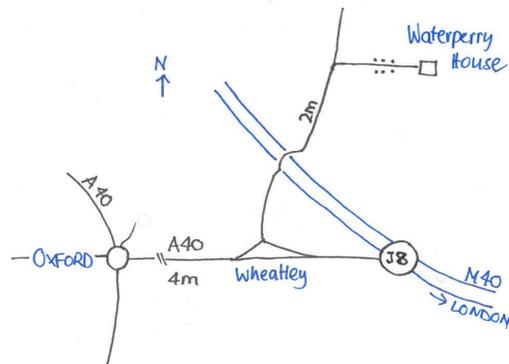
Drive up to the house from where you will be directed to free parking.

Disabled

The house has wheelchair access and all floors are accessible by lift.

Programme

- 9.30 – 10.00 Registration and coffee
- 10.00 – 11.00 Robin Mukherjee
- 11.00 – 11.30 Refreshments
- 11.30 – 12.30 Arthur Farndell
- 12.30 – 2.00 Buffet lunch
- 2.00 – 3.00 Tobias Kaye
- 3.00 – 3.30 Refreshments
- 3.30 – 4.30 Ann Wroe
- 4.30 – 5.00 Convivium



School of Economic Science (Oxford Branch)
Enquiries and Bookings: David and Linda Smith
01865 556215

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Educational charity no. 313115

Portraying the Divine



Orpheus

Waterperry House, Waterperry, nr Wheatley, Oxon

Sunday June 5th, 9.30 – 5.00

Robin Mukherjee *The Orphic Story*
Arthur Farndell *Renaissance Harmony*
Tobias Kaye *Tuning Apollo's Lyre*
Ann Wroe *Finding Orpheus*

Places are limited and pre-booking is essential:

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Finding Orpheus

Orpheus is one of the most haunting human stories. The tale of his attempt to rescue his wife Eurydice from the Underworld, and its failure, retains such extraordinary power that almost every year brings some new interpretation of the legend. As recently as 1922 Orpheus took possession of the great Austrian poet Rainer Maria Rilke; in the 1950s he fascinated Jean Cocteau. Yet of Orpheus himself almost nothing is known. He has been portrayed as a Thracian shaman; as a prince, accompanying the Argonauts; as a Dionysian who converted to worship of Apollo; and as a hero of Bulgarian history. His greatest importance, though, lies in his enactment of a fundamental journey from life, through death, and back to life; and in his presentation of human existence and the natural world as interwoven everywhere with music and song.

Ann Wroe is a senior editor on *The Economist* and the writer of its obituaries. She has a doctorate in medieval history from Oxford University and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Royal Society of Literature. Her six books include biographies of Pontius Pilate (shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize), Perkin Warbeck, Shelley, and Orpheus (which won the 2012 Criticos Prize). She lives in London and Brighton.

The Orphic Story

Echoes of the Orphic myth can be found in stories through all ages, throughout the world. Perhaps the myth is simply a perfect story paradigm, reflecting some essential shape of human experience. If so, then Story is, among other things, the enacted ritual of what it is to be. In this talk, Robin will revisit the myth, tracing its influence across the ages, to the narrative media of the present day. Taking examples from both familiar tales and direct experience, he will explore the full power and profundity of the story-teller's art.

Screenwriter **Robin Mukherjee** has contributed extensively to theatre, cinema, radio and television. His most recent film, 'Lore', won numerous international awards, while his television serial, 'Combat Kids' was nominated for a BAFTA. His book *The Art of Screenplays* was published to great acclaim last year. He teaches Scriptwriting at Bath Spa University.

www.robinkukherjee.com

Renaissance Harmony: Ficino on Music

Marsilio Ficino was a philosopher, translator, musician, priest, and physician in the Florentine Renaissance. He exerted a strong influence through his large correspondence with some of the leading figures of the times, never shy of speaking the truth whether to fellow philosopher, pope or tyrant. For many he epitomises the scholarly contribution of the Italian Renaissance. Music played a most important role in his life and studies, and he placed Orpheus in his line of the original teachers of the Western philosophical tradition. This talk will focus on a passage that he wrote on the nature of the octave with demonstrations of the notes.

Arthur Farndell has been a member of the team translating the Letters of Marsilio Ficino since the project's inception forty years ago. He is now editor of the series. His own works of translation include four volumes of Ficino's commentaries on Plato, a companion to the Mahabharata, and several maths and English books for children. He has given presentations on Ficino in UK, Ireland, Spain, Greece, Italy, Malta and Australia.

Tuning Apollo's Lyre

Oh ye who enter the caves, pursuing Love's steadfast flame
Let there be music in your soul, music in your fingers, in your voice.

How else, when you visit with sorrow and loss will you return?
How will you find what you came for if music be not your guide?

Apollo, father, teacher, you who are Music in the Sun's own light
Have I not won from you the silence of the beasts, the very dance of the trees?

Be now my light in this darkness that I, with your lyre, which has become
Mine own, may keep the thread of melody and stumble not.

In a search to bring Love from the invisible realms into forms that reach out to souls in the cave of the body, **Tobias Kaye** discovered the sounding bowl, whose unique power to reflect the spiritual beauty of the beholder into their own awareness has led him into worlds of mystery and spiritual research. He is now company director of Sounding Bowls, which is based in Devon, and frequently demonstrates at Art in Action.

www.soundingbowls.com