Join ADFAS Launceston in 2020 for an exciting program of eight superbly illustrated presentations on a diverse range of topics within the arts and related disciplines.

Meet world-class lecturers—six from the United Kingdom and two from Australia—and discover more about the arts while enjoying cultural and social opportunities with like-minded others.

Lectures commence at 6.30 pm and are followed by a convivial gathering with a glass of wine and light supper.

ADFA members support local young people to access enriching experiences in the arts through our Young Arts program, and have the opportunity for overseas tours through ADFAS Travel.

Visitors are welcome to attend up to three lectures p.a. @ $30 per lecture.

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ADFA Launceston Inc. PO Box 445 Launceston TAS 7250
Every Picture Tells a Story
The Victorian period was a time of dramatic and radical changes, which artists, such as Constable, Turner, Frith, Landseer, Millais, documented in narrative paintings. Their visions of the family, marriage and death, the battle between town and country, travel, emigration and colonial life, science and religion and, above all else, the Royal family, offer us a unique insight into a society facing constant challenges that laid the foundation for the modern world.

William Hogarth: Satirist of 18th London
William Hogarth lends his name to the excesses of his age. Hogarthian London was rumbustious and chaotic, and how to succeed or fail in the bustling capital was the subject of his art. His Modern Moral Subjects: Harlot’s Progress, Rake’s Progress and Marriage A-la-Mode made his name, and his prints of Gin Lane, Beer Street, satirising his age, made him a both popular and wealthy.

A New Black Identity: The Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s
The lecture discusses the artistic and cultural movement in uptown New York known as the Harlem Renaissance. The movement influenced African American culture, from fashion, music and dances of the Cotton Club and jazz halls, to intellectual and religious discourses in black schools, churches and homes. Included are recordings, film, photographic and visual art from this seminal moment in the development of black identity in the United States.

And, so, to bed…(Pepys Diary 20th April 1660)
The significance and use of beds from the medieval period through to the 18th century is explored for their association with the upper classes, the great ‘State Beds’ and also the history of their construction. The biggest hint about a bed’s significance is the value placed on them in wills and inventories. Shakespeare, for example, left his ‘second best bed’ to his wife, Anne. This lecture promises to surprise with its insights about the beds of the rich or poor, married or single.

The Golden Age of Dubrovnik
The lecture focuses on the history of the making of the Dubrovnik Republic and its political and cultural heydays during the 15th and 16th century. Majestic altarpieces, churches and civic buildings serve as perfect examples of Mediterranean Renaissance, combining Italian influences with local medieval tradition. The talk explains the importance of Dubrovnik in European history and the complex historical heritage of this truly unique city.

Beautiful British Books
The story of fine bindings in Britain over the last century begins with William Morris and the Kelmscott Chaucer, possibly the last great book of the printed age. It continues with some amazing bindings from Sangorski and Sutcliffe, the finest bookbinders in the 20th century, as well as work from their contemporaries, before discussing the new world of Design Binding which emerged after WWII. We finish with examples from some of the best artistic bookbinders working today.

The Art of the Icon
The lecture examines the concept of the icon in the Russian Orthodox Church. It explains the liturgical and cultural significance of the icons, and analyses the reasons for their veneration and use in everyday life. It considers the arguments of the Iconoclasts, compares the approaches to religious painting in the West and in the East. The lecture is illustrated with masterpieces of icon art and examples of miracle-working icons.

Yehudi Menuhin – Prodigy & Phenomenon
This lecture focuses on the remarkable careers of three consummate musicians Yehudi, Hephzibah, and Yaltah Menuhin. We explore their often-complicated lives outside the concert hall, along with their precious violins, the architecture and furnishings of the various Menuhin residences; concert halls and their acoustics; the role of yoga in extending Yehudi’s career threatened by a tremor in his right hand, and the formidable women supporting his quest to improve the world.