

VENICE IN PERIL FUND
2015 Autumn Lecture Series

All lectures take place at
Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House,
Piccadilly, London W1J 0BE.

Doors open at 6.30, lecture begins at 6.45pm.
Drinks will be after the lecture until 8.30pm.

Tickets (to include a glass of wine):
£15 for members & £18 for non-members

Tickets for the Ashley Clarke Memorial
Lecture by Donal Cooper:
£25 for members and £30 for non-members
to include a short reception.

To book telephone +44 (0)20 7736 6891
or book online at www.veniceinperil.org
or send a cheque to Venice in Peril Fund,
Hurlingham Studios, Ranelagh Gardens,
London SW6 3PA.



Venice in Peril Fund is a UK charity
which, since 1971, has raised funds for
some 50 conservation projects in Venice
ranging from individual pictures to entire
churches. It offers its supporters opportunities
to contribute to this work.

Registered charity no. 261146

Saturday, 14 November

**A Ferret in the Archives:
Rawdon Brown and the Anglo-Venetian
Relationship**

Study Day in collaboration with the British Italian
Society & the Friends of the National Archives, Kew.
This conference will take place at the NAK from
10am until 5pm. Further details will be available
nearer the time but if you would like to register
your interest please email info@veniceinperil.org.

To find out more, subscribe to our e-newsletter,
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www.veniceinperil.org
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or contact us directly at Hurlingham Studios,
Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PA

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Ca' Foscari Madonna detail (reproduced here) by Titian, 1519-51

Monday, 21 September

**Venetian mosaics in Victorian London:
eternal pictures for a modern age**

Heike Zech

The art of glass mosaics has been closely associated with Venice for centuries. The interior of St Mark's basilica, epitomising the most opulent mosaic production, has dazzled visitors since it was completed. The fascination with Italian mosaics, including those made specifically in Venice, was shared by the Victorians in Britain and particularly by dilettanti and art critics. In this lecture, Heike Zech will explore British attitudes to Venetian mosaics during the second half of the 19th century, encompassing romantic notions of craftsmanship and entrepreneurial spirit. She will introduce some of the most magnificent and vibrant works created by Venetian companies for London in this period.

✳️ Heike Zech is Senior Curator of the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Collection at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London; one of the foremost collections of fine 19th-century mosaic work. She studied art and architectural history in Germany and Italy and has published on various subjects including the V&A's 19th-century mosaic decoration. Heike is currently working on the mosaic cycles created for St Paul's Cathedral partly by Venetian company Salviati & Co.

Monday, 12 October

**Venice, the Adriatic and Asia:
connections across the Silk Roads**

Peter Frankopan

In this talk, Peter explores the role played by Venice through its connections across the Silk Roads. His latest book *The Silk Roads, a New History of the World* uses a wide and rich variety of sources including Greek, Russian, Portuguese, Arabic, Italian and Chinese to examine the fascinating network that linked continents and oceans together. It is a major re-assessment of world history and has been described as 'a dazzling, opulent exploration and analysis of the forces that have shaped the global economy and the political renaissance in the re-emerging east'. The region of the Silk Roads is obscure to many in the English-speaking world. Yet this is where civilization began, where the world's great religions were born and took root.

✳️ Dr Peter Frankopan is a historian at Oxford University where he is Senior Research Fellow at Worcester College, and Director of the Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research. He works on the history of the Mediterranean, the Balkans, the Caucasus, Russia and on relations between Christianity and Islam. His first book *The First Crusade: the Call from the East* was published to wide acclaim in 2012.

Monday, 9 November

ASHLEY CLARKE MEMORIAL LECTURE

**The Frari Revisited: The Experience
of Sacred Art in Renaissance Venice**

Donal Cooper

The great Franciscan basilica of Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari, known simply to Venetians as the 'Ca' Grande' or 'Great House', is the best preserved Gothic church interior in Venice. The friars embellished their church through a remarkable sequence of artistic commissions from the mid 15th to early 16th centuries. This talk explores how Renaissance Venetians would have experienced masterpieces by Giovanni Bellini and Titian in an integrated interior that also encompassed dazzling goldsmiths' work, precious relics, intricate woodwork and delicate sculptural reliefs. A closer look reveals how these static works of art were intended to respond to the dynamic processions and rituals that brought the church to life. Some of these visual effects can still be experienced by visitors today if one knows where to look.

✳️ Dr Donal Cooper is University Lecturer in Italian Renaissance Art at Cambridge University and a Fellow of Jesus College. His co-authored book with Janet Robson, *The Making of Assisi*, was awarded the Art Book Prize for 2014 by the Authors' Club.

✳️ The Ashley Clarke Memorial Lecture will be followed by a short reception which is included in the ticket price.