

OUR SPEAKER on **Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 1:30pm**
will be

Jane Angelini

who will talk to us about:

Byzantine Mosaics



Jane is a freelance lecturer for The Arts Society and other arts organisations. She speaks several foreign languages and has translated a number of works of 19th century Russian literature for Penguin Books and Oxford University Press. She has a BA in Russian Studies and an MA in Byzantine Studies. She created St James's Art Tours in 1998 and ran it successfully for almost twenty five years before closing the travel company in 2022. She and has travelled extensively and now offers online armchair travel talks over the winter months. She and her husband run an art gallery in St James's, Piccadilly, which specialises in 20th century art.

During the Middle Ages the Byzantine Empire stood to the rest of the world as a symbol of wealth, power and cultural ascendancy and was generally recognised as the centre of Christendom. It was here, more than anywhere else, that the basic tenets of Christianity were worked out, leading to new forms of artistic expression. Intellectual and artistic sophistication, coupled with wealth, gave rise to centrally planned domed churches representing a cosmic hierarchy with the heavenly world recreated in the interior of the building. There can be no better medium for creating a sense of the heavenly world, than mosaic with its light reflecting quality and extensive use of gold tesserae. The Byzantines mastered the complex medium of mosaic and used it to sheath the walls of their churches with images of a transcendent world, recreating heaven on earth for the worshippers. The talk will cover mosaics in Hagia Sophia and the Church of the Chora in Istanbul as well as the lovely smaller churches of Hosios Loukas, Nea Moni and Daphni in Byzantine Greece.

Want to find out more? For further information visit the Society's website

at www.theartssocietywindsor.org.uk, or email us at info@theartssocietywindsor.org.uk We meet live on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 1.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Old Windsor, SL4 2RN N.B. Please consult our website re each lecture which we will update regularly.