

THE ARTS SOCIETY RICKMANSWORTH

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY

THE MOST SERENE REPUBLIC – VENICE AND THE VENETIANS, FROM MUDFLATS TO THE MODERN WORLD.

THE HISTORY, ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF A RENAISSANCE CITY.

10am Friday 6th November 2026 at Sarratt Village Hall.

Everyone is welcome to join us for this special interest day where we will experience three fully illustrated lectures about the fascinating history of this great Italian Renaissance city. We will hear about wonderful art and revolutionary, beautiful architecture. Venice is unique – a World Heritage Site which was once one of the world's most brilliant trading nations and a great maritime power.

The waters of the Venetian lagoon have been both saviour and enemy. Their protection enabled the city to become a magnificent Republic, a leader in global trade and a highly successful world power. All of this is reflected in the architecture which its citizens created, from the delicate Gothic which so enchanted Ruskin, to the elegant classicism of Palladio. To mirror these achievements great artists also worked in and contributed to the cultural life of the city. Now those waters challenge the city's very existence.

Jo Walton is an expert freelance lecturer specialising in the art of the Renaissance. She has combined a career in teaching and lecturing with bookselling and she has been a guide at both Tate Britain and Tate Modern. Jo is now a lecturer for The Arts Society, The National Gallery, the Art Fund and local Arts Societies. For many years Jo ran a specialist art bookshop in London.

Cost £35 – see Booking Form available at lectures and on our website for payment and contact details.

Refreshments and a two course lunch are included.

PROGRAMME

10am	Arrivals and refreshments.
10.30 – 11.30	First lecture.
11.45 – 12.45	Second lecture.
12.45pm	Lunch
1.45 - 2.45	Final lecture.
2.45	Questions and conclusion

Information on our activities can be seen on our website at TASRickmansworth.org.uk