



PADFAS THE ARTS SOCIETY PARIS

AGM Thursday 5th November 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was held by Zoom video and was attended by some 50 members

The Chairman, Terry QUINN, opened the AGM with his REPORT on the 2019-2020 season:

“As for practically everything else at the moment, my Report to your AGM is very different from those I have presented to you in the past. While this Season of lectures began very well - Francoise Pepin-Lehalleur will report on these in a moment - soon after the beginning of this year all our activities came to a halt. We are not alone in this of course, the activities of all other Societies and Associations also stopped.

The Arts Society in London has been working hard to produce lectures online available to all members. I hope some of you have been able to take advantage of these.

While during the year I have tried to maintain some contact with you by occasional letters, I am pleased to say that we have now been able to organize our usual set of lectures to take place via Zoom, beginning today with one by Jane Choy.

As for the future, it is impossible to say when an effective vaccine will become available that will allow normal life to resume. I am sure this will happen but it may take longer than we at present hope.

Now to internal PADFAS matters: first I must thank the two Officers of our Committee who are stepping down from their posts: Arthur Hohler who has been our Treasurer for many years and Jacqueline Banière who took on the role of Secretary when we so sadly lost Douglas. I thank them both most sincerely on behalf of us all. Associations such as ours rely very heavily on the officers, particularly the Treasurer and Secretary, without whom we could not function. They are both I am glad to say staying on the Committee for a year or so.

Our new Treasurer will be Carol Amouyel-Kent and our new Secretary will be Phil Dunbar. I am sure you will all wish them well in their new positions in PADFAS.

Phil will continue to be our webmaster. In this respect I would like to thank him for setting up our new website at PADFAS.fr which, I am sure you will agree, does PADFAS great credit.

You will note that the new website is headed: **PADFAS (THE ARTS SOCIETY PARIS)**.

This is now the new official name of our Association. After much discussion in the Committee we finally decided on this as a compromise between those who wished to simply

keep the name PADFAS and those who wished to move to the new name The Arts Society Paris.”

Finally, he asked us to approve the renewal of three members of the committee:

- Béatrice de La Rochefoucauld
- Françoise Pépin Lehalleur
- Phil Dunbar

They were approved. In the absence of further questions or discussion we went on to the next item of the Agenda the Treasurer’s Report:

Our Treasurer Arthur HOHLER gave us the accounts. These showed a profit due to the sudden reduction in our activities due to Covid 19. But this profit hides the fact that it would not have been a good year for our finances because we lost 20 members between 2018 and 2019.

| PADFAS | EUROS | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
| Subscriptions | 12165 | 10205 |
| Guests | 545 | 608 |
| Marseille/Malta | 1893 | 610 |
| Interest | 48 | 47 |
| Other Visits | 1320 | 1347 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 15971 | 12817 |
| Lecturers' Fees | 2723 | 1651 |
| Lecturers' Travel Costs | 661 | 536 |
| NADFAS Capitation Fee & Fares Pool | 2250 | 2152 |
| Hire of Theatre | 6240 | 3900 |
| Postage & Stationery | 478 | 293 |
| Refreshments | 344 | 329 |
| Brochure | 942 | |
| Insurance and BCC | 129 | 495 |
| Advertising + BCC | 288 | 20 |
| Bank Charges | 20 | 37 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 14075 | 9413 |
| RESULT for the YEAR | 1896 | 3375 |
| CASH POSITION 31st AUGUST | | |
| CIC Houdan | 25745 | 21290 |
| Payts in Adv. Hotel Arles | 18694 | 2153 |
| Payment in adv Visits | 485 | |
| Less cheques recd for Annual Trip | -22570 | 0 |
| Less next year subs | -4155 | 0 |
| Investment (FCP) | 8612 | 8596 |
| HSBC '18 £6715 '19 £3017 '20 £959 | 3395 | 1126 |
| Less Cheque not presented £379 | -445 | |
| Net Cash Position | 29761 | 33165 |

The accounts were approved

Françoise PEPIN LEHALLEUR then presented her Report:

“As usual, the rate of satisfaction was very high last year.

In October, we started with a lecture on David Lean’s Art of the Cinema, a new topic in the choice of lectures by The Arts Society UK. What a treat it was to hear **Neil Faulkner** on the films we all enjoyed in the sixties: Lawrence of Arabia or Doctor Zhivago.

In November, for the second time but not the last, **Jane Choy** talked about Women in the Mauritshuis (Saints and sinners) .Her digital presentation was absolutely perfect and her talk fascinating and fun at the same time. Today it will be about Jan Steen

Unfortunately, in December, we had our usual French plague : a general strike , which prevented our lecturer **Timothy Walker**, to lecture on Colour in English garden design .He was to come at the end of March but was locked down in England and eventually will give a Zoom talk in December .

In January, Mr **Christian Monjou** ,gave us an enlightening lecture on The Sublime in Art and Technology , from Turner to Wright of Derby and the Industrial Revolution to the Skyscrapers of the USA in the 20th century .

In February , the Rev’d **Nicholas Henderson** gave us the second part of the English Country Church , from the Tudors to our present time , with all the transformations due to the Reformation , Oliver Cromwell and the reign of Queen Victoria .

We ended the year at the beginning of March with a beautiful presentation of Angkor, where **Denise Heywood** lived before Pol Pot’s regime. Her lecture included the art of dancing in Cambodia and the whole lecture was a delight for the eye.

Last year, when we met at the Ranelagh, I said how much I enjoyed choosing, meeting, hosting our lecturers, and last but not least, listening to their lectures.

This year, my feeling is not exactly the same: three of our lecturers have been rescheduled in our programme of course but we won’t meet any of the eight lecturers on the stage as usual and it makes a difference. Fortunately we can see them on a screen and exchange a few words thanks to Zoom.

I also wonder how I am going to choose new ones .I need to hear them first and that’s the way I have always done at the ADM in London , which, I am afraid won’t take place next year in March .

But let’s take heart, we’ll manage with the help of everyone and you above all by supporting us by attending our Zoom lectures.

Stand by Padfas The Arts Society Paris. Thank you “

Ghislaine Elloitt who has organized fascinating visits for many years, went over those that could take place before the lockdown:

“Our visits throughout the last Padfas year have enjoyed great success among our members. A first interesting outing was the Cimetière russe de Sainte Geneviève des Bois, where we were taken around, with an excellent lunch at a nearby restaurant, followed by a guided visit of the Château de Grosbois.

A fascinating guided visit at the Chapelle expiatoire. It was built as an homage to Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette.

The Hôtel Gaillard taught us about the history of the banker Emile Gaillard. It has now become the Cité de l'Economie.

We had the privilege of seeing the Musée des Cosaques de Courbevoie.

We were allowed to visit the most interesting workshop "Chevalier conservation" in Colombes where artisans showed us their passion in cleaning and restoring carpets and tapestries.

I have to mention that these visits would have been impossible without the help of some of our members, who gave ideas and organized parts of the visits with me

My thanks to all of you for your enthusiasm and attendance and I can only encourage you to continue in the same manner."

In the absence of any questions or discussion (probably due to our unfamiliarity with Zoom meetings!), this drew the AGM to a close and we went on to our first lecture of the 2020/2021 Season given by Jane Choy, entitled:

JAN STEEN: MASTER STORYTELLER
