

# FYLDE DFAS

ARTS EDUCATION, HERITAGE & CONSERVATION  
*National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies*



## **FABERGE, JEWELLER TO THE COURT OF THE TSAR**

**Lecture by Nicholas Merchant**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
at 2pm**

**United Reformed Church Hall  
St. Georges Rd, St Annes-on-Sea, FY8 2AE**

[www.fyldedfas.org.uk](http://www.fyldedfas.org.uk)

# Nicholas Merchant

Nicholas Merchant's career has mirrored his abiding interest in Antiques. He has worked for some of the major auction houses in London as well as running his own book business devoted to the decorative and fine arts. His particular interest is English 18<sup>th</sup> century furniture and country houses; he enjoys discussing objects, particularly in their historical context. He lectures extensively in the USA, South Africa, Europe and UK, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, as well as principal cruise lines. He is the Art Fund's West Yorkshire Representative. Nicholas arranges specialist short breaks for collectors and a range of prestigious clients including NADFAS societies who enjoy visiting the treasures of the UK.

## Reading list:

\*\*Gerald Hill: Faberge and the Russian Master Goldsmiths. New York 1991

\*\* A copy of this book will be out on display.

Christopher Forbes; Faberge Eggs, Imperial Russian Fantasies, New York 1981

Designs from the House of Faberge Auction Catalogue, Christies 1989

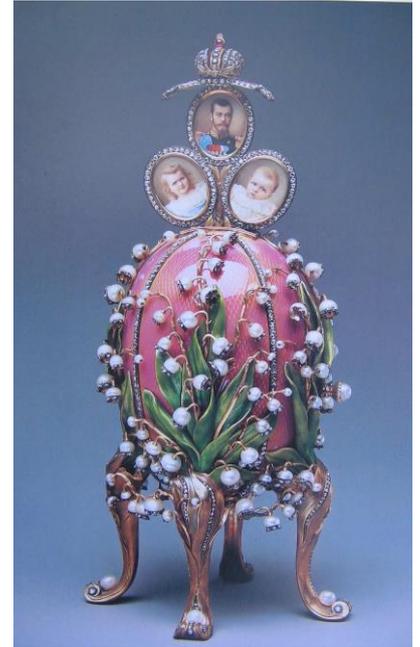
Henry Bainbridge: Peter Carl Faberge, London 1974

**Front cover: Faberge:** Imperial Fifteenth Anniversary Egg; 1911

**Page 3: Faberge:** Workmaster – Perchin;  
Carved Rock Crystal vase mounted in Gold and Enamel; ca 1900

## Faberge at the Court of the Tsar

No jeweller since the time of Benvenuto Cellini in the 16<sup>th</sup> century has captured the imagination of the cultivated world like Peter Carl Faberge. Taking over his father's somewhat humdrum jewellery business at an early age, Peter created for himself a reputation which, within a very short period, made his wares some of the most desirable known to the fashionable world in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



His reputation rested on the quality and ingenuity of his works. Unlike some of his contemporaries, Faberge sought to create subjects which would delight and amuse the eye of his blasé and spoiled clientele. The size of the stones was of secondary importance in creating confections which by their novelty and style were in a different league to other craftsmen working at the time.

This lecture looks at some of the works created by this genius, which range from personal jewels such as tiaras, through hardstone figures, cigarette cases, and writing accessories to the Easter Eggs which were created in the main for the Imperial family.

# Future Events

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

FRIDA KAHLO and DIEGO RIVERA: the Golden Age of Mexican Painting.

Lecturer: Chloe Sayer

## **SPECIAL INTEREST DAY**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

'BESS OF HARDWICK AND HER DESCENDENTS'

Lecturer: Roger Mitchell

Dalmeny Hotel, St Annes

## **TAGGING THE TREASURES PROJECT**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

'SUBSTANCE AND SHADOW: Victorian Art and Society'

Lecturer: Michael Howard

**An evening lecture at Lowther Pavilion, Lytham.**

**Free entry** with a 'Tagging the Treasures' Complimentary ticket.

*This lecture is part of the Heritage Lottery Funding of the Project to be provided for volunteers involved. However, it is open to all our members also – so why not bring a friend! **Please ask for Complimentary tickets at the Reception table.***

*7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm lecture. Michael is a popular NADFAS lecturer – this will be his third visit to Fylde DFAS. The chosen lecture is most pertinent to the LSA Art Collection.*

***A special FYLDE DFAS occasion! We look forward to seeing you there.***







