



Frida Kahlo: Self Portrait

Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera: The Golden Age of Mexican Painting

Lecture by Chloe Sayer

Wednesday 5th March 2014 at 2pm
United Reformed Church Hall
St. Georges Rd, St Annes-on-Sea, FY8 2AE

CHLOE SAYER

Author, Researcher, Lecturer and Travel Guide

Chloë Sayer is a freelance specialist in Latin American art and culture. She has lectured in Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Mexico and New Zealand. She also travels on Central American cruises as the NADFAS lecturer for Swan Hellenic.

A Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Chloë Sayer has worked on a number of television documentaries about Mexico and Peru for Channel 4 and the BBC. She has made ethnographic collections and carried out fieldwork in Mexico and Belize for the British Museum, and has curated several exhibitions of Mexican folk art. In 2015 she will curate an ambitious exhibition of Mexican textiles at the Royal Ontario Museum in Canada.

She has published articles about Frida Kahlo and other Mexican artists in *Selvage*, the *Guardian*, *The Sunday Times*, *Art & Design Magazine* etc. Her many books include *MEXICAN TEXTILES* (British Museum Press, 1990), *THE ARTS AND CRAFTS OF MEXICO* (Thames & Hudson, 1990), and *TEXTILES FROM MEXICO* (British Museum Press, 2002). She is the co-author of *THE SKELETON AT THE FEAST: THE MEXICAN DAY OF THE DEAD* (British Museum Press, 1991), *TRADITIONAL MEXICAN ARCHITECTURE* (Thames & Hudson, 1993) and *MASK ARTS OF MEXICO* (Thames & Hudson, 1994). Her last book, *FIESTA*, was jointly published by the British Museum Press and the University of Texas Press in 2009 to coincide with the Moctezuma exhibition at the British Museum.

Recommended booklist:

Ades, Dawn

Art in Latin America: the Modern Era 1820-1980

(Catalogue of exhibition at the South Bank Centre, London, 1989)

Herrera, Hayden

Frida: A Biography of Frida Kahlo

Harper Perennial (2002)

Marnham, Patrick

Dreaming with his Eyes Open: A Life of Diego Rivera

University of California Press (1998)

McEwan, Colin

Ancient American Art in Detail

British Museum Press (2009)

Sayer, Chloë

Arts and Crafts of Mexico

Thames and Hudson (1990)

FRIDA KAHLO and DIAGO RIVERA: The Golden Age of Mexican Painting

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) and Diego Rivera (1886-1957) have iconic status in Mexico. The Mexican Revolution of 1910 swept away the old régime and banished European influence in the arts. Kahlo and Rivera, in their different ways, helped to shape the cultural identity of twentieth-century Mexico. Together they made Mexico a magnet for the rest of the world.

The Mexican mural movement, born during the 1920s, was destined to produce some of the greatest public art of the last century. Diego Rivera's panoramic images adorn the walls of public buildings, combining social criticism with a faith in human progress. Inspired by early Italian fresco painting, as well as by Aztec and Maya imagery, his intricate visual narratives incorporate allegory and symbolism.



Mural: Diego Rivera

Compared with the monumental scale of Rivera's work, Kahlo's work is small in format. Arguably Mexico's most original painter, she made herself the principal theme of her art. Her paintings reflect her experiences, dreams, hopes and fears. In 2005 an estimated 340,000 visitors saw her retrospective at Tate Modern. Photographs of Frida were simultaneously exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery under the title: 'Frida Kahlo: Portraits of an Icon'.

Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera were married in 1929. Their turbulent marriage and the turbulent times they lived through are the subject of the film 'Frida' (USA, 2002). They are key figures in 'The Lacuna', a historical novel published in 2009 by Barbara Kingsolver and currently on the reading list of many UK Book Clubs.

Future Events

Wednesday 2nd April 2014

ISLAMIC ART: Exploring the Decorative Arts of the Islamic World

Lecturer: Christopher Bradley

TAGGING THE TREASURES PROJECT

Monday 14th April 2014

'SUBSTANCE AND SHADOW: Victorian Art and Society'

Lecturer: Michael Howard

An evening lecture at Lowther Pavilion, Lytham.

Free admission with a 'Tagging the Treasures' complimentary ticket.

This lecture is provided as part of the Heritage Lottery Funded Project for volunteers involved in Tagging the Treasures. However, we are delighted to open it also to all our members – so why not bring a friend!

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.

