Online Course



Great Artists: Titian

Dates Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 August 2025

Times 18.00-20.00 BST Location Online (Zoom)
Tutor Clare Ford-Wille

Level All Levels



Titian, Perseus and Andromeda, 1554-6 (detail)

Course Description

Why is the artist Titian - Tiziano Vecellio - still celebrated as one of the greatest ever Western European artists? Join Clare Ford-Wille to explore how Titian's inventive compositions, experimentation with style and use of superlative painting techniques ensure that his paintings continue to inspire and amaze today.

We'll engage with a selection of the Renaissance artist's outstanding religious and mythological works, as well as his enigmatic portraiture. You'll learn about the times in which Titian was working, the patrons for whom he painted and why his artistic legacy is so significant. Our exploration will include Titian's monumental work, *Perseus and Andromeda*, which is now enjoyed in the Wallace Collection.

Session One: Venice and Beyond

We'll begin by assessing Titian's earlier career in Venice to consider the impact of his religious works, which drew the attention of influential patrons including Alfonso I d'Este, Duke of Ferrara. We'll also learn about Titian's approach to creating portraits, which conveyed not only the status and dignity of the sitters but also a psychological intensity unmatched by other artists. Our exploration will reveal how Titian's prodigious talent led to international acclaim during his own lifetime.

Session Two: The Poetry of Painting

In our second session, we'll look closely at Titian's dynamic painting, *Perseus and Andromeda*, now in the Wallace Collection. This monumental painting was originally intended as part of a series created for the artist's patron, King Philip II of Spain. To gain a deeper understanding of our painting, we'll discuss its related pictures and how Titian's interpretation of classical works, including Ovid's epic poem *Metamorphoses*, was innovative and outstanding.

Course Tutor

Clare Ford-Wille is an Associate Lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London and lectures regularly for many additional institutions including the V&A, the National Trust, The Arts Society, the Art Fund as well as leading groups to places of art historical interest in Europe, Armenia and the USA.

Joining Information and Format

This course will be taught through <u>Zoom Webinar</u>. Each course session duration is 120 minutes, including a five-minute break and time for Q&A with the tutor.

Tickets are for both dates. Ticket holders will be emailed the Zoom link, Webinar ID and Passcode 24 hours in advance of the first course session, which should be retained for accessing both sessions of the course.

Course Recording

This course will be recorded. Within 48 hours of each course session, ticket holders will be emailed a link to view the recording, which will be available for two weeks.