

## JMW Turner

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<b>Dates</b>	Tuesdays 17 and 24 October 2023
<b>Times</b>	14.00-16.00 BST
<b>Location</b>	Online (Zoom Webinar)
<b>Tutor</b>	Dr Matthew Morgan
<b>Level</b>	All Levels

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JMW Turner, *Scarborough Castle: Boys Crab Fishing*, 1809

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### Course Description

Described as unique and visionary by critics during his lifetime, Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775–1851) is perhaps our most beloved English Romantic painter. Taking the Wallace Collection's small number of dynamic watercolours as a starting point, explore the ways in which Turner was stimulated by the modern world and how this manifested in his paintings.

We'll look at the artists who influenced Turner, and against whom he measured his work, and examine how his relationships with friends and patrons contributed to his artistic development. We'll also consider how Turner was inspired by contemporary aesthetic ideas, as well as by the dramatic and irrevocable changes brought on by industrialisation and commercialisation during his lifetime.

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### **Session One: Competition, Influences, Friends and Patrons**

How did artists of the past inspire Turner as a young man? In our first session, we'll look at the impact of artists including Watteau, the Van de Veldes, Rembrandt and above all Claude Lorrain. We'll learn how Turner emulated and then sought to surpass their examples. Although he was a private and personal person, Turner could also be a loyal and devoted friend. We'll learn about some of the significant relationships in his life and how they helped to shape his work.

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### **Session Two: JMW Turner and the Impact of the Sublime**

What do we mean by the 'sublime' in the 18th-century sense of the term? In our second session, we'll discuss its definition and learn how the sublime radically alters Turner's approach to landscape painting, opening up the possibility for some of his greatest works. During Turner's lifetime, many people were wary of advances in industry and science as well as changes in society, particularly urbanisation. We'll investigate how Turner manipulated these contemporary concerns and, by fusing them with the sublime, how he produced his most audacious responses to modern life.

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### **Course Tutor**

Dr Matthew Morgan is Museum Director of Turner's House in Twickenham and an Associate Lecturer at Birkbeck, University of London. He has worked in the heritage sector for 10 years, including at the Royal Collection and the National Gallery. Prior to that he was a Director at Christie's. He has taught diverse audiences across the UK, as well as making a series of short films which can be seen on YouTube.

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### **Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience**

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

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### **Joining Information and Format**

This course will be taught through [Zoom Webinar](#). 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.

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### **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 only.

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