

The Brilliance of British Architecture

A Study Day on **Friday 16th April 2027** at The Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon

Speaker – Ian Swankie

Introduction – This is a study day celebrating architecture in Britain and designs around the world by British architects; from Edwin Lutyens and Charles Holden to Zaha Hadid, Richard Rodgers, Norman Foster, and others. They all made an impact on the lives of people who enjoy their buildings.

Programme

9.30 Registration – Water available but not Coffee / Tea

10.00 **The Legacy of Sir Christopher Wren** – We wind the clock back to the seventeenth century and enjoy an armchair tour of some of Wren's magnificent structures including City Churches, the Old Royal Naval College at Greenwich and of course, his greatest masterpiece St Paul's Cathedral

11.00 Coffee / Tea

11.30 **Underground Cathedrals: Architecture, Engineering & Design of the London Underground** – The world's first underground railway has a wonderful heritage of architecture

12.30 Lunch – Bring-Your-Own – Tea / Coffee available

1.30 **Thomas Heatherwick: A Modern Leonardo** – The past decade has seen the meteoric rise of this extraordinarily versatile British designer with his acclaimed Olympic cauldron

2.30 Tea / Coffee

3.00 **British Architects at Home & Abroad** – This is a survey of some of the greatest buildings designed by British talent. We will study designs by George Gilbert Scott, Giles Gilbert Scott, Edwin Lutyens and Charles Holden, alongside more recent works

4.00 Departure

To Book – Send the slip below by 13th April with a cheque for Member £12 or Guest £15, [No View Online Available], payable to Surrey u3a Network, to Denise Dobbs – u3a, 5 Aldridge Rise, New Malden KT3 5RJ, Phone 07964 798791. Enclose an SAE or an email address for confirmation.

Or make a bank transfer to HSBC Account No. 11519018 Sort Code 40-27-07, Event Ref. Apr27, and send an email to surreyu3astudyday@outlook.com with the booking information below. **Or on day pay at door £15.**

ARCHITECTURE Member £12 Guest £15 At Door £15

16th April 2027

Please Tick – Hall ☐ No Viewing Online; Email ☐ or SAE ☐; Cheque ☐ or Bank Transfer ☐

Title First Name Surname Name of u3a

House Number/Name. Post Code Phone.

E-mail Address

If you need disabled parking, tick ☐ and give a car registration number

If you need a wheelchair space in the hall, tick ☐ or a step-free seat, tick ☐.

If you would like to receive details about future study days by email, please tick here ☐.

Biographical Information about our Speaker

Ian Swankie is a Londoner with a contagious enthusiasm for art and architecture. He is an official guide at Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Guildhall Art Gallery and St Paul's Cathedral. He is also a freelance London tour guide. Since 2012 he has led a popular weekly independent art lecture group in his hometown of Richmond in West London. He is an accredited lecturer for The Arts Society, and a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Art Scholars, one of the City Livery Companies.



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A study day celebrating architecture in Britain and designs around the world by British architects.

A Full Description of the Four Sessions

Session 1: The Legacy of Sir Christopher Wren – We wind the clock back to the seventeenth century and enjoy an armchair tour of some of Wren's magnificent structures including City Churches, the Old Royal Naval College at Greenwich and of course, his greatest masterpiece St Paul's Cathedral. Wren was primarily a mathematician and astronomer, and we'll see how these disciplines are harnessed in his work. We also look at the origins of the classical orders of architecture and discover how Wren's love of this ancient system is everywhere to be seen in his legacy.

Session 2: Underground Cathedrals: Architecture, Engineering & Design of the London Underground – The world's first underground railway has a wonderful heritage of architecture, ingenious design, powerful advertising posters and unique calligraphy. We plot the early development of the Underground, examine the legacy of Frank Pick and Charles Holden, look at some of the iconic posters, and celebrate the award-winning architecture of the modern Tube in the new Elizabeth Line stations, designed by some of the world's top architects.

Session 3: Thomas Heatherwick: A Modern Leonardo – The past decade has seen the meteoric rise of this extraordinarily versatile British designer with his acclaimed Olympic cauldron, the iconic new London bus and designs for a spectacular new HQ building for Google. Over the last twenty years the Heatherwick Studio has used an intriguing combination of curiosity and experimentation to produce a vast range of solutions to design challenges around the world. This talk looks at the problems presented, and the wonderfully creative ways in which Heatherwick and his team have responded.

Session 4: British Architects at Home & Abroad – This is a survey of some of the greatest buildings designed by British talent. We'll study designs by George Gilbert Scott, Giles Gilbert Scott, Edwin Lutyens and Charles Holden, alongside more recent works by Zaha Hadid, Richard Rodgers, Norman Foster, and many others. They all made an impact on the lives of people who enjoy their buildings.

Study Days at the Menuhin Hall

Surrey Network Study Days – We welcome members and guests to our study days in the Menuhin Hall, while also making it possible to view the study days remotely. We are pleased that during term-time the Menuhin School has been offering short recitals by pupils in the lunch interval. Details available on the day.

Advertising & Booking – The practice of applying by post or by email continues, with booking responses being sent as members chose, while payment can be made by cheque or bank transfer. We advertise the study days with full details and booking forms on our website – [Surrey Network](#) and circulate the information electronically to all u3as in Surrey Network and surrounding areas.

Nut Allergies – The Menuhin School has pupils who have an allergic reaction to nuts and the staff have taken the decision to make the school and the Menuhin Hall a nut-free environment. Please ensure that your lunch does not contain any trace of nuts.

Disabled Parking – There are six spaces behind the hall and there are more in the main car park. If you have a blue badge and need level access to the hall, then tick Disabled Parking on the booking slip; you will then be allocated a space at the back of the hall and sent a permit. There is a drop-off space where disabled members have level access to the hall.

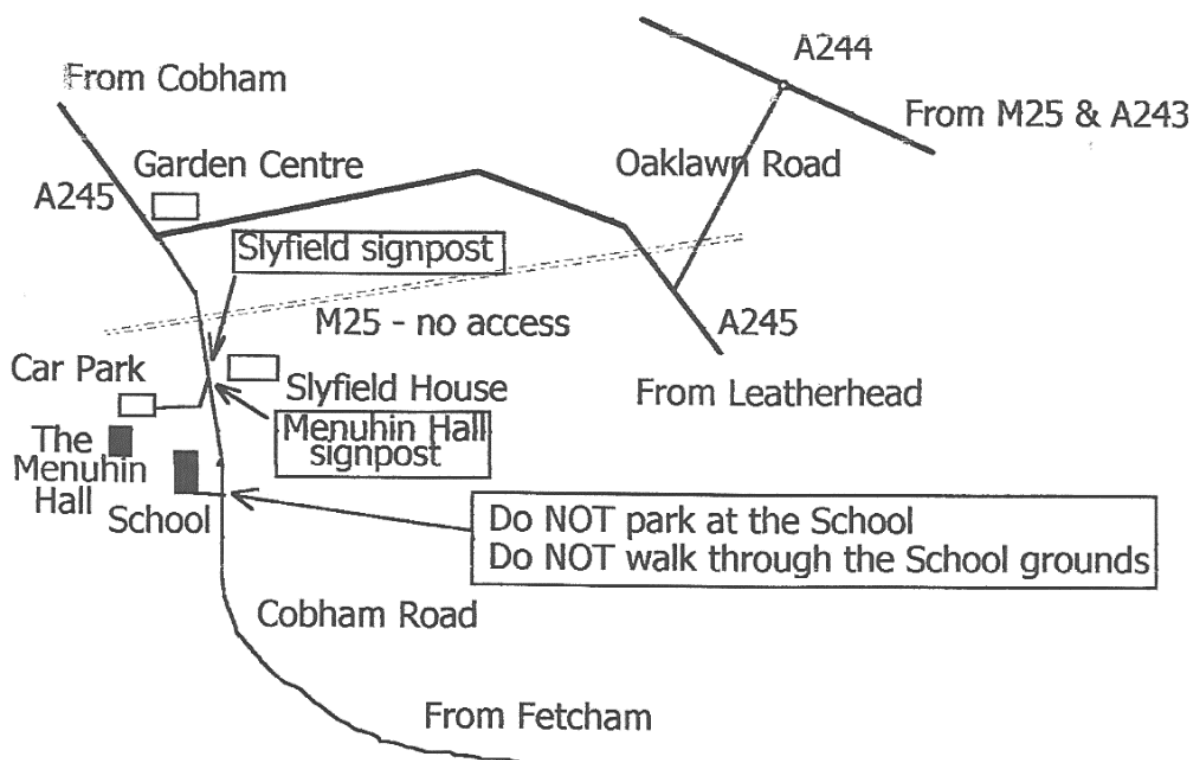
Wheelchair Spaces – If you need a seat removed in the hall to accommodate a wheelchair then tick Wheelchair on the booking slip.

Support for Network Committee – The study days have been running successfully for over twenty years. New volunteers with ideas for the future programme and the commitment to help run future study days will be made very welcome. Please contact Surrey Network Chairman, Mike Brigden, on 07766 331642 with offers of help.

Location & Contact Details for Study Day

The Menuhin Hall, Cobham Road, Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey KT11 3QQ

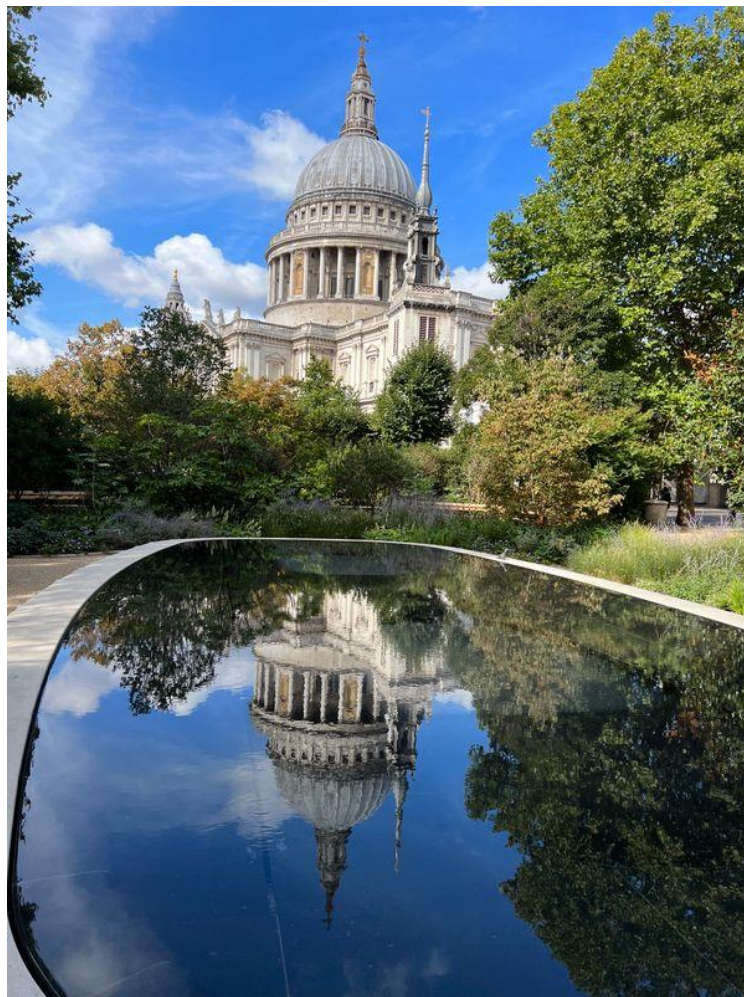
Telephone 07763 805046 (Emergency – On-Day-Only) or Menuhin Hall Office 08700 842020



The Menuhin School

The school was founded in 1963 in London and moved to its present site in 1964. It has around one hundred gifted pupils studying stringed instruments including piano and is financed, in part, by the DfE. Lord Menuhin was born in New York on 22nd April 1916 and died on 12th March 1999 in Berlin. His parents had come from Russia. His first public concert was in March 1924 and his first in Europe, was in Paris, in 1927. His performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto was recorded at the Abbey Road Studios in 1932. The Hall, designed by Mark Foley, was conceived as a memorial to Yehudi and was handed over to the school on 5th August 2005. The official opening was on 7th January 2006. Yehudi is buried by the stone pillar in front of the Hall. Nearby is an oak which he planted on his 80th birthday. The Hall was first used for a Surrey Network Study Day on 14th October 2005.

A sister school, Yehudi Menuhin School Qingdao (YMSQ), was opened in China in September 2022. The Yehudi Menuhin School has long held a close connection to China, dating back to the 1980s, when Yehudi Menuhin led the school orchestra on a tour to the country. The decision to establish YMS's first overseas branch in China was therefore driven by both a special emotional attachment to the country and a long-standing desire to contribute to the development of classical music education in the Far East. YMSQ is located in Qingdao, a beautiful coastal city in Shandong Province in North-East China.



St Paul's Cathedral [Built 1675–1710] & Reflection
Architect – Sir Christopher Wren [1632–1723]

Surrey u3a Network Study Day



Clockwise from Top Left

The Scalpel, 22 Bishopsgate, The Gherkin & Angel Wings

The Brilliance of British Architecture

Presented by Ian Swankie, Accredited Arts Society Lecturer

Official Guide at Tate Modern/Britain, Guildhall & St Paul's Cathedral

Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon on Friday 16th April 2027

9.30am Registration for 10am Start

To book Members should send a completed booking slip with a cheque for a Member £12, or for a Guest £15, payable to Surrey U3A Network, to Denise Dobbs at u3a, 5 Aldridge Rise, New Malden KT3 5RJ, Phone 07964 798791, by Tuesday 13th April or make a bank transfer to HSBC Sort Code 40-27-07 Account Number 11519018, Event Reference Apr27, and email booking information to surreyu3astudyday@outlook.com. Payment at door is £15.