

NEWSLETTER

The Arts Society of West Suffolk

Next Meeting: Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 10am

Wonderful Copenhagen - The story of four magnificent royal palaces in the kingdom of Denmark Hanne Sutcliffe

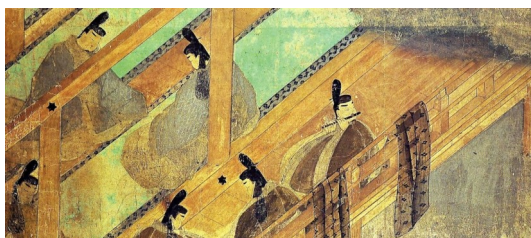
Centuries of royal building have given Denmark 14 castles, the most splendid four of which help to tell the life stories of royal Danish families.

Hanne Sutcliffe has lectured extensively in museums, art and historical societies, and the Art Fund. She has been guide, lecturer and researcher on sixteen tours to China and has lectured in South Africa, Australia, the USA and Europe, as well as on cruise liners in the Far East. Hanne is an extra-mural lecturer at Leeds University and Harrogate College. She has published *Chinese Ceramics at Lotherton Hall*, and is a Council Member of the Oriental Ceramics Society.

Our programme this year began with a lecture by

Dr Meri Arichi on The Art of Illustration in Japan: Emaki picture scrolls - The origin of manga.

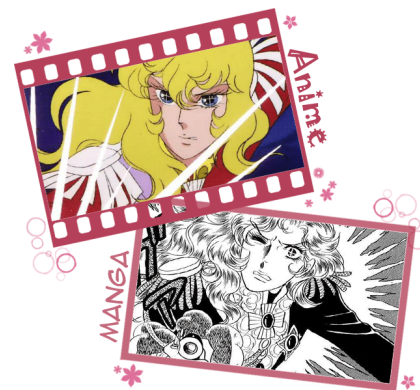
Dr Meri Arichi is a Senior Teaching Fellow in the Department of Art and Archaeology at SOAS and principal tutor for the Japan and Korea module of the Diploma in Asian Art courses. Meri has previously taught courses at Birkbeck College, the British Museum, the V&A and the Courtauld Institute of Art.



Emaki are picture scrolls, which originated in East Asia. They were first used to illustrate Buddhist texts, then later for other books. Reading from left to right and horizontally 12C emaki also illustrate the passage of time using these same directions. This form continued into the 18C and 19C often with amusing pictures helping non-readers to understand the narratives. The beautiful images may be seen to influence present day art in manga, Japanese comic books.

Meri described some prestigious Japanese emaki including *The Tale of Genji* (a late 12C psychological novel), *Choju giga* (scroll of frolicking animals), *Shigisan engi* (the origin of Mount Shigi), and *Honen shonin eden* (biography of the priest Honen). Emaki were created mainly for the ruling class with many being commissioned and kept safe in temples. Some, however, were carried around the country by itinerant nuns performing etoki, deciphering the picture scrolls for ordinary people while raising temple funds. This practice has led to the Japanese having a high degree of visual literacy. Moving on to modern manga and anime, Meri pinpointed various illustrative techniques used in early emaki, which also appear in these. Blown off roof views, costume and speech identification and impressions of speed are all featured in a similar style in both emaki and manga. Many of the old narratives have also been

updated to attract a younger audience. Manga, however, also shows a Western influence in its portraiture, offering a more worldwide appeal. The most recent Japanese illustrative form has become a global language: emoji, which simply translates as 'picture character'.



VISITS

GAINSBOROUGH'S HOUSE MUSEUM AND GALLERIES TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2022 1.30pm Cost £21.25

to include admission, guided tour of new galleries, the house and walled garden followed by tea. Members to make their own travel arrangements. Payment with booking please.

Please contact Julia Eeles, Visits Organiser, on 01359 240838 for further details.

DO YOU HAVE IT OR MARKETING SKILLS? IF SO, PLEASE WILL YOU HELP US?

We urgently need someone to act as our **Communications Officer** to help to increase our membership, and someone who could assist in preparing the necessary **IT Support** for speakers at monthly lectures. If you can help with either or both of these roles, please contact Diana Hollins, Vice Chairman on 01449 736930.