

BARBIZON AND THE MAKING OF MODERN LANDSCAPE

Date/Time	Thursdays 13 Feb-13 March 2025 2-4pm	Price	£110
Venue	ONLINE – ZOOM. Recordings will be available for 2 weeks following each session.	Lecturer	Jo Rhymer

By the 1840s, landscape painting in France was in the ascendant. So too was leisure travel - with the expansion of railway networks opening up rural France, increasing numbers of leisure travellers explored new areas of the countryside. Situated about sixty kilometres south of Paris, the Forest of Fontainebleau, together with its villages, including Barbizon, became one of the popular destinations for both tourists and artists alike.

Our sessions will discuss the Forest's appeal for avant-garde artists and pioneering photographers. We will examine work by painters including **Théodore Rousseau, Jean-François Millet and Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot**, all of whom are associated with Barbizon painting, as well as photographers **Eugène Cuvelier and Gustave Le Gray**. Looking closely at a small selection of works, we will consider the role of Barbizon painters in the advance of landscape painting and their significant contribution to the development modern art.

Lectures

1. Setting the scene: the Forest as a destination
2. The Forest and its varied motifs
3. Pushing the boundaries: Theodore Rousseau
4. Barbizon and photography: The Forest through a new lens
5. Alternative impressions of the Forest

Lecturer

Jo Rhymer is an independent art historian with over twenty years' experience within the gallery and museum education sector. Previously Head of Adult Learning Programmes at the National Gallery and Public Programmes Manager at Sotheby's Institute of Art, Jo has conducted cultural tours both in the UK and abroad. She teaches for a wide range of institutions including the Victoria & Albert Museum and The Wallace Collection and she is a panel tutor for the Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge and an accredited lecturer for The Arts Society. Her specialist areas are nineteenth- and early twentieth-century French and British art.