

## The Art of Ancient Persia, 559-330 BCE

<b>Date/Time</b>	Monday 20 January 2025 11am to 4.15pm	<b>Price</b>	£44
<b>Venue</b>	Zoom	<b>Lecturer</b>	Professor Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones

The Persian Empire of the Achaemenid dynasty was the biggest and most powerful imperial structure the world had ever known up to that time. Its art reflected the diversity of the lands which made up the Empire, but the Achaemenids also created something distinctly 'Persian' in their art, the beauty of which still impresses. This richly illustrated study day gives you the chance to appreciate the innovations of early Persian art.

### **Lecture 1:** From Nomads to Kings: the Origins of Persian Art

Arising from the Eurasian Steppe, the Persians settled in Iran and quickly began to establish their own artistic vocabulary, especially in metalworking.

### **Lecture 2:** Palaces and Imperial Art

The royal palaces of Parsagadae, Susa, and Persepolis provided the canvas for Persian artistic flair in sculpture and relief-carving and also in the cultivation of gardens.

### **Lecture 3:** Dress and Adornment

Persian dress was an important articulation of their identity and sophistication. Different forms of court dress and riding costumes are found in art – but how did they appear in reality?

### **Lecture 4:** Imperialism in Miniature

Cylinder seals and bullae were important to the Persians. These carried a rich panoply of imperial iconography that was disseminated throughout the Empire.

### **Lecturer**

**Professor Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones** is Chair of Ancient History and Persian Studies at the University of Cardiff. He has written extensively on ancient Iran, the Near East, Egypt, and ancient Greece and his books have received Farsi translations. He has contributed to TV documentaries and BBC radio programmes and is a regular reviewer for *The Times* and *Times Higher Education*.