ART
AWAKENING
HUMANITY
OCTOBER 25 | LONDON

PRESS RELEASE

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An interactive afternoon of short talks and meditations organised by St Stephen Walbrook in partnership with Awakened Artists and Watkins Mind Body Spirit Magazine. The event includes contributions from artists, collectors & spiritual teachers centered around the relationship between art and the spiritual dimension. Inspired by a recent interview with Eckhart Tolle in Mind Body Spirit Magazine, the afternoon will primarily focus on art's capacity to 'awaken' humanity and serve as a portal to the invisible realms of beauty.

"True art can play an important part in the awakening of humanity. Beauty arises when something more essential or deeper, something that underlies the world of sense perception shines through. It is what I call the ‘underlying Intelligence’ that is the organizing principle behind the world of form, a hidden harmony, as it were". - Eckhart Tolle

The event will be held in the context of an exhibition at St Stephen Walbrook of Alexander de Cadenet’s ‘Life-Burgers’, works which question the vanity of worldly existence and explores the “cultural hero system” proposed by philosopher Ernest Becker.

"This event offers a wide range of perspectives on our theme of art awakening humanity. Exploring art and spirituality broadly is one of many ways in which St Stephen Walbrook, and the Church more widely, seek to support and strengthen the real relationship that exists between art and the spiritual." - Revd Jonathan Evens (St. Stephen Walbrook).

For more information please visit: awakenedartists.com/events
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PROGRAMME 2017

2.00 - Welcome & Introduction

2.10 - Jonathan Evens - Modern Art & Spirituality
2.30 - Roseline de Thélin - Art: language of the soul
2.50 - Silent Meditation
2.55 - Discussion / Q&A
3.10 - Edward Lucie-Smith - An Agnostic’s View of Art & Spirituality
3.30 - Theresa Roberts - Spirituality in Jamaican Art
3.50 - Prayer Space

3.55 - Refreshment Break

4.15 - Jonathan Kearney - Art, Theology & The Digital
4.35 - Mark Dean - The Esoteric In Art
4.55 - Silent Meditation
5.10 - Discussion / Q&A

5.15 - Supper Break

6.05 - Welcome back & introduction
6.10 - Jonathan Koestlé-Cate - Art & Church Art
6.30 - Alexander de Cadenet - The Awakened Artists Group
6.50 - Singing Bowl Meditation
7.00 - Prayer Space
7.05 - Discussion / Q&A

7.30 - Thanks & Close
Alexander de Cadenet - “For me, art is way of exploring what gives life a deeper meaning and evolves in relation to my own life journey. Being an artist is about having a voice in the world, a pure and authentic voice in a challenging world. It is a way of sharing personal insights and encounters with the world, of exploring the mysteries of our existence and our place in the grand scheme. Art is the intersection between the formless dimension and the world of form, it embodies our connection to nature or the intelligence that is responsible for our existences”. www.alexanderdecadenet.com

Jonathan Koestlé-Cate - “I have followed closely the church’s increasing willingness to work with contemporary artists and to deploy modern media within its spaces. I have since become a regular contributor to debates on the relationship of Christianity and the visual arts, taking a particular interest in the role of modern and contemporary art in ecclesiastical spaces, but also the wider presence of themes of religion, spirituality and the sacred within the art world more generally”.

Theresa Roberts is an art collector specializing and promoting Jamaican Art and artists. She has held Jamaican Art exhibitions at various important venues in the UK including The House of Lords, Europe House, Cambridge University and this year St Stephen Walbrook. During the London Olympics Theresa held a combined Art and Fashion show at Jamaica House as part of the Independence Day celebrations. She showcases her collection if Jamaican art at her home of Hanover Grange in Montego Bay in Jamaica.

Revd Mark Dean - “As an artist I do not seek to make images of God but rather the representation of personhood; that is, the experience of being a person in a world where there is a God. This world is not easy, and there are experiences of trauma and isolation; but God (and thus the created world) is good, and so there is beauty and the hope of redemption.” www.tailbiter.com.
Roseline de Thélin is an interdisciplinary visual artist as well as a creative coach and art therapist. The subject of Light has been central in her artistic and philosophical inquiry. Combining a diversity of digital and hands on media she produces pieces that play with illusion and perceptions. She is known for the unique work she developed with fiber optic, symbol of the endless possibilities carried by photons. Roseline facilitates Art Retreats that foster creative investigation, discovery, innovation and self-awareness. www.roselinedethelin.com

Jonathan Kearney has extensive experience of exhibiting his work worldwide, with recent exhibitions having been seen in China, Brazil and London. For nine years, Kearney has pioneered the opportunity to study a Fine Art masters course online. This innovative approach to learning is backed by his research and experimentation, which shows how digital tools can enhance both learning and art practice. Jonathan is fascinated by the intersection of art, theology and the digital.

Edward Lucie-Smith is an internationally known art critic and historian, who is also a published poet and a practicing photographer. He has published nearly two hundred books in all. He is generally regarded as the most prolific and the most widely published writer on contemporary art. A number of his art books are used as standard texts throughout the world. He has organised exhibitions in a number of galleries worldwide. He has also served on juries of the Cairo, Alexandria and Sharjah Biennials.

Revd Jonathan Evens is Associate Vicar for Partnerships at St Martin-in-the-Fields and Priest-in-charge at St Stephen Walbrook. Both churches work together in partnership. Jonathan is also secretary to commission4mission, which encourages churches to commission contemporary art. He is co-author of ‘The Secret Chord,’ an impassioned study of the role of music in cultural life written through the prism of Christian belief. He writes regularly on the Arts for publications such as Artlyst, ArtWay and Church Times.