

## WHISTLER SOCIETY

www.whistlersociety.org

### THE AIM OF THE SOCIETY IS TO PROMOTE INTEREST IN THE LIFE, WORK AND INFLUENCE OF JAMES McNEILL WHISTLER (1834 -1903)

J. M. Whistler was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, USA. Part of his childhood was spent in St. Petersburg, Russia. He studied painting in Paris and then moved to London in 1859. He embraced the philosophy of 'art for art's sake' exemplified by his paintings, etchings, decorative schemes and writings. He had a significant influence on present day attitudes to art and to its place in Society. As a person he was equally striking and flamboyant. He died in Chelsea in 1903.

The Whistler Society was formed in 2012. It plans to organise events such as talks and visits to exhibitions and places associated with Whistler. It is also hoped to publish a regular Newsletter. Meetings are generally held at the Chelsea Arts Club, of which Whistler was a founder member in 1891.

If you share an interest in the life, work and influence of Whistler, join now by filling in the attached Membership Application form and Standing Order forms.

Membership is open to all who share the aims of the Society, including people living outside the United Kingdom.

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### STANDING ORDER

To .....

*Please insert the name of your bank above and its address below*

.....  
.....  
.....

Account name

.....

Account no. ....

Sort Code of bank .....

Please pay to Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT in favour of Whistler Society, account no. 19810260, sort code 30-94-81, now and on 1 January each year the sum of £25.00 (25.00 GBP)

Signed

.....

Date .....

If you have on-line banking you should be able to set up a Standing Order yourself.

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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

I wish to join the Whistler Society.

Title .....

Forenames .....

Surname .....

Address .....

.....

.....

e-mail .....

Telephone .....

Annual membership subscription rate:  
**£25.00** (25.00 GBP)

Persons under 25 years of age: £10 pa

If you are a UK Taxpayer it will be beneficial to the Society if you also signed the **Gift Aid declaration**.

All completed forms to be sent to:-

**Joan Harper**  
**2 The Octagon, Middle Hill**  
**Broadway WR12 7LA**

*giftaid it*

**GIFT AID DECLARATION**

Please treat as Gift Aid donations and all qualifying gifts of money made to the Whistler Society today and in the future.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year.

I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

Signature :

.....

Date .....

**Registered with HMRC  
for Gift Aid purposes  
No. 0106440335**

*SOME SAYINGS OF  
JAMES MCNEILL WHISTLER  
(1834-1903)*

Responding to an admirer who stated that there were only two great painters - Velasquez and himself.

***“Why drag in Velasquez.”***

When asked during the Ruskin libel case about the price for ‘The Falling Rocket’ “And that was the labour (about a day’s work) for which you charged two hundred guineas?”

***“No; it was for the knowledge gained through a lifetime.”***

Regarding an unflattering but not inaccurate portrait of himself by J. Boldini.

***“Well, they tell me it is very like me, but, thank God, I am not like it.”***

On being asked why he did not visit America.

***“It has been suggested many times; but, you see, I find art so absolutely irritating to the people that, really, I hesitate before exasperating another nation.”***

Telegram delivered to Oscar Wilde at the Church on the day of his wedding.

***“Am detained. Don’t wait.”***

**WHISTLER SOCIETY**



*HON. PATRONS:*

*DR. STEPHEN BURY  
FRICK COLLECTION, NEW YORK*

*DR. LEE GLAZER  
FREER GALLERY, WASHINGTON*

*CHARLES SAUMAREZ SMITH  
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