

# THE MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD

## SHOW PEOPLE IN PAINTINGS



Mike Smith tells us that, after the success of *Show People Sculpted* (see *The Magic Lantern* No. 11, June 2017), he is now embarking on a similar project but this time it is all about paintings – *Show People Painted: A catalogue of 18th- and 19th-century paintings depicting Magic Lantern and Peepshow performers*.

He asks that, if you have a painting of either a magic lantern or a peepshow performer in your collection, please let Mike know if you would like it to be included in his next book. Please send a high-quality digital image, suitable for publishing, together with all relevant information (artist, date, medium, etc) to Mike Smith at: kime1944@gmail.com.



## A PORTABLE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

Bill Barnes has sent this wonderful Christmas postcard of an itinerant showman with a portable 'Cabinet of Curiosities' from the Barnes Archive. He writes: 'Those members who were present at the 10th International Convention of the MLS this year and witnessed an up-to-date version of a Cabinet of Curiosities may be interested in this postcard picturing an old-time version. The postcard was made in Poland, marketed by "Polona" and numbered 347. It reproduces a painting signed and dated W. Betley, 1913. Nothing at present is known about this artist or his paintings, but he is probably from the UK. The wording under the picture translates as "Merry Christmas".'



## ... AND TALKING OF CHRISTMAS

As the shopping days slip away, the editors of *The Magic Lantern* are on the lookout for short articles with a Christmas theme for our December issue. The pieces from around the world proved very popular last year and we would like to do something similar this year. Do you have a favourite Christmas slide or a Christmas show – past, present or future – that you could tell us about? Or perhaps you have a magic lantern-related story about Christmas. We would love to hear from you (editor@magiclantern.org.uk), preferably by the end of October.

## MLS OF US AND CANADA CONVENTION

David and Lesley Evans have sent more information about the 2018 Convention (20–22 April 2018) – the first ever convention to be held in Canada. The location is Victoria on Vancouver Island, British Columbia – a holiday destination in itself. The Convention venue will be the Metro Studio Theatre in downtown Victoria and the recommended hotel, with special rates, is The Inn at Laurel Point. Registration is expected to start on Thursday afternoon (19 April). The programme begins on Friday followed by a banquet and after-dinner lantern show.

On Saturday evening Terry Borton will be presenting the American Magic Lantern Theater's Spring Magic Lantern Show with a unique adaptation and a few surprises! This show will be open to the public as well as to delegates. Presenters from Australia, the UK and several

parts of the USA as well as Canada are already signed up. This should be a weekend of fun, education, social exchange and good food – the specialist caterer is also a friend! For more information contact: Lesley Evans, 4920 Bench Road, Cowichan Bay BC, VOR 1N1 Canada (email: dwinwoodevans@aol.com).



## MLS PUBLICATIONS

Now is a good time to look through your bookshelves and make sure you are not missing any key Magic Lantern Society publications. Some have already sold out and others are getting low on stock. All titles are listed at <http://www.magiclantern.org.uk/sales/> where you can purchase those missing gems at discount prices. Have you got a copy of *Realms of Light* and *Servants of Light*? Find out about our Chairman's interests by reading his *The Temple of Minerva*. Or take advantage of the new reduced price of the *Optical Magic Lantern Journal and Photographic Enlarger* (OMLJ) DVD featuring a complete run of 160 issues (now only £10 plus shipping for MLS members). When they're gone ... they're collectors' items!



## DIARY DATES

Please take these dates as a guide only and confirm before travelling.

2017

13 October

Lecture by Sarah Dellman: 'Wat is internationaal in lantaarnplatencollecties?'  
Leiden University, The Netherlands

21 October

Autumn meeting of the Magic Lantern Society  
Swedenborg House, London

6–7 November

Paper: Million Pictures – The heritage of magic lantern slides as a history resource  
Faculty of Arts and Literature, University of Beira Interior, Covilhã, Portugal

30 November–2 December

7th International Conference on the Histories of Media Art, Science and Technology – RE: TRACE  
Vienna and Danube University, Austria

2018

11–13 January

Million Pictures Workshop 4, 'Evaluating the project and setting the agenda'  
Exeter, UK

20 January

Annual General Meeting of the Magic Lantern Society  
The Musical Museum, Brentford, London

28 January

Last chance to see: Light! Magic Lantern and the Digital Image. Similarities between the nineteenth and twenty-first century (see article)  
Museu del Cinema, Girona, Catalonia

20–22 April

2018 Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada  
Victoria BC, Canada

## NEW MEMBERS

*Hugh Street*

Brading, Isle of Wight, England

*Joel Heffner*

Staten Island, New York, USA

*Maria Männig*

Karlsruhe, Germany

*Kurt Vanhoutte, Nele Wynants & Renée Vanhoutte*

Antwerp, Belgium

*Vanessa Toulmin*

Sheffield, England

*Jennifer Tucker*

North Haven, Connecticut, USA

*Frank Kessler & Sabine Lenk*

Nijmegen, The Netherlands