# THE MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD

## **DRAWN TO THE LIGHT**

On 25 October Nicole Mollett and Frog Morris ran a wonderful magic lantern workshop at the Kaleidoscope Gallery in Sevenoaks. After an initial show illustrating the amazing beasts to be found in the woods around Sevenoaks, budding slide makers started producing their own slides, either by painting on glass direct over their paper designs or using some of the pre-copied images and cellophane pieces on acetate. The results were amazing – plenty of phantasmagoria–type beasties given the date – and children of all ages (myself included) had a great time. Mary Ann Auckland







MAGIC AND THE MUSE, 12 JANUARY 2018 After its successful première at the 2017 MLS Convention in Birmingham, the Million Pictures project and the

University of Exeter are delighted to present a reprise of this spectacular show.



Magic and the Muse uses both original and specially created lantern slides and a triple lantern. Lanternists Jeremy and Carolyn Brooker, accompanied by live music from multi-instrumentalists Richard Navarro, Nicholas Thurston and Miriam Gould, present a fantastic combination of music, performance and projection, including a rare demonstration of 'pose slides' once owned by the parents of the film actor Peter Sellers. This will take place at the Barnfield Theatre, Barnfield Road, Exeter, at 8pm on Friday 12 January 2018. Tickets are £14, or £12 for MLS members and other concessions. Book online at www.barnfieldtheatre.org.uk or by phone on 01392 271808.

**A CAMERA OBSCURA FIND** On their way back from the MLS London meeting to the Eurotunnel, Monique Wezenberg and Gwen Sebus discovered a camera obscura in New Romsey. Of course they had to try this out so Gwen, inside the



camera obscura, took a picture of the projected image of Monique outside. Proof that a camera obscura is pure magic for children came when two boys inside started shouting and waving to the projected image of their grandmother outside and could not understand why their grandmother was not waving back!

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# REMARKABLE PEOPLE

Charles Dickens performer Adrian Kok and playwright/lanternist Else Flim of the Dutch Dickens Theatre were pictured for the exhibition Remarkable Inhabitants of the Artist Village Laren by a photographer and a floral artist.

### YOUR CHANCE TO CONTRIBUTE

The editors are looking for contributions from members on several different topics. Whatever your perspective – a collector, researcher, showperson, interested observer – we would like to hear from you (editor@magiclantern.org.uk). Current topics include:

- 'My first slide' Lydia Jakobs told us about hers in the last issue of The Magic Lantern. Get in touch with the editors or Lydia direct and tell us the story behind yours.
- 'Lanternists' Tales' Anyone who has given a magic lantern show has a tale to tell. What is the strangest venue you have been in or the most curious audience?
- Tips for repairing or making slides and projectors Lester Smith has given us some of his top tips but other members must have some too.

Nick Hiley is asking whether you have an 'announcement slide' or two hidden in your collection (see article in this issue).

• Information about women involved in magic lanterns. In 2018, to mark the centenary of women first getting the vote in the UK (our New Zealand members are 25 years ahead here) we are planning an issue looking at the role of women in the history (including recent) of the magic lantern.

#### **MUTOSCOPE MYSTERY**

Roger Benischek, Director of the Robert Fleshman Collection at the University of New Orleans (see issue 9, report on US and Canada Convention) is looking for any information about this Mutoscope in their collection. He has found engravings and drawings of similar ones but no photographs or names of other collections that own one. If you can help



#### **DIARY DATES**

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

#### 2017

9-10 December

Scrooge Festival, Arcen, the Netherlands

16-17 December

Dickens Festijn, Deventer, the Netherlands

#### 2018

11-13 January

A Million Pictures Workshop 4,

'Evaluating the project and setting the agenda' Exeter, UK

12 January

Magic and the Muse,

a lantern spectacle with live music

Barnfield Theatre, 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

Museu del Cinema, Girona, Catalonia

20-22 April

Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada

Victoria BC, Canada

# **NEW MEMBERS**

Suzanne Kooloos Utrecht, the Netherlands
Raymond Sutton Montrose, Scotland
Ariadna Lorenzo Sunyer Girona, Spain
Beyoglu, Turkey

Princeton University Library

Princeton, NJ, USA