

MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD



5-6 APRIL 2025 – SAVE THE DATES!

We are planning a very special MLS Meeting next year, so put the dates in your diary now. Based at the Cinema Museum in Girona, Catalonia, the event will take place on Saturday 5 April and Sunday 6 April 2025. The Museum is the home of the Fantascopes featured in *TML* 12 (2017). The programme will include shows and lectures including an evening extravaganza by Sergi Buka. There may well be an optional excursion too, for example a visit to the Dalí Theatre-Museum in Figueres or a tour around the old town of Girona – watch this space for more information!

RESTORING LANTERNS

Many MLS members have either undertaken some lantern restoration or have a lantern waiting in a cupboard to be brought back to show condition. While it all seemed possible at that auction, market stall or antique shop, actually getting started is an altogether more daunting task. Mike Jones has developed techniques to restore lanterns, bringing them back to superb condition (as in the example here). The first in his series of articles about how he goes about it can be found on p. 10.



If you are feeling even more ambitious you can always try converting your biunial to a triunial – as described by Dominique Santens and Philippe Khazzaka in *TML* 38.



La Lanterne Magique by Jean-Baptiste Marie Pierre, c. 1750, from *Show People Painted*

SHOW PEOPLE SERIES OF BOOKS

Mike Smith is planning a supplement to update his three books: *Show People Sculpted* (2017), *Show People Painted* (2019) and *Show People Portrayed* (2022) (see *TML* 11, *TML* 18 and *TML* 31 for reviews). The three books looked at figurines, paintings and other decorative pieces, respectively, and the supplement would include any of these which have come to light since the books were published.

If you have discovered any such pieces, or have any in your collection, and you think they could be included in this supplement, please contact Mike and send details to him at kime1944@gmail.com.

TONY BROWN (1938-2024)

Gordon Casbeard writes: "It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of my great friend of over 70 years, and a fellow MLS member, Tony Brown. He was a clever and quite extraordinary man, whose skills ranged from tool making, building racing car engines, hydraulic research, precision woodworking, to later even forging a career in lace bobbin making that was so successful that beautiful examples of his creations in this art were exported worldwide.

Tony and myself presented more than 350 magic lantern shows over the years, and it was only the onset of ill health that forced us to call a halt. He loved his magic lanterns, and would spend hours in his shed repairing and restoring all the associated equipment pertaining to them. He will be much missed by his family and friends.



DIARY DATES

Please take these dates as a guide only

19 October

Autumn Meeting of the Magic Lantern Society
Swedenborg House, London

14 December

Christmas Special MLS Meeting online (via Zoom)

2025

25 January

AGM of the Magic Lantern Society
The Musical Museum, Brentford, London

5-6 April

Spring Meeting of the Magic Lantern Society
Cinema Museum, Girona, Catalonia

NEW MEMBERS

Paul Barresi	Merrimac, Massachusetts, USA
Claire Cooke	London, UK
Colin Lewis	Sutton Coldfield, UK
Penny Mayes	Barnet, Hertfordshire, UK
John McCracken	Aberdeen, UK
Chris O'Rourke	Coventry, UK
Symone Patino	Williamswood, Nova Scotia, Canada

AND THE NEXT DAY ...

We have reports from two MLS meetings in this issue – the Netherlands meeting (p. 12) and the Summer meeting (p. 15). However, in both cases, members took the opportunity to do more the next day.

Else Flim and Adrian Kok write: "On the Monday after the Special Meeting, we took Karl Link, President of the USA and Canada MLS, and Alexia Lazou by car to Martin Vliegenthart's Magic Lantern Museum in Heiloo, where they enjoyed his wonderful extensive collection for hours. Derek Adams and Dolly Whilems visited on Sunday afternoon. Martin's museum is really beautiful and highly recommended for a visit too."



Meanwhile, after the windmill meeting, Alexia Lazou welcomed MLS members to the Hove Museum of Creativity where they studied the collection (below).

