

Trendall Lecture and Rae Alexander Lecture with Professor Anne Dunlop FAHA

This year the Trendall Lecture and Rae Alexander Lecture will be combined. The Trendall Research Centre and the La Trobe University Art History Alumni Chapter welcome the distinguished scholar in Italian and European art Professor Anne Dunlop FAHA, Herald Chair of Fine Arts at the University of Melbourne, as our guest speaker. Prof Dunlop's topic will be:

Botticelli, the Medici, and the fifteenth-century travels of the Farnese Cup

When Lorenzo de' Medici, known as the Magnificent, died in Florence in 1492, his most valuable possession was an antique cameo. It had been acquired from the Pope in Rome, and it was worth an astronomical 10 000 gold florins – five times more than the next most valuable artworks. Now known as the Farnese Cup and dated to the 1st or 2nd century, the cameo inspired many Florentine artists, including most notably Sandro Botticelli, a Medici favourite.



This lecture begins from Botticelli's engagement with the Farnese Cup, including in his most famous allegories, the Birth of Venus and the Primavera. Yet the Cup had travelled widely before it reached Florence, and at least one artist in what is now Iran and Afghanistan was also inspired by it – a reminder that premodern Eurasia was much more connected than we sometimes assume, and that a taste for Antiquity was widely shared.

We look forward to seeing you on this wonderful evening.

DATE: Thursday 21 November

TIME: 6.00pm commencement

VENUE: Theatrette, State Library of Victoria (via Entry 3 on La Trobe St)

COST: \$30 standard ticket \$10 Zoom ticket.

Bookings are essential: please book [here](#)

Please advise of any cultural, or mobility requirements

About our speaker



Professor Anne Dunlop FAHA holds the Herald Chair of Fine Arts at the University of Melbourne. She is a specialist of Italian and European art between 1250 and 1550, and the author or editor of six books and catalogues, including *The Matter of Art* (2014), *Andrea del Castagno and the Limits of Painting* (2015), and *Antipodean Early Modern* (2018). Among her most recent honours are an appointment as Krautheimer Guest Professor at the Bibliotheca Hertziana-Max Planck Institute for Art History in Rome (2022), and at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University (2022-23).

Best wishes,

Dr Gillian Shepherd, Director, Trendall Centre and Dr Michael Moignard, Chair and Dr Robyn Walton, Vice Chair, La Trobe University Art History Alumni Committee

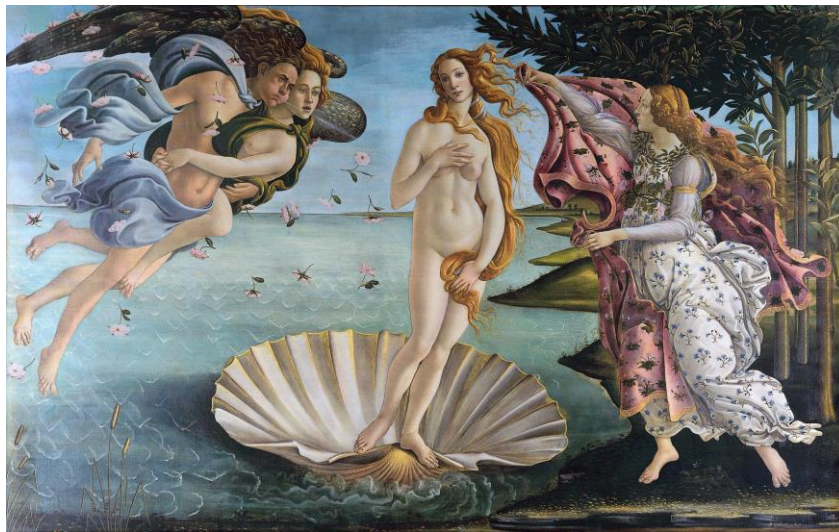


Image credits:

Sandro Botticelli, *The Birth of Venus*, c. 1480s. Tempera on canvas, 172.5 cm × 278.9 cm. Uffizi Gallery, Florence. Image: Google Art Project, public domain.

Farnese Cup. 1st or 2nd Century BCE. Sardonyx Agate, diameter Capodimonte, Naples. Image: Ana Al'ain, public domain.

Professor Anne Dunlop FAHA. Image: Enrico Fontolan, Bibliotheca Hertziana, Rome.