

LIVE AUCTION CATALOGUE: LOTS 1-9

**Classics for All is proud to present a live charity auction at its Gala Dinner at
The Hurlingham Club on Thursday 18th May 2023.**

The auction will be led by Sotheby's auctioneer Frances Christie.

To place a commission/absentee bid or to ask a question about any of the auction lots, please email Alice Parr at alice@classicsforall.org.uk. Thank you.

Lot 1

One-to-one classics tutorial with Cambridge Professor Mary Beard



Enjoy the rare and unmissable opportunity to sit down for a private, one-to-one conversation with the world's best-known classicist: Professor Mary Beard DBE. A renowned classicist, ancient historian and Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge, Mary Beard is considered one of the most influential classicists of our time, known for her engaging style and sharp wit. In this hour-long conversation, you'll have the opportunity to ask questions, share ideas and engage in stimulating intellectual debate on any of your favourite classical topics - from Horace to Homer. Whether you prefer a scholarly Cambridge-style tutorial or a relaxed and informal chat, this one-of-a-kind opportunity to pick Mary's brain promises to be an enriching and unforgettable experience.

T&Cs: This conversation must take place in Cambridge on a mutually convenient date before 18 May 2024. Please note that Mary has limited availability during October 2023.

Lot 2

Luxury one-night countryside retreat and Roman villa tour at The Newt in Somerset



Nestled among orchards, lakes and woodland, The Newt in Somerset is more than just a hotel; it is a countryside estate reimaged.

Inspired by the agricultural heritage and traditions of Somerset, The Newt has plenty to explore – from splendid gardens and cyder orchards, to farm shops and fine dining. Discover everything that The Newt has to offer with a one-night luxury stay for two at Hadspen House, the honey-coloured Georgian manor house at its heart.

Relax and unwind in the spa with its indoor-outdoor pool and enjoy a delicious, seasonal dinner for two made with fresh, locally sourced produce at the Botanical Rooms restaurant. During your stay, you'll also enjoy a private tour of the Villa Ventorum, a reconstructed Roman villa built on foundations from 351 AD.

T&Cs: This prize is valid until 31 March 2024 and subject to availability at the time of booking.

Lot 3

Dinner and three tickets to *The Odyssey* at the National Theatre with Jimmy Mulville



Held captive by the nymph Calypso, Odysseus has all but given up hope of ever returning home. But high above on Mount Olympus, the Gods convene to set one final trial – a voyage to Hades, land of the dead.

A new play by Chris Bush with music by Jim Fortune, *The Odyssey* is a national multi-venue production told over five parts with each episode of Odysseus' journey created and performed by local artists and communities. The final instalment of Odysseus' epic journey culminates in this full-scale musical production on the Olivier stage at the National Theatre titled *The Odyssey: Episode 5 – The Underworld*.

Join Classics for All's Chairman Jimmy Mulville for a delicious dinner and for the chance to experience this epic classical retelling bringing together performers from across the UK.

T&Cs: This performance takes place on Saturday 26th August 2023 at 7pm on the Olivier stage at the National Theatre in London. Three tickets are available in total (excluding Jimmy).

Lot 4

Private walking tour of Roman London with historian Tom Holland



Travel back in time to Roman Londinium with acclaimed author, historian and 'The Rest is History' podcast host, Tom Holland. With his signature humour and entertaining commentary, Tom will guide you and up to five other guests through the streets of London, bringing to life the city's remaining Roman sites, including the best-preserved stretch of Roman wall to be found in any car park anywhere. Along the way, Tom will regale you with tales of life in Roman London, sharing stories of the city's bustling port, the luxurious villas of the wealthy and the markets that once thronged the streets. Everything from severed heads to sandals will feature.

T&Cs: This tour is available for up to six guests. Please note that Tom has limited availability during the summer of 2023.

Lot 5

Luxury one-week holiday at a classic 16th century Villa in Tuscany



Set in beautiful countryside of rolling hills, olive groves, vineyards and cypress trees, Villa Donati is a classic 16th century Villa only a 10-minute drive away from the historic town of Lucca, Tuscany. This spacious, 7-bedroom Villa sleeping 14 people has been beautifully restored. The exquisite ground floor features original vaulted ceilings, Murano glass chandeliers, and a magnificent staircase with Trompe-l'oeil decoration. With countless indoor and outdoor seating areas, a large swimming pool, Astro-turf tennis court, and well-equipped gym, it is the ultimate luxury Villa.

Breakfast in the shade of the kitchen terrace; make use of the BBQ/pizza oven for long, lazy summer lunches; and enjoy candlelit dinners on the stunning loggia. Housekeeping services each morning from 9am to noon are included in your stay, as well as the services of a house manager for an hour a day to provide a concierge service and assist with restaurant bookings, beach clubs, bike hire, boat hire, cooking lessons, wine tastings, and more.

Villa Donati has been rented out only a handful of times in the last 20 years (RRP: £20-25,000 per week). As the current owners are no longer renting it, the opportunity to stay in this exceptional Villa is truly exclusive to Classics for All supporters.

T&Cs: This lot includes a one week stay at Villa Donati at a time to be agreed with the owners before 31st December 2024. This can include school holidays and there is some availability in the summer of 2023. The Villa is 30 minutes from Pisa airport and 40 minutes from Florence airport. Travel is not included. More photographs are available for those interested.

Lot 6

After hours candlelight tour of Westminster Abbey with The Reverend Dr Jamie Hawkey



Westminster Abbey, one of the most extraordinary historical sites in the United Kingdom, is usually teeming with tourists. This incredible prize offers the opportunity for a group of four to enjoy an 'behind the velvet rope' tour of Westminster Abbey, after hours, with no one else around, by the sacred glow of candlelight.

One of the four Canons Residentiary, Jamie Hawkey is a Chaplain to HM The King, having first been appointed by HM Queen Elizabeth II. He is intimately involved in everything that has happened at the Abbey in recent years, including HM The Queen's funeral and HM The King's coronation. In this personal tour, Canon Hawkey will offer his unique perspective on the history of the Abbey, its treasures and its position in national life, all the while showing you parts of the Abbey not normally open to the public. For any keen historian, theologian, or a simple fan of British pomp, this is an unmissable treat.

T&Cs: This tour is available for up to four guests and must take place on a mutually convenient date before 18 May 2024.

Lot 7

Private recital from Professor Armand D'Angour's London Brahms Trio



What can compare to the beauty of a Schubert piano trio slow movement, the romance of Tchaikovsky, or the power of Brahms?

Any of these masterpieces are on offer with this private recital from the London Brahms Trio, comprising Armand D'Angour (cello), Kobi Kremnitzer (piano), and Erika Eisele (violin).

Enjoy up to an hour of superb music played in your own home or another suitable location for your own and your friend's delectation.

"Twenty members of our family had the most sumptuous evening at Armand's wonderful house in London last summer. Beautiful Brahms and Beethoven played exquisitely by the Brahms Trio in a perfect setting - a real treat!"

- Charles Skinner, winning bidder in 2021.

T&Cs: This recital must take place on a mutually convenient date before 18 May 2024.

Lot 8

VIP front row seats at Classics for All's Moot Trial of Cicero at the UK Supreme Court



Classics for All's annual Moot Trial at the UK Supreme Court is a legendary institution of the Lawyers Group. Usually only available to Lawyers Group members, this year, the Lawyers Group offers you the chance to secure VIP front row seats for you and up to three friends at the Moot Trial of Cicero on Thursday 26th October 2023 at 6pm.

Presided over by Lady Rose, Justice of the Supreme Court, the trial will see Cicero stand on trial for acting illegally in the suppression of the Catilinarian conspiracy when he was Consul in 63 BC. Ali Bajwa KC will defend Cicero and Richard Whittam KC will prosecute on behalf of the Senate and People of Rome. Previous moot trials have seen classical giants from Alexander the Great to Boudicca face charges as diverse as terrorism and war crimes debated in a humorous and engaging fashion. The trial of Cicero promises more of the same with wit, intellectual rigour and legal acumen dished out in equal measure.

T&Cs: The trial takes place at the UK Supreme Court on Thursday 26th October 2023 and the winning bidder will have up to four seats reserved on the courtroom's front row.

Lot 9

Private guided tour of the Ashmolean Museum with Professor Michael Scott



Join award-winning classicist Professor Michael Scott for a private, one-hour guided tour of the Ashmolean Museum, followed by tea and cake in the museum café. As one of the world's leading Professors of Ancient History, Michael has long been passionate about communicating the ancient world to national and international audiences. In this private tour for up to four people, Michael will take you on a journey through time, sharing insights on classical masterpieces in the museum's Greek and Roman galleries, from black and red-figure vases decorated with mythological scenes, to monumental sculptures of the Emperor Augustus and the Capitoline Wolf.

T&Cs: This tour is available for up to four guests and must take place on a mutually convenient date before 18 May 2024.

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