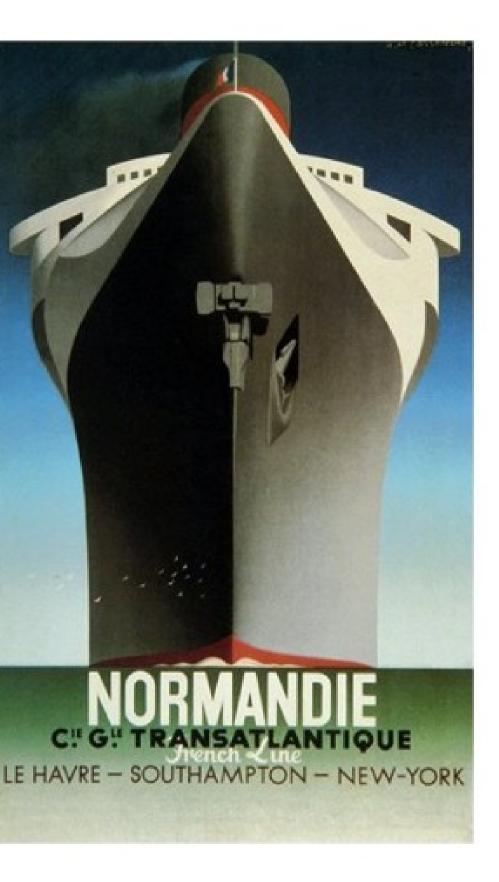


THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE TRANSATLANTIC LINER

Sit back, relax and SAIL in style and luxury

The Battle for the Blue Riband dominated Atlantic travel for many decades and the rivalry between the major shipping lines to build the the biggest and best leviathons of ocean travel was intense. Ships such as French Line's Ile de France and Hapag Lloyd's Imperator rapidly became not just floating works of art but ships of state with stunning décor to match. This lecture shows how they were adapted to match changing tastes; from the elegance of the French château and the heaviness of the Dutch renaissance to the dazzling sophistication of what became known as 'streamline moderne', the lecture presents rare archive photographs of interiors from iconic ships such as the original Mauretania to the magnificent, but short-lived Normandie.



NEW YORK! NEW YORK! THE ASHCAN EXPERIMENT





The Ashcan School of American painters depicted the daily lives of the labourers whose SWEAT helped to build New York

Of all the places to be in the world at the end of the 19th century, it has to be New York. The city enjoyed unprecedented growth as new blood flooded in from all over the world. As gleaming new skyscrapers grew skyward the squalor of teeming tenements and the struggle to survive in this rapidly changing city became rich pickings for a young group of artists seeking new inspiration. For the artists of the 'Ashcan School' nobility could be found not just in the grandiose buildings of this booming city but in the daily lives of the labourers who built it.



Founded by Charles Tiffany with a loan of just \$1000, the firm of Tiffany & Company, New York grew from a small bric-a-brac shop to become purveyors of the finest luxury goods and the world's leading jewellers. The business evolved even further under Charles's immensely gifted son Louis, who not only completely redesigned the now lost interior of the White House but spent over thirty years developing the manufacture of the most exquisite glass. From wonderful vases and lamps to the diamonds worn by Audrey Hepburn in "Breakfast at Tiffany's", this is a fascinating tale of how art and luxury came together to create one of the world's most iconic brands.

