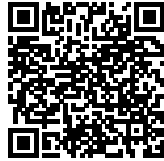




THE WIT COLLECTION: ART HISTORY JOKES 3

Posted on November 1, 2020 by Mark Stocker



In case you feared that this month would pass witless, Dr. Mark Stocker offers these jocular japes that will leave you simpering behind your mask.

Who was the sculptor whose life-cast toppled over?

Sir Antony Gormless.

What was William Morris's response to Art Nouveau?

What Liberty!

If Hogarth were alive today, what would his patriotic masterpiece depict?

O the Chicken Tikka Masala of Old England.

How did a Marxist critic describe a sculpture of a small spider?

Very petit Bourgeois!

When he was seated on his splendid new throne, the Emperor Charlemagne was asked by a thoughtful cleric if it was comfortable.

"No, terrible!" he replied, "Aix all over!"

If a Golden Age Dutch artist had ever turned his hand to watercolour, critics would surely admire **“de wet-on-wet of de Wet.”**

And Now For Something Completely Different... Yes, Mother-in-law Jokes!

The wife: “Mother’s coming to stay next week; she’ll be sleeping upstairs.”

Me: **“Thank god we haven’t fixed that hole in the roof!”**

The wife: “It’s Mother’s birthday very soon, she’ll want to dine out!”

Me: **“I’ll book her a table for one at McDonalds when they have the next free pensioners’ night!”**

The mother-in-law and me gave each other books for Christmas. I gave her two crime novels, *Strong Poison* and *The Beast Must Die*. To her credit, and she’s a bit of an intellectual, like, she gave me Dostoevsky’s *The Idiot*.

For my mother-in-law’s birthday, I gave her a framed reproduction of a fabulous Paulus Potter, **so she can see herself in it.**

For Christmas, she wanted something with cheery Santa red, so she got a nice reproduction of **Francis**

Bacon's *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion*.

And Moving Right Along...

A disturbed gentleman, a certain Mr Stocker, visits the trick cyclist. He complains:

"Doctor, people say I think I'm an animal - a dog to be precise. It's true that I can't stand that new postman."

"They no doubt think you're barking mad. But we take this condition more seriously in the profession, Mr Stocker, and let me reassure you that it is amenable to treatment. Please sit yourself on the couch."

"I'm sorry, Doctor, but I'm not allowed on the couch." [Thank you, Tommy Cooper!]



Tommy Cooper at Madame Tussauds.

Art world figures and their favourite diners:

The great Baroque exponent: **Bernini Inn.**

The great Renaissance medallist: **Pizzanello Hut.**

The great Marxist critic: **Berger King.**

Charlotte Corday was a frugal soul. What was on the other side of the note to Marat that the public never see?

Apple [get it?], snails, frogs' legs, 1 carton plonk, oven ready French fries, 1 kilo finely guillotined mince.

An optimist on board the Raft of the Medusa chirps:
'Hey guys, thank god we're not on a cruise ship in 2020!'

Dr Stocker was lecturing on Cézanne in Nelson, New Zealand: "You can see in these still life paintings how gravely he conveyed the quintessence of apples, the appleness of apples, as it were..."
Nelson orchardist: **"Yeah right. Are they Granny Smiths or Coxes, mate?"**

What was the response of Sir Alfred Munnings to the nomination of Henry Moore to the Royal Academy?
Na-aa-ay! (in a hoarse voice).

How could you best describe the influence of Moore and Hepworth on British sculpture?
Holesome.

Who were William Morris's greatest disciples?

C.R. Ashbee, Ernest Gimson, C.F.A. Voysey and Laura Ashley.

[That's not a joke, it's true!]

The image shows **Two Women at a Window**, by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, painted ca. 1665-1670.

