

# Art Appreciation in the Reading Room, Berwick-St-James

## *From Cezanne to Picasso, Braque & Matisse*

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.30, with doors open 7.10



Le Bonheur de Vivre, 1906, Henri Matisse

The first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was witness to arguably the most revolutionary transformation in Western European Art since Giotto painted the fresco cycles of the lives of the Virgin Mary and Christ in the Scrovegni Chapel, Padua in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. The Post-Impressionists, most notably Georges Seurat, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh and Paul Cezanne, were amongst the most notable of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century avant-garde. However, it was Henri Matisse, George Braque and above all Pablo Picasso in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, who began to produce paintings, which moved painting away from pure representation and naturalism, towards something more abstract. In the Summer of 1906, Picasso met Matisse at the Parisian house of the now legendary collectors, Leo and Gertrude Stein, an event which commenced an intense period of rivalry between the two as they vied for commissions and in 1907, Picasso and Braque were inspired by the late landscapes and still life works of Paul Cezanne at his retrospective exhibition. Join me as we discuss how the symbiotic relationship of Braque and Picasso and the competitive rivalry between Matisse and Picasso resulted in the birth of Modern art. Glass of wine, beer, or soft drink on entry. £5 donation to the Reading Room Fund. For further information, contact Brian Armstrong at [brianarm100@hotmail.com](mailto:brianarm100@hotmail.com)