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The Fifty-Seventh A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts 2008

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Release Date: March 6, 2008

LECTURE PROGRAMS: SPRING 2008

Weekend Lectures
March 2 at 2:00 p.m.

In the Forest of Fontainebleau: Painters and Photographers from Corot to Monet
Kimberly Jones and Sarah Kennel, National Gallery of Art; East Building Auditorium

March 9 at 2:00 p.m.

Rembrandt: Study of Two Early Works, Rhetorically Speaking
Rudolph Preimesberger, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art; East Building Auditorium

March 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Images of Friendship from Renaissance Florence
Dale Kent, University of California, Riverside; East Building Auditorium

March 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Tyrannicide and the Non-Finito: Michelangelo, Brutus, and the Medici
Eike Schmidt, The J. Paul Getty Museum; East Building Auditorium

April 2 at 2:00 p.m.

The Italian Legacy in Washington, DC
Illustrated lecture and panel discussion with speakers including David Alan Brown, Maygene Daniels and Massimiliano Fuksas. Book signing to follow; East Building Auditorium

Works in Progress: Mondays
March 10 at 12:10 p.m., 1:10 p.m.
The Academia Leonardi Vinci in Renaissance Milan  
Jill Pederson, research associate, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art; East Building Small Auditorium

March 17 at 12:10 p.m., 1:10 p.m.  
How to Paint a Cardinal in Renaissance Rome: Sebastiano del Piombo's Portrait of Bandinello Sauli  
Oliver Tostmann, graduate curatorial intern, National Gallery of Art; East Building Small Auditorium

March 24 at 12:10 p.m., 1:10 p.m.  
The "Speaking Likeness" in Italian Baroque Portraiture  
Eva Struhal, research associate, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art; East Building Small Auditorium

April 7 at 12:10 p.m., 1:10 p.m.  
The Cacapon River Valley from Above and Below: Plein-air Painting the Panhandle  
Glenn Perry, paint specialist, design department silkscreen shop, National Gallery of Art; East Building Small Auditorium

April 21 at 12:10 p.m., 1:10 p.m.  
Artful Splendor in Textiles and Domestic Interiors of the Italian Renaissance  
Rosamond Mack, independent scholar; East Building Small Auditorium

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Special Lecture Series

Overview of Western Art: Medieval to Modern  
Examining the context for works in the National Gallery of Art collections, this academic-year lecture series explores the development of painting, sculpture, and architecture from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century. The lectures are given by Gallery lecturers.

March 1 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium  
Nineteenth Century: Post-Impressionism and Symbolism  
Eric Denker, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

March 13 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
March 15 at 10:15 a.m., West Building Lecture Hall
Fauvism and Northern European Expressionism
Diane Arkin, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

March 20, 22 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
Cubism and Futurism
Diane Arkin, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

March 27, 29 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
De Stijl and Early 20th-Century Sculpture
David Gariff, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

April 3, 5 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
Early Modern Art in the United States
Wilford W. Scott, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

April 10, 12 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
Dada and Surrealism
Christopher With, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

April 17 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
April 19 at 10:15 a.m., West Building Lecture Hall
Regionalism and the New York School
Sally Shelburne, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

April 24, 26 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
The Sixties: Post Painterly Abstraction, Hard Edge Painting, and Minimalism
Sally Shelburne, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

May 1 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
May 3 at 10:15 a.m., West Building Lecture Hall
The Sixties: Pop Art and Postwar European Art
David Gariff, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

May 8, 10 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
Art of the Pluralist Seventies
Sally Shelburne, lecturer, National Gallery of Art

May 15, 17 at 10:15 a.m., East Building Auditorium
Art at the Turn of the Twentieth Century
Sally Shelburne, lecturer, National Gallery of Art
Elson Lecture
March 27 at 3:30 p.m.
A Conversation with Robert Gober
Robert Gober, artist, and Harry Cooper, curator and head of modern and contemporary art, National Gallery of Art; East Building Auditorium

For twenty-five years, Robert Gober's sculptural and pictorial installations have proved difficult to ignore, assimilate, or forget. Inspired by artists as diverse as Hieronymus Bosch and Marcel Duchamp, Gober makes objects that almost appear to be the real things they depict—sinks and drains, beds and cribs, candles and light bulbs, legs and breasts. He then puts them together in ways that trigger thoughts of religion and sexuality, clothing and shelter, childhood and memory, consumer culture and consumed nature. The result is a consistently unpredictable, disturbing, and affecting oeuvre of singular importance for contemporary art.

Diamonstein-Spielvogel Lecture Series
March 30 at 2:00 p.m.
Perceptions and Experiences: Martin Puryear in Conversation with Ruth Fine
Martin Puryear, artist, and Ruth Fine, curator of special projects in modern art, National Gallery of Art; East Building Auditorium

District of Columbia native Martin Puryear has achieved international acclaim for the distinctive body of sculpture, primarily in wood, that he has created over some four decades. The artist combines a deep respect for the craftsmanship embedded in objects from around the world—such as baskets and furniture—with the challenge to create meaningful sculpture that reflects the chaotic era in which we live. The conversation will touch upon the range and evolution of Puryear's mysterious forms, his attitude toward materials and processes, and his thoughts on the traveling retrospective exhibition of his sculpture.
The Fifty-Seventh A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts 2008

Bosch and Bruegel: Parallel Worlds
Joseph Leo Koerner, Harvard University; East Building Auditorium

The A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts were established by the National Gallery of Art's Board of Trustees in 1949 "to bring to the people of the United States the results of the best contemporary thought and scholarship bearing upon the subject of the Fine Arts."

April 6 at 2:00 p.m.
The Human Condition

April 13 at 2:00 p.m.
Enmity

April 20 at 2:00 p.m.
Devilries

April 27 at 2:00 p.m.
"Self" Portraiture

May 4 at 2:00 p.m.
Epiphanies of Human Making

May 11 at 2:00 p.m.
In Pursuit of the Ordinary

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General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets at Constitution Avenue NW, and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's Web site at www.nga.gov.
Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor’s back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 x 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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National Gallery of Art, Press Office

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