
Update: February 10, 2017

Washington, DC—The 2017 winter/spring lecture program at the National Gallery of Art brings together distinguished artists, curators, and scholars. Artist highlights include Joseph Monroe Webb, international award-winning dancer, choreographer, actor, educator, poet, and founder and director of the American Embassy of Dance, for a performance on communication through dance movement and sound; Jason Moran, jazz pianist and artistic director for jazz at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and pioneering performance and video artist Joan Jonas with Lynne Cooke for their Kennedy Center collaboration Jason + Joan: Reanimation; Theaster Gates, professor in the department of visual arts and director of arts and public life at the University of Chicago, with Sarah Newman for his Tower Gallery exhibition, the Elson Lecture, one of a series that presents distinguished contemporary artists whose work is represented in the Gallery’s permanent collection, features artist Matt Mullican; and Dutch artist Rineke Dijkstra for the 2017 Arnold Newman Lecture on Photography. Alexander S. C. Rower, Alexander Calder’s grandson and president of the Calder Foundation, and Harry Cooper will discuss the East Building’s new tower gallery devoted to works by Calder. The Sixty-Sixth Annual A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts, a six-part lecture series titled The Forest: America in the 1830s, will be given by Alexander Nemerov, department chair and Carl and Marilynn Thoma Provostial Professor in the Arts and Humanities, Stanford University.

Lectures are free and open to the public on a first-come, first-seated basis. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place in the East Building Auditorium. Lectures marked with an asterisk (*) are part of the Works in Progress series, lunchtime lectures that highlight new research by Gallery staff, interns, fellows, and special guests. The 30-minute talks are followed by question-and-answer periods. The East Building of the National Gallery of Art is located at Fourth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Please visit nga.gov/podcasts for lecture recordings.

Schedule of Lectures

January 15 at 2:00 p.m.
Arnold Newman Lecture Series on Photography
Rineke Dijkstra
Rineke Dijkstra, artist

*The Arnold and Augusta Newman Foundation generously supports this series to make such conversations available to the public.*

January 22 at 2:00 p.m.
"Slipping into the World as Abstractions": Georgia O’Keeffe’s Abstract Portraits
Sarah Greenough, senior curator and head, department of photographs, National Gallery of Art

January 23* at 12:10 and 1:10 p.m.
**Paper/Plates: Renaissance Prints and Ceramics at the National Gallery of Art**
Jamie Gabbarelli, Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellow, National Gallery of Art

February 5 at 12:00 p.m.
**Freedom Sound/Do You Hear Me?**
Joseph Monroe Webb, international award-winning dancer, choreographer, actor, educator, and poet; founder and director, American Embassy of Dance. Webb presents a lecture on communication through dance movement and sound, and an exploration of dance as a means of communication and a portal to freedom. Presented in conjunction with the exhibition Stuart Davis: In Full Swing, on view in the West Building through March 5, 2017. The presentation is supported in loving memory of Shirley Casstevens.

February 5 at 2:00 p.m.
**Sculpting with Color in Renaissance Florence: An Introduction to the Della Robbia Exhibition**
Allison Luchs, curator of early European sculpture and deputy head of sculpture and decorative arts, National Gallery of Art

February 26 at 12:00 p.m.
**Conversations with Artists: Theaster Gates**
Theaster Gates, artist, and Sarah Newman, exhibition guest curator, National Gallery of Art

March 1 at 3:00 p.m.
**The Landmarks of New York**

March 2 at 3:30 p.m.
Elson Lecture
**Matt Mullican**
Matt Mullican, artist

March 12 at 2:00 p.m.
**East of the Mississippi: Nineteenth-Century American Landscape Photography**

March 13* at 12:10 and 1:10 p.m.
**Apocalypse Now: Michelangelo’s "Doni Tondo" and the End of the World**
James P. Asian, PhD candidate, department of art history and archaeology, Washington University in St. Louis

March 16-17 at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
**WYETH FOUNDATION FOR AMERICAN ART SYMPOSIUM**
**The African American Art World in Twentieth-Century Washington, DC**

Speakers include Rhea Combs, Gwendolyn H. Everett, Paul Gardullo, Tuliza Fleming, Jacqueline Francis, Lauren Haynes, Amy Kirschke, Robert O’Meally, Richard J. Powell, Steven Nelson, Jacqueline D. Serwer, Jeffrey Stewart, John A. Tyson, and Tobias Wofford. The symposium will also feature a panel of artists including Lilian T. Burwell, Floyd Coleman, David C. Driskell, Sam Gilliam, Keith Morrison, Sylvia Snowden, and Lou Stovall.
March 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Drawing the Line: The Early Work of Agnes Martin

March 20* at 12:10 and 110 p.m.

Monumental Ephemera: The 1939 Smithsonian Gallery of Art Competition
Zoe Samels, curatorial assistant, department of American and British paintings, National Gallery of Art

March 26; April 2, 9, 23, 30; and May 7 at 2:00 p.m.
The Sixty-Sixth A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts

The Forest: America in the 1830s
Alexander Nemerov, department chair and Carl and Marilynn Thoma Provostial Professor in the Arts and Humanities, Stanford University

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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 visit the Gallery’s Web site at www.nga.gov. Follow the Gallery on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt, Twitter at www.twitter.com/ngadc, and Instagram at http://instagram.com/ngadc.

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 by 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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Press Release

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