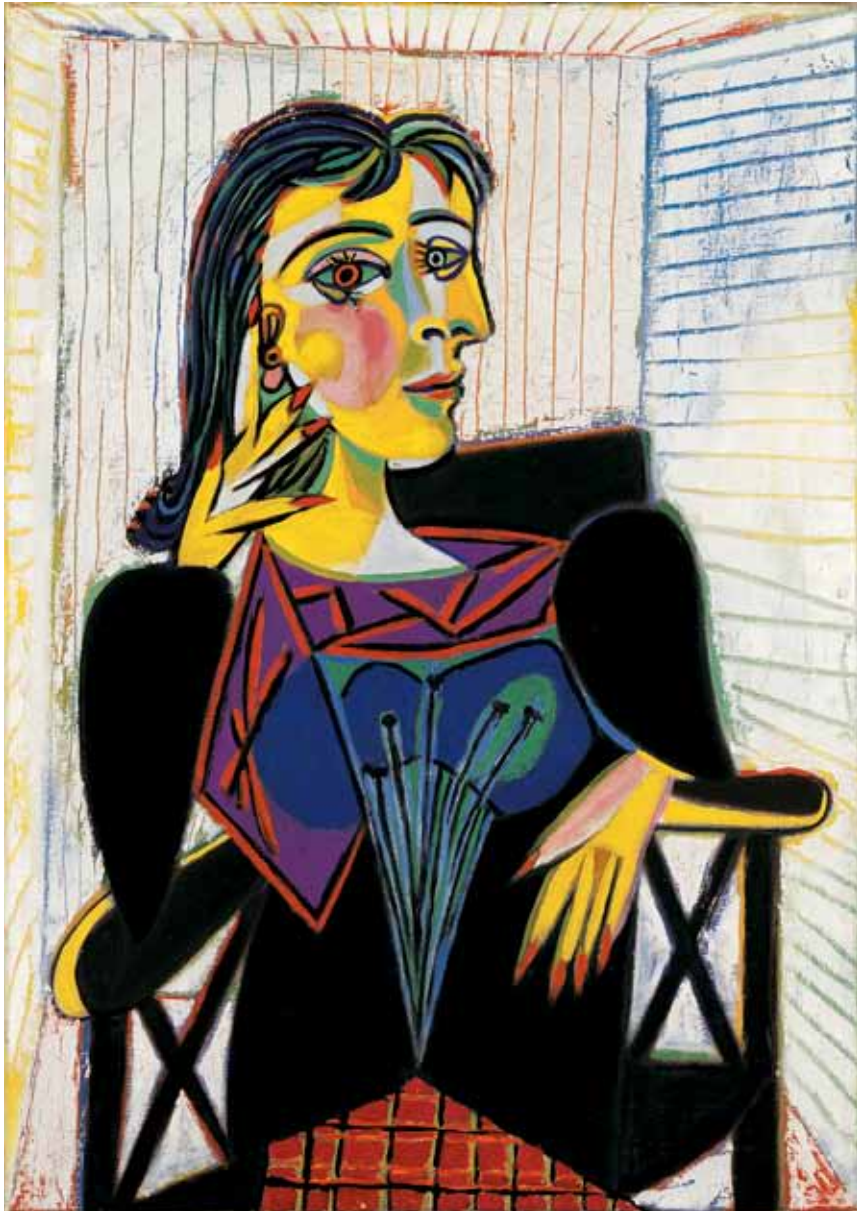


COMMUNITY SPEAKERS PROGRAM
DOCENT COUNCIL OF THE FINE ARTS MUSEUMS
OF SAN FRANCISCO

Schedule of Illustrated Art Lectures

Spring–Summer 2011



Pablo Picasso, *Portrait of Dora Maar*, 1937. Oil on canvas. Musée National Picasso, Paris.
Photo: Jean-Gilles Berizzi / Réunion des Musées Nationaux © 2010 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York
See page 3, *Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris*

de Young
Legion of Honor

FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO

Docent Council Community Speakers Program

Presented by the Docent Council of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, the Community Speakers Program features lectures written and delivered by docents. These lectures are delivered on site at the de Young Museum and the Legion of Honor and are also offered on location to community groups throughout the Bay Area. We offer more than one hundred lectures on different topics, primarily pertaining to the Museums' special exhibitions and collections.

Community Speakers docents are ambassadors to the public, and our goal is to encourage viewers to visit the museums. We have a longstanding tradition of excellence, education, and entertainment, imparting both enthusiasm and expertise in our presentations.

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**For fees and to schedule a lecture,
contact Kay Payne (650-941-1374, famsfdocents@gmail.com)
or Amanda Olson (415-750-3638, aolson@famsf.org).**

Special Exhibitions

Spring 2011



Isabelle de Borchgrave, Woman's shoes, 1998–1999. Paper, mixed media, acrylic, ink, and glue. Collection of Isabelle de Borchgrave. Photograph by Andreas von Einsiedel

Pulp Fashion: The Art of Isabelle de Borchgrave

Isabelle de Borchgrave utilizes paper, which is folded, painted, cut, and glued, to create eye-catching and mind-boggling dresses, shoes, and jewelry inspired by historical paintings and textile collections. She fools your eye while she captivates your imagination with rich colors and discernable textures—all made out of paper.

Legion of Honor • Through June 12, 2011



Cristóbal Balenciaga, Bolero of garnet velvet and black jet embroidery, winter 1947. Scarlet silk ottoman evening coat with capelet collar, autumn/winter 1954–1955. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, gift of Mrs. Byron C. Foy, 1957 (C.I.57.29.8). Photographs by Craig McDean

Balenciaga and Spain

Cristóbal Balenciaga, one of fashion's most noted couturiers, invoked the romance, drama, and majesty of Spain to stimulate his imagination and develop his designs. Drawing on Spanish cultural influences—such as the art of Goya, Velázquez, and Picasso; religious ceremony; the bullfight; flamenco dance; and the regional garb of Basque fishermen—he created clothing that was spectacular to look at and fabulous to wear.

de Young • Through July 4, 2011



Picasso: Masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris

By turns shocking and serene, Pablo Picasso's paintings and sculpture are both highly personal and deeply emblematic of the era in which he lived. This exhibition, which includes more than 150 objects, will be on your "must-see" list this summer.

de Young • June 11–October 9, 2011

Dutch and Flemish Masterworks from the



Salomon van Ruysdael (Naarden 1600/1603–1670 Haarlem) *River Landscape with a Sailboat*, 1655. Oil on panel. The Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Collection

Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Collection

The Van Otterloo holdings have been called "the most important collection you have never heard of." Works by Rembrandt, Frans Hals, and Hendrick Avercamp, among others, chronicle the Dutch way of life during its Golden Age. From portraits to landscapes, still lifes to scenes of everyday life, these masterworks remind us why 17th-century Dutch painting is so beloved.

Legion of Honor • July 9–October 2, 2011

For fees and to schedule a lecture, contact Kay Payne (650-941-1374, famsfdocents@gmail.com) or Amanda Olson (415-750-3638, aolson@famsf.org).

Also of Interest

Picasso to Pop: Liberation of 20th-Century Art

Georgia O'Keeffe, Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol were all influenced by early-20th-century European modernists like Pablo Picasso. This lecture demonstrates the connections between Europe and America through the 20th century.

Action and Reaction:

The Avant-Garde at the Turn of the 20th Century

Avant-garde art is cutting edge. But what makes progressive art not just new and different, but something that will have a long-term impact? Something to which future artists will act and react? This lecture includes works by Cézanne, Van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso, among others, putting them in the context of their times.

The Art of French Fashion:

From the "New Look" to Now

Masters of the French design world—Dior, Balenciaga, Chanel, Saint Laurent—influenced the changing fashions in the second half of the 20th century as well as the cultural history of the times.

All That Glitters . . .

Jewelry at the Fine Arts Museums

Gold objects have fascinated all cultures since almost the beginning of time. Gold has been important both for its secular and religious use. Using representations in the Fine Arts Museums' collection, we view examples of gold jewelry and other objects from around the world.

In Pursuit of Style: Shoes in History

From early Roman sandals, through high button shoes and stiletto heels, to wedgies and platforms, changes in fashionable footwear remind us how shoes have always reflected the personality and status of the wearer.

New Lectures

On Common Ground: The Fertile Landscape

Highlighting key moments in the landscape tradition from the 16th century up to today, this lecture explores the relationship between the artist and the land through a selection of paintings, many from the collection of the Fine Arts Museums. These works demonstrate the variety of techniques and styles that make the landscape tradition so rich.

Artists in the Rain Forest: Creating the Maya World

Daring and enduring architectural achievements in cities and ceremonial centers; portrayals of war, ritual and belief; monumental and intimate renderings of the noble and the lowly in ceramic, stone, and paint—Maya artists and master builders created a visual world anchored in beauty, history, and legend whose remnants still move us with their perception, power, and imagination.

Intrigue and Enchantment:

The Magic of Color and Light

This lecture is an invitation to discover our world, one that is like a kaleidoscope, a continuously changing pattern of shapes and colors, brilliant and resplendent as well as soft and muted. Light makes color visible during the brightness of morning or the soft glow of late afternoon, and it creates intriguing shadows that are a prelude to the dark and silence of the night.

In Praise of God's Name

The artworks that were historically created for churches, cathedrals, and private chapels were never intended to be seen within a museum. Using works from our American and European collections, this lecture traces the arc of history as told by religious doctrine—from the beginnings of this world to the Day of Judgment—along the way looking at how popular culture made its way into religious art and how religious messages made their way into our everyday world.

Women Artists: From Restriction to Recognition

An exploration of art created by women from the beginning of time to the present day, this lecture highlights women who were innovative, independent, and determined, their stories told with a paintbrush and a multitude of colors. They created penetrating portraits and evocative scenes from everyday life, intimate and sensitive revelations of their world, their experiences revealed in beautifully crafted works of art.

From Here to Eternity: Honoring Our Ancestors in Africa, Oceania and the Americas

How do we remember our ancestors? Do we know who they are? Why would we want to remember them? This presentation will start to answer those questions as it explores how African, Mesoamerican, and Oceanic cultures revere their ancestors through art.

Art through Time: The History of Art

Rembrandt to Renoir: Three Centuries of European Art at the Legion of Honor

This lecture explores the exciting changes in European painting during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries as seen in San Francisco's outstanding collection.



Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, *Joris de Caulerii*, 1632. Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Collection

The State Museums of Berlin and the Legacy of James Simon

This lecture honors the cultural legacy of James Simon, perhaps the most important patron Berlin has ever known, through works at the Museums of Berlin spanning the third millennium BC to the 20th century AD, including antiquities, art of the Silk Road, and Old Master paintings and sculptures.

European Paintings: A Dime-Store Legacy from the Kress Collection

The single most important gift of art in our nation's history came from the Kress Collection. From this gift, the Fine Arts Museums received a superb selection of Old Master paintings, making its holdings a "mini-National Gallery."

Portraits with a Purpose

Some portraits flatter, others caricature, and still others were done as an act of revenge. Take an entertaining look at portraits—glamorous and elegant, commanding and supercilious. Hear the intriguing stories, fascinating facts, and amusing anecdotes about the art of portraiture.

2 of a Kind: Couples Creating Art

Auguste Rodin and Camille Claudel, Gilbert and George, Alfred Stieglitz and Georgia O'Keeffe: these couples all shared a passion for life and their work, often sharing inspirations and even specific works of art. Take a look at eight different artist-couples, their lives, and their art together and apart.

Picasso to Pop: Liberation of 20th-Century Art

Georgia O'Keeffe, Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol were all influenced by early-20th-century European modernists like Pablo Picasso. This lecture demonstrates the connections between Europe and America through the 20th century.

Chicano Visions for a Contemporary World

This lecture covers the culture and painting that emerged in the wake of the Chicano/Chicana movement for political and social change during the 1960s and '70s.

Art in Our Times: A Century of Change

What work of art is the most representative of contemporary times? Who is our most important artist? This lecture examines the explosive creativity in an era of rapid changes and advances, war, technology, and changing identities.

Skepticism Is a Virtue

Contemporary art provokes many questions and inspires a variety of responses. Using images from the permanent collection at the de Young, this lecture invites you to consider and discuss, What is art? Why is a particular piece of art in the museum? Will it be there in 50 to 100 years?

The Subject Is Art!

From the ancient to the contemporary worlds, artists have looked to their fellow artists and the art world that surrounds them as sources of inspiration and as points of departure for new ideas and works. See how artists have used art-world sources to stimulate new works of art.

Action and Reaction: The Avant-Garde at the Turn of the 20th Century

Avant-garde art is cutting edge. But what makes progressive art not just new and different, but something that will have a long-term impact? Something to which future artists will act and react? This lecture includes works by Cézanne, Van Gogh, Matisse, and Picasso, among others, putting them in the context of their times.

Arts of the Ancients: Egypt, Greece, Rome, and the Holy Land

Eternal Egypt: Masterworks of Ancient Art from the British Museum

This lecture focuses on objects spanning 3,000 years, including the earliest pharaonic portrait of a king, dating to the First Dynasty; some of the best-known examples of funerary art; papyrus sheets from the Book of the Dead; a Roman panel portrait; and jewelry, mirrors, and cosmetic containers.

Hatshepsut: From Queen to Pharaoh

Hatshepsut claimed full powers of the throne and assumed the title of "king." This lecture focuses on her royal and personal objects, including statuary and reliefs, monumental sculpture, ceremonial objects, finely crafted furniture, and dazzling jewelry.

Women Yesterday: Living in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome

This look into the public and private lives of women living in the ancient era presents them within the historical and cultural context of their time. Generations of women whose identities are now lost are seen through a multitude of images and objects that express the range of their experiences, the quality of their lives, and the spirits of their souls.

Rediscovering Tutankhamun: Amateurs, Tourists, Looters, and Archaeologists

The discovery of ancient Egypt's artifacts is a story of buried treasure, looting, and intrigue, as well as dedicated scholarship. In addition to the "wonderful things" found by Howard Carter in 1922, tales tell of the spectacular rescue of Egypt's monuments from the ravages of time as well as from the greed of mankind. Meet the explorers, adventures, archaeologists—and tourists—who brought ancient Egypt to light.

Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas

Teotihuacan: City of Gods and Mysteries

From massive pyramids to miniature figurative sculptures, the art treasures from the ancient Mexican city-state of Teotihuacan are spectacular.



Mural with Feathered Serpent and Flowering Trees, Teotihuacan, Mexico, ca. 600–750 A.D. Bequest of Harald J.Wagner

Queens, Maidens, Matriarchs: The African Woman in the de Young

Women's many roles, as maidens, mothers, goddesses, and queens, have inspired African artists for centuries. Using materials at hand, these artists reflect on women's increasing visibility in the spiritual and political realms while affirming the beauty, wisdom, and majesty of women within traditional and contemporary African cultures.

Oceanic Treasures from the Jolika Collection

The de Young is home to hundreds of New Guinea art masterworks from the Jolika Collection of John and Marcia Friede of New York. This large and encyclopedic collection of rare pieces is currently one of the finest such collections anywhere in the world. Prehistoric and ceremonial objects are included, as well as artwork created within the last fifty years.

Soccer, Sweets, and Salsa: The New World's Gifts to the Old

Bouncing balls, roasting potatoes, frothy hot chocolate—the bounty of the ancient Americas is portrayed in the arts of the pre-Hispanic world.

Splendor and Reverence: Art and Power in the Central African Savanna

This lecture explores the political and religious power of sculptures created by artists of four Central African cultures: the Luba, Songye, Chokwe, and Luluwa. Carved primarily from wood, these dynamic power figures mediate between the human and spirit worlds to cure, to protect, or to combat malevolent forces.

Yua: Art of the Arctic

Eskimo and Inuit people believe all living things, even inanimate objects, possess *yua*, a spirit or soul. Carved masks, sculptures, and everyday objects reflect not only their time-honored beliefs and traditions, but also their gratitude and respect for the spirits, animals, land, and sea.

Traditions in Europe

French Impressionism:

The Artists and Their Paintings

Join in an intriguing and fascinating look at the artists of Impressionism, who saw the world in effervescent color and light, creating glowing paintings that resound with beauty.

Vive la France! The French and Their Painting

Explore France through images of paintings that illustrate the beauty of its land, the illustrious history of its people, and their hopes and dreams. French art celebrates this unique and beguiling country—cities large and small; people young and old, rich and poor; a nation at peace and at war.

Gustav Courbet:

A Rebel on the Road to Impressionism

Courbet, who called himself “the most arrogant man in France,” forged his career in mid-19th-century Paris by rebelling against the artistic traditions of the French Academy and its annual Salon. His dedication to painting everyday life and his innovations in style and technique led him along the road to one of the great revolutions in European art—the new painting of the Impressionists.

Nature Perfected:

The Landscapes of Claude Lorrain

Claude Lorrain’s beautiful paintings and drawings responded to the topography and atmospheric effects of the Roman countryside. One of the most inventive artists of the 17th century, he established a new landscape style that remained influential well into the 19th century.

Impressionists in Winter

Intrigued by the challenges of painting a predominately white subject, the French Impressionists, in painting winter landscapes, explored infinite combinations of color and light to create images that still resonate.

Monet in Normandy

Monet spent much of his life in Normandy, and his art reflects the region’s countryside and topography, its towns and villages, the beautiful Rouen Cathedral, the sparkling bodies of water, and the rhythm of the seasons.

Paris and Her Painters

Take a visual journey to Paris as it was seen from 1870 to 1900 through the eyes of Impressionist and Academy painters, as well as photographers Atget and Zola.

A Brush with Fame:

Claude Monet and His Art

Claude Monet, a leader and lifetime adherent of Impressionism, is examined in depth. This lecture covers his career from its beginnings in the 1860s through his production of water-lily paintings in the 1920s.



Claude Monet, *Water Lilies*, 1914–1917. Museum purchase, Mildred Anna Williams Collection

Degas, the Reluctant Impressionist

Edgar Degas, although an active participant in seven of the eight Impressionist group exhibitions, didn’t consider himself an Impressionist. His lifelong interest in line and the figure set him on a fundamentally different path. This talk looks at his innovative use of both throughout his career.

A Day in the Life of the Renaissance

In a “you are there” experience, take a journey back in time and imagine yourself in Renaissance Florence and Venice, participating in the sights and sounds of everyday life, viewing contemporary works of art by Da Vinci, Botticelli, and Raphael.

Gilbert & George

Contemporary English artists Gilbert & George shock us with sexual, racial, social, and religious themes. Their work has been characterized as confrontational, aberrant, outrageous, perverse, and provocative. It reflects the world around us, but is it art?

The Feminine Touch: Impressionist Paintings by Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassatt, Eva Gonzalès, and Marie Bracquemond

With the advent of Impressionism, female artists began to come to the forefront of the art world. This lecture looks at more than 150 works from four women Impressionists.

It’s about Time: Another Dimension in Art

Paintings often show stories with a beginning, middle, and end. Artists are typically called upon to accomplish all of that in a single frame. From the Renaissance to the 20th century, artists have investigated the relationship between painting, time, and motion.

Traditions in Europe cont.



Jean-François Raffaëlli, *The Absinthe Drinkers*, 1881. Museum purchase, Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Income Fund, Jay D. and Clare C. McEvoy Endowment Fund, Tribute Funds, Friends of Ian White Endowment Fund, Unrestricted Art Acquisition Endowment Income Fund, Grover A. Magnin Bequest Fund, and the Yvonne Capper Trust. Photograph courtesy Christie's Images Ltd. 2010



Vincent van Gogh, *Shelter on Montmartre*, ca. 1886. Bequest of Frederick J. Hellman

Birth of Impressionism

In the 19th century, Paris was the artistic center of the universe. Artists such as Degas, Monet, Manet, Renoir, Pissarro, and Sisley looked for a new way to express pleasure in their surroundings while challenging long-held ideals of art.

Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne, and Beyond

From the late works of Monet and Renoir to the modern masters Cézanne, Gauguin, Toulouse-Lautrec, and Van Gogh and the unique styles of Seurat and Rousseau, this lecture tells the story of Impressionism and the artists who responded to and reacted against it.

Painting with Sunshine: Van Gogh, Matisse, and Other Painters in Provence

The natural beauty and warm sunshine in the south of France inspired a number of 19th- and 20th-century artists, who celebrated it in scores of paintings that glow with resplendent color. Van Gogh, Matisse, Cézanne, Renoir, and Dufy are just a few of the artists included in this fascinating lecture.

Three French Villages, Seven French Masters

Stroll the paths of three tranquil villages where genius flourished. Visit the homes and view the art of Daubigny, Corot, Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Cézanne, and Van Gogh.

How Masterpieces Are Made

What does an artist have to do to get his or her work hung in a museum and have it thought of as a "masterpiece"? In addition to having talent and training, the artist needs inspiration, quality materials, proven methods, patrons or buyers, and good luck and timing. This lecture looks at how paintings, from the Renaissance to the 20th century, moved from their creators' studios to become favorite works of visitors to the de Young and Legion of Honor.

Impressionism: Was It a Renaissance or a Revolution?

Impressionism has been known for its radical ideas, contemporary subjects, and innovative techniques. Did this movement constitute a break from the past and the advent of modern art? Or was it not nearly so radical as has been represented? Did artists look back in order to move forward? Or did they concern themselves completely with investigating the world around them?

Art in Bloom

The Garden: An Alfresco Studio for Impressionist Painters

The garden served as an inspiration to many Impressionist painters. Among the most enthusiastic gardeners were Gustave Caillebotte, Claude Monet, Auguste Renoir, and Paul Cézanne. Which had come first—an interest in the garden or in painting—is not always easy to determine.

More than Words Can Say: Stories of Flowers in Art

Artists have portrayed flowers and plants throughout history. This delightful and educational lecture tells the meanings and stories associated with beautiful still lifes portrayed by artists from the 15th century Renaissance through the present day.

The Queen of Flowers: Resplendent French Rose Gardens

The French call the rose “la Reine des Fleurs”—the queen of flowers. This talk shares depictions of the rose in art and includes a stroll through famous French rose gardens, including the Bois de Boulogne in Paris.

Monet’s World of Flowers: Gardens at Giverny

The lushness of his surroundings inspired some of Monet’s most exciting and modern images. His paintings of the Japanese bridge and the rose garden, as well as shimmering images of the lily pond, reflect his love for his gardens at Giverny.

Sacred Art

Pilgrim’s Progress: A Journey to Santiago de Compostela, Spain

For a thousand years, pilgrims have journeyed to Santiago de Compostela to venerate Saint James. Combining contemporary photos with objects from the Museums’ Medieval and Renaissance collections, this lecture traces the path of pilgrims over Roman bridges, past centuries-old churches, to experience the adventure, camaraderie, and serenity that typify the “way of the camino.”

The Art and Spirit of the Crèche

Crèches restaging the birth of Jesus Christ have been a traditional symbol of Christmas throughout the world and through the ages. Using the Nativity scene, this lecture will examine the history of the crèche, and the traditions of art and faith that surround it.



Master of the Retable of the Reyes Católicos, *The Annunciation*, late 15th century. Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation

A Proud Heritage: Art in America

Warhol Live

Join the action! Listen to the beat! Andy Warhol's art reflected his obsession with pop and rock music royalty, including Elvis Presley, Mick Jagger, and the Rolling Stones. Major Warhol silkscreen paintings, album covers, and photographs provide a fascinating picture of Warhol's extraordinary work and life.

American Artists Abroad: The Lure of Paris in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Hundreds of American artists traveled to Paris to study, tempted by the romantic notion of a bohemian lifestyle, by visits to French museums, and by opportunities to meet other artists and participate in art academies. Sargent, Beaux, Hassam, Whistler, and Henri are just a few of the artists covered in this engaging lecture.

Illusions of Presence: A Nation and Its Inhabitants

The paintings in this lecture illustrate one aspect of our national treasure—those who, with hardship and fortitude, contributed so much to our country. Paintings of Americans echo 300 years of the collective national experience.

Landscape Paintings: A Sense of Place

Some of the highlights of landscape painting at the de Young Museum are revealed: torrents of water pouring over Niagara Falls, a crystal-clear lake in the Sierra Nevada, and the frenetic energy of early-20th-century Manhattan, among others.

Westward Ho!

The experience of Americans who journeyed westward by land and sea is drawn from letters, journals, and literary sources, illustrated with vintage photography, paintings, and personal sketches.

Seeing Is Not Believing: Still Life in America

Taste, smell, touch—these senses are evoked by American still-life artists who tease the viewer with what is real and what is not.

Illusions of Reality: Realism in American Art

Some of the most beautiful and challenging images ever produced in American art, from American folk art to 20th-century photorealism, explore definitions and visions of reality.

Conflicts, Confrontations, and the American Dream

From the very beginning, America has embodied a vision of freedom, promise, progress, and prosperity. It is a dream that for over 200 years faced many challenges: struggles for various causes, a host of natural disasters, territorial disputes, ongoing technological advancements, and myriad physical confrontations and philosophical differences. In the end, however, the American dream lives on!

Visions of Elegance: John Singer Sargent, Artist Extraordinaire

John Singer Sargent painted glorious portraits, intriguing landscapes, and charming everyday scenes, capturing fascinating details of a world of pleasure and promise.

New York's 10th Street Studios: Center of American Art in the 19th Century

From 1860 through the end of the 19th century, an artistic community flourished in and around the 10th Street Studio Building in New York.

An African American Art Experience

This lecture reflects upon the personal, national, and collective African American experience and illustrates how it has influenced art.

New Forms of Expression: The Beat Generation, 1950–1965

The "beat generation" had a profound effect on popular culture as we know it today. Music, art, literature, and politics changed during the 1950s and '60s, producing a more inclusive America.

Cityscapes: Modernism Arrives in America

The many ways artists have depicted cityscapes in the 20th and 21st centuries reveal how the landscape of the American city reflects political and social change.

Contemporary American Art: Are You Engaged or Outraged?

What questions and challenges does contemporary art pose to the viewer? This lecture examines some of the most demanding works in the de Young's collection, putting them in the context of art history.

The Rockefeller Collection of American Art at the Fine Arts Museums

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller had the resources to collect anything they wanted. Why did they choose American art, and why did they donate it to the Fine Arts Museums?

The Kingdoms of Edward Hicks

Edward Hicks was a 19th-century Quaker minister and painter whose interpretations of "the peaceable kingdom" are among the most beloved paintings in American art.

Asian/American/Modern Art: Shifting Currents, 1900–1970

This lecture presents the story of artists from Asia and of Asian descent who lived and worked in the United States during the era of Modern art. See diverse works by Chiura Obata, Dong Kingman, Isamu Noguchi, Ruth Asawa, Nam June Paik, and many more.

Art in California



Albert Bierstadt, *California Spring*, 1875. Presented to the City and County of San Francisco by Gordon Blanding.

Golden Dreams: The California Experience

Paintings, prints, and vintage photographs illustrate the California story, which has enticed the world with ideals of health, fun, freedom, riches, youth, adventure, beauty, spectacular scenery, fascinating history, and intriguing inhabitants.

One Hundred Years of Landscape Art in Northern California

This talk explores the rich landscape tradition in Northern California through the eyes of visual artists, from Arthur Mathews and William Keith to Wayne Thiebaud and William T. Wiley.

California Creativity: Innovative Bay Area Painters

Through the years, artists working in the Bay Area have demonstrated innovation, imagination, and unparalleled creativity. With paintbrush and color they've shared their visions—by turns poetic, fanciful, jarring, romantic, or complex—all creations that have enriched the lives of many.

Bruce Conner: Artist Extraordinaire

This lecture shows artist Bruce Conner's 40 years of engagement with physical, metaphorical, and metaphysical subjects through painting, collage, film, and sculpture.

The Art of Richard Diebenkorn: An Overview of Prints and Paintings

Richard Diebenkorn is considered one of America's foremost artists. The Fine Arts Museums have an extraordinary collection of his works on paper as well as several of his paintings. This talk gives an overview of his career, stressing his prints and their stylistic connection to his paintings.



Wayne Thiebaud, *Three Machines*, 1963. Museum purchase, Walter H. and Phyllis J. Shorestein Foundation Fund, the Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Income Fund, with additional funds from Claire E. Flagg, the Museum Society Auxiliary, Mr. and Mrs. George R. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. John N. Rosekrans, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bransten, Mr. and Mrs. Steven MacGregor Read, and Bobbie and Mike Wiley, from the Morgan Flagg Collection

Glorious Color, Glowing Light: The Radiant World of Wayne Thiebaud

Take a fascinating look at the brilliant color and the luxurious use of paint that marks Wayne Thiebaud's unique depictions, whether delicious desserts, the Central Valley, or the hills of San Francisco and the Bay Area.

Not So Standard: Graphic Art of Ed Ruscha

Ruscha has been called the "hipster humorist of California cool." Since his travels in the 1960s over Route 66 from Oklahoma City to California, he has inserted the vocabulary of roadside America into his art, demonstrating a "with-it" attitude in his life and an edge to his art. Using letters and words, Ruscha explores the formal questions of contemporary art and society.

Art with an Attitude: Contemporary California Prints and Drawings

From Wayne Thiebaud to Deborah Oropallo, California artists have established a mood, style, and flavor that reflect our unique place. Using prints and drawings from the Achenbach Foundation for the Graphic Arts, this lecture explores how art produced in California establishes and maintains the identity and image of California.

Local Color



California Palace of the Legion of Honor: The Rest of the Story

Learn what makes our very own California Palace of the Legion of Honor the most beautifully situated museum in the country; the story behind the museum's benefactress Alma de Bretteville Spreckels; and how this building and its collections reflect Spreckels's love of France.

New Angles on Art at the de Young

Dramatic angles and intersections don't stop at the architecture of the new de Young. The multifaceted art collection within encompasses cultures around the world, revealing intriguing angles and intersections in art.

The Rockefeller Collection of American Art at the Fine Arts Museums

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller had the resources to collect anything they wanted. Why did they choose American art, and why did they donate it to the Fine Arts Museums?

The San Francisco Story, 1850–2000

Enjoy the colorful saga of San Francisco through the eyes of artists who recorded the city as they saw it, echoing the times in which they lived. Paintings, prints, and photographs by Arnold Genthe, Chiura Obata, David Goines, Wayne Thiebaud, and many others illustrate their unique perceptions of the city's beauty and history.

After the Ruins, 1906–2006: San Francisco's Earthquakes Remembered

Photographer Arnold Genthe and others captured on film the effects of the city's earthquakes: collapsing buildings, smoldering ruins, recovery efforts, and survival in tent cities. Photographs, stories, and eyewitness accounts tell of those who dealt with catastrophe—some with courage, heroism and good humor, and some with corrupt and unscrupulous deeds.

Power and Passion, Love and Lust, Triumph and Tragedy: Drama Unfolds at the Legion of Honor

Some of the most dramatic pieces of European art were inspired by passages from literature, in particular the Bible and the mythology of the ancient Greeks. From works in the Legion of Honor's collection, we will explore the great skill of European artists who depicted the drama of literature and life.

I Left My Art in San Francisco: Works from Bay Area Artists

This lecture reviews works of art in the Fine Arts Museums' permanent collection that illustrate the history and culture of the Bay Area. From the Gold Rush to the present day, the work of local artists shows us the unique place where we live. We look at local artists' prints and paintings, landscapes and portraits—people and places that give San Francisco its special place in all our hearts.

Women Artists, Women Subjects



Georgia O'Keeffe, *Petunias*, 1887–1986. Museum purchase, gift of the M.H. de Young Family

Georgia O'Keeffe: An American Original

This lecture focuses on O'Keeffe's sensuous regard for objects in nature, from flowers to skulls, featuring her famous oversized blossoms.

Reflections of Femininity: Women Portrayed in Art

See how women in the western world have been portrayed by artists from medieval to modern times, including Vermeer, Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Klimt, Hopper, Picasso, and many others.

The Sculptures of Ruth Asawa: Contours in the Air

Asawa learned that there is no separation between performing the daily chores of living and creating one's work. She has applied this philosophy in her commitment to "completing the circle"—learning something, applying it, and then passing it on.

Maya Lin: Systematic Landscapes

In recent years, Lin has focused on landscape in a time of ecological tension and technological change. Her new work views our subtle and fragile connection to the environment in timely and poetic ways.

The Sculpture of Louise Nevelson: Constructing a Legend

The legend of Nevelson comprises not only her pioneering assembled-wood sculptures, but also her history as a woman artist and her association with many 20th-century art movements.

By Hand: American Women with Needle and Thread

With extraordinary creativity and meticulous craftsmanship, American women have produced quilts and samplers—objects of beauty and warmth—for over 350 years. Their handwork is a mirror of their times, lives, daily concerns, hopes, and dreams.

Passing the Torch: Three Generations of African American Women Artists

Throughout the 20th century, art has been influenced by the race and gender of the artist. African American women artists Elizabeth Catlett, Betye Saar, Mildred Howard, Carrie Mae Weems, Lorna Simpson, and Kara Walker have all built on the accomplishments of their predecessors to create art that reflects their personal experiences and the era in which they lived.

Queens, Maidens, Matriarchs: The African Woman in the de Young

Women's many roles, as maidens, mothers, goddesses, and queens, have inspired African artists for centuries. Using materials at hand, these artists reflect on women's increasing visibility in the spiritual and political realms while affirming the beauty, wisdom, and majesty of women within traditional and contemporary African cultures.

Women Yesterday: Living in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome

This look into the public and private lives of women living in the ancient era presents them within the historical and cultural context of their time. Generations of women whose identities are now lost are seen through a multitude of images and objects that express the range of their experiences, the quality of their lives, and the spirits of their souls.

Photography and Graphic Arts: Prints, Drawings, and Works on Paper



Ed Ruscha, *Mocha Standard*, 1969. Museum purchase, Hamilton-Wells Fund

Not So Standard: Graphic Art of Ed Ruscha

Ruscha has been called the “hipster humorist of California cool.” Since his travels in the 1960s over Route 66 from Oklahoma City to California, he has inserted the vocabulary of roadside America into his art, demonstrating a “with-it” attitude in his life and an edge to his art. Using letters and words, Ruscha explores the formal questions of contemporary art and society.

Annie Leibovitz:

A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005

One of the most celebrated photographers of our time, Annie Leibovitz has been making witty, powerful images documenting American popular culture since the early 1970s. This lecture encompasses both professional work that Leibovitz made on assignment and personal photographs of her family and friends.

Wonders of Light and Shadow: Art and the Camera

For more than 150 years, photography and painting have been tightly woven together, interacting and intertwined in a relationship that has sometimes been controversial and contentious, but always captivating. Explore the different ways the two mediums interpret and record reality.

Crown Point Press: Towards 50 Years

This lecture provides an overview of contemporary artists who have worked with Kathan Brown at San Francisco's Crown Point Press, which has played an important role in the American print renaissance at the end of the 20th century and into the 21st.

An American Focus: The Anderson Graphic Arts Collection

Over the last four decades, printmaking has been characterized by innovation. Since the “golden age” of printmaking in the 1960s, Harry and Mary Margaret Anderson have collected works that chronicle trends in printmaking and in modern art, encompassing more than 650 works, all now part of the Fine Arts Museums collection.

Art with an Attitude: Contemporary California Prints and Drawings

From Wayne Thiebaud to Deborah Oropallo, California artists have established a mood, style, and flavor that reflect our unique place. Using prints and drawings from the Achenbach Foundation for the Graphic Arts, this lecture explores how art produced in California establishes and maintains our identity and image.

Jasper Johns: 45 Years of Master Prints

Jasper Johns has been making prints, lithographs, screen prints, and etchings since 1960 with the fine art press Universal Limited Art Editions. This talk celebrates the remarkable history of John's printmaking through 2004.

Master Drawings from the Goldyne Collection

Joseph and Deborah Goldyne have incorporated incredible works of beauty, elegance, and technical skill into one of the country's largest and most diverse collections of drawings. This lecture features nearly 100 works of art, including drawings by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Turner, Degas, Matisse, and Mondrian.

From Paper to Canvas: Connections between Achenbach Masterpieces and Fine Arts Museums Paintings

Many surprises are revealed in comparing works on paper with those on canvas. The different media and techniques used to make drawings, etchings, woodcuts, prints, paintings, and sculptures result in fascinating differences in artistic expression.

Ansel Adams and the American Wilderness

The photographs of Ansel Adams convey his deep feeling for the wilderness and the environment. Epic vistas and the elegant details of nature evoke an emotional response that goes beyond the physical realities depicted in the pictures.

Japanesque: The Japanese Print in the Era of Impressionism

Hiroshige, Hokusai, Haranobu, and other Japanese printmakers exerted a profound influence on Impressionist and Postimpressionist artist like Manet, Monet, Van Gogh, and Gauguin. In addition to discussing all these artists, this lecture explores the complex process of making Japanese woodcuts, which changed how prints were made in the West.

Crown Point Press: The Art of Etching

Using examples of work by Cage, Close, Diebenkorn and Thiebaud, this lecture explains the intaglio process using works in the Museums' permanent collection and the book *Art of Etching* by Kathan Brown, founder of Crown Point Press.

Art in the Third Dimension: Sculpture and Contemporary Craft



Henry Moore, *Two Piece Reclining Figure No. 9, 1968*. Cast bronze. Gift of Robin and Ned Gates.
© The Henry Moore Foundation

Clearly Creative: Dale Chihuly and Contemporary Glass Masters

The craft and art of glass developed into a studio movement in the mid-20th century. Today, glass artists are clearly visible in the mainstream art world—and at the de Young, thanks to gifts from the collection of George and Dorothy Saxe.

Chihuly at the de Young

Dale Chihuly is widely recognized as the world's premier artist working in glass, known for his dramatic and colorful works that glow with intense, vibrant colors and subtle linear decoration. This lecture examines how Chihuly is inspired by both his workshop and his personal collections of disparate objects.

Art in the Third Dimension: Sculpture and Contemporary Craft

Questions have arisen in the 20th and 21st centuries about what defines “fine art.” Contemporary artists have experimented with many different mediums, from the traditional—stone, wood and bronze—to the new—glass, paper, fiber, and mixed media. Examine works by Picasso, Chihuly, Moore, Maloof, Arneson, and Sekimachi, among many others.

Art That Bridges, Swirls, and Melts: The World of Modern Installation Artists

Walk and sit on cracked stones? Walk through a labyrinth and view the sky? See works of art made from miles of fabric, tons of rock, or blocks of ice? Welcome to the world of the modern installation artist.

An Appeal to the Senses: Contemporary Craft

From the outstanding collection of George and Dorothy Saxe come major contemporary crafts by Chihuly, Stocksdale, Arneson, Cook, and many more.

A Sense of Space: Diversity in Modern Sculpture

The traditional definition of sculpture was expanded and exploded by 20th-century artists. This survey of more than 30 sculptors reveals tremendous variety, including biographical figures by Picasso and Giacometti, geometric abstractions by Calder and Hepworth, and architectural constructions by Smith and Di Suvero.

The Sculptures of Ruth Asawa: Contours in the Air

Asawa learned that there is no separation between performing the daily chores of living and creating one's work. She has applied this philosophy in her commitment to “completing the circle”—learning something, applying it, and then passing it on.

The Sculpture of Louise Nevelson: Constructing a Legend

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European Treasures: Furniture and the Decorative Arts



Carl Peter Fabergé, Table and Tea Service (detail), ca. 1900. Gift of Victoria Melita, Grand Duchess Kirill, through Alma de Bretteville Spreckels

Elegant Excess: Fabergé, Tiffany, Lalique

Celebrate the craftsmanship and creativity of these great jewelry and decorative arts designers, who displayed their treasures in the 1900 International Exposition in Paris. Diamonds, lustrous gold and silver, rubies, pearls, enamel, creamy ivory, and glorious stained glass are just some of the materials used elaborately and decoratively for luxury goods fashioned during the years leading up to World War I.

Fabergé: Treasures to Behold

This presentation features sumptuous treasures amassed by American collectors, touching on 16 of Fabergé's celebrated Imperial Easter Eggs as well as splendid jewelry and other art objects.

Marie-Antoinette and the Petit Trianon

Filled with decorative arts designed by order of the queen, the Petit Trianon was Marie-Antoinette's private retreat, where she could relax away from the court and indulge in her favorite pastimes.

Masterpieces of French Jewelry

This lecture views 20th-century French jewelry in American collections, celebrating the inspiration and workmanship in pieces by Lalique, Fouquet, Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpels, and JAR.

History in a Teacup: Traveling with Porcelains from China to California

The 17th century was a period of trade—and espionage—with China. The object of desire was porcelain, “white gold,” and the secrets of its manufacture. This lecture looks at the Museums' beautiful porcelain collection in the context of history.

Art Deco, 1910–1939

This lecture traces the development of the glamorous Art Deco style from its emergence to its widespread popularity all over the world in the 1930s, influencing design from New York to Paris, Shanghai to Bombay.

“Beauty in Everyday Things”: International Arts and Crafts from the Victoria and Albert

This lecture views objects from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London to trace the Arts and Crafts Movement from its early beginnings in 1880s Britain to its interpretation and development in America, continental Europe, and Japan.

American Treasures: Furniture and the Decorative Arts



Unidentified artist, Corner chair, ca. 1750. Museum purchase, gift of Martha and William Steen

Please Be Seated: American Chairs and American Sitters, 1670–1994

American portraits tell us about our history and heritage; they also tell us about furniture. This lecture illustrates the history of chairs from 1670 to 1994 and reviews styles and designers, including Windsor, Chippendale, Belter, 19th-century revivals, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Eames.

American Treasures: Furniture and the Decorative Arts

Chair, fork, table, vase—the elements of an American home help to tell our story, amplifying our history from a colonial society through the Victorian age. The American home reveals the way we lived, who we are, and what we aspire to be.

Shaker Furniture and Architecture: Religion in Wood and Stone

This talk concerns Shaker craftsmanship, from architecture, churches, workshops, and barns to chairs, chests, desks, boxes, and baskets. Learn about Shaker villages in New England, as well as works from the Fine Arts Museums.

Elements of Art



John Martin, *The Assuaging of the Waters* (detail), 1840. Museum purchase, Whitney Warren Jr. Bequest Fund in memory of Mrs. Adolph B. Spreckels

Learning to Look

When you really look, you can see how artists use line, form, and color to blend an idea and an image on canvas. This lecture introduces an approach to appreciating art through a visual, rather than historical, perspective.

Art on the Edge: Paintings and Their Frames at the Legion of Honor

Patrons, artists, dealers, and collectors have used frames to tell a story and to enhance a work's aesthetics, or even its commercial value. Looking at the history of frames and their impact on the paintings they serve, this lecture explores the frames in the collection at the Legion of Honor.

Art on the Edge: Paintings and Their Frames at the de Young

Visitors to the de Young Museum enjoy a multitude of frames that are original to their paintings. This lecture reviews the development of the frame in 17th-century America, looks at artist-designed frames of the 19th century, and examines what happened to the frame in contemporary art.

Feasts and Entertainments



William Joseph McCloskey, *Oranges in Tissue Paper*, ca.1890. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller

Good Enough to Eat: A Celebration of Food

This delicious excursion into the subject of food explores the world of delectable delights and tasty temptations, showing both the serious and humorous roles of food in painting, sculpture, fashion, and decorative arts.

Just Desserts: Sugar to Spice, Cheese to Chocolate

What could be better than dessert without calories? When artists portray desserts, they tempt the eye, tease the palate, and tickle our memories. Explore desserts, sweet or savory, and the role they play in our everyday lives, our cultural history, and our art.

Raising Spirits:

Art and Wine in the Western World

This photographic journey will explore intriguing gustatory connections between wine and its intersections with the Fine Arts Museums' collection. Cheers! *Yamass! Santé!*

Holidays: Christmas, Chanukah, and Other Festive Celebrations

This lecture looks at the beautiful and intriguing paintings that depict giving, receiving, feasting, and the enjoyment of holidays and other festivities.

Home, Sweet Home

The warmth and affection of family life is seen through the eyes of artists from ancient Greece to the present.

To Love and to Cherish:

A Celebration of Marriage

"From this day forward" and "happily ever after": weddings and marriages in their most amusing, inspiring, romantic, and beguiling moments are portrayed in paintings, vintage photographs, and sculpture.

Trips and Travels:

The Lure of Vacation Destinations

A vacation trip often presents the possibility of romance, adventure, spectacular scenery, amusements, and myriad other pleasures. This lecture is a fascinating, visual celebration of the magic of leisure trips and travels as seen in art from Roman times through the 20th century.

A Feast for the Eye: Food in Art

Food has always been a symbol of wealth, power, status and sensuality. See the serious and humorous roles of food in painting, sculpture, fashion, and the decorative arts.

The Fiber Arts: Fashions and Embellishments

Fashion in Art: Fig Leaf to Finery

An exciting and entertaining look at the changes in Western dress over the centuries includes a panorama of styles, from ancient Greece through the 20th century.

Yves Saint Laurent

From the 1960s onward, Yves Saint Laurent made an indelible mark on fashion with clothing emblematic of the new modernity. Garments and original sketches illustrate the lines, colors, and fundamentals of Saint Laurent's work.

All That Glitters ...

Jewelry at the Fine Arts Museums

Gold objects have fascinated all cultures from almost the beginning of time. Gold has been important both for its secular and religious use. Using representations in the Fine Arts Museums' collection, we view examples of gold jewelry and other objects from around the world.

The Quilts of Gee's Bend

This lecture features quilts made by four generations of African American women living in an isolated corner of Alabama. The quilts are pieced from clothing scraps in gorgeous combinations of color, pattern, and texture.

Artwear: Fashion and Anti-Fashion

The exciting, innovative, one-of-a-kind, and outrageous products of the artwear movement evolved from counterculture street fashions of the 1960s, passing through feminism and the growing interest in non-Western cultures and studio craft.

The Impressionist Era: Fashion and Culture

This lecture explores 19th-century Parisian fashion as it was captured in paintings by the Impressionists and other artists.

The Art of French Fashion: From the "New Look" to Now

Masters of the French design world—Dior, Balenciaga, Chanel, Saint Laurent—influenced the changing fashions in the second half of the 20th century as well as the cultural history of the times.

Vivienne Westwood: Appearance Is Everything

From the geometry of her early collections to her tailored and glamorous styles of today, British fashion designer Vivienne Westwood has been one of the most innovative and influential fashion designers of our times.

From the New Look to Nan: Haute Couture and Nan Kempner

Socialite Nan Kempner used her innate taste and intelligence to form a couture collection of museum-quality garments from Dior, Balenciaga, Saint Laurent, de la Renta, Chanel, and others.



Frans Pourbus the Younger, *Portrait of a Lady*, 1591. Museum purchase, Roscoe and Margaret Oakes Income Fund

By Hand: American Women with Needle and Thread

With extraordinary creativity and meticulous craftsmanship, American women have produced objects of beauty and warmth—quilts and samplers—for over 350 years. Their handwork is a mirror of their times, lives, daily concerns, hopes, and dreams.

In Pursuit of Style: Shoes in History

From early Roman sandals, through high button shoes and stiletto heels, to wedgies and platforms, changes in fashionable footwear remind us how shoes have always reflected the personality and status of the wearer.

Amish Abstractions: Quilts from the Collection of Faith and Stephen Brown

Experience the simple yet strong designs, rich saturated colors, intricate quilting patterns, and fine and elaborate stitching of Amish quilts, one of the finest aesthetic art forms in America.