

National Gallery of Art

NEWS RELEASE

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CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDY IN THE VISUAL ARTS

NAMES ARTHUR C. DANTO AS 1995 MELLON LECTURER

SERIES OF SIX LECTURES BEGINS MARCH 19

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Arthur C. Danto, a distinguished philosopher, scholar, and art critic, has been appointed the forty-fourth Andrew W. Mellon Lecturer in the Fine Arts at the National Gallery of Art, as recently announced by Earl A. Powell III, Gallery director, and Henry Millon, dean of the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts. Danto is the Johnsonian Professor of Philosophy, emeritus, at Columbia University, New York; art critic for The Nation, and president and editor of the Journal of Philosophy.

From March 19 through May 7, he will deliver six lectures on "Contemporary Art and the Pale of History." The series will take place on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in the East Building auditorium on a first-come, first-served basis, open to the public free of charge. The lectures are scheduled as follows:

March 19	Three Decades After the End of Art
March 26	Master Narratives and Critical Perspectives
April 2	Modernism and the Critique of Pure Art: The Historical Vision of Clement Greenberg
April 9	Painting and the Pale of History: The Painting of the Pure

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April 30 Painting, Politics, and Post-Historical Art

May 7 Monochrome, History, and the Style Matrix

Among Danto's many awards are the Ninth Annual International Center of Photography Infinity Prize for Writing on Photography, the George S. Polk Award for Criticism, the National Book Critics Circle Prize for Criticism, and the Manufacturers Hanover/Art World Prize for Criticism. He has served as president and vice president of the American Philosophical Association and president of the American Society for Aesthetics. His academic honors include fellowships from the Fulbright Commission and Guggenheim Foundation. His most recent publications include Embodied Meanings: Critical Essays and Aesthetic Meditations (1994), Beyond the Brillo Box: Art in the Post-Historical Period (1992), and Encounters and Reflections: Art in the Historical Present (1990). His books on artists include Saul Steinberg's Discovering America (1992), Robert Mapplethorpe (1992), Mark Tansey (1991), Cindy Sherman's Historical Portraits (1991), and Cindy Sherman's Untitled Stills (1990).

The annual Mellon lecture series has served since 1952 as a forum for eminent scholars and critics in the history, criticism, and theory of fine arts. These lectures will be published through the National Gallery of Art; Princeton University Press; and Yale University Press, London; as part of the Bollingen Series.

The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts was founded in 1979 to promote study of the history, theory, and criticism of art and architecture.

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