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National Gallery of Art's Spring 2019 Lecture Series Features World-Renowned Artists and Scholars in a Wide Variety of Programs



Alex Katz, *Isaac and Oliver*, 2013, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of the Artist. Katz will be in conversation with Harry Cooper, head of modern art, on March 9 at 12:00.

Washington, DC—The spring 2019 program of lectures and book signings at the National Gallery of Art will present some three dozen talks by renowned artists, scholars, curators, and historians. Many lectures are followed by book signings hosted by the authors and artists.

Highlights include lectures from a number of living artists in the month of March. Beginning with a rare panel and performance from the media art collective USCO on March 3, the Gallery will then feature Alex Katz on March 9, David C. Driskell on March 17, and Martha Rosler on March 21. The Gallery will welcome scholars during a public symposium on February 8 in conjunction with the exhibition [Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940–1950](#) and during a symposium on June 7 in conjunction with the exhibition [The Life of Animals in Japanese Art](#). Wu Hung will present [the 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#), a six-week series called "End as Beginning: Chinese Art and Dynastic Time" that begins on March 31. Finally, the Gallery will host filmmaker Ken Burns in conversation with David M. Rubenstein on April 28 as part of a yearly program coordinated with the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies.

Works in Progress, the Gallery's Monday lunchtime series held in the West Building Lecture Hall, highlights new research by Gallery staff, interns, fellows, and special guests. The 30-minute talks are followed by question-and-answer sessions. *Works in Progress lectures are denoted with an asterisk below.

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. The East Building of the National Gallery of Art is located at Fourth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW. **Please visit [nga.gov/lectures](https://www.nga.gov/lectures) for updated event listings and full details; visit [nga.gov/audio-video.html](https://www.nga.gov/audio-video.html) for lecture recordings.**

John Wilmerding Symposium on American Art:

Artists and the American Community

February 8 at 10:30 am

Dialogues with artists and scholars held in conjunction with the exhibition [Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work 1940–1950](#). Presenters include Devin Allen, artist and 2017 fellow, The Gordon Parks Foundation; Maria Gaspar, artist; Eric Gottesman, artist and cofounder, For Freedoms; Melanee Harvey, assistant professor, department of art, Howard University; Kellie Jones, professor in art history and archaeology at the Institute for Research in African American Studies (IRAAS), Columbia University; Robin Coste Lewis, Poet Laureate of Los Angeles and Provost's Fellow in Poetry and Visual Studies, University of Southern California; Rick Lowe, artist, founder, Project Row Houses, and clinical associate professor of art, University of Houston; Richard J. Powell, John Spencer Bassett Professor of Art and Art History, Duke University, and Edmond J. Safra Visiting Professor, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art; Laura Wexler, professor of American studies, women's, gender, and sexuality studies, and film and media studies, affiliate faculty in ethnicity, race, and migration, cochair, public humanities program, director, The Photographic Memory Workshop, and primary investigator, The Photogrammar Project, Yale University.

Made possible by a grant from the Walton Family Foundation.

The symposium will be streamed live at [nga.gov/live](https://www.nga.gov/live).

I See A Darkness: A Conversation with David R. Ibata

February 11* at 12:10, 1:10 pm (*rescheduled from January 7*)

David R. Ibata, artist and copyist and teaching artist for Art Around the Corner, National Gallery of Art, in conversation with Terence Washington, department of academic programs and department of modern art, National Gallery of Art

The Art of Light: A Conversation with Charles Ross and James Meyer

February 24 at 2:00

Charles Ross, artist, and James Meyer, curator of art, 1945–1974, National Gallery of Art

Held in conjunction with the special installation [Spaces: Works from the Collection, 1966–1976](#), on view on the East Building Mezzanine.

Watching Thinking: Self-Reflection and the Study of Process in Drawing, Journaling, Printmaking, and Curating

February 25* at 12:10, 1:10 pm (*rescheduled from January 28*)

Charles Ritchie, artist and associate curator, departments of modern prints and drawings, National Gallery of Art

USCO: Films, Performance, and Conversation with 1960s Multimedia Pioneers

March 3 at 2:00 pm

Michael Callahan, electronics innovator, cofounder, USCO, and president, Museum Technology Source Inc., in conversation with Gerd Stern, media artist and poet, cofounder, USCO, and president, Intermedia Foundation. Moderated by Paige Rozanski, curatorial associate, department of modern art, National Gallery of Art

Diamonstein Spielvogel Lecture Series

Alex Katz

March 9 at noon

Alex Katz, artist, in conversation with Harry Cooper, senior curator and head of modern art, National Gallery of Art

The program will be streamed live at nga.gov/live.

Mastering Tradition: An Artist Awakening through Practicing the Past

March 11* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Bruce I. Campbell, artist and copyist at the National Gallery of Art, in conversation with Alexandra Libby, assistant curator, department of northern baroque painting, National Gallery of Art

The Living Legacy National Speaking Tour: David C. Driskell and Curlee R. Holton in Conversation

March 17 at 2:00 pm

David C. Driskell, artist, curator, and Distinguished University Professor of Art, Emeritus, University of Maryland at College Park, and Curlee R. Holton, artist and executive director, David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora, University of Maryland at College Park.

The program will be streamed live at nga.gov/live.

Elson Lecture

Martha Rosler

March 21 at 3:30 pm

Martha Rosler, artist, in conversation with James Meyer, curator of art, 1945–1974, National Gallery of

Art

The program will be streamed live at nga.gov/live.

Black Dreams at Sea: The Sardine Fisherman's Funeral and An Opera of the World

March 23 at 2:30 pm

Film screening and conversation with Elizabeth Alexander and Manthia Diawara in person

Introduction to the Exhibition—[Tintoretto: Artist of Renaissance Venice](#)

March 24 at 2:00

Robert Echols, independent scholar, and Frederick Ilchman, chair of the art of Europe department and Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

A signing of the exhibition catalog follows.

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)

I. The Emergence of Dynastic Time in Chinese Art

March 31 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

Correggio's Study for the Madonna della Scodella

April 1* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Amanda Hilliam, Joseph F. McCrindle Foundation Curatorial Intern, department of prints and drawings, National Gallery of Art

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)

II. Reconfiguring the World: The First Emperor's Art Projects

April 7 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

Washington Color School: Kenneth Victor Young

April 8* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Sarah Battle, program administrator, department of academic programs, National Gallery of Art

Shared Exploration: Music and the Visual Arts

April 12 at noon

Marty Ehrlich, composer, multi-instrumental performer, ensemble leader, and associate professor of jazz and contemporary music, Hampshire College; Oliver Lee Jackson, artist; and Oliver Lake, saxophonist, composer, painter, and poet.

Presented in conjunction with the exhibition [Oliver Lee Jackson: Recent Paintings](#).

Introduction to the Exhibition—[The American Pre-Raphaelites: Radical Realists](#)

April 14 at noon

Linda S. Ferber, museum director emerita and senior art historian, New-York Historical Society

A signing of the exhibition catalog follows.

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)

III. Conflicting Temporalities: Heaven's Mandate and Its Antitheses

April 14 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

From the Cathedral to the Billiard Room: Tracing the History of a Medieval Stained Glass Window from the William A. Clark Collection

April 15* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Elizabeth Dent, exhibition associate, National Gallery of Art

Signed JV, but not by Vermeer: Young Woman in an Interior by Jacobus Vrel

April 22* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Kristen Gonzalez, curatorial assistant, department of northern baroque paintings, National Gallery of Art

If I Survive: Frederick Douglass and Family in the Walter O. Evans Collection

April 26 at 1:00 pm

Celeste-Marie Bernier, professor of black studies and personal chair in English literature, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh, and co-editor-in-chief, *Journal of American Studies*, Cambridge University Press; in conversation with Walter O. Evans, collector
Presented in conjunction with the exhibition *In the Library: Frederick Douglass Family Materials from the Walter O. Evans Collection*

A signing of *If I Survive: Frederick Douglass and Family in the Walter O. Evans Collection* follows.

Philanthropy and Plutocracy—2016 in Museums, Money, and Politics

April 28 at noon (*rescheduled from January 13*)

Andrea Fraser, artist and department chair and professor, Interdisciplinary Studio, University of California, Los Angeles

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)

IV. Miraculous Icons and Dynastic Time: Narrating Buddhist Art in Medieval China

April 28 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

FAPE Panel

April 28 at 5:00 pm

Ken Burns, filmmaker, in conversation with David M. Rubenstein, cofounder and co-CEO of The Carlyle Group, chairman of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, trustee of the National Gallery of Art, and chairman of the Smithsonian Institution

This program is coordinated with the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies.

Introduction to the Exhibition—[The Life of Animals in Japanese Art](#)

May 5 at noon

Robert T. Singer, curator and head, department of Japanese art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
A signing of the exhibition catalog follows.

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)***V. Art of Absence: Voices of the Leftover Subject***

May 5 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

Mary Pinchot Meyer: Artist

May 6* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

Mollie Salah Berger, curatorial assistant, department of prints and drawings, National Gallery of Art

[The 68th A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts](#)***VI. End as Beginning: Dynastic Time and Revolution***

May 12 at 2:00 pm

Wu Hung, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Art History, University of Chicago

A Western Bestiary: Uses and Abuse of Animals in the Western Artistic Tradition

May 13* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

David Essex, curatorial associate, department of Italian and Spanish paintings, National Gallery of Art
Presented in conjunction with the exhibition [The Life of Animals in Japanese Art](#).

Two Writers on Art, Music, and Modality

May 19 at 2:00 pm

Paul Harrison, playwright and theorist, and Quincy Troupe, poet and biographer of Miles Davis, in conversation with Harry Cooper, senior curator and head of modern art, National Gallery of Art
Presented in conjunction with the exhibition [Oliver Lee Jackson: Recent Paintings](#).

Photography from the Sunny Side of the Alps

June 3* at 12:10, 1:10 pm

John Hobson, exhibition assistant, National Gallery of Art

Presented in celebration of National Day of Slovenia on June 25th.

Public Symposium

The Role and Representations of Animals in Japanese Art and Culture

June 7 at 10:30 am

Illustrated lectures by noted scholars, including Barbara Rossetti Ambros, professor in East Asian religions and department chair, department of religious studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and cochair, Animals and Religion Group, American Academy of Religions; Rory A. W. Browne, director of the academic advising center and associate dean of Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Boston College; R. Keller Kimbrough, professor of Japanese, department of Asian languages and civilizations, University of Colorado, Boulder; Miwako Tezuka, consulting curator, Reversible Destiny Foundation; and Sarah E. Thompson, curator of Japanese art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Moderated by Robert T. Singer, curator and head, department of Japanese art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and coeditor, *The Life of Animals in Japanese Art* (2019). Held in conjunction with the exhibition [The Life of Animals in Japanese Art](#).

Augusta Savage: Renaissance Woman

June 23 at 2:00 (*rescheduled from January 27*)

Jeffreen M. Hayes, executive director, Threewalls

A signing of *Augusta Savage: Renaissance Woman* follows.

This program was proposed and made possible by Darryl Atwell.

Press Contact:

Christina Brown, (202) 842-6598 or cm-brown@nga.gov

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:

Department of Communications

National Gallery of Art

2000B South Club Drive

Landover, MD 20785

phone: (202) 842-6353

e-mail: pressinfo@nga.gov

Anabeth Guthrie

Chief of Communications

(202) 842-6804

a-guthrie@nga.gov

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PRESS KIT

Press Release

[Wu Hung of the University of Chicago Presents the 68th Annual A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts in 2019 at the National Gallery of Art, Washington](#)

PRESS CONTACT

Christina Brown
(202) 842-6598
cm-brown@nga.gov

Questions from members of the media may be directed to the Department of Communications at (202) 842-6353 or pressinfo@nga.gov

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