European Paintings Council
2021 Programming
Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, all programs are currently planned to be virtual Microsoft Teams events (unless otherwise noted) which is subject to change. Please visit www.dia.org/epc for the most up-to-date information.

EPC Book Club
Virtual Meeting
Saturday, January 16 | 10:30 a.m.
Read and discuss fun and fascinating texts selected by directors of the EPC board. Our January discussion will focus on Elisabeth Vigee LeBrun: The Odyssey of an Artist in an Age of Revolution by Gita May. To join this virtual book club, please contact Dr. Mark Haimann (mhhai@aol.com) for the Zoom link.

Paris in Amsterdam: French Luxury Decorative Arts in Holland, 1650-1900
Dr. Coleman Mopper Memorial Virtual Lecture
Saturday, May 22 | 1:30 p.m.
Parisan decorative arts form a central part of the collections at the Rijksmuseum, and in 2013, upon the reopening of the main museum building after a great capital campaign, a major catalogue was published: Paris 1650-1900. Decorative Arts at the Rijksmuseum. Dr. Reinier Baarsen, who wrote the catalogue, will show highlights from the museum, ranging from richly mounted furniture, splendid gold boxes, Sevres porcelain, and treasures of silver and gold. He will discuss the history of the collection and explain how this has determined its character.

Annual Meeting
Meeting and Lecture
Friday, June 11, 2021 | 10 a.m.
Review of the previous year, upcoming programs for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, recent acquisitions and new works on view in the European galleries.

German Expressionism at the Detroit Institute of Arts: The Beginnings
Begins at approx. 10:30 a.m. following the business meeting:
In the early 1920s, the DIA acquired a number of works by German Expressionist artists. Wilhelm R. Valentiner, an advisor to the DIA and later its director from 1924 to 1945, together with a group of Detroit collectors were responsible for these acquisitions. In 1923 Valentiner, himself an ardent collector of German Expressionism, curated the first American exhibition of the modern German art in New York, while the DIA toured its newly acquired collection in the Midwest. At the end of the decade, the DIA’s German Expressionist collection was installed in the museum’s new building, voicing the institution’s commitment to the modern art. Looking closely at this decade, Dr. Dorota Chudzicka, assistant curator for Modern European Art, will examine how this deep appreciation for the German Expressionist art emerged in Detroit.

Artistic Intersections: Early Modern Encounters between the Islamic World and Europe
Virtual Gallery Tour
Wednesday, April 7 | 6 p.m.
This virtual gallery tour will bring together members of the European Paintings Council, VCESDA, and the Friends of Asian Art and Cultures, as Dr. Chassica Kirchhoff (Assistant Curator, European Sculpture and Decorative Arts) and Dr. Katherine Kasdorf (Associate Curator, Arts of Asia and the Islamic World) spotlight objects that demonstrate the rich artistic exchanges that connected Europe and the Islamic World during the 16th and 17th centuries. This intermedial and intercultural tour will include textiles, paintings, miniatures, prints, and metalworks, and will share exciting works that have recently debuted in the DIA galleries.

EPC Book Club
Virtual Meeting
Saturday, May 8 | 10:30 a.m.
In May, the club will discuss In Montmartre: Picasso, Matisse and the Birth of Modern Art by Sue Roe. To join this virtual book club, please contact Dr. Mark Haimann (mhhai@aol.com) for the Zoom link.

Titian Transformed: New insight on the DIA’s recently treated masterpiece, Judith and her Maidervant with the Head of Holoferness
Virtual Lecture
Wednesday, February 17 | 6 p.m.
In 2020, thanks to generous support from the TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund, the DIA’s Judith and Her Maidervant with the Head of Holofernes (ca. 1570), a masterwork by Titian, underwent long-awaited conservation. Last restored in the 1930s, the painting was disguised by thick layers of strongly discolored and tinted varnishes. Join DIA Paintings Conservator Ellen Hanspach-Bernal, and Lara Roney, research assistant for Italian Art, as they share what the recent treatment revealed and how it has allowed us to reconsider the complex and nuanced ways in which Titian executed this painting. Exploration of this newly cleaned work prompts intriguing questions of how the painting’s state of finish intersects with the expressive style and bold brushwork characteristic of Titian’s later career. What surprises lie beneath the painted surface, and how can they illuminate our understanding of the Venetian Renaissance master?

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