



Williamsburg Contemporary Art Center fall 2016 lecture series

The "centuries of art @ your library" fall 2016 lecture series is made possible through WCAC's partnership program with the Virginia Museum of Fine Art and the Williamsburg Regional Library. All lectures will be free of charge and will be held in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre, Monday evenings at 7:30pm.

October 3

Japanese Culture during the Edo Period – Rosemary Smith

The Edo Period was the time of shoguns, samurai, Kabuki, and the famous ukiyo-e prints. This lecture provides the context for these elements and discusses the subjects, techniques, and aesthetic principles of the ukiyo-e woodblock prints of Japan.

October 17

Politics and Painting: French Art Movements of the 19th Century – Donald Schrader

France was the most advanced and most prosperous country in the world during the 19th century. It was also dynamic and politically unstable, undergoing four changes of constitution before 1900. The visual arts, and in particular painting, played an important role in the social turmoil of the French republic. Controversies about social class, gender, and economic equity played out in art as much as in the press. This lecture explores many of these topics and the painters who alternately championed or turned their backs on the great causes of their time — including David, Delacroix, Courbet and Manet.

November 7

An Album of a Century: Photographer Jacques Henri Lartigue – Jeffrey Allison

"I take photographs with love, so I try to make them art objects. But I make them for myself first and foremost — that is important." – Jacques-Henri Lartigue

French photographer and painter Jacques-Henri Lartigue (1894-1986) is most famous for his stunning photos of automobile races, planes, and fashionable Parisian women from the turn of the century. This lecture explores Lartigue's photographs from his first sincere, often playful, presentation of friends, family, and French society made as early as age 6 to his later fashion layouts and portraits.

November 14

Stranger than Fiction: Great Art Heists in History – Anne Kenny-Urban

Discover what Japanese gangsters, bear spray and daring boat getaways have in common with noteworthy art thefts. In this lecture, you will travel the globe learning why museums from Amsterdam to Zimbabwe have been targets for thieves and what tools they used to elude detection. Find out who got caught...and who did not.

