



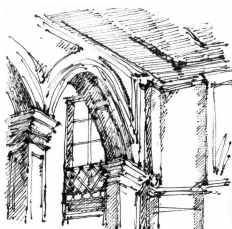
# BOSTON ATHENÆUM



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

November, as Emily Dickinson noted, is a liminal month, whose "few prosaic days" are poised "a little this side of the snow and that side of the haze." The Athenæum's nuanced offerings suit this subtle mood. The ongoing exhibition *Daniel Chester French: The Female Form Revealed* explores a new aspect of the sculptor's work, while a three-part series chronicles lesser-told stories of life, culture, and commerce in the burgeoning US nation. Book talks and lectures shed fresh light on age-old topics: fruitful artist rivalries, contemporary religious pluralism, the politics of memory in modern-day Vienna, Bostonian public art, the quarter-century-long Nabokov-Wilson correspondence, and domestic material culture in the Athenæum's special collections. We hope you'll join us for an event, a discussion, or a good read one of these days between the snow and the haze.

Elizabeth E. Barker, PhD  
*Stanford Calderwood Director*



## GLIMPSED AT 10½

Architects from Gensler's Boston office visited the Athenæum on August 25 to make sketches for *Architectural Record's* annual Cocktail Napkin Sketch Contest. We're crossing our fingers that 10½ Beacon inspired a winning design!

Sketch by Jaemin Ha of Gensler.

*Selected* **UPCOMING EVENTS** (click each title to read full details)

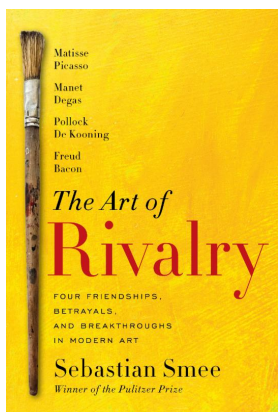
**M**-Members only   **P**-Open to the Public   **R**-Reception   **F**-Free event

### THE VICISSITUDES OF PLURALISM

Tuesday, November 15, 6-7 pm

William Orville Thomson endowed lecture with Professor Emeritus Peter L. Berger

**M F R** Members Free



### A CEMETERY'S LAMENT

*Deseccration and Responsibility along Vienna's Gürtel*

Tuesday, November 22, 12-1 pm

Presentation by archaeologist and art historian Diane O'Donoghue

**P F** Members and Non-members Free

### THE ART OF RIVALRY

Monday, November 28, 6-7 pm

Book talk with Pulitzer Prize-winning art critic and *Boston Globe* staff writer Sebastian Smee

**P R** Members \$15 Non-members \$30

### ROOKIE REPUBLIC

*Early America and Its Place on the Global Stage*

### GEORGE WASHINGTON'S LIBRARY AT THE ATHENÆUM

*Transatlantic Dialogues of Slavery and Freedom*

Wednesday, November 2, 6-7 pm

Lecture with Johns Hopkins Professor of History François Furstenberg

**P R** Members \$15 Non-members \$30



### BLACK PEPPER

*Taste a Revolutionary Story*

Wednesday, November 16, 5:30-7:30

Tasting event exploring black pepper's historic role in American cuisine

**M** Members \$40

### MUSLIMS IN AMERICA SINCE 1619

Tuesday, December 13, 6-7 pm

Lecture with Community Muslim Chaplain and retired US Army Reserves Lieutenant Colonel Shareda Hosein

**P R** Members \$15 Non-members \$30

### DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH

*The Female Form Revealed*



## ONGOING EXHIBITION

Through February 19, 2017

**P** Members Free Non-members \$5

## CURATOR'S LECTURE

Thursday, November 10, 6-7 pm

**P** Members Free Non-members \$15

## CURATOR-LED GALLERY TALKS

Thursday, November 17, 2-3 pm

Monday, December 12, 5:30-6:30 pm

**M F** Members Free

## DOCENT-LED GALLERY TALKS

Please visit our [website](#) for details.

## UPCOMING CONCERTS

### A CELEBRATION OF YEHUDI WYNER

Monday, November 21, 6-7 pm

Musical evening with the Ecce Ensemble dedicated to Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer and pianist Yehudi Wyner

**P R** Members \$15 Non-members \$30



### THE BRIDGE BETWEEN STRINGS

Sunday, December 11, 1-3 pm

Performance showcasing the classical guitar as a solo and chamber instrument capable of standing on its own in concert

**P** Members \$25 Non-members \$35

[VIEW ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

## COLLECTIONS CORNER

The Athenæum's special collections, like those of all great institutions, are built on the generosity and focused collecting of our benefactors. This month, we're pleased to spotlight a spectacular gift from Jody S. Gill: *Picturesque Views of American Scenery*, engraved by John Hill from drawings by Joshua Shaw, 1820. This rare book contains seven hand-colored, engraved plates depicting magnificent American landscapes. For Shaw, "in no other quarter of the globe are the majesty and loveliness of nature more strikingly

conspicuous than in America." [Make an appointment](#) to view *Picturesque Views* in the Vershbow Special Collections Reading Room.



### **ATHENÆUM AUTHOR**

Did you know that Caroline Hewins, a key player in the establishment of free public libraries and the first woman to address the American Library Association, began her career at the Boston Athenæum?

Inspired by a visit to the Athenæum as a high school student, Hewins (1846-1926) worked as an assistant to renowned librarian William Frederick Poole following graduation. In 1875, she moved to Hartford, where she pioneered the transformation of the Young Men's Institute from a subscription library to a free public library. The Hartford Public Library was established in 1892, with Caroline Hewins hired as its first librarian.

Hewins was a keen advocate of dedicated children's library services and opened one of the country's first children's libraries in Hartford in 1904. Her [bibliography of books for children](#), the first of its kind, offered story recommendations which "broaden the horizon of children [and] cultivate their imagination and love of nature."

The Athenæum is indebted to Hewins for her devotion to cultivating a love of books from an early age and her lifelong service to librarianship.

### **WATCH & LISTEN**

Weren't able to make it to Anne Sebba's book talk last week? Don't worry! The event is available to stream online in [video](#) and [podcast](#) format, perfect for catching up during your daily commute.

Catch up on other previous book talks and lectures [here](#).



STAY CONNECTED



The Boston Athenæum, 10½ Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

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