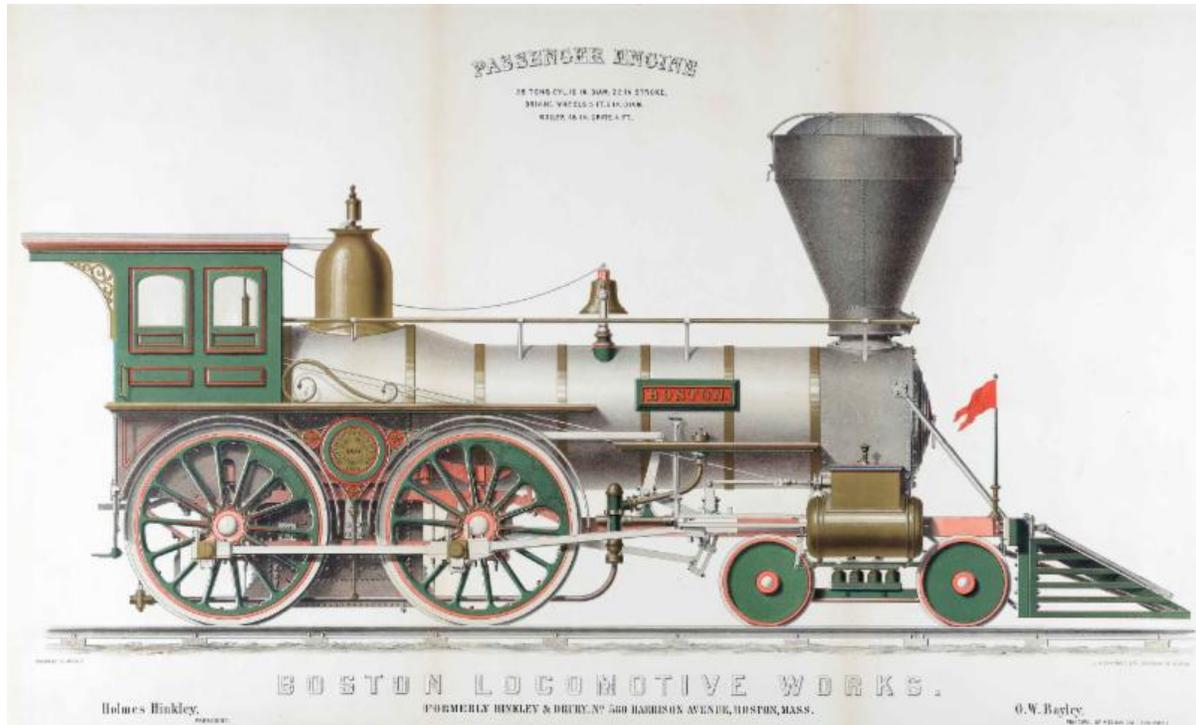




BOSTON ATHENÆUM



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Celebrate midsummer with music. On Tuesday, August 9, award-winning Russian composer and pianist Arseniy Gusev will perform works by Bach, Beethoven, Schumann--and himself. On Thursday, August 18, Singapore-born creator/librettist Cerise Lim Jacobs will introduce us to the *Ouroboros Trilogy*, a cycle of operas (one of which, *Madame White Snake*, won the Pulitzer Prize) redolent of Chinese folktales, Greek mythology, and Jacobs's incomparable imagination. On Tuesday, August 23, award-winning Israeli cellist Elad Kabilio will present a program of works by and inspired by Bach. Each concert is made possible with generous support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and will be followed by a reception.

In the galleries, this summer's compelling exhibition featuring prints and photographs acquired in the present century continues. In the sitting room, a display of real photo postcards captures a slice of American life (and, in the example illustrated here, some mouth-watering slices of watermelon.) On the second floor, Timothy Egan's *The Big Burn* explores Teddy Roosevelt and "the fire that saved America."

Behind the scenes, our staff is preparing for the extraordinary season to come. Our autumn programs will feature a major retrospective of the sculpture of Daniel Chester French; lectures on concrete architecture, Charles Dickens in Boston, slavery and George Washington's library, global policy issues facing the next U.S. President, and great artistic rivalries; a play, a pepper tasting; a children's book illustrator's presentation; and much more.

Elizabeth E. Barker, Ph.D.
Stanford Calderwood Director



COLLECTIONS CORNER

Now On Display

Real photo postcards were all the rage in early twentieth-century America. As their name suggests, they were original photographs printed on postcard stock in black and white. Unlike the color, photomechanical postcards created for the tourist trade, real photo postcards were non-commercial, local productions with small edition runs of one to a couple hundred. They were created by both amateur and professional photographers for local audiences or family and friends. Real photo postcards provide a unique and intimate look at American life in the early twentieth century. In 2009, member James W. Bradley donated his collection of real photo postcards to the Boston Athenæum.

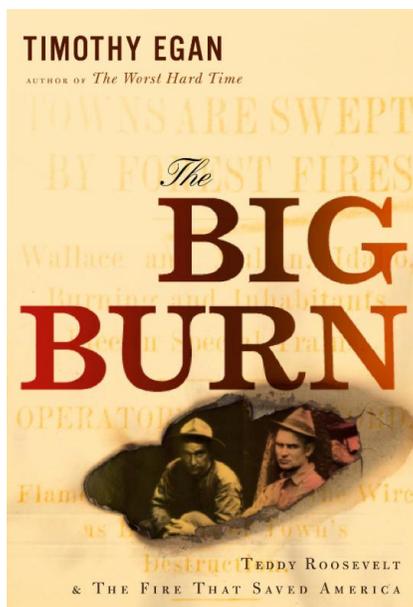
RELEVANT READS

What's New On Two

Looking for your next read? How about something timely? Check out what's new on two this month! Each week the Reader Services team curates a mini-display of relevant reads, consisting of books pertaining to a timely topic, which can be viewed on the second-floor Bow Room or at [Goodreads](#).

Read *The Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire that Saved America* by Timothy Egan in preparation for the display on National Parks during the week of August 22.

[Explore more recommendations online.](#)



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

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

ARSENIY GUSEV CONCERT

Tuesday, August 9, 6-7 pm

Solo concert with award-winning Russian composer and pianist Arseniy Gusev

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

LIFE, DEATH, AND REBIRTH

Reincarnation in the Ouroboros Opera Trilogy

Thursday, August 18, 6-7 pm

Listen to selected arias from the *Ouroboros Trilogy's* operas: *Madame White Snake*, *Gilgamesh*, and *Naga*

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



ELAD KABILIO CONCERT

Tuesday, August 23, 6-9 pm

Solo concert with award-winning cellist Elad Kabilio

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

CURATOR-LED GALLERY TALK

Collecting for the Boston Athenæum in the 21st Century: Prints & Photographs

Thursday, August 25, 12-1 pm

Discover the stories behind several recent acquisitions displayed in the current exhibition

M F

[VIEW ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

GLIMPSED AT 10½

On Thursday, July 28, the Athenæum hosted a special reading featuring [GrubStreet's](#) 2016 Young Adult Writers Program (YAWP) Summer Teen Fellows. The

high school students presented thoughtful and polished original works, which were clearly the culmination of three weeks of diligent writing and revising.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

- **DOCENT-LED GALLERY TALKS** Gallery talk led by Athenæum docents continue through August, offered on August 2, 9, 17, and 30. These gallery talks are free with gallery admission (free for members, \$5 for non-members), open to the public, and limited to 12 participants on a first-come, first served basis. [View a complete list of upcoming dates.](#)
- **TWEENS AND TEENS** Starting in September, the Children's Library will have special programming for our tween and teen members such as weekly craft projects, book groups, and homework hangouts.
- **JOHN SINGER SARGENT** Visit the exhibition [All New Women](#) at the Colorado Spring Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs, CO, before it closes on September 18. Learn about the esteemed portraiture of John Singer Sargent (1856-1925), and three contemporary female artists. A John Singer Sargent oil painting from the Athenæum's collection, entitled [Annie Adams Field](#), can be viewed hanging next to self-portrait photographs by Cindy Sherman.
- **AUTUMN EVENTS SCHEDULE** We understand that our members are anxious to preview the events we have planned for September and October. Be prepared for events that respond to the current political climate and address public monuments and the collective memory. Join us for local days trips and educational events about sculptor Daniel Chester French. In the next installment of 'Eye of the Expert' Stanley Ellis Cushing, Will Evans, and Catharina Slautterback will use objects from the Athenæum's collections to explore how Americans have used domestic settings as a form of personal expression.. Be sure to check our [website](#) regularly for the most current event listings.
- **TECHNOLOGY** Enjoy increased wi-fi coverage in the Gordon Newspaper Reading Room thanks to the addition of a new wireless access point.
- **JOIN A BOOK GROUP** Consider joining one of our many discussion groups! Those who enjoy the excitement and challenge of historical research may consider joining the Athenæum Encyclopædists (the next meeting is Thursday, September 8). Whodunitheads will find ample camaraderie and suspense with the Mystery group, notable as the Athenæum's longest-running (they meet on August 29). Peruse a complete listing [here](#) and contact Arnold Serapilio with any questions about joining.
- **FINE ARTS SHOW PREVIEW** Registration is now open for the Boston International Fine Arts Show Preview Gala on October 20. There will be more than 3,000 works of art for sale, ranging from affordable pieces created by today's most promising emerging artists to high-end museum quality masterpieces. All proceeds from the Preview Gala will support the Boston Athenæum's exhibition program. Check out more details [here](#).

- **NEW FACES** The Athenæum is pleased to welcome Victoria Johnson, Serials Intern, and Elizabeth McCullough, Security Officer, to the staff.

JUST UPLOADED

Did you miss last week's "Writers at the Exhibition" event? Watch it on [Vimeo](#).



EARLY CLOSURE

On Monday, August 15, the building will close at 2:30 pm for a staff function.

Image captions:

J. H. Bufford's Lith. after Ransom C. Wright (1835-1911), *Boston Locomotive Works*, 1858. Chromolithograph with bronze powders. Boston Athenæum, purchase, Katharine Lane Weems Print Fund, 2015.;

Photographer unknown, [Postcard 6 from James Bradley collection of photographic postcards], ca. 1902-1930. Photographic print. Boston Athenæum, Gift, James Bradley 2009.

STAY CONNECTED



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

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