



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART HOSTS *EUROPEAN SPLENDORS* LECTURE SERIES**

Art History Professors Will Offer Insight on Renaissance and Baroque Artworks

**[For Release Sept 15, 2021 – Albany, GA]**— A series of Albany Museum of Art gallery lectures this fall will delve into the Renaissance and Baroque periods, with paintings from those eras creating the appropriate setting.

The lectures, which will start at 5:30 pm on five Thursdays, are open to the public, and admission is free. Each will take place in the Haley Gallery, where *European Splendors: Old Master Paintings from the Kress Collection* is on view through Dec 23, 2021. The lecture series is funded with a \$2,725 Education Program Grant that the Georgia Council for the Arts awarded the AMA in July 2021.

“This series brings local high school and college students, and community members together with art history scholars to discuss selected Renaissance and Baroque works from the Kress Collection, which is on loan from the Columbia Museum of Art in South Carolina,” said Annie Vanoteghem, director of education and public programming at the AMA. “The series starts Sept 30 and concludes in December.”

The primary goal of the *European Splendors* Lecture Series is to share information on Renaissance and Baroque works of art, and to provide context. The series is especially aimed at high school students in rural South Georgia. Those in attendance will learn from art historians how to interpret the works of the Kress Collection, and how the art relates socially and culturally. In addition, students and others attending the lectures will explore analytical skills through close viewing, visual thinking strategies, description, and historical context.

Following the Middle Ages, a movement began around 1280 in Italy and blossomed into the Renaissance, a period in which art, religion, culture, society, and politics rekindled the humanism that fell by the wayside centuries earlier with the decline of Rome. The rediscovery of ancient culture that dominated the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries transformed into an age of expansion in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Known as the Baroque period, it was an era when artists explored deeper colors, dramatic imagery, and greater contrast between light and shadows.

"Each of our speakers will address aspects of artworks in the exhibition and explain their relevance to our society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," Vanoteghem said. "We are fortunate to have a wonderful group of knowledgeable art professors from Georgia and Alabama universities who have agreed to come to the AMA and to share their expertise and insights with our area students and guests."

Art professors scheduled to take part in the lecture series, and the dates and subject matter for their lectures are:

**Sept 30:** Keaton Wynn; professor of art history and ceramics; Georgia Southwestern State University; *Spiritual Realities within the Immanent Frame*;

**Oct 7:** Charles Williams; professor of visual art, art appreciation and art history; Albany State University; *Multi-culturalism and the Artist Perspective in Renaissance Art*;

**Oct 21:** Dr. Grace Harpster; assistant professor of art history; Georgia State University; *Material and Meaning in the European Splendors Exhibition*;

**Nov 18:** Dr. Elissa Auerbach; professor of art history; Georgia College & State University; *Art for Faith's Sake! How Religious Art Divided Europe in Early Modernity*;

**Dec 9:** Dr. Joyce de Vries; professor and Department of Art & History chair; Auburn University; *Living with Art: Paintings from the European Splendors Exhibition in the Renaissance Household*.

Vanoteghem noted that the schedule will be adjusted if health guidance changes in regard to safe public gatherings. Visitors are asked to wear masks and to observe social distancing while at the museum.

*European Splendors: Old Master Paintings from the Kress Collection* is organized by the Columbia Museum of Art, South Carolina, with support from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, New York. Its exhibition at the AMA was made possible by the Walter and Frances Bunzl Family Foundation.

## CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS

- *European Splendors: Old Master Paintings from the Kress Collection* is in the Haley Gallery Aug 26-Dec 23, 2021.
- *Horse Power: Works by Cedric Smith* is in the East Gallery July 10-Dec 23, 2021.
- *Essay Topic: Write Down the Word WOMAN One Hundred Times, New works by Sanaz Haghani* is in the McCormack Gallery July 10-Dec 23, 2021
- *Escape Plan*, installation by Elinor Saragoussi, is in the West Gallery.



## ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

The Albany Museum of Art is located at 311 Meadowlark Drive in Albany, Ga., adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance

of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open to the public 10 am-5 pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 10 am-7 pm Thursdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, [www.albanymuseum.com](http://www.albanymuseum.com) or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum on Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

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