



SPRING 2018

FOCUS

2017-2018 Art League Lectures & Events

October 11

**Gala Membership
Celebration**

Art Martin

*Circular Abstractions:
Viewing the Contemporary
Quilt* Lecture: 6:30 pm

November 8

Daryl Thetford

*Psyche Meets Process:
The Art of Digital Discovery*
Lecture: 10 am

December 13

Lisa Rotondo-McCord

Asian Art Lecture: 10 am

February 14

Claire Zimmerman

*Albert Kahn, American
Architect* Lecture: 10 am

March 14

Margaret Samu Karl

*Briullov's Last Day of
Pompeii at the 1834 Paris
Salon* Lecture: 10 am

April 11

Ray Silverman *Saints,
Painters and Merchants:
Contemporary Religious
Art in Ethiopia*

Lecture: 6:30 pm

May 23

Annual Meeting & Brunch
10:00 am

serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955

Ancient Artifacts of the Himalayas

Private Viewing at University of Michigan

April 19 depARTure

When the curator is willing to “pull” objects from storage, and asks what you’d like to see, you know you’re in store for something very special. When the artifacts will be selected from over 600 objects acquired from monasteries, antique dealers, and itinerant merchants in the western Himalayas in the 1930s and 40s, it’s even better. When the curator is Professor Carla Sinopoli, and the laboratory where you’ll view these objects is the U of M’s new collections center, this depARTure is a fabulous opportunity. Art League is pleased to announce that on Thursday, April 19, up to 30 depARTure guests are invited to travel to Ann Arbor for this unique experience.

Dr. Sinopoli is also arranging for a tour in the collections facility itself — a recently opened 97,000 square foot complex renovated over the past six years, now housing over 13 million objects in state-of-the-art environments.

Following the viewing tour and a short bus ride to the famous Zingerman’s Roadhouse, you’ll have an opportunity to relax over a delicious lunch before visits to two other U of M landmarks. The Kelsey Museum of Archeology and the Museum of Art are both currently sporting “tattoos” on their windows! You’ll learn about these *Cosmogonic Tattoos* and the story they tell at the Kelsey, plus (weather permitting) have time to discover more art on your own at the Museum of Art before we begin the drive back to Kalamazoo in time for dinner.

Enrollment forms are available at the KIA Reception Desk and on our website: www.KalamazooArtLeague.org and at February and March lectures. All admission fees, snacks, lunch, luxury coach fare, taxes and tips included. Enrollment will be limited to members-only through February 18. After that enrollment will open to all KIA members and the general public. Enrollment is not refundable and is not transferable. If unable to attend you must contact the depARTure leader who will explain our waiting list procedures.

Deadline for enrollment is March 19.

Art League \$130 / KIA member \$150 / non-member \$180

SPEAKER SERIES: February & March

February 14, 2018 | 10:00 am

Claire Zimmerman, PhD

Albert Kahn: American Architect

Albert Kahn, a giant in industrial design and innovation, influenced architecture from the US to Brazil to the Soviet Union—though he later expressed regret for the latter. He established Albert Kahn & Associates in Detroit in 1895 and was active in it until his death in 1942. Today in addition to the buildings themselves, “miles” of files in the Bentley Historical Library document his technical innovations, styles, factories, civic buildings—including Burton Tower at U of M and the Gazette building here in Kalamazoo—plus some very elegant homes.

Professor Claire Zimmerman of the Art History Department and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at U of M will tell us more about Kahn on February 14. She curated a recent University of Michigan Museum of Art exhibition *Albert Kahn under Construction* and she is currently finishing a book manuscript, *Architecture in Space and Time: American Industrialization and Albert Kahn Associates of Detroit, 1902-1945*. Dr. Zimmerman is highly recommended as “the scholar” to tackle the incredible accomplishments of this iconic Michigan man who revolutionized industrial architecture.



March 14, 2018 | 10:00 am

Margaret Samu, PhD

Karl Briullov's Last Day of Pompeii at the 1834 Salon

When the Programs committee first contacted speaker Margaret Samu, it was because members were looking for a speaker who knows Russia and Russian art. No one expected that Pompeii (which everyone had heard of) would so prominently be featured; and that Karl Briullov (whom none of the committee had heard of) would be the topic. However, we soon discovered that Karl Briullov was one of the most celebrated artists of his day and the first Russian painter to enjoy an international reputation. He was so well known in literary circles of his time that he inspired authors Alexander Pushkin and Edward Bulwer-Lytton. What a perfect topic for our life-long learning aspirations!

Dr. Samu was invited to Venice, Italy last fall to present the beginnings of the talk she has prepared for Art League. She is a lecturer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and other institutions, an author of scholarly papers, and a frequent speaker at conferences. On a personal note, she is the daughter of long-time Art League member Judy Shamu.



www.KalamazooArtLeague.org

Art League memberships are valid for a 12-month season that begins July 1 and extends through June 30.

SPEAKER SERIES: April

April 11, 2018 | 10:00 am

Raymond Silverman, PhD

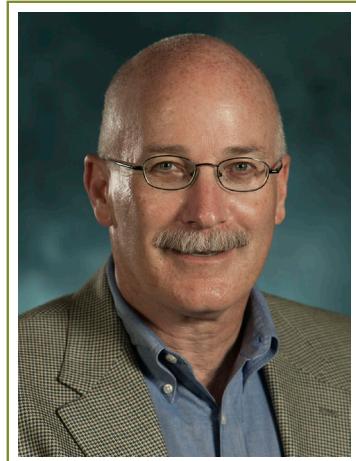
Saints, Artists and Merchants:

Contemporary Religious Painting in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church is one of the few pre-colonial Christian Churches in Sub-Saharan Africa. Learn more about the church and its artists in this early evening lecture by Dr. Ray Silverman, on April 11. Dr. Silverman describes himself as an art historian whose research and teaching focuses on the visual traditions of Africa, specifically in the countries of Ethiopia and Ghana. He is currently working on a project that explores contemporary artistic practices of the Orthodox Church in Ethiopia.

Dr. Silverman's numerous publications, annual travel to Africa, and many experiences as a guest curator attest to his broad interest in scholarship and to his dedication to sharing his knowledge with the public as well as his students. He is the former founding Director of the University's Museum Studies Program, and currently serves on the faculties of the departments of History of Art and Afroamerican and African Studies at U of M.

This final lecture of the 2017-2018 lecture season is sure to be interesting. Members and guests are encouraged to linger after the program to enjoy refreshments and friendly conversation.



A Message from our President

Diane Eberts

Dear Art League Supporters,

New Year Greetings! I hope this informative issue of FOCUS inspires you to join us for our upcoming events! We are already looking towards next year and you can help us! Nomination forms for the Art League Board of Directors are available at the reception desk if you would like to make a recommendation by March 5 for the committee to consider.



Many thanks go to Janae Aasen, a valuable member of the Art League Board for her outstanding service as Treasurer and committee member. She and her family will be moving out of the area and we will miss her! We thank board member Kym Mulhern for taking on the responsibilities of Treasurer. Her willingness and expertise are greatly appreciated.

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting and a brunch on May 23.

Diane Eberts



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Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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ART LEAGUE is a motivated and dedicated 501c3 volunteer organization fueled by its members. Your support is what keeps us going!

ART LEAGUE MISSION

Our mission is to fund, organize, and sponsor annual lecture series and other activities to promote understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the visual arts.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

We value and actively support diversity and inclusion on the Board, in our membership, in the lecture series and other programs we offer.



Studio Tours Begin in May!

*Save the date! Beginning on May 24, a new series of Studio Tours will give you a chance to visit acclaimed artists of SW Michigan in their studios, see work in progress, and ask questions in a small group setting. Enrollments will begin on April 1. **Note:** Studio Tour enrollments will be limited to Art League members only. Leading off will be a visit to the studio of award-winning painter Valli McDougle on May 24. Artists Mary Brodbeck and Jerry Bowman will open their studios in June and July, dates TBA by April 1. Check the infoline (269-585-9296), KIA Reception Desk or www.KalamazooArtLeague.org for details.*