

THE HAMILTON STREET CLUB

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NOVEMBER 2014

The Club will be closed November 11 and November 27 & 28

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

. Wednesday, November 5. Lunch by Chance: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:20.

Invitations have gone out for this Lunch-By-Chance. If you received an invitation, we hope to see you! Hosted by **Caroline Hannaway and Carrie Thornbery**.

Thursday, November 6. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. John A. Talbott is in France two to three weeks each month and eats at a new restaurant each day and reports on them in his blog *johnTalbottparis*. He will give us a glimpse into how he discovers new restaurants and judges and rates them. There are many Francophiles and foodies amongst us who will want to get the skinny about this unique pastime.

WAITING LIST ONLY: Wednesday, November 12. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Lecture and Tour of the exhibition *2,500 Years of Fakes, Lies, and Forgeries* at the George Peabody Library with **Paul Espinosa**, Curator of Rare Books for the Sheridan Libraries of the Johns Hopkins University. In 2011, the Sheridan Libraries acquired the world's most comprehensive collection of rare books and manuscripts on the history of forgery in the West, some 1700 items in all spanning the ancient world to the 20th century. Highlights will include: editions of Jesus' posthumous *Letter from Heaven*, eyewitness accounts of the fall of Troy, the only surviving autograph of the martyr Thomas Beckett, unpublished manuscript verses of Martin Luther on *The Lord's Prayer*, annotated books from Shakespeare's personal library, archaeological excavations of ancient Etruscan manuscripts predicting the coming of Christ, a first-hand account of the discovery of Homer's tomb, Alpine inscriptions recording Noah's settlement of Vienna after the Flood, the only extant ancient Greek manuscript on ancient Byzantine painting, Byron's unpublished Romantic musings on the mysteries of nature, a first edition of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, and last, but not least, the greatest hoax in Baltimore history: the "true" story of Bata Kindai Amgoza ibn LoBagola, the self-proclaimed "African Savage" descended from the lost tribes of Israel! Copies of the illustrated exhibition catalogue will be available for purchase for \$20 per copy.

Monday, November 17. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon.

Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views and your sense of humor.

Thursday, November 20. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Melissa Warlow, Director of the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund Grants Program at the Baltimore Community Foundation, and **Jeannie L. Howe**, Executive Director of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, will discuss The Baker Artist Awards, which were created to support artists and promote Greater Baltimore as a strong creative community. Through a sophisticated online portfolio

and significant monetary prizes for the winners, the Baker Artist Awards serve artists of all disciplines who live and work in Baltimore City and its five surrounding counties. The website and awards were established by the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund and are a program of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance. Each year, awards are made in two categories: the Mary Sawyers Baker Prizes (3 prizes of up to \$25,000 each) and the b-grants (3 of up to \$5,000 each).

CANCELLED: Monday, November 24. French Table: 12:00-1:00. Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 3. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Controversial Questions About Today's Immigration, Immigration gives Americans so much to talk about and so much to debate. It is a topic that touches on many aspects of American life, who we are as a nation, how we make a living, what our core values are. Anthropologist **Martin Ford** will engage us in a discussion of several critiques of contemporary immigration: Are we admitting too many immigrants? Do the newcomers take more than they give? Are they becoming Americans like immigrants in the past? Are they "stealing" jobs from the native-born? Is America fragmenting because of them? Ford will take an evidence-based approach in answering these controversial questions. Martin Ford is Associate Director at the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees (MORA) and former Executive Director of the Maryland Ethnic Heritage Commission. He has taught at Bowie State University and Towson University and was a Fulbright scholar in Liberia. He received his Ph.D. and M.A. in Cultural Anthropology from SUNY-Binghamton, an M.A. in International Studies from Ohio University, and a B.A. in English Literature from Rutgers University.

Thursday, December 4. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at Noon; Lunch at 12:15. Nancy Proctor is Deputy Director for Digital Experience and Communications at the Baltimore Museum of Art and Co-chair of Museums and the Web. She will speak on: Open Doors and New Interfaces to the Baltimore Museum of Art. Previously Nancy Proctor headed the Mobile Strategy and Initiatives at the Smithsonian Institution (2010-2014), and New Media Initiatives at the Smithsonian's American Art Museum (2008-2010). With a PhD in American art history and a background in filmmaking, curation and art criticism, Nancy published her first online exhibition in 1995. She co-founded TheGalleryChannel.com in 1998 with Titus Bicknell to present virtual tours of innovative exhibitions alongside comprehensive global museum and gallery listings. The Gallery Channel was later acquired by Antenna Audio, where Nancy led New Product Development from 2000-2008, introducing the company's multimedia, sign language, downloadable, podcast and cell phone tours. She also directed Antenna's sales in France from 2006-2007, and worked with the Travel Channel's product development team. Nancy served as program chair for the Museums Computer Network (MCN) conference 2010-2011, and has co-organized the Tate Handheld conference among other gatherings for cultural professionals. She also manages MuseumMobile.info, its wiki and podcast series, and is Digital Co-editor of Curator: The Museum Journal.

Tuesday, December 9. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Architect **Steve Ziger**, of Ziger/Snead Architects, will discuss the adaptive reuse project that became the Baltimore Design School. The school opened in the fall of 2013. With less than \$19 million budgeted for construction, the Baltimore-based firm transformed the four-story, 115,000-square-foot building into a middle school and high school to serve students in fashion, architecture and graphic design programs. The building dates back to 1914; first a machine-shop to serve Crown Cork and Seal Company, the inventor of the bottle cap, the school became a factory for

the men's suit designers Lebow Bros. in the 1950s. The building was shuttered in 1985, and was a blight on its neighborhood. Renovations to the abandoned building focused on creating spaces that would not only teach students what good design looks like, but also how design can encourage students to articulate themselves and push them to think critically about the world in which they exist. Ziger remains connected to the school, serving as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

Wednesday, December 10. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Authors of **Drone Art: Baltimore, Terry and Belinda Kilby**, will tell us how they began designing, building and flying small, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), or drones in 2010. They will share how their aircraft designs and ariel photography business has evolved. They will speak about the legal status of the commercial use of small UAVs, their many beneficial applications and how they foresee drones being allowed to 'work' in US airspace in the future. A powerpoint presentation will let us see what drones can do.

Thursday, December 11. Holiday Luncheon: Noon. The Club will host a **Holiday Buffet Luncheon**. Members are encouraged to invite guests for a festive buffet featuring a special menu, décor, and music of the season. Plan early to join us for the festivities and sign up quickly. We welcome members and guests up to 75 for this lovely celebration. (If you arrive a bit early, the bar upstairs, as usual, is open with soft drinks and wine.)

Monday, December 15. French Table: 12:00-1:00. Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

Tuesday, December 16: Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon, Lunch at 12:15. Jewelry Empowering Women: A Yemeni Story, Retired senior Foreign Service Officer **Marjorie Ransom** has collected and studied Yemeni traditional silver jewelry over the last 35 years. Her book *Silver Treasures from the Land of Sheba: Yemeni Regional Jewelry* was published by American University in Cairo Press this year. Ransom lived twice as a U.S. diplomat in Yemen in a career that took her to India, Iran, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, and Egypt. Wearing a traditional Yemeni dress and jewelry, she will present photographs and share her knowledge of the country, its geography and history, the different influences affecting the creation and production of jewelry, the source of the silver, and the significance of jewelry to the economy and society. Additionally, she will highlight the achievement of the Yemeni Jewish craftsmen who produced the finest jewelry and embroidery. Yemen, united only in 1990, is of strategic importance in today's Middle East, and this talk will enlighten us in an area of the region's material culture. This is an opportunity to learn more about an exotic and colorful land.

Monday, December 22. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon. Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views and your sense of humor.

Thursday, February 5. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon, Lunch at 12:15. Please join **Marian Feldman, Professor of Art and Near Eastern Studies at Johns Hopkins** for a talk on **Cultural Heritage, Looting and Antiquities – A Discussion of the Current Situation in Iraq**. The protection and preservation of cultural heritage has always been a concern for archaeologists working in the Middle East, but with the breakdown of stable forms of government in many countries, the situation has become critical. In this presentation, she will review some of the recent events in Iraq, including the looting of the Iraq Museum in April, 2003, the subsequent systematic looting of archaeological sites, and the current iconoclastic actions of ISIS, and will provide a big picture account of the role of cultural heritage in contemporary politics.