This fall, two courses taught at Homewood and Evergreen as part of the university’s Program in Museums and Society are offering dynamic, object-based learning experiences for Johns Hopkins undergraduate students. Both will culminate in student-curated exhibitions.

Now in its third year, Introduction to Material Culture, taught by Homewood curator Catherine Rogers Arthur in the museum’s wine cellar, addresses topics that are often generated by museum visitors who are curious about details of everyday life in early America. Previous classes, for example, have focused on the role of pets and childbirth practices. This year’s theme is personal hygiene, with students considering what life was like at Homewood before running water and today’s endless assortment of toiletries. Body odor and bathing, dental care, hair care and dressing, feminine hygiene and cosmetics, and the development of new furniture forms and portable accessories—particularly bidets—which

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In that Evergreen Museum & Library has always been a place of change, it should not be surprising for a return visitor on a museum tour to note many relocations and refinements to the rooms and collections that are Evergreen. Even the method of interpretation is in process of change.

“There is such an importance to the sense of ‘home,’” says museum curator Jim Abbott. “I don’t want it to be forgotten that Evergreen was a personal residence, reflective of the changing tastes and fashions of a succession of time periods, as well as a succession of generations of the Garrett family.”

To this end, Abbott has removed formal barriers from the mansion’s Reception Room, affording visitors the opportunity to see this small, intimate space as if they were guests of the Garretts.

A similar sense of hospitality has been applied to the Great Library, where visitors are no longer restricted from crossing the entry door’s threshold. Now able to take in the whole room, walking from one end to the other, they can see how the formality of the gardens beyond acts as an extension of the great Italian Renaissance-inspired interior. “You can’t get a sense of a space when you are confined from exploring it,” Abbott notes. “To appreciate one of the greatest 20th-century rooms in America, one has to be able to see it as John and Alice Garrett intended it to be seen.”

Recently relocated to the main hall from the second floor galleries is Evergreen’s significant American art glass collection, with most pieces attributable to the design vocabulary of Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933). The new installation affords greater opportunities for comparison and study, while allowing the museum to offer special tours related to glass manufacture and collecting—as was done earlier this year for the Smithsonian Resident Associates Program.
Dear Friends,

Each year at about this time, we at the Johns Hopkins University Museums step back and take a look at what we have accomplished during the past fiscal year. The view from where I sit is gratifying: thought-provoking exhibitions, well-attended programs and activities for all our constituents, and some very generous gifts of money and art.

Looking forward, we plan to continue to challenge the often-held perception of historic house museums as snapshots frozen in time, by discovering innovative ways to make more meaningful connections with our visitors, enhance collaboration and interdisciplinary work, and play a larger role in Johns Hopkins’ undergraduate curriculum and educational mission.

As you review this edition of the Newsletter, the fifth biennial year of our popular Sculpture at Evergreen exhibition series is coming to a close with record-breaking attendance; Homewood and Evergreen both are serving as classrooms for undergraduate students, who are utilizing the museums and their collections as inspiration for learning and art-making; and Evergreen’s rooms and collections are being reinterpreted and displayed in new ways based on fresh research and revised historical thinking. I invite you to learn more about all these developments in the pages that follow.

I hope to see you this fall at some of the exciting events and programs we have planned, including the Historic Homewood ArtWalk; a talk by Los Angeles Police Chief William J. Bratton; the opening of Evergreen Student Curator Matt Turtoro’s focus show during the university’s Family Weekend Oct. 31–Nov. 1; and our festive Season of Celebration beginning the week of December 8.

None of this activity would be possible without the generous support of our community of friends, for which we are deeply thankful.

Winston Tabb
Sheridan Dean of University Libraries and Museums
Vice Provost for the Arts

‘A Method to make the Teeth beautifully white’ (1808)

In the early 19th-century, The New London Family Cook; or Town and Country Housekeeper’s Guide, a recipe book with information on household management that was directed at the London market, included this recipe for homemade toothpaste:

Take dried leaves of hyssop, wild thyme and mint, of each half an ounce; roch-alum, prepared hartshorn, and salt, of each a drachm; calcine the ingredients together in a pot placed on bruning coals; when sufficiently calcined, add thereto pepper and mastic, of each half a drachm; myrrh a scruple; reduce the whole into a very fine powder; and mix into a consistence of an opiate with storax dissolved in rose water. Rub the teeth with a small bit of this opiate every morning, and afterwards wash the mouth with warm wine.


continued from page 1

Object Lessons

appear frequently in Baltimore inventories of the period—are among the issues students will investigate over the semester.

Working from original objects connected to the Carroll family, like the Homewood privy and Charles Carroll Jr.’s commode, and others from local collections, in addition to family correspondence, period newspapers, and homemade recipes for a variety of toothpastes and soaps, the students will draw conclusions regarding the view of personal hygiene in early America in the first quarter of the 19th century: “The hands-on process allows the students to experience the intersection of history, culture, and art of this time and place with an immediacy that lectures can’t offer,” Arthur said.

The students will synthesize their work and research, and collectively curate the resulting focus show, Next to Godliness: Cleanliness in Early Maryland, scheduled to open with a public reception on January 29 from 5 to 7 p.m.

At Evergreen, curator Jim Abbot and Homewood Art Workshops instructor Phyllis Berger are collaborating on Camera Arts: Photographing Evergreen Museum & Library. The course, made possible through a grant from the university’s Arts Innovation Program, will introduce students to new possibilities for seeing the world through photography. Using the techniques of montage and collage, students will explore the inspiring environment of Evergreen, while using their digital camera as a sketchpad. These “sketches” will then be combined using imaging software to produce a singular and uniquely personal work of art.

“As students delve into Evergreen, they will make discoveries in their own art-making, as well as learn the fundamentals of digital photography,” Berger said.

“Combining forces with Evergreen offers students a great opportunity to work together and inspire each other in a setting they might otherwise never encounter.”

Lectures on the history of photography, artists who were part of the pictorial and straight photography movements, and the history of Evergreen and its collections, will supplement the hands-on work. “The course is an impressive example of how our collections can be creatively integrated with Johns Hopkins’ academic program,” said Abbot. “This partnership with the Homewood Art Workshops will produce a fascinating and fresh look at the museum that will benefit all our visitors.”

The students’ work, which may include giclée prints, hand-made or self-published books, photo collages, and short films, will form the basis of an exhibition, scheduled to open in Evergreen’s North Wing gallery in early December.

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Exciting Changes Afoot

The central focus of the installation is a new floor-to-ceiling display case located in the alcove of the former garden entrance. Lighted from above and below, it has sides of mirrored glass that reflect the rich, multi-colored glass forms into infinity. The collection largely represents former Hunter College professor of physiology Margaret B. Wilson’s 1940s bequest to the university. “It’s a phenomenal encyclopedic presentation of late-19th and early-20th century glass manufacture in America,” enthuses Abbott. “There is no real rival in the region!”

A grander gateway to Evergreen’s treasures was unveiled last March, when the museum’s visitor entrance and gift shop were relocated to the North Wing’s Billiard Room. The new, first-floor location provides a brighter, more inviting first greeting, with large photographs of John and Alice providing a fitting backdrop for books, porcelains, and other merchandise specially selected to complement the personal collecting tastes of the Garrett family. “It really is exciting,” says Evergreen visitor services coordinator Nancy Powers. “It’s changed the way we circulate our visitors, by having them start and end their tours on the first floor in a much friendlier environment.”

The former Museum Shop space has been transformed into the Laurence Hall Fowler Study Room, operated by the Special Collections department of the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries. This new study space houses most of the working papers from architect Laurence Hall Fowler’s (1876–1971) architectural practice, which specialized in residences and public buildings in Baltimore from 1906–1945. Included also are Fowler’s photographs documenting other architects’ work in the area from 1915 to 1920. Special Collections assistant curator of manuscripts and archives Kelly Betts and intern Jennifer Fair ’10 are re-cataloging the recently moved papers, so that they may be better accessed by students and researchers, alike. It is hoped that their work will lead to an exhibition on the regionally-important architect and his long career.

Other alterations at Evergreen are still in process. On the second floor, the Garrett Collection of Asian Porcelain is being readied for reinstallation in the former master bedrooms, today presented as galleries per the wishes of Alice Warder Garrett. The porcelains will be integrated with the rotating display of Raoul Dufy (1877–1953) watercolors. Benches will allow for a more relaxing study of these works, while new casework will offer temporary installations of small works of art and ephemera.

Evergreen volunteer M. B. Munford, associate curator of decorative arts emerita at the Baltimore Museum of Art, has been cleaning and reorganizing the Butler’s Pantry—a room that boasts a mosaic floor designed and installed in 1886 by the prestigious New York firm of Herter Brothers (1864–1906). Munford’s many hours of work will lead to the reopening of this room to the public, allowing visitors to appreciate the monumental French porcelain dinner service purportedly presented to B&O president John Work Garrett by President Ulysses S. Grant, a very delicate glass set designed by Viennese Secessionist Josef Hoffman (1870–1956), and Ambassador Garrett’s official Department of State-approved glassware bearing the imposing Great Seal of the United States.

“I don’t want it to be forgotten that Evergreen was a personal residence, reflective of the changing tastes and fashions of a succession of time periods, as well as a succession of generations of the Garrett family.” – Jim Abbott, Curator
Thank You for $710,000 in Donations!

Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008) was an extremely productive year for charitable contributions to the JHU Museums. Supporters donated more than $710,000 to fund Homewood Museum and Evergreen Museum & Library exhibitions, research, and educational programs, community outreach, and preservation and restoration efforts.

The JHU Museums gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and institutions for providing financial support of $250 or more through memberships or through funding for unrestricted use or special programs during Fiscal Year 2008.

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- Frank P. L. and Romaine Somerville
- Mary Donnell Tilghman
- Steven J. and Barbara Wadyka
- Nicholas S. Young
- Calman J. and Ellen L. Zamojski Jr.
- Natalie Carroll Ziegler
Time is running out to see what Baltimore Magazine has named the city’s “Best Outdoor Art of 2008.” Sculpture at Evergreen 2008—Evergreen’s biennial outdoor exhibition of 10 temporary, site-specific sculptures by contemporary artists from across the country—has garnered enthusiastic reviews from the Baltimore City Paper, Sculpture magazine, and The Washington Post, among others, since its opening on May 4.

“I’m delighted by the success of the exhibition and encourage anyone planning to visit to do so soon,” said Evergreen curator Jim Abbott.

Since beginning in 2000, the Sculpture at Evergreen exhibition series has encouraged conversation and debate regarding such issues as the display of contemporary art on the grounds of one of Baltimore’s most elegant and historic estates, and the very definition of sculpture as an art form. That the exhibition continues to inspire, enthuse, and engage museum visitors is a testimony to its success.

The works on view offer new ways to learn about Evergreen, as participating artists were invited to find inspiration in the estate’s history, collections, and architectural and natural landscapes. Visitors of this year’s show, therefore, may be surprised to discover that the twisted electrical wire that forms Hyungsub Shin’s flowering Rhizome recalls the wisteria vine that once grew on the Carriage House wall, or that J Hill’s pair of Sioux tipis relates not only to the Garrett family’s involvement in railroads and westward expansion, but also to their avid interest in Native American culture.

Information about the artists and their works, and an exhibition map, are provided in the complimentary Sculpture at Evergreen visitor’s guide, available in the Evergreen Museum Shop.

The exhibition closes Sunday, September 28.

“It’s a good show for arguing over, and that’s a good thing.”

–Deborah McLeod, Baltimore City Paper (July 16, 2008)
LA Police Chief to Speak at Evergreen

Evergreen is happy to partner again with the Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies to present the fourth Rebuilding America’s Cities Lecture, “Policing in the 21st Century,” by Los Angeles Police Chief William J. Bratton, one of the most distinguished law enforcement leaders in the country.

The October 23 event will also mark the museum’s eighth Garrett Lecture on Urban Issues, which commemorates the interest of the Garrett family in recreation, civic improvement, and urban planning. Look for details to arrive in your mailbox this fall.

Homewood Collection Welcomes New Additions

Steve Bolton, a graduate of Homewood’s 2007 docent class, has given the museum a set of six wine rinsers, with a provenance that can be traced to Prudence Carnan Gough (1753–1822), wife of Harry Dorsey Gough of Perry Hall. “The Goughs swore off drink when they converted to Methodism in 1776,” said Homewood curator Catherine Rogers Arthur. “Given that these wine rinsers date from around 1800, it’s possible to wonder if they were purchased when the couple left the religion a few decades later.”

Joan Hoblitzell has given Homewood three Baltimore painted chairs descended from the McHenry family. Although similar to ones already in the museum’s collection, they display slight differences in paint scheme, seat treatment, and crest rail decoration. At the height of fashion in the first decade of the 19th century, these lightweight chairs were likely used throughout the house, as well as on the back porch and lawn.

'Tis a Season of Celebration at the JHU Museums, December 9 – 30

During our Season of Celebration, see two of Baltimore’s most beautiful historic houses decked out in their annual holiday best! With exciting events and programs planned, there’s no excuse not to come take a peek.

It’s the kickoff to the holiday season with Homewood by Candlelight on December 8. Decorations by the Homeland Garden Club, early American music performed by David Hildebrand, and glittering candlelight throughout the museum make Homewood appear as it might have in the early 19th century. Eggnog and cookies will be served in the wine cellar. The event also marks the opening of the JHU Press Holiday Book Sale, hosted by Homewood through December 14 and offering new and recent Press publications at a special 25% discount.

On December 11, An Ever Green Evening will feature themed holiday trees inspired by Evergreen’s unique collections and created by some of Baltimore’s great interior and landscape designers, architects, and furniture makers. The most special tree will be that representing John and Alice Garrett’s tradition while at the American Embassy in Rome, beneath which hundreds of gifts were collected and later distributed to the orphans of that city. The museum’s contemporary variation will receive unwrapped gifts for Baltimore-area charities.

The museum’s annual Holiday Traditions Weekend will be held December 13–14, with holiday music, light refreshments, $1 admission, and special family programs. On Saturday, Homewood will offer Silhouettes for the Holidays with master silhouette artist Anne Leslie, while at Evergreen, the Pick-A-Card: Holiday Cardmaking Workshop will take place from 1–3 p.m. On Sunday, kids of all ages will enjoy Edible Crumbs & Delectable Tales: Gingerbread Decorating & Storytelling, at Evergreen from 1–3 p.m. Please see the calendar for pricing and registration information.

Groups of 15 or more are invited to schedule Holiday Group Tours of the museums, with options for tea, box lunches, and add-on tours at Mount Clare and/or Hampton National Historic Site. For more information, please contact Judith Proffitt at 410.516.5589.

STAFF NEWS

Matthew A. Turtoro, a Johns Hopkins junior pursuing a History of Art major, has been selected as Evergreen’s second Student Curator.

Turtoro is putting together a focus show that will highlight the collecting tastes and habits of T. Harrison Garrett (1849–1888) and his son, John Work Garrett (1872–1942). The exhibition, to be installed throughout the museum, is scheduled to open with a gallery talk by Turtoro at Evergreen’s Family Weekend Open House on November 1.

Evergreen curator Jim Abbott has been appointed as a lecturer of the Department of History of Art in the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.

During the spring 2009 semester, Abbott will teach Curating Culture at the Evergreen Museum: Excellence in Twentieth-Century Design, an undergraduate course cross-listed in History of Art and the Program in Museums and Society. The class will culminate in three student-curated focus exhibitions celebrating influential 20th-century designers, scheduled to open in fall 2009.
Scott Donates $20,000 Toward Portico Restoration

Miss Dorothy McIlvain Scott, longtime Homewood Advisory Council member, has made a lead gift of $20,000 toward the restoration of Homewood’s north portico, undoubtedly a favorite spot of the Carroll family and their guests in the summer months.

“Recent investigations have made it clear that the porch is in need of a major facelift, not just paint and powder,” said Homewood curator Catherine Rogers Arthur. “I am deeply grateful to Miss Scott for once again demonstrating her commitment to Homewood. Thanks to her generous donation, we’re able to begin the first phase of critical, long overdue restoration.”

The north portico has seen extensive remodeling over the years. During the 1897–1910 occupancy of Homewood by the Country School for Boys (later Gilman School), the area below the porch was turned into student showers, and later a bathroom. When the house was restored in the 1980s, the entire porch deck was reconstructed, as well as the balustrade and railings. More recently, additional work was done to the original tulip poplar columns. However, significant rot, especially to the wood used in these repairs, now threatens the portico’s structural integrity.

For Portico Restoration inquiries and donations, please contact development coordinator Rosalie Parker, rosaliep@jhu.edu.

Thorons Give Alice Warder Garrett Still-Life

Through the generosity of Alice Warder Garrett’s great-nephew, Samuel Thoron, and his wife, Julia, the Evergreen House Foundation has received one of the paintings from Alice Warder Garrett’s (1877–1952) 1946 one-woman exhibition at the Baltimore Museum of Art. The untitled still-life, showing a cluster of grapes creatively placed within a wicker champagne case, is representative of Mrs. Garrett’s work during the war years, when painting provided her particular pleasure after the 1942 death of Ambassador Garrett. The painting came accompanied by an actual champagne case like the one portrayed, and both gifts are included in a new installation of Mrs. Garrett’s paintings on the second floor of Evergreen’s North Wing.

2008–2009 Music at Evergreen Concert Series Announced

One of Baltimore’s longest-running music programs, Evergreen Museum & Library’s venerable Music at Evergreen concert series will enter its 56th consecutive season in October.

This year, the series will feature three Saturday afternoon concerts in the museum’s intimate and atmospheric Bakst Theatre, each preceded by a free gallery talk exploring related aspects of Evergreen’s collections and history. The 08-09 season offers 15-year-old Chinese piano prodigy Peng Peng on October 25, So in Love: An Afternoon of Cole Porter, with Patricia Barber on February 14, and France’s vibrant Amedeo Modigliani Quartet on March 7. Guests are invited to meet the musicians at a post-concert reception.

Tickets are available by subscription to the three-concert series or for single concerts, and include museum admission. Seating is limited! Reserve today by ordering on-line at www.missiontix.com or by calling Evergreen at 410.516.0341.

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<th>TICKETS</th>
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<td><strong>Series Subscription:</strong></td>
<td>Members $40 / Non-members $55 / Students $25</td>
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<td><strong>Individual Concerts:</strong></td>
<td>Members $15 / Non-members $20 / Students $10</td>
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Landmark Society Curator Tours.

In January, Landmark members enjoyed a tour of Welcome Little Stranger: Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Family in Early Maryland by several of the focus show’s student curators. 1. Catherine Rogers Arthur, Vernon H. C. Wright, Katherine Wright; 2. Katherine Pinkard, Mary Pinkard.

On a lovely May evening, guest curator Andrea Pollan guided Landmark members around the sculpture at Evergreen 2008 exhibition. 3. Barbara Wadyka and Mary Sinclair in Animal Shrine; 4. Andrea Pollan, James & Mary Sinclair, Jim Abbott.

Member Trips.

1. Homewood’s May trip to Tuscany included a Chianti wine tasting at Villa di Geggiano.

2. In June, JHU Museums members and friends traveled to Chicago for a 4-day tour of the Windy City.

Opening Reception of Harmony to the Eyes.

Members were invited to the opening of Harmony to the Eyes: Charting Palladio’s Architecture from Rome to Baltimore at the George Peabody Library, co-curated by Homewood’s program coordinator Judith Proffitt. 1. Gregory R. Weidman, Judith Proffitt; 2. Steven Batoff, William P. Carey, Carol R. Batoff.
October Study Series Teaches “How to Look”

Homewood members are invited to get up close and personal with the museum’s architecture, landscape, furniture, and decorative arts collections at a new seminar series, Learning How to Look: Developing the Eye of a Connoisseur. Led by Homewood staff, the classes will be held on four consecutive Thursday mornings, 2–3:30pm, October 2, 9, 16, and 23. Enrollment is $40 per person and limited to 15 participants. For more information and to register, please call Judith Proffitt at 410.516.5589.

MEMBER EVENTS

The next few months will bring a number of exciting programs and events for members. Please join us!

OCTOBER

October 2, 9, 16, 23 / Learning How To Look: Developing The Eye Of A Connoisseur
2–3:30pm / $40 Members for 4-part series
Homewood Members only / To register: 410.516.5589

October 7 / Fourth Annual Landmark Society Evening, at the home of a Landmark member
6–8pm / Landmark Members only
Join or upgrade your membership by September 30 to be invited!

October 13 / Day Trip to Greenbelt and Sotterly Plantation

October 14 / Curator Tour of Autumn Colors: Japanese Paintings From The Edo Period
5–7pm / Robert Mintz, The Walters Art Museum / 5 West Mt. Vernon Place
Evergreen Members only / R.S.V.P. 410.547.9000 ext. 655

NOVEMBER

November 18 / Day Trip to Bedazzled jewelry exhibition
at the Walters Art Museum & First Unitarian Church

DECEMBER

December 10 / Holiday Book Signing & Wine Tasting, at Homewood Museum
5–7pm / Presented with the Johns Hopkins University Press

For more information about membership or member events, please contact the Membership Office at museummembership@jhu.edu or 410.516.6710.
SEPTEmBER
/ 27 / Historic Homewood ArtWalk
Departs 1pm from Homewood & 2pm from the Baltimore Museum of Art
FREE admission / R.S.V.P. 410.516.5589

/ 27 & 28 / Last Weekend to see Sculpture at Evergreen!

/ 27 / Museum Day 2008
FREE admission with Smithsonian magazine’s Museum Day Admission Card / Download at www.smithsonianmag.com

/ 28 / Outdoor Watercolor Workshop: Evergreen Landscapes with Lois Woldorf
1-4pm / $45; $35 Members (materials and museum admission included) Pre-registration required: 410.516.0341

OCTObER
/ 4, 11, 18, 25 / Historic Homewood ArtWalk
Departs 1pm from Homewood & 2pm from the Baltimore Museum of Art
FREE admission / R.S.V.P. 410.516.5589

/ 23 / Garrett Lecture on Urban Issues: Policing in the 21st Century
William J. Bratton, L.A. Police Chief
6:30pm / FREE admission
R.S.V.P. urbanlecture@jhu.edu or 410.516.0341 / Carriage House
Presented with The Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies

/ 25 / Music at Evergreens: Peng Peng, piano
2pm Gallery Talk: The Garrett Collection of Asian Art / Frances Klapphor, BMA / 3pm Concert, followed by a Meet-the-Artist Reception / $20; $15 Members; $10 Students / Bakst Theatre

/ 29 / Book Talk & Signing: Mary Elizabeth Garrett: Society and Philanthropy in The Gilded Age
Kathleen Waters Sandor / 6pm Reception and Signing; 7pm Book Talk / FREE admission
Carriage House / Presented with The Johns Hopkins University Press and Friends of the Sheridan Libraries

NOVEMBER
/ 1 / Family Weekend Open House
1–4pm / 2pm Gallery Talk, Matthew A. Turtoro ’10, Evergreen Student Curator / FREE for JHU Families and Members

/ 1 / Historic Homewood ArtWalk
Departs 1pm from Homewood & 2pm from the Baltimore Museum of Art / FREE admission / R.S.V.P. 410.516.5589

/ 11 / An Ever Green Evening
6–8:30pm / $6; FREE for Members

/ 13 & 14 / Holiday Traditions Weekend
12–4pm / $1; FREE for Members

/ Saturday, December 13 / Silhouettes for the Holidays with Anne Leslie
12-4pm / Sittings by appointment: 410.516.5589 / $40 for 2 portraits

/ Sunday, December 14 / Pick-A-Card: Holiday Cardmaking Workshop
1–3pm / $5; FREE Members (includes museum admission) / R.S.V.P. 410.516.0341

/ 16 / Yuletide Tour: Hampton, Mount Clare, Homewood & Evergreen
9:30am–4:30pm / $55; $50 Members (includes admissions, lunch, bus) / Pre-registration required: 410.837.3262

Programs and dates subject to change without notice. Visit the JHU Museums online at www.museums.jhu.edu for up-to-date information and complete program and event descriptions.