

Programs

The museum presented a wide range of free programs, including lectures, concerts, performances, and film screenings in 2019–2020. Many events scheduled in March 2020 or later were canceled or postponed due to the pandemic.

The following list captures a sample of highlights from the year.

OPENINGS

September 19, 2019

UNTO THIS LAST: TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF JOHN RUSKIN

Following an introduction by cocurator Tim Barringer (the Paul Mellon Professor of the History of Art at Yale), the exhibition cocurators, catalogue contributors, and Courtney Skipton Long (Acting Assistant Curator of Prints and Drawings at the museum) discussed John Ruskin and why he matters today, two centuries after his birth.

October 10, 2019

ANDREW CARNDUFF RITCHIE LECTURE: HILTON ALS ON LYNETTE YIADOM-BOAKYE

Als, a staff writer and theater critic for the *New Yorker* and Associate Professor of Writing at Columbia University, delivered this year's Ritchie lecture introducing an exhibition of paintings by Lynette Yiadom-Boakye. This was the second in a series of displays he has curated for the museum that highlight women artists working in Britain today.

January 22, 2020

CONTEMPORARY DESIGNER BOOKBINDINGS FROM THE COLLECTION OF NEALE AND MARGARET ALBERT

Neale Albert and George Kirkpatrick joined exhibition curator Molly Dotson and Elisabeth Fairman, Chief Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, to discuss the creative exchange between patron and artist in the commission and creation of designer bookbindings.

February 19, 2020

RADICAL VICTORIANS IN ART AND MUSIC

Tim Barringer, cocurator of the exhibition *Victorian Radicals: From the Pre-Raphaelites to the Arts and Crafts Movement*, introduced a program of Victorian art and music that protested the industrialization of the era and offered radical utopian alternatives. Soprano Lucy Fitz Gibbon and pianist Ryan McCullough performed scores ranging from popular ballads and socialist anthems, accompanied by the words of William Morris, to the lyrical work of composer Charles Villiers Stanford and the inimitable satire of W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan.

LECTURES

September 19, 2019

ISHION HUTCHINSON ON WILLIAM BLAKE

Hutchinson, a poet and Associate Professor, Department of English, Cornell University, discussed William Blake with Leah Mirahkor, Lecturer in Ethnicity, Race, and Migration and the Program in American Studies, Yale University.

September 20, 2019

THE IMAGE OF WHITENESS

Daniel C. Blight, writer and lecturer, Critical and Historical Studies in Photography, University of Brighton spoke about his book *The Image of Whiteness: Contemporary Photography and Racialization* and moderated a discussion with Claudia Rankine, Frederick Iseman Professor of Poetry, and Leah Mirahkor, Lecturer in the Program in Ethnicity, Race, and Migration.

September 25, 2019

SCRAPING RUSKIN

Jorge Otero-Pailos, artist, Director and Professor of Historic Preservation, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, gave a talk to complement the exhibition *Unto This Last: Two Hundred Years of John Ruskin*.

October 23, 2019

WHY WE NEED RUSKIN NOW

Tim Barringer, the Paul Mellon Professor of the History of Art, Yale University, proposed that the critical practice of John Ruskin offers the potential for a renewal of art-historical thinking today.

November 6, 2019

NORMA LYTTON LECTURE: EDGAR HEAP OF BIRDS, SPIRIT CITIZEN:

PROVOCATIVE NATIVE AMERICAN PUBLIC ART AND STUDIO PRACTICE

Edgar Heap of Birds (artist and Traditional Elk Warrior Society Leader, Cheyenne Nation of Oklahoma) presented Native origins recounted in revised US history, indigenous community art actions, and public art collaborations with museums and art centers in America and internationally.

February 7, 2020

A CONVERSATION WITH ISAAC JULIEN

The filmmaker and installation artist Isaac Julien CBE RA, featured in the museum's exhibition *Migrating Worlds: The Art of the Moving Image in Britain*, discussed his work.

“ART IN CONTEXT” GALLERY TALKS

September 24, 2019

IRON AND WIRE AND FIELDS OF STEEL: JOHN RUSKIN AND THE NATURAL WORLD

Judith Stapleton, PhD candidate, History of Art, Yale University

October 22, 2019

PETERLOO AND PROTEST

Lars Kokkonen, Curator for Collection Research, Yale Center for British Art

November 12, 2019

BARBARA WALKER

Maryam Ohadi-Hamadani, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Yale Center for British Art

November 19, 2019

BOOKS OF THE HOUR: THE MATERIALITY AND VISUALITY OF RUSKIN'S FIRST EDITIONS

Victoria Hepburn, PhD candidate, History of Art, Yale University

December 3, 2019

RUSKIN IN THE MUSEUM: STUDENT, COLLECTOR, CURATOR

Tara Contractor, PhD candidate, History of Art, Yale University

January 21, 2020

A SELECTION OF WORKS BY WOMEN BOOKBINDERS

Molly Dotson, Assistant Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts

February 4, 2020

RACE AND SCULPTURE AT THE YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

Michelle Donnelly, PhD candidate, History of Art, Yale University

February 11, 2020

JOHN EARDLEY WILMOT BY BENJAMIN WEST

Adam Chen, Yale College '22, Head Student Guide

February 25, 2020

MAKING MODERNITY: THE “INDUSTRIAL ARTS” IN VICTORIAN BRITAIN

Christine Olson, Yale PhD candidate, History of Art, Yale University

March 3, 2020

PALESTINE IN PRINT: POWER, PLANNING, AND PROPAGANDA

Michal Goldschmidt, PhD candidate, History of Art and Architecture, Brown University

WORKSHOPS

On September 5, 2019, the museum hosted a teaching workshop addressing these questions: As a teacher, how do you ensure your curricular goals are being achieved during your museum visit? How many artworks should you select, and how do you pace the conversation? Titled *Creating a Lesson Plan in the Museum*, this free program was open to all college and university faculty, as well as graduate students.

On October 5, 2019, the museum held a community and teacher workshop titled *Race and the Art Museum*. This three-hour program examined the concept of race within the context of artworks from the museum's collections. Museum educators led a lively conversation about the question of neutrality and how the museum presents British visual and material culture. K–12 educators, college students, faculty, and members of the New Haven community were invited.

On October 23, 2019, coinciding with the museum's special exhibition *Unto This Last: Two Hundred Years of John Ruskin*, scientific illustrator Bayla Arietta led a workshop exploring observational drawing and watercolor painting techniques. Arietta is a Curatorial Assistant in the Department of Prints and Drawings.

On October 24, 2019, the Visual Literacy Consortium, an informal group of K–12 educators, met to explore visual literacy and its role in the school curriculum. The group's goal is to work toward an expanded notion of literacy that includes making meaning from visual as well as written texts.

On January 16, 2020, the museum held a teaching workshop addressing these questions: How do you create dialogue around a work of art? What are some strategies for integrating information into a conversation in the museum? Titled *Weaving Information into a Conversation*, this free program was open to all college and university faculty, as well as graduate students.

On January 23, 2020, the museum hosted the program *Resolve to Publish: Tips for Organizing Your Research and Images*. Free and open to all college and university students and faculty, participants learned how to use digital tools to prepare their papers for publication.

On February 29, 2020, in conjunction with the special exhibition she curated, *Contemporary Designer Bookbindings from the Collection of Neale and Margaret Albert*, Molly Dotson, Assistant Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, led an *Introduction to Bookbinding* workshop.

ACCESS AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Four sessions of *Exploring Artism: A Program for Families* were held during 2019–2020. This ongoing free program is for families with children aged five to twelve and on the autism spectrum. Participants spend time in the galleries responding to artworks with interactive materials, followed by creating something of their own in a classroom. All family members are encouraged to participate.

On November 2, 2019, the museum hosted the *Shadow Tellers Game: Create A Story with Shadow Puppets*. Families and visitors of all ages joined Elm City Creative and Forever Stoked Creative for a morning of storytelling and puppet-making.

In February 2020, the museum invited families and children of all ages to explore the collections during New Haven Public Schools vacation days and participate in two *Sketching in the Galleries* programs.

TOURS

The museum's Docent Program is a vital part of the Education Department. Docents offer tours of the collections, special exhibitions, and the building's architecture. In 2019–2020, docents presented more than forty-five tours.

PERFORMANCES

July 17, 2019

FLOWER SONGS AND ENGLISH GARDENS

A selection of art songs was performed by the internationally renowned soprano Charlotte de Rothschild. The musical repertoire consisted of songs about flowers and English gardens to complement the museum's exhibition *Eileen Hogan: Personal Geographies*.

September 14, 2019

KEATS, SHELLEY, GHOSTS & LOVERS

The acclaimed British actor Julian Sands explored his favorite poems from the anthology published by the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association, *John Keats and Percy Bysshe Shelley: Essential Poems* (2016, edited by Duncan Wu). This event was cosponsored by the Elizabethan Club of Yale University and the Yale Center for British Art.

October 2, 2019

TOKO TELO

One of the most notable groups on the world music scene today performed at the museum. Toko Telo reinvents traditional Malagasy musical styles – tsapiky, jihe, and beko.

November 13, 2019

TALES FOR WINTER

In a theater piece created by Yale School of Drama (YSD) graduate students Maeli Goren and Gavin Whitehead, and directed by Maeli Goren, YSD actors narrated tales inspired by Shakespeare and the legendary ghost stories of English author M. R. James (1862–1936). This event was cosponsored by the Elizabethan Club of Yale University and the Yale Center for British Art.

December 3, 10, and 17, 2019

New Haven public school students performed a series of holiday music concerts in the museum's Entrance Court.

December 5, 2019

A CHRISTMAS CAROL, BY CHARLES DICKENS

The Olivier Award–winning British director and actor Guy Masterson returned to the museum for a solo performance of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, adapted and directed by Nick Hennegan.

December 12, 2019

SHADOW BELONGS TO LIGHT: SOLILOQUIES FROM *KING LEAR*

Yale School of Drama graduate students performed three soliloquies from Shakespeare's *King Lear*.

December 12, 2019

Inspired by the Indian classical dance form called kathak, the renowned New York City–based dancer and choreographer Parul Shah performed, accompanied by live music. This event was presented through the generosity of the Terry F. Green 1969 Fund for British Art and Culture.

December 13, 2019

Héloïse Carlean-Jones, Yale School of Music '20 performed Benjamin Britten's "Suite for Harp" (1969) and "Variations on Themes from Bellini's *Norma*" (1838) by Elias Parish-Alvars on the pedal harp.