

# the Davis.

DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 6, 2018**

## **THE DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES BROADER EVENT OFFERINGS FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY THIS SPRING**

### **Date Night, Stroller Tours, Family Day, and Exhibition-Related Programs Offer Something for All Ages and Interests**



WELLESLEY, Mass. – This spring, the Davis Museum at Wellesley College hosts fantastic public events and programs that engage families, couples, and art enthusiasts alike. From the new **Date Night at the Davis** for those wanting to enjoy culture and wine, to the always well-attended **Family Day** inspiring children and adults with art-themed activities, and the recently introduced **Stroller Tours** offering parents and their young children exclusive themed tours, the Davis delivers cultural opportunities for everyone.

“At the Davis, connecting with works of art is a social experience, and our diverse range of activities for the public create enriching opportunities,” said Arthurina Fears, Manager of Museum Education and Programs. “Visitors discover goings-on at the Davis relevant to their own lives and interests, and learn something new with every visit.”

In addition to exhibition-related activities, the Davis has expanded its calendar to provide opportunities to engage in art in numerous ways. For adults, there are opportunities to socialize with like-minded art enthusiasts at the **Spring Opening Celebration**; a private evening for couples during **Date Night at the Davis** offers fun ways to learn about art and each other. For families, the **Stroller Tours** and **Family Day** are available to accommodate even the youngest of art-goers.

For life-long learners seeking art education-focused events, the Davis will feature **The Art and Craft of Photography**, a class in photographic printing techniques, as well as several talks around art activism, modernism and collecting, quilts and Siddhi culture of the African diaspora, and many more events listed below:



## **Community Events**

### **Spring Opening Celebration**

Tuesday, February 13, 6:30 - 9 p.m. Reception

Davis Lobby and Galleries

The Davis invites the public to celebrate the opening of its Spring 2018 exhibitions *Clarence H. White and His World: The Art and Craft of Photography, 1895-1925*; *Fragment: A Museum's Mid-century Legacy*; *Soulful Stitching: Patchwork Quilts by Africans (Siddis) in India*; *Artists Take Action! Recent Acquisitions from the Davis*; *Intermezzi: The Inventive Fantasies of Max Klinger*; *Ria Brodell: Butch Heroes*; and *David Teng Olsen: Smoked My Head on Yes Waters*.

### **Stroller Tours**

Wednesday, February 14: The Art of Love

Wednesday, March 14: Abstract Patterns

Wednesday, April 11: Spring is in the Air

Wednesday, May 9: Making an Impression

10:15 - 11 a.m.

Meet in Davis Lobby

Spend an art-filled morning at the Davis strolling the galleries during this free guided tour—a special opportunity for families open before normal hours. Designed for art lovers and their little ones (recommended for children up to 2 years old). Join Arthurina Fears, Manager of Museum Education and Programs, for a different theme on the second Wednesday of each month.

### **Date Night at the Davis**

Thursday, April 12, 6 -8 p.m.

Davis Lobby and Galleries

\$35/person (\$25/person for Wellesley Students, Faculty, Staff and FOA Members)

Enjoy date night mixing art and drinks after hours at the Davis Museum! Here's how it works: couples will split into two groups for separate tours led by museum curators Meredith Fluke and Amanda Gilvin on different approaches to understanding art. Reunited, you'll have tons to discuss over wine, food, and live music. It's the perfect way to spark conversation with your partner and learn something new in the process. The galleries will remain open during the course of the evening for couples to teach each other their new-found knowledge. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.theDavis.org](http://www.theDavis.org).

### **Family Day: Photos and Fragments**

Saturday, April 28, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Davis Lobby, Plaza, and Galleries

Family Day will be filled with activities for visitors of all ages with inspiration from exhibitions *Fragment: A Museum's Midcentury Legacy* and *Clarence H. White and His World: The Art and Craft of Photography, 1895-1925*. Join us for a treasure hunt in the galleries, story time, creation of sun prints, photography demo with Wellesley students, a museum tour, and more.

*Generously supported by The Palley Endowment Fund for Davis Museum Outreach Programs.*

### **Drop-in Public Tours**

Every Saturday, 2 p.m.

February 17 - May 5 (No tours on March 3, March 24, and March 31)

Meet in Davis Lobby

Thematic tours of special exhibitions and permanent collections led by a Student Guide are free and

open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. For a full schedule of tours, please visit [www.theDavis.org](http://www.theDavis.org).

*This program is generously supported by the Elizabeth Bein Keto '48 Endowed Memorial Art Fund.*

### **Black History Month Tours**

Saturday, February 17, 2 p.m.

Saturday, February 24, 2 p.m.

Join a Student Guide for a drop-in tour celebrating Black History Month. Tours will focus on artworks from Africa and the African Diaspora in the Davis Museum permanent collections and the temporary exhibition *Soulful Stitching: Patchwork Quilts by Africans (Siddis) in India*.

### **Siddi Quilts: African Aesthetics in India**

Saturday, May 5, 2 pm

### **Exhibition Related Programs and Events**

#### **Keynote Lecture: “The Poetry of the Everyday: Clarence H. White and the Creation of American Art Photography, 1895-1925”**

Tuesday, February 13, 5:30 p.m.

Collins Cinema

Anne McCauley, David Hunter McAlpin Professor of the History of Photography and Modern Art, Princeton University, and curator of the exhibition, Clarence H. White and His World, will trace how a young man from Newark, Ohio, taught himself photography and within five years was exhibiting in London, Paris, Vienna, Berlin, and elsewhere. White’s melding of the ideals of Arts and Crafts movement and American socialism with the new demands of advertising and magazine illustration resulted in innovative compositions that defined what “modernism” in photography would be in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **The Art and Craft of Photography**

Instructor: David Teng Olsen

Session One: April 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Session Two: April 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Meet in Davis Lobby

Cost per session: \$85 for the general public (\$75 for Wellesley Faculty, Staff and FOA Members)

Associate Professor David Teng Olsen will lead a demo on photo printing techniques inspired by the work of Clarence White. Negatives will be provided, but participants are invited to bring a roll of 35 mm black and white negatives to print. Each session is limited to fifteen participants. Included as a special behind-the-scenes option will be a student guide-led tour of Clarence White from 10:15-11 a.m. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.theDavis.org](http://www.theDavis.org).

#### **Symposium: Fragments and the Modernist Aesthetic**

Friday, February 16, 2 p.m.

Collins Cinema

The fragments collected by Wellesley from the 1940s until the 1960s reflected modernist tastes that encompassed not only African masks, Mediterranean antiquities, and medieval architectural elements,

but also abstract painting, inventive architecture, and sleek design. Guest speakers and attendees will examine the role fragments played in the mid-century modernism shaped by artists, collectors, and museums. This afternoon symposium will include presentations by art historian and critic Aruna D'Souza and Ithaca College Assistant Professor Risham Majeed, with discussion led by Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Anthropology at Wellesley Elizabeth Minor.

**Gallery Talk: Fragments from the History of the Davis**

Tuesday, February 27, 4 p.m.

Join Meredith Fluke and Amanda Gilvin for a discussion on the fragments of artworks that came into Wellesley collections during the mid-twentieth century, an influential period for art collecting, museum growth, and art history at Wellesley and in the United States.

**Gallery Talk: #Resist - Collecting Activist Art**

Tuesday, April 10, 4 p.m.

Join Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director of the Davis Museum, and exhibition curator Meredith Fluke for a conversation about building a collection of activist art, the rationale behind acquisitions, and the importance of exhibiting political art now.

**Artist's Talk: Ria Brodell: Butch Heroes**

Wednesday, April 11, 12:30 p.m.

Boston-based artist Ria Brodell will discuss the research and process involved in the creation of the painting series *Butch Heroes*. In this ongoing series of portraits, Brodell sheds light on gender nonconforming pioneers—historical figures whose lives have been hidden, and whose stories demonstrate how our ideas of gender identity have evolved over hundreds of years.

**Gallery Talk: *Kawandi*: Patchwork Quilts and Siddi Culture**

Tuesday, April 24, 4-5 p.m.

Join Soulful Stitching co-curator Sarah K. Khan and Davis Museum Assistant Curator Amanda Gilvin for a gallery talk on the African diasporic Indian art of *kawandi*, patchwork quilts made from saris. With a focus on how the quilts relate to food, culture, and social justice, Khan will discuss her research and film projects on Siddi culture.

**Davis Discoveries Spring 2018 Symposium:  
The Antioch Mosaic: Context and Conservation**

Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2-4:30 p.m.

Davis Museum Lobby

Reception to follow

In the 1930s, the city of Antioch—an important capital of the Eastern Roman Empire—was excavated by a consortium of institutions, who subsequently received mosaics into their collections throughout the world. Wellesley's Antioch mosaic, dated to the 5th-century C.E. was first installed on campus in 1936, and has since been central to the Wellesley Art Collection. In 2016, the Davis reinstalled its permanent collections, a project that required (hinged upon) the migration of the Antioch mosaic from the museum's 5th to its 2nd floor, bringing with it a number of structural and conservation challenges. Join us for an afternoon of presentations, given by Christine Kondoleon, George D. and Margo Behrakis Senior Curator, Greek and Roman Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Paula Artal-Isbrand, Objects Conservator at the Worcester Art Museum, and Jean Louis Lachevre, Independent Conservator, for a program about the history of the Antioch mosaics, their excavation, conservation, and display, and the

impact they have had in collections throughout New England. The Davis Discoveries series is generously supported by Wellesley College Friends of Art.

For the most comprehensive schedule of activities, please visit the Davis calendar [online](#).

### **ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM**

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that encourages visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

### **ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS**

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly-acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming—classical and popular music, visual arts, theater, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2,400 undergraduate students from 49 states and 58 countries.

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