

7-2-03 updated

**Events Planned for
Reflections: Furniture, Silver, and Paintings in Early America
October 11 to December 28, 2003**

October 11 Saturday

5:00 p.m. Members' Gallery Tour by George Parker, collector

George Parker had certain collecting principles in mind when he assembled the 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century American decorative arts shown in Reflections: Furniture, Silver, and Paintings in Early America. Trained as an art historian and as a sculptor, he has an eye that distinguishes and favors decorative arts with the very distinctive styles of the four cities from which they came. New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Newport furniture, for example, had regional differences of carving, forms, and wood that appeal to him, and he tends to collect and group together his holdings based on their origins and style. Mr. Parker will select examples to discuss in a gallery tour.

THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR GENERAL PUBLICATION—KATHY WILL HANDLE THE REGISTRATION

October 16 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Slide lecture by Ann Smart Martin, Stanley and Polly Stone Professor, Department of Art History, UW-Madison, "Through the Scholar's Looking Glass: Interpreting a Collection," Elvehjem room L140

Ann Smart Martin, scholar and curator for Reflections: Furniture, Silver, and Paintings in Early America, sees the collection through a broad social and cultural lens. She will discuss the exhibition themes of "reflection"—in several of its disparate meanings—as well as the guiding of her UW-Madison students through the interpretative process. She will show furniture, mirrors, silver, and portraits in a new light.

October 23 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Lecture by Thomas H. Broman, Associate Professor, Department of History of Science, UW-Madison, "Publicity, Sociability, and the Cultivation of Virtue in the Enlightenment," Elvehjem room L140

During the eighteenth century, a new understanding of virtue appeared that displaced the idea of virtue from its traditional associations with political engagement and military service. Instead, virtue became both a product of social intercourse and a code of behavioral norms for life in society. This talk will explore how the Enlightenment ideal of sociability was linked to virtue, and how that ideal was articulated in the public forum of the periodical press.

November 13 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Slide lecture by Anne Verplanck, Curator of Prints and Paintings, Winterthur Museum, “Reading the Clues on Canvas: Early American Portraits,” Elvehjem room L140

Anne Verplanck will encourage the audience to look closely at American paintings, “reading” the paintings for clues about the sitters’ age, gender, social position, family position, and aspirations. Some of these portraits are likenesses of early Americans who might have owned furniture and decorative arts like those in Reflections: Furniture, Silver, and Paintings in Early America.

[ADD CREDIT OR SPONSOR LATER, IF APPROPRIATE]

November 20 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Slide lecture by David L. Barquist, Associate Curator of American Decorative Arts, Yale University Art Gallery, “Looking Glasses in America, 1640–1840,” Elvehjem room L140

The talk will be an examination of the subject matter from a variety of perspectives, including the technology of glass production, frame construction and styles, the marketing of looking glasses, and how they were used in the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries.

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