



BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jeanne Hodesh

347-381-3712

jhodesh@brooklynhistory.org

BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES FALL & WINTER 2017 CALENDAR OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Mimi Sheraton, Justin Davidson, Christine Quinn, Jenna Weiss-Berman and many more join BHS for conversations that connect Brooklyn's past and present

August 9, 2017 Brooklyn, NY— Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS) is pleased to announce its fall and winter calendar of public programs. The robust schedule includes conversations about the podcast revolution, Brooklyn's agricultural past, the history of slavery at many ivy league institutions, and a three-part series commemorating the hundredth anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State.

Tickets and registration for all events will be available on BHS's website, brooklynhistory.org, on August 14.

Through a variety of voices, these topics of discussion will bring to life BHS's mission to consider multiple points of view and represent the people, events, and activities that have shaped and continue to shape our borough, city, and nation.

September

Nilofer Merchant on *The Power of Onlyness*

Thu, Sep 7, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

As one of world's leading business thinkers, **Nilofer Merchant** knows the power of ideas. Merchant sits down with **Julie Scelfo** to discuss her new book, *The Power of Onlyness: Make Your Wild Ideas Mighty Enough to Dent the World*, and her theory that we each hold transformative ideas ready for the plucking, if we only learn how.

Tales from the Vault: Agricultural Brooklyn

Mon, Sep 11, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

At the turn of the century, Brooklyn was largely fields, farms, and unobstructed views. Eugene L. Armbruster, an early 20th-century photographer, captured these now-forgotten scenes in photographs and scrapbooks which were recently added to BHS's collection. Join two members of our library staff, **Tess Colwell**, and **Regina Carra**, as they share stories and imagery from this fascinating collection.

Free Friday

Fri, Sep 15, 5 pm – 9 pm

Free

Explore the exhibitions, take part in activities and talks throughout the building, and enjoy Brooklyn Brewery beer during this month's Free Friday!

A Mic for Every Voice: The Podcast Revolution

Mon, Sep 18, 6:30 pm

\$10/ \$5 for Members

Podcasts are one of the most democratic forms of media today, but can their accessibility lead to a greater diversity in public voices? Join **Eleanor Kagan**, BuzzFeed's Director of Audio and producer of the hit podcasts *Another Round* and *See Something Say Something*, as she leads a discussion with **Jenna Weiss-Berman** (The Moth, StoryCorp, BuzzFeed, co-founder of Pineapple Street Media), and **Kathy Tu** and **Tobin Low**, co-hosts of *Nancy* from WNYC Studios, hailed by Mashable as “a quiet LGBTQ revolution in podcasting;” and **James T. Green**, producer of Gimlet Media's *The Nod*, which explores the many facets of black life. These leaders in the landscape explore how they are seizing the opportunity to create highly diverse, groundbreaking content, how they reach and interact with audiences, and what they feel the future holds for podcast listeners and creators.

Book Talk: *Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971*

Thu, Sep 28, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in History, **Heather Ann Thompson** shares the complicated and gripping tale of the five-day prison uprising, as well as the muddled investigations, lawsuits, and untold stories that followed.

October

Transparency, Journalism, and the White House

Tue, Oct 3, 6:30 pm

\$10/ \$5 for Members

A free press holds powerful institutions accountable. So what does that mean when applied to our executive branch? Join Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for *The Washington Post*, **David Fahrenthold**, and deputy managing editor at ProPublica, **Eric Umansky**, for a discussion about how journalists navigate investigations into the actions and policies of the White House, regardless of who holds the office.

Magnetic City: Touring New York with Justin Davidson

Tue, Oct 10, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

As *New York* magazine's architecture critic, **Justin Davidson** has a singularly sharp perspective on New York City. Using his recent book, *Magnetic City: A Walking Companion to New York*, as a guide, he shares his takes on his favorite neighborhoods, and how the ever-changing city shapes the lives of its inhabitants.

Book Talk: *Greater Gotham: A History of New York City from 1898 to 1919*

Thu, Oct 12, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Nearly 20 years after the release of his Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece, *Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898*, **Mike Wallace** brings us the next chapter of the city's dynamic and stirring history. Book signing to follow.

Our Bums: The Lasting Legacy of the Brooklyn Dodgers

Tue, Oct 17, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Fifty years after the Dodgers' heart-wrenching move to Los Angeles, "Dem Bums" still hold a special place in Brooklyn's shared memory. Historian and author **David Krell** has plenty of Dodgers lore and stories to share about the history of the team and how they (especially Jackie Robinson) helped to define modern sports and popular culture.

Free Friday

Fri, Oct 20, 5 pm – 9 pm

Free

Join us for our monthly fun evening of wandering our galleries, free activities, and Brooklyn Brewery beers!

Book Talk: *The Apparitionists: A Tale of Phantoms, Fraud, Photography, and the Man Who Captured Lincoln's Ghost*

Tue, Oct 24, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Following the trauma of the Civil War, the intersection of mourning on a national scale and the new technology of photography gave rise to a chilling phenomenon: "spirit photography," the supposed art of capturing departed loved ones on film. Author and curator of religion at the National Museum of American History, **Peter Manseau**, shares the story of infamous spirit photographer William Mumler, the fraud allegations that haunted him, and a nation grasping for the promise of the afterlife.

Book Talk: *The Second Coming of the KKK: The Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s and the American Political Tradition*

Thu, Oct 26, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Rick Perlstein, described by *Politico* as "chronicler extraordinaire of American conservatism," leads this conversation with renowned historian **Linda Gordon**. Gordon's new book takes an in-depth look at the roots and ramifications of the KKK's 1920s resurgence.

Living Gig to Gig in NYC's Freelance Economy

Mon, Oct 30, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

NYC's workforce is increasingly populated by freelancers, working from contract to contract for a variety of companies. As the "gig economy" overtakes more traditional career structures, dramatic changes could be on the horizon. Join **Sara Horowitz**, Executive Director and Founder of the Freelancers Union, in a lively discussion about the gig economy's impact on New York City and the safety nets we need to support the 21st century workforce.

November

Women's Suffrage Turns 100

Part 1: Women Can Vote. Now What?

Wed, Nov 1, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

After a long, complicated battle, on November 6th, 1917, women won the right to vote in New York State. While a major victory, this fight amplified rifts among equal rights constituents and advocates, primarily between African American women and white women. BHS Director of Public History **Julie Golia** sits down with historian **Deborah Gray White** to discuss the 100th anniversary and its reverberations.

This is the first in a three-part series celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State.

Book Talk: *Death: A Graveside Companion*

Thu, Nov 2, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

In her latest work, author and co-founder of the Morbid Anatomy Museum, **Joanna Ebenstein**, curates an encyclopedic chronicle of rituals, beliefs, and artistic traditions surrounding death from around the world and throughout time, from medieval Europe's *memento mori* to Mexico's Dia de Muertos. Join us for a comprehensive view of the attitudes and cultural observations surrounding life's "great equalizer."

Women's Suffrage Turns 100

Part 2: Reshaping Politics

Mon, Nov 6, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

In 2017, women make up less than 20% of Congress, even as they constitute over 50% of the American population. As more women take seats in elected offices, are priorities shifting? Are conversations evolving? BHS Director of Public History **Julie Golia** leads this discussion with a panel of ground-breakers, including **Christine Quinn**, the first female Speaker of the NYC Council and former mayoral candidate.

This is the second in a three-part series celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State.

Women's Suffrage Turns 100

Part 3: The "Nasty Woman" Stigma

Wed, Nov 8, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Women in positions of power just can't seem to win. If they're not labeled too bossy, they're labeled too meek. Cast as the dangerous intruder during suffrage, the vilification of political women and their signature issues continues today. In this spirited discussion panelists **Joan Malin**, former President of Planned Parenthood of New York City, Inc., **Allison K. Lange**, women's history historian, and **Jamia Wilson**, Executive Director of Women, Action, & the Media, dig into a history of mischaracterization of women. Moderated by BHS Director of Public History **Julie Golia**.

This is the final program in a three-part series celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State.

Talking Brooklyn with Mimi Sheraton, Moderated by Dana Cowin

Thu, Nov 9, 6:30 pm

\$10/\$5 for members

Long before her career as the *New York Times*'s first female restaurant critic and, later, as food writer for dozens of distinguished publications, **Mimi Sheraton** was Miriam Solomon of Brooklyn, New York. She reflects on her roots and her career in this conversation with radio host and former editor-in-chief of *Food & Wine* magazine, **Dana Cowin**.

Digital Democracy: How Technology Impacts Politics

Mon, Nov 13, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

When tweets have more impact than stump speeches, the moment when technology rules elections has arrived. **Matthew McGregor**, described as "Obama's digital attack dog" and Digital Director for Precision Strategies, discusses how a mastery of technology, from real time data analytics to quick draw social media, is the driving force of political campaigns today. Panelists include tech experts from *Daily Kos*, SwingLeft, and 270 Strategies.

Free Friday

Fri, Nov 17, 5 pm – 9 pm

Free

Join us for our monthly free evening to wander the galleries, engage in fun activities, and enjoy Brooklyn Brewery beers!

The Fight Against the Criminalization of Poverty in New York

Mon, Nov 20, 6:30 pm

Free

It's been four years since courts determined that New York City's "stop-and-frisk" policy was unconstitutional, but communities across the city continue to be subjected to "broken windows" policing. The Brooklyn Community Bail Fund sees the impact of these policies every day as it pays bail for New Yorkers who would otherwise be incarcerated. Join the Brooklyn Community Bail Fund in a discussion of how community organizations are fighting back against the criminalization of poverty in New York City. Panel discussion moderated by Brooklyn Law School Professor and author **Jocelyn Simonson**.

Elite Northern Colleges and Their Ties to Slavery

Thu, Nov 30, 6:30 pm

\$10/ \$5 for members

Columbia, Princeton, Brown, Yale. The ties between these institutions and America's "peculiar institution" are deep. Historian **Eric Foner** heads the Columbia University and Slavery Project. **Martha Sandweiss** heads a similar project at Princeton. Join them as they uncover slavery's historic connections to elite campuses in a conversation moderated by **Craig Wilder**, author of *Ebony & Ivy: Race, Slavery and the Troubled History of America's Universities*.

December

Jennifer Egan on *Manhattan Beach*

Thu, Dec 7, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

The Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is back with a new novel uncovering Brooklyn waterfront history, from women working in the Navy Yard to mobsters running the Red Hook docks. She sits down with **Alexis Coe**, author of *Alice+Freda Forever*, to discuss her extensive research and the process of building the book's vibrant characters.

Book Talk: *Women in the World of Frederick Douglass*

Mon, Dec 11, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Historian and professor of American History at Le Moyne College, **Leigh Fought**, paints an alternative portrait of abolitionist and social reformer Frederick Douglass by examining the lives of the women around him. In this latest work, Fought sheds light on Douglass's relationships to his mother, grandmother, slave mistresses, wives Anna Murray and Helen Pitts, and many other women who nurtured, challenged, and united with him in shared struggles for emancipation, the right to vote, and equality.

Book Talk: *The Ghost Ship of Brooklyn*

Wed, Dec 13, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for Members

Thousands of Americans suffered on the HMS Jersey, a British prison ship moored in Wallabout Bay off the coast of Brooklyn, during the Revolutionary War. In his new book, award-winning historian **Robert Watson** brings to life the stories of survivors, and charts the ship's ghastly effect on the city's spirit, which eventually rallied public support for the war.

Free Friday

Fri, Dec 15, 5 pm – 9 pm

Free

Join us for an evening of exploring the exhibitions, free activities, and Brooklyn Brewery beers!

Unlocking Public: Placemaking in Brownsville

Mon, Dec 18, 6:30 pm

\$5/Free for members

Starting with Jane Jacobs's first campaign against Robert Moses, urbanists have argued that public space is a critical component of a healthy, vibrant city. But what if people fear for their safety on their own street? In Brownsville, through the work of the Brownsville Community Justice Center, residents have leveraged urban planning tools to transform neglected spaces into safe, vibrant public hubs. **Ginia Bellafante** of the *New York Times*, moderates a conversation with **Erica Mateo** and **Deron Johnston** from the Brownsville Community Justice Center, and **David Burney**, Director of Pratt's Urban Placemaking and Management program, exploring the successes and challenges of placemaking in Brownsville.

Offered in partnership with the Center for Court Innovation.

About Brooklyn Historical Society

Founded in 1863, Brooklyn Historical Society is a nationally recognized urban history center dedicated to preserving and encouraging the study of Brooklyn's extraordinary 400-year history. Located in Brooklyn Heights and housed in a magnificent landmark building designed by George Post and opened in 1881, today's BHS is a cultural hub for civic dialogue, thoughtful engagement and community outreach. In May 2017 BHS opened a second site in DUMBO's Brooklyn Bridge Park.

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