



Four Arts Plaza • Palm Beach, Florida • 561-655-7226 • www.fourarts.org • November/December 2008

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 new eNewsletter

Visit the Four Arts website and sign up to receive our e-mail newsletter. It is full of program updates, news and specials. Visit <http://www.fourarts.org/form> and sign up today!

Holiday Closings

- November 27
Thanksgiving – Closed
- November 28 – Closed
- December 24
Christmas Eve – Closed at 1 p.m.
- December 25
Christmas – Closed
- December 26 – Closed
- December 31
New Year's Eve – Closed at 1 p.m.
- January 1
New Year's Day – Closed
- January 2
Administrative Offices Closed,
Gallery, King Library &
Gardens Open

Silversmiths to the Nation Exhibit Opens November 22 at Four Arts

The master silverworks of Thomas Fletcher and Sidney Gardiner will be on display at The Society of the Four Arts beginning November 22. "Silversmiths to the Nation: Thomas Fletcher and Sidney Gardiner, 1808 – 1842" captures the patriotic fervor of the times in which Fletcher and Gardiner rose to prominence as America's premier silversmiths. Renowned for their dramatic presentation pieces for civic and military heroes as well as stylish household silver and jewelry, the duo created an impressive array of

stunning silver works, including swords, medals, commemorative works, tea sets, pitchers, dinner services, a candelabrum, vases, and flatware in silver and gold. This exhibition premiered at The Metropolitan Museum of Art where it attracted more than 185,000 visitors.

Among the highlights in "Silversmiths to the Nation:"

- A selection of swords, medals, commemorative works and military memorabilia.
- An extensive array of household and personal items that represent the quantity and variety of new and stylish forms created by Fletcher & Gardiner.

A section of the exhibition will focus on innovations in silver construction that enabled the firm to evolve from historic craft-shop practices to those of an entrepreneurial business. The extraordinary survival of business papers, personal letters, design drawings and a travel journal preserve the firm's history, which mirrored America's coming of age as an independent commercial, industrial, political and artistic presence.

On December 13 at 11 a.m. Dr. Donald Fennimore will present a free illustrated lecture about the exhibit in the Walter S. Gubelmann Auditorium. Dr. Fennimore is the senior curator for Wintethur Museum and Country House.

Admission to the exhibit is \$5, or free for members and children 15 years of age and under. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit will remain on display until January 11, 2009.

Silversmiths to the Nation is sponsored by Fidelity Investments.

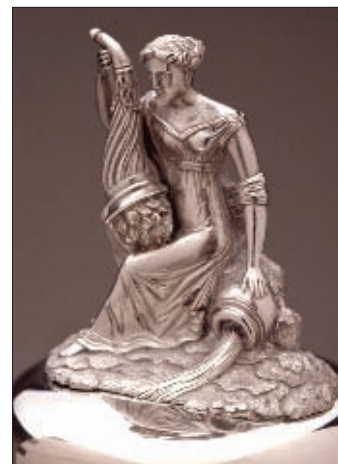
- A monumental silver urn awarded to Captain Isaac Hull of the frigate *Constitution*, the firm's first military presentation commission.



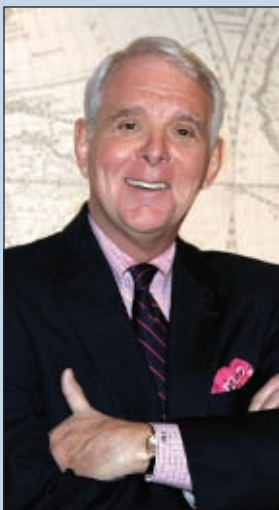
Urn presented to Andrew Jackson, silver, 1816, Philadelphia, made by Thomas Fletcher and Sidney Gardiner. Collection of the South Carolina State Museum, Columbia, SC.
 Photo: Hunter Clarkson



Handle (detail of sugar bowl), Philadelphia, made by Thomas Fletcher and Sidney Gardiner, silver, 1811-1812. Private collection.



Finial (detail of vase presented to Cadwalader Evans), Philadelphia, made by Thomas Fletcher, silver, 1830. Courtesy of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania Collection, Atwater Kent Museum of Philadelphia.



President's Letter

Dear Friend of the Four Arts:

When I'm away from Palm Beach and people ask me to explain The Four Arts, I sometimes answer, "We're like a small liberal arts college,

with our members and friends as the student body." I describe our ten-acre campus and our wide range of offerings, from concerts to lectures to classes on Shakespeare and opera.

We're proud of our wide range. But like any good college, we care about depth, as well. And so, for "students" at The Four Arts who want to delve deeply into a subject, we not only schedule ongoing courses over many weeks, like Juliette de Marcellus's 2009 class, "The Evolution of French Arts and Culture." We also create themes: recurring events exploring single subjects, enabling our members and friends to visit a topic again and again.

The coming year, for example, will emphasize the life and work of Ludwig van Beethoven. Our musical year will begin with a concert by the Palm Beach Symphony entitled, "Happy Birthday, Ludwig." We will follow with many concerts featuring works by this giant composer – and with lectures and classes like Dr. Charles Freeman's presentation, on December 15th, highlighting Beethoven's piano trios.

In 2009 we will celebrate 500 years of design from western civilization's seminal architect, Andrea Palladio. We will celebrate with a series of events under the banner "Palladian Glory" – including a Tuesday lecture, a mini-series course, films, and a presentation by an Atlanta couple who found themselves owning, and restoring, a Palladian house near Venice. To cap it off, a group of Four Arts travelers will be invited to visit the Veneto next summer to tour Palladio's surviving villas.

Breadth – but depth, as well. Ours may be the most unusual cultural institution in America. It exists and flourishes because of *your* generous support and steady patronage. Thank you!

Most sincerely,

Ervin S. Duggan

A Glimpse of the Garden

Thank you to Barbara Bailey of Lake Worth who sent in this issue's glimpse of the garden. Ms. Bailey, an artist, took this picture to use as an inspiration for a future painting. To find your inspiration, stop by the gardens soon. They are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no charge for admission, but please leave pets at home. For more information call (561) 655-7227. If you have a garden picture you would like to share with FOLIO, please e-mail it to kedwards@fourarts.org.



Concert Tickets On Sale December 8

Tickets to the following concerts will go on sale to the public on December 8. Members can pick up tickets on December 3. To purchase tickets, visit The Esther B. O'Keeffe Gallery Building or call (561) 655-7226.

Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m.
The Goldstein - Kaler - Peled Trio
Cost: \$10

Tuesday, December 16 at 8 p.m.
The Palm Beach Symphony with the Goldstein-Kaler-Peled Trio, "Happy Birthday Ludwig"
Cost: \$35 balcony/\$40 orchestra

Wednesday, January 7 at 8 p.m.
Jeffrey Siegel, "Basking in Beethoven"
Cost: \$35 balcony/\$40 orchestra

Sunday, January 11 at 3 p.m.
The American Chamber Players
Cost: \$10

Wednesday, January 14 at 8 p.m.
The American Chamber Players
Cost: \$35 balcony/\$40 orchestra

Four Arts To Celebrate Beethoven's Birthday with Concerts and Lecture

As the world marks Ludwig van Beethoven's birthday on December 16, The Society of the Four Arts will celebrate by presenting a series of events showcasing the composer's work:

The Goldstein-Kaler-Peled Trio

On Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m. the Goldstein-Kaler-Peled Trio will perform three pieces by Beethoven: Trio no. 4 in B flat major Op. 11, Trio no. 5 in D major Op. 70 no. 1 "Ghost", and Trio no. 7 in B flat major Op. 97 "Archduke." Tickets to the performance are \$10.

The Palm Beach Symphony

The trio, made up of pianist Alon Goldstein, violinist Ilya Kaler and cellist Amit Peled, will appear in a second Beethoven themed performance with the Palm Beach Symphony. Entitled "Happy Birthday, Ludwig," the Palm Beach Symphony's season opening performance will take place on December 16 at 8 p.m. The performance will include the Coriolan Overture, op. 62; Symphony No. 6, op. 68, F major ("Symphonia Pastorale"); and the Concerto for Violin, Violoncello & Piano, op. 56, C Major (Triple Concerto). Tickets cost \$35 for balcony seats or \$40 for orchestra seats.

Campus on the Lake Lecture

On Monday, December 19 at 2:30 p.m., Dr. Charles Freeman will give a lecture on the role Beethoven played in establishing the piano trio as a major compositional genre in the nineteenth century. Dr. Freeman will specifically address the pieces performed by The Palm Beach Symphony, exploring the creative combination of trio with orchestra. Dr. Freeman's lecture will take place in the Walter S.



Dr. Charles Freeman

Gubelmann Auditorium. Tickets are free for members, \$15 for King Library members, and \$20 for all others. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (561) 805-8562.

Keyboard Conversations®: Basking in Beethoven

Finally on January 7, pianist Jeffrey Siegel will present a Beethoven-centered evening with his popular Keyboard Conversations® series. The program will include the famous Minuet in G, the Largo mesto,



The Palm Beach Symphony, conducted by Dr. Ray Robinson, will perform with the Goldstein-Kaler-Peled Trio

variations on *God Save the King*, and the *Farewell Sonata* in E Flat. Entitled *Basking in Beethoven* this performance will feature Mr. Siegel explaining the history and significance of each piece before performing it in its entirety. Tickets for Mr. Siegel's concert are \$35 for balcony seats or \$40 for orchestra.

To reach the box office or for additional information call (561) 655-7226. All concert tickets will be available to the public December 8 at 10 a.m.



Jeffrey Siegel

A Q&A With Head Librarian Laura Brenkus

Laura Brenkus has worked for the Four Arts King Library for more than three years, and became the Head Librarian in July of 2007 after earning her Masters in Library and Information Science. She shares a few thoughts on the library with FOLIO readers.

What are visitors often surprised to learn about the library?

People love our reading room. It is comfy, quiet and old fashioned... it brings back fond memories of days spent luxuriously reading for hours. With our busy daily agendas, we rarely pencil in time to relax; but this room is so inviting that one MUST just sit and read something.

What library service do you wish more people took advantage of?

Our fabulous Fine Art and Decorative Arts Collection. No library in the county has the type of collection that we have.



We also just added 19 new magazine subscriptions that we hope will be a hit – and we have extended hours on Wednesday and Saturday during season so that anyone may take advantage of these fine selections.

What does one need to do to prepare for a book group meeting?

Nothing. Anyone is welcome to join us and just listen. However, as with anything, the more one brings to the discussion, the

more one takes away. That being said, we love our book groups and we prepare at great length. No matter what, anyone who attends is going to come away satisfied.

Which book are you most looking forward to discussing this season, and why?

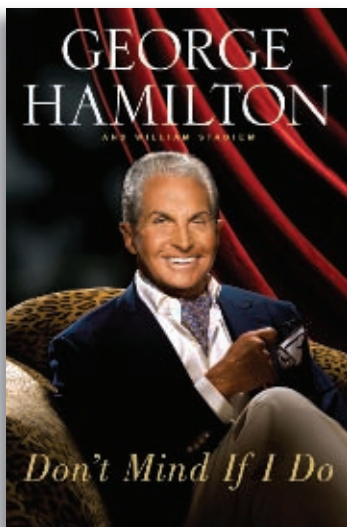
Since this is a year in which we are pairing up books and reading two in one month, I am looking forward to a pair of books that we will read in December. The

author, John Banville, Man Booker prize winner for *The Sea*, is now writing thrillers under the pseudonym Benjamin Black. We will read one of each of his. I am curious to see how his style reflects the genre within which he is working.

What is your favorite thing about The King Library?

My favorite thing is the people: we have a great membership, and an incredibly fun team! The most important part of my day is ensuring that everyone loves to walk in here, whether they work here or read here. This library is a source of great joy to me and to many because we are enriched daily by it.

The Four Arts King Library serves as the town library for Palm Beach, and anyone may join. Annual library memberships are \$35 for Palm Beach Residents and \$45 for all others. For more information, contact the library by calling (561) 655-2766 or e-mailing kinglibrary@fourarts.org.



“Don't Mind if I Do” – George Hamilton to Speak at The Society of the Four Arts

Actor George Hamilton will discuss his new book, *Don't Mind if I Do*, in The Gubelmann Auditorium on November 6 at 2:30 p.m. The event is free to members and King Library members, and \$5 for all others. For reservations, call (561) 805-8562.

George Hamilton is one of America's best-known actors, personifying the golden age of Hollywood. He has starred in movies, television shows, performances on Broadway

and was even a contestant on *Dancing with the Stars*.

His feature film credits include the lead role in Vincent Minnelli's *Home from the Hill*, *All The Fine Young Cannibals*, *By Love Possessed*, *Light in The Piazza*, *The Victors*, *The Man Who Loved Cat Dancing*, *Love at First Bite*, *Zorro*, *The Gay Blade*, *The Godfather 3*, *Doc Hollywood*, *Crocodile Dundee* and others. He starred on Broadway in the stage production of the award-winning musical *Chicago* and

has appeared in many television mini-series, series and movies-of-the-week.

Having forgotten more about Hollywood than most movie experts will ever know, Mr. Hamilton will offer an anecdote-filled sampler from his newly published memoir, *Don't Mind If I Do*. The audience will get an intimate look at behind-the-scenes Hollywood, his mother, Palm Beacher, Anne; his bandleader father “Spike,” politicians, movie icons and more.



King Library Holiday Boutique to Take Place December 10

The finest Palm Beach shopping will come to the Four Arts Library Terrace on December 10 as The King Library holds its annual Holiday Boutique, which will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event gives shoppers the chance to browse unique and beautiful gifts while supporting the library. A portion of the proceeds from this year's sales will benefit the King Library renovation project.

Vendors will include Truffies, Letitia Lundeen Antiques, Classic Bookshop, Palm Beach Baubles, Tanya Pierce Collectibles & Gifts, Moyra Stevens Designs, Susan E. Riley Fashion Designer,

White Lotus Collections, Bianca Paradis Eco Couture, and many more. Refreshments will be served.

The following Saturday, December 13, the King Library will also hold a book sale beginning at 9 a.m. Gently used books, including fiction, art books, and art catalogues, as well as videotapes, audiotapes and other miscellaneous goodies will be available.

For more information on the Holiday Boutique or the Book Sale, please call the King Library at (561) 655-2766 or e-mail kinglibrary@fourarts.org.

More Holiday Offerings at The Four Arts

Saturday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. – Floral designer John Klingel will lead a workshop on holiday wreath design. The workshop costs \$55 and takes place in the Donnell Conference Room. Reservations are required: (561) 805-8562.



Tuesday, December 16 at 6 p.m. – Author Les Standiford will discuss his new book "The Man Who Invented Christmas," which explores the role that *A Christmas Carol* played in saving the career of Charles Dickens. A book signing will follow. The event is free for members and King Library members, and \$5 for all others. Call (561) 805-8562 for reservations.

Back by Popular Demand: Opening Night Gala to Kick Off Four Arts Opera Season

The Met Opera: Live in High Definition series is back at The Four Arts, beginning with a special encore presentation of the "Opening Night Gala" starring René Fleming.



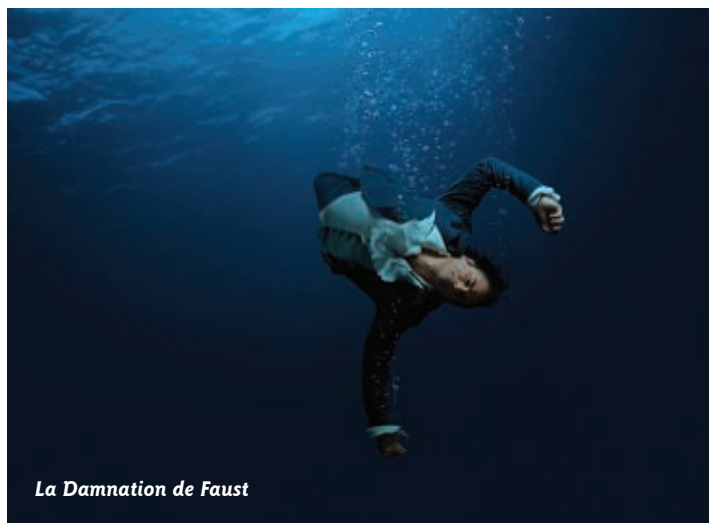
Originally performed at the Metropolitan Opera in September, this blockbuster event will be re-shown at The Four Arts on November 15 at 1 p.m. René Fleming stars in fully staged performances of the second act of Verdi's *La Traviata*, the third act of Massenet's *Manon*, and the final scene from Richard Strauss's *Capriccio*. Tenor Ramón Vargas and baritone Thomas Hampson and Dwayne Croft join the soprano.

The following week will feature an exciting live telecast of Berlioz's *La Damnation de Faust*, a new production from the Metropolitan Opera. Robert Lepage, one of theater's most imaginative directors, applies his artistry to Berlioz's contemplation of good and evil. Using projections, Lepage has created a vision for *La Damnation*

de Faust that seamlessly marries art and technology. Marcello Giordani stars in the title role opposite Susan Graham as Marguerite and John Relyea as Méphistophélès. James Levine conducts this rarely staged masterwork.

Other performances to be shown at The Four Arts this season include Massenet's *Thaïs*, Puccini's *La Rondine*, Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Strauss' *Salome* (an encore presentation), Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, and Adams' *Doctor Atomic* (also an encore presentation).

Tickets for each performance are \$22. Reserved seating is not available. Student tickets are available for \$15. Visit the box office in The Esther B. O'Keeffe Gallery Building or call (561) 655-7226.



La Damnation de Faust



DONOR RECOGNITION AND BENEFITS

Members who contribute to The Society of the Four Arts in addition to their annual dues will receive the following recognition and benefits:

THE CHAIRMAN'S FORUM:

\$25,000 or more per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications
- Eligibility for special off-season arts-related travel sponsored by The Four Arts
- Special membership card
- Reserved seating at all Tuesday lectures
- Reserved parking at all Tuesday lectures
- Invitation to the annual dinner honoring The Benefactors Council
- Recognition on distinctive plaque in O'Keefe Gallery Building
- Invitation to a special event hosted by the Chairman in honor of the Chairman's Forum members
- Two complimentary guest tickets to all Four Arts concerts
- Reserved seating at all evening concerts
- Reserved parking at all evening concerts

THE BENEFACTORS COUNCIL:

\$10,000 to \$25,000 per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications
- Two complimentary guest tickets to Four Arts concerts
- Reserved seating at all evening concerts
- Reserved parking at all evening concerts
- Eligibility for special off-season arts-related travel sponsored by The Four Arts
- Special membership card
- Reserved seating at all Tuesday lectures
- Reserved parking at all Tuesday lectures
- Invitation to the annual dinner honoring The Benefactors Council
- Recognition on distinctive plaque in O'Keefe Gallery Building

THE FOUR ARTS CIRCLE:

\$5,000 to \$9,999 per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications
- Two complimentary guest tickets to a Four Arts concert
- Special event honoring The Four Arts Circle
- Eligibility for special off-season arts-related travel sponsored by The Four Arts

GUARDIAN:

\$2,500 to \$4,999 per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications
- Two complimentary guest tickets to a Four Arts concert
- Special event honoring The Guardians

PATRON:

\$1,000 to \$2,499 per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications
- Two complimentary guest tickets to a Four Arts concert

DONOR:

\$100 to \$999 per year

- Recognition in Four Arts publications

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Children's Library Teaches Love of Reading In Any Language

On Tuesday, November 11 at 10:30 the Children's Library will have their first "Language Day" story time. Preschoolers will hear stories in both English and in German, as read by special guest Barbara Eyckeler. The free story time event falls on a "Tasty Tuesday," meaning that a snack, in this case a German themed one, will end the story time.



It is the first of three scheduled "Language Days." On Tuesday, February 17, Wendy Fernsell, who is the resident chef for Tasty Tuesdays, will be conducting story time in French. The final language day will take place on Monday, March 23. Guest reader Robin

Wheeler Azqueta will read in Spanish to our preschool visitors, and a thematic craft and snack will follow.

Story time programs are always free and no reservations are required. For more information, please call the Children's Library at (561) 655-2776.

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