

GREAT COLLECTORS | NAKED VS. NUDE | CRUISING IBERIA | WHISTLER'S LEGACY | JANE PETERSON

Fine Art Connoisseur



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STREAMLINE
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Around [Piranesi's] work is the indescribable air of intimate friendship with the antique; he found it more difficult to be modern than to be ancient....

— Arthur Samuel, 1910



GIOVANNI BATTISTA PIRANESI (1720-1778), *PAESTUM, ITALY: EXTERIOR OF THE BASILICA*, c. 1777-78. PENCIL, BROWN AND GRAY WASHES, AND PEN AND INK ON PAPER, 18 3/4 x 27 1/8 in., SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM, LONDON; SM P71; ON VIEW IN THE EXHIBITION *PIRANESI AND THE TEMPLES OF PAESTUM: DRAWINGS FROM SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM AT NEW YORK CITY'S MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM* (THEMORGAN.ORG) JANUARY 23-MAY 17; FOR DETAILS, SEE PAGE 106.



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MUSEUMS (continued)

New York City



Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778)
Paestum, Italy: Exterior of the Basilica
c. 1777-78, Pencil, brown and gray washes, pen and ink on paper, 18 3/4 x 27 1/8 in.
Sir John Soane's Museum, London; SM P71
For a larger view, see this magazine's *Frontispiece* on page 3.

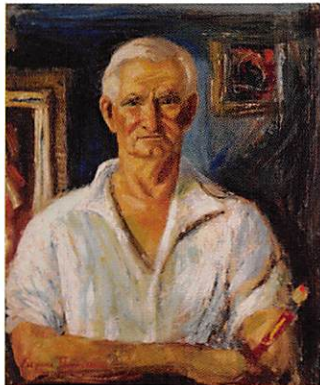
Library & Museum. On March 19, Columbia University professor Mark Rakatansky will lecture on Piranesi and Soane. This show will next open in August at Stanford University's Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts.

Information: 225 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, 212.685.0008, themorgan.org

Spartanburg, South Carolina

The Spartanburg Art Museum is presenting an unprecedented retrospective of Eugene Thomason (1895-1972), a South Carolinian who spent a decade in New York City during the 1920s, primarily studying with such Ashcan masters as George Luks and Robert Henri. Thomason then settled in Nebo, a town in western North Carolina. For 30 years he adapted Ashcan's gritty realism into a distinctive style that captured the rolling landscapes and peoples of his adopted region. Curated by Martha R. Severens, this show has already appeared at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, Georgia; after Spartanburg, it will move to the Asheville Museum of Art and Charlotte's Mint Museum Randolph. The University of South Carolina Press has co-published the catalogue with the Johnson Collection, which has loaned all of the works.

Information: 200 East St. John Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306, 864.582.7616, spartanburgartmuseum.org



Eugene Thomason (1895-1972)
Self-Portrait
1959, Oil on masonite, 30 x 25 in.
Johnson Collection, Spartanburg



J. M. W. Turner (1775-1851)
Ramah (Rachel's Tomb)
c. 1835, Watercolor and bodycolor on paper, 5 1/2 x 7 3/4 in.
Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery, Gift of E.L. Hartley

spectacular neo-Gothic building on the River Thames constructed by the American millionaire William Waldorf Astor.

Information: Two Temple Place, London WC2R 3BD, England, UK, 011.44.207.836.3715, twotempleplace.org

London

January 31-April 19

From the 19th century through World War II, the cotton mills of Lancashire, in northwestern England, produced huge wealth, at least for the mill owners. They proceeded to collect, and then bequeath, a range of artworks including Roman coins, medieval manuscripts, Tiffany glass, Japanese prints, Byzantine icons, and ivories. Highlights from museums in the towns of Blackburn, Accrington, and Burnley will soon be displayed in Two Temple Place, the

Scottsdale

January 15

The Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West is set to open its doors to the public. Housed in a huge building owned by the city and operated by a nonprofit board, this "museum of ideas" is dedicated to the past and present of America's 19 Western states. On view will be works by masters like Charles M. Russell, W. Herbert Dunton, Georgia O'Keeffe, Maynard Dixon, Fritz Scholder, and Allan Houser, as well as contemporary ones like John Coleman, Charles Fritz, and Ed Mell. Also presented are such historical items as Navajo chiefs' blankets, John Wayne's business card, saddles, and items associated with Kit Carson and the Texas Rangers.

Information: 3830 N. Marshall Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85251, 480.686.9539, scottsdalemuseumwest.org



John Coleman (b. 1949)
Two Ravens (Edition of 20)
2014, Bronze, 29 x 20 x 14 in.
On view at The Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West

OUT & ABOUT



Lady Sheila Hale

The American Friends of British Art (AFBA) will host its fourth annual lecture and luncheon at Palm Beach's Colony Hotel on January 24. This year's guest speaker is the Titian biographer Lady Sheila Hale, who will discuss King Charles I and his important collection of Italian paintings, which form the core of the current Royal Collection. The event is co-sponsored by *Fine Art Connoisseur*. Tickets are \$130 and must be purchased in advance via 561.687.3394, americanfriendsofbrishart.com, or mridgdill@aol.com.

In October, Denver's Abend Gallery hosted more than 200 guests – its largest crowd ever – for the opening of the American Impressionist Society's 15th Annual National Juried Exhibition. On view were 185 paintings, selected from more than 1,300 entries. *Fine Art Connoisseur's* Award of Excellence went to Julie Petro for *Rose Kimono*, and the following day the magazine hosted a guided visit to the Denver Art Museum for 35 guests.

AIS president Debra Joy Groesser (center) with *Fine Art Connoisseur's* Carolyn "Charlie" Bogusz and Vanessa Rothe;
Photo: Gale Gegenheimer

