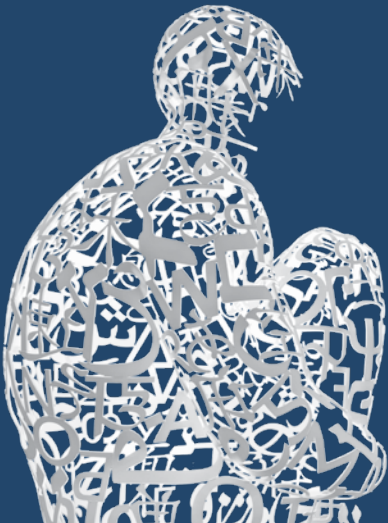




**THE HOUSTON SEMINAR
FALL 2012**



THE HOUSTON SEMINAR

THE HOUSTON SEMINAR WAS FOUNDED IN 1977 FOR THE PURPOSE OF STIMULATING LEARNING AND CULTURAL AWARENESS. EACH SPRING AND FALL THE NONPROFIT GROUP OFFERS LECTURES AND STUDY TOURS FOCUSED ON VARIED TOPICS THAT MAY INCLUDE ART, ARCHITECTURE, LITERATURE, MUSIC, THEATER, HISTORY, POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, RELIGION, THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, AND CURRENT TRENDS AND EVENTS.



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The Houston Seminar is grateful for the support of United Airlines, which generously provides transportation for many of our distinguished speakers.

FRONT COVER: *Mirror, Mirror*, Jaume Plensa, Rice University, 2012

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fall 2012 COURSES

PAGE

DAYTIME

10 ART COMES TO CAMPUS: A PRIVATE TOUR OF RECENT PUBLIC ART AT RICE

9 RICE CENTENNIAL CAMPUS TOUR

EVENING

5 MATISSE: IN SEARCH OF TRUE PAINTING

6 RICHARD MURRAY: AT THE FINISH LINE!

6 THE ENLIGHTENED LISTENER: CLIVE SWANSBOURNE AT HOME WITH MUSIC

8 CELEBRATING RICE UNIVERSITY, 1912–2012







fall 2012 calendar

SEPTEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	ART AT RICE TOUR		RICHARD MURRAY		MATISSE
	RICE CAMPUS TOUR		CELEBRATING RICE U		AT HOME WITH MUSIC



courses for fall 2012

ADVANCE NOTICE: STUDY TRIP TO ITALY, MAY 2013

ITALY REVEALED: CULTURE, CUISINE, CHURCH, COUNTRYSIDE
TWO "BACK TO BACK" TOURS IN ITALY: MAY 11–MAY 23, 2013, OR
MAY 20–JUNE 1, 2013.

Visit Italy with University of Texas Professor of the Year **SEAN THERIAULT**, who teaches a university course on the Catholic Church, and his former student **FLAMINIA CHAPMAN**, now a top tour guide in Italy.

Sean has visited Italy many times and has excellent contacts with Vatican officials. He can take us behind the scenes to visit some of Italy's most treasured sites and to understand the politics of the Catholic Church and the Vatican's relationships with the United States. A highlight of our four days of sightseeing in Rome will be a private visit for our group to the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel after closing hours.

Flaminia will take us to stay at her family villa in Umbria and into the countryside to meet the people, tour wonderful small towns, and have an up-close-and-personal look at the art and architecture, the wine, the cuisine, and the countryside.

Each group of 14 will have a week in Umbria, and the two groups will overlap in Rome.

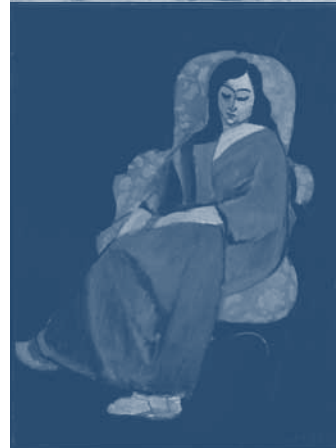
Tentative price: \$5,806 per person (single supplement \$800) not including airfare, some meals, alcoholic beverages other than wine at dinner, gratuities, individual purchases, or trip insurance.

A limited number of single rooms will be available.

Full details and a final price will appear in the Spring 2013 Houston Seminar brochure.

Note: Some parts of the tour will require extensive walking on rough or uneven terrain.

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required to hold your place. You would receive a refund of your deposit only if The Houston Seminar cancels the entire trip.



The Young Sailor II
Henri Matisse
1906
Oil on canvas
Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Laurette in a Green Robe, Black Background
Henri Matisse
1916
Oil on canvas
Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Nasturtiums with the Painting "Dance"
Henri Matisse
1912
Oil on canvas
Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

©2011 Succession H. Matisse/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

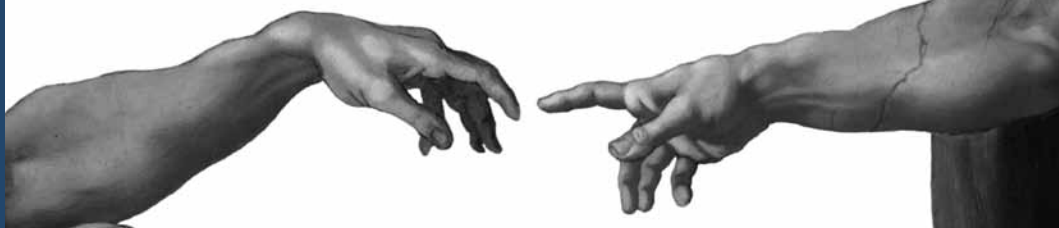
MATISSE: IN SEARCH OF TRUE PAINTING

ONE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 6:30–8:00 P.M.
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 5601 Binz at Main Street
American General Conference Room, Mezzanine Level,
Audrey Jones Beck Building

This December, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, will present Matisse, *In Search of True Painting*, an exhibition of 50 paintings. The Houston Seminar has invited **REBECCA RABINOW**, the Met's co-curator of the exhibit, to come to Houston in September to give our audience a sneak preview of the exhibit.

Matisse continually strove to capture the essence of his subjects and to this end, repeated imagery sometimes as pairs, trios, or series. While this approach is not unique, Matisse's need to work from one painting to the next is striking and reveals him to be an artist who continually questioned himself and his methods in order to, as he put it, "push further and deeper into true painting." The exhibition, currently on view at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, through June 18, will be displayed at the Statens Museum for Kunst in Copenhagen from July 14 to October 28 before traveling to New York.

REBECCA RABINOW, a curator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art, joined the staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1990. Since that time, she has helped organize seventeen special exhibitions at the museum and assisted with the reinstallation of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century European Paintings and Sculpture Galleries (2007). She is a co-curator of the award-winning exhibition, *The Steins Collect: Matisse, Picasso, and the Parisian Avant-Garde*, on view at the Metropolitan Museum through June 3. She holds a PhD from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and did her undergraduate work at Smith College. She is a co-author of several exhibition catalogues including *Ambroise Vollard, Patron of the Avant-Garde* and *The Steins Collect*.





RICHARD MURRAY: AT THE FINISH LINE!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20; TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23; AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 6-7:30 P.M.

The Briar Club, Terrace Room, 2603 Timmons Lane, 77027 (at Westheimer).

As many of you know, Richard Murray has taken us through this hurly burly Republican primary season. In September, he resumes his always fascinating and stimulating examination of American presidential politics. By that time the parties will have selected their nominees, and we will be down to the final decision. From what has occurred in the spring of 2012, it appears that the fall will offer us a vibrant and heated debate on where the American people want to go.

RICHARD MURRAY is just the person to sort out and make sense of the complicated issues and events before us. His judgments always seem to be just on the mark, and his predictions have been stunningly accurate. The insight he brings to the American landscape is a must for this political year.

Professor Murray is the Bob Lanier Professor of Urban Public Policy and director of surveying for the Center for Public Policy at the University of Houston, where an endowed scholarship in his name was established.



THE ENLIGHTENED LISTENER: AT HOME WITH MUSIC

THREE MONDAYS, SEPTEMBER 24, OCTOBER 15, AND NOVEMBER 12, 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Private residences; addresses will be provided to subscribers. Limited enrollment.

In three informal evenings, pianist *CLIVE SWANSBOURNE* will play and discuss music by some of the great early Romantic composers. He will consider stylistic, formal, and technical aspects of the music, sometimes concentrating on a single composition in detail.

SEPTEMBER 24

Schubert: Classical Romantic

Schubert's music spans the Classical and Romantic styles and includes elements of both. There is ongoing debate even now about which style dominates and whether to categorize Schubert's music as either Classical or Romantic. Although such categorization is unnecessary, this

line of inquiry does lead us to investigate more deeply the vast range and variety of his music, how he transformed his Classical influences, and how he paved the way for the new generation of composers.

OCTOBER 15

Schumann: Young Revolutionary

Schumann's youthful compositions are among his most original and are some of the finest examples of early Romanticism. They disobey all the "rules" of proportion, balance, and structure that guided the Classical masters, and yet they succeed through the power of Schumann's uniquely vivid imagination and style.

NOVEMBER 12

Brahms: Reluctant Romantic

Brahms was an admirer of Schumann but sought to model his music on that of the Classical masters, especially Haydn and Beethoven. His early piano sonatas and variations are examples of these influences. However, his embrace of the Romantic ideal in his piano music is most evident in his later, more personal, short pieces, which we will enjoy in this session.

CLIVE SWANSBOURNE studied at the Royal College of Music in London and received his doctorate from the Yale School of Music. He has won prizes in international competitions and performed with orchestras and at music festivals in Europe, Canada, and the U.S. In Houston he has performed the complete Beethoven piano sonata cycle and the piano works of Schubert to packed houses at the Rothko Chapel. He and cellist Barrett Sills founded the Village Chamber Players, which recently completed its inaugural season of Village Concerts.





CELEBRATING RICE UNIVERSITY, 1912–2012

THREE WEDNESDAYS, OCTOBER 3, 24, AND 31, 7:00–8:30 P.M.

ONE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7:00–8:30 P.M.

ONE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 10:00–NOON, CAMPUS TOUR

W. Kyle Morrow Room, Third Floor, Fondren Library, Rice University

The campus tour group will meet in the Sallyport at Lovett Hall on November 3.

A collaboration between The Houston Seminar and the *Journal of Southern History*.

The most convenient campus entrances for visitors to Fondren Library and Lovett Hall are Entrances #1 and #2, off Main Street.

The closest parking to both locations is in the Faculty/Staff Parking lot (available to visitors in the evening; adjacent to the campus road leading from Entrance #1) and in the Founder's Court Visitors Lot (adjacent to the campus road leading from Entrance #2). Both lots require a credit card to enter and leave.

Please enter Fondren Library via the east entrance, opening off the Academic Quadrangle. A picture i.d. is required to enter the library. Rice students, faculty, and staff admitted to lectures and tour free of charge with a Rice University i.d. card.

Please join the Houston Seminar to celebrate Rice University's centennial and wish it a happy 100th birthday. We will hear four stimulating lectures and enjoy a campus tour. On these five occasions, well-known historians who know the university intimately will discuss its visionary leaders, its origins and founding, the 100 years during which it has educated thousands of students, and its beautiful campus and well-designed, carefully sited buildings and art. ▶

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3: **KATE S. KIRKLAND** will speak on Captain James A. Baker, the first chairman of the Rice board of trustees and the so-called savior of Rice Institute. She will discuss Baker's influence on the institute's origins, founding, and early years. Ms. Kirkland will also touch on Captain Baker's role among the leaders of Houston, his career as businessman, banker, and lawyer, and their effects on Rice. She is the author of *Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857–1941* (Texas A&M University Press, 2012), published in conjunction with the university's centennial, and *The Hogg Family and Houston: Philanthropy and the Civic Ideal* (University of Texas Press, 2009). Ms. Kirkland holds a Ph.D. in history from Rice.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18: **JOHN B. BOLES** will discuss Edgar Odell Lovett, the first president of Rice Institute, his vision for the institute, and his presidency, 1908–1946. Mr. Boles is the William Pettus Hobby Professor of American History at Rice, editor of the *Journal of Southern History*, and the author of *University Builder: Edgar Odell Lovett and the Founding of the Rice Institute* (Louisiana State University Press, 2007; paperback, updated edition, 2012), published in conjunction with the university's centennial.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24: **MELISSA F. KEAN** will delve into the more recent history of Rice and the many changes between the end of World War II and the present. During the 1960s the Rice charter was amended, which resulted in racial desegregation, charging tuition for the first time, and changing the name from Institute to University. Ms. Kean will also discuss more recent developments in governance, administration, and student life. She is Rice's Centennial Historian and the author of *Desegregating Private Higher Education in the South: Duke, Emory, Rice, Tulane, and Vanderbilt* (Louisiana State University Press, 2008). Ms. Kean holds a Ph.D. in history from Rice.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31: **STEPHEN FOX** will present an illustrated architectural history of the Rice campus. He is the author of *Rice University: An Architectural Tour* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2001), fellow of the Anchorage Foundation of Texas, and lecturer in Rice's School of Architecture.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3: **STEPHEN FOX** will lead an intensive, fast-paced, two-hour walking tour of the Rice University campus.



ART COMES TO CAMPUS: A PRIVATE TOUR OF RECENT PUBLIC ART AT RICE UNIVERSITY

ONE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 4-6 P.M.

Directions for meeting point and parking will be provided to participants.

Limited enrollment.

A Renaissance is underway at Rice with several new and exciting installations having been inaugurated in its ambitious Public Art Program. We will take an intimate view of several of the recent specially commissioned works; highlights include the iconic and groundbreaking pyramid shaped James Turrell *Skyspace*, a solar powered rotating ceiling installation made from recycled materials by Aurora Robson, the lyrical and contemplative *Mirror*, by Jaume Plensa, and the engaging and majestic bronze by Bruce Wolfe of Rice's founding president Edgar Odell Lovett, which marks the University's centennial. The tour will focus on projects in the central quad and will conclude with beverages, light refreshments, and casual discussion in the landmark Brochstein Pavillion.

Please join our tour leaders, **MOLLY HUBBARD**, Rice University Art Director, and Rice art committee member, **JUDY NYQUIST**, who will share their inside knowledge about the exciting program, its goals and future.

Enrollment: All classes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Confirmation of enrollment will be sent by return mail. It is possible to attend a single session of multi-session courses for a pro-rated fee. You may enroll by mail, fax, or online.

Discounts: Any individual or couple signing up for more than three courses on the same registration form may discount the total fee by 10 percent. However, calculations of total costs eligible for the discount cannot include out-of-town trips or excursions. Teachers and students at accredited institutions may attend classes for a discounted fee of \$10 per session.

Refunds: You will receive a partial refund if you cancel at least two weeks before a course begins; a cancellation fee will be charged. If your enrollment has caused others to be turned away from a limited-enrollment class, no refund will be issued unless your place can be filled. Refund policies for courses involving travel may differ.

Gift certificates: These are available for a single session, a specific course, or a dollar amount, which the recipient may apply toward any course(s). Notification will be mailed to the donor and the designated recipient. Please call for more information, or send request and payment with this form.

For further information telephone 713-666-9000 or fax 281-488-0511 or consult www.houstonseminar.org

The Houston Seminar
P.O. Box 590964, Houston, TX 77259



COURSE LIST AND RESERVATION FORM

please enroll me/us in the following courses:

ITALY REVEALED: CULTURE, CUISINE, CHURCH, COUNTRYSIDE
May 11- May 23 or May 20-June 1, 2013

\$500 per person non-refundable deposit

MATISSE: IN SEARCH OF TRUE PAINTING
One Wednesday, September 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

\$35/1 session

RICHARD MURRAY: AT THE FINISH LINE!
Two Thursdays, September 20 and November 8; One Tuesday, October 23, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

\$60/3 sessions
 \$25/1 session

THE ENLIGHTENED LISTENER: AT HOME WITH MUSIC
Three Mondays, September 24, October 15, November 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

\$120/3 sessions
 \$45/1 session

CELEBRATING RICE UNIVERSITY, 1912-2012
Three Wednesdays, October 3, 24, 31, 7-8:30 p.m.; One Thursday, October 18, 7-8:30 p.m.; One Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m.- noon

\$50/5 sessions
 \$15/1 session

ART COMES TO CAMPUS
One Thursday, November 1, 4-6 p.m.; Limited enrollment

\$30/1 session

TOTAL FEE:

LESS DISCOUNT (SEE ENROLLMENT INFO):

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

NAME

ADDRESS CITY/ZIP

TELEPHONE (VERY IMPORTANT) HOME OFFICE

EMAIL

We do not share or sell email addresses or any other enrollment information. Providing an email address allows us to advise you of changes and supplemental information regarding courses.

*please send reservation form and payment to
the houston seminar, p.o. box 590964, houston, texas 77259, or fax to 281-488-0511.*

Visa, MasterCard, and American Express accepted.

NAME

CC# EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

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The Houston Seminar is pleased to offer online enrollment at

WWW.HOUSTONSEMINAR.ORG

beginning June 1, 2012.

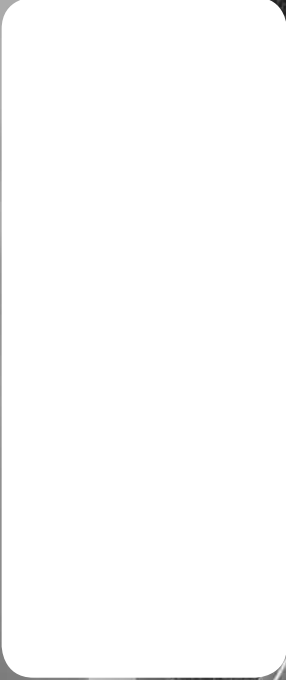


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FALL 2012 SCHEDULE AND ENROLLMENT FORM

MATISSE: IN SEARCH OF TRUE PAINTING + RICHARD MURRAY: AT THE FINISH LINE! + CELEBRATING RICE UNIVERSITY, 1912-2012
ART COMES TO CAMPUS: RICE UNIVERSITY TOUR + THE ENLIGHTENED LISTENER: CLIVE SWANNSBOURNE AT HOME WITH MUSIC
COMING IN SPRING 2013 | ITALY REVEALED : MAY 11-23 OR MAY 20-JUNE 1

