

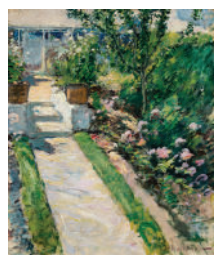
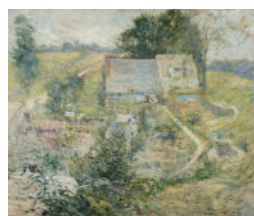
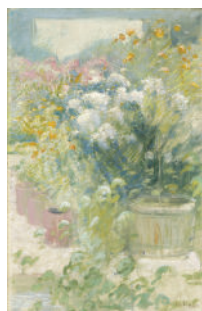
Greenwich Historical Society Newsletter

Greenwich
historical society

FALL
2021

Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman

OCTOBER 6, 2021–JANUARY 9, 2022



Clockwise, beginning top left:

John Henry Twachtman, *In the Greenhouse*, ca. 1895–99. Oil on canvas. 25 × 16 inches. North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh; Purchased with funds from the State of North Carolina.

John Henry Twachtman, *September Sunshine*, ca. 1892–94. Oil on canvas. 25 × 30 inches. Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas

John Henry Twachtman, *In the Garden*, ca. 1895–99. Oil on canvas. 30 × 25 inches. Private collection

John Henry Twachtman, *From the Upper Terrace*, ca. 1892–93. Oil on canvas. 25 × 30 inches. Private collection

This fall, step into the world of American Impressionist painter John Henry Twachtman (1853–1902) with this not-to-be-missed exhibition shedding light on a beloved artist's blending of unique artistic vision with family and home life in Greenwich. Featuring works of art on loan from museum and private collections, *Life and Art* will celebrate Twachtman's deep connections to the Greenwich home he loved.

Revered in his lifetime by fellow artists and students, today Twachtman is considered a “painter's painter” whose work often went underappreciated by contemporary critics. Born in Cincinnati, Twachtman achieved prominence in the New York art world in the 1870s and 1880s. He purchased a country home on Round Hill Road in Greenwich in 1890, and would go on to reach artistic maturity during the period he lived here, adopting an Impressionist palette and often turning his eye toward his house and its surrounding bucolic landscape as subject matter.

Twachtman is familiar to many for his role as a founder of the Cos Cob art colony, which grew out of the summer *en plein air* painting courses he conducted in the waterfront neighborhood surrounding the Holley family's boarding house (now the Bush-Holley House). *Life and Art* considers Twachtman's Greenwich paintings in conversation with his home and family life, as well as the artist's love for the house he expanded and added to over time. Incorporating insights gleaned from architectural study of Twachtman's house (still extant), *Life and Art* considers Twachtman in a highly personal light—as an artist, father and visionary designer.

Life and Art is curated by Lisa N. Peters, Ph.D., an independent art historian and the author and director of the *John Henry Twachtman Catalogue Raisonné*, a collaborative project with the Greenwich Historical Society, in addition to several other books and articles on Twachtman and American art. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated 114-page catalogue, featuring an essay by Dr. Peters.

Life and Art is generously supported by the Henry Luce Foundation for American Art and First Republic Bank. Its accompanying catalogue was made possible by a grant from the Wyeth Foundation for American Art.

TWATCHMAN EXHIBITION PROGRAMS

Members Preview Party

October 5, 2021, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Greenwich Historical Society welcomes its members to preview our newest exhibition, *Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman*.

Exclusive Tour of Twachtman's Greenwich Property

OCTOBER 19, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
Members \$50 / NM \$65

Step directly into John Henry Twachtman's world on this guided tour of the grounds surrounding the Greenwich house that was once home to the painter and his family.

Tour departs by bus from the Greenwich Historical Society Museum Campus. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes, and be prepared to walk outdoors on hilly terrain.

Curator's Lecture: Twachtman and Monet

October 28, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Members \$10 / NM \$20,
Vanderbilt Education Center

Despite their different backgrounds, many parallels exist in the works of artists Claude Monet and John Henry Twachtman in the 1890s. In this decade, both depicted the countryside locations where they established family homes on extensive pieces of property—Monet in Giverny, France, and Twachtman in Greenwich, Connecticut. Both artists modified their surroundings to create aesthetically unified environments, which they captured in their paintings. In this lecture, *Life and Art* exhibition curator Lisa N. Peters will explore reasons for these similarities between Twachtman and Monet, placing them within the context of changes in the 1890s in the Impressionist movement that impacted both artists.

Dear Friends,



Long afternoon shadows and cool evenings are the harbingers of the changing seasons in Greenwich and of the anticipation of school days ahead, new routines and a fall calendar full of activity and opportunity. We're reflecting fondly on a summer that brought gallery visitors, concert-goers and Tavern Garden Market shoppers to the historic campus in Cos Cob. Important restoration work at the Bush-Holley House, ongoing this fall, added to the buzz, along with the joyful noise from our Art and History Camps, weddings and private celebrations hosted in the Barn or on the Great Lawn.

Thanks to a generous grant from the State of Connecticut, we welcomed children under 18 and their caregivers to the galleries all summer at no cost, and we offered camp scholarships to a record number of budding young artists and historians. We bid a fond "until next time" to our long-serving Director of Education, Anna Greco, who is moving on to a new career adventure. As the season comes to a close, so too does our latest exhibition, *Beautiful Work: The Art of Greenwich Gardens and Landscapes*, which closes September 5.

This fall we open our new groundbreaking exhibition, *Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman*, and present a series of programs, curator talks and lectures related to Twachtman's work. We will celebrate the placquing of four important Greenwich buildings and recognize the life and work of preservationist and beloved Greenwich icon David Ogilvy at our combined **Landmarks Recognition** event and **Annual Meeting** on September 30. October brings our **Fall Family Festival**, complete with live music and annual scarecrow-making contest for local families on October 9, and our much-anticipated **History in the Making Award Dinner**, honoring the philanthropic work of Barbara and Ray Dalio, will take place October 13.

We look forward to seeing you this fall.

Debra Mecky

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO



Landmarks Recognition, 90th Annual Meeting & David Ogilvy Preservation Award September 30, 2021, 5:45 - 8:00 p.m.

Our 90th Annual Meeting will include a special presentation of the inaugural David F. Ogilvy Preservation Award and the Greenwich Landmarks Recognition Ceremony. Four Greenwich structures owned, designed or dedicated to trailblazing women will receive bronze plaques in recognition of their design excellence and value in preserving Greenwich's unique architectural heritage. David Ogilvy will be granted posthumously the Greenwich Historical Society's first David Ogilvy Preservation Award to recognize his contributions to historic preservation in Greenwich. Honor these remarkable structures and David's contributions to preservation and learn about our ongoing work at the Historical Society by joining us for this special evening at the Belle Haven Club.

The Places of America's Impressionism: A Joint Curators Discussion

November 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m.
Via Zoom (Free)

The Greenwich Historical Society, in partnership with the Brandywine River Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, PA, presents this unique virtual panel discussion featuring

three scholars of American Impressionism: Amanda C. Burdan, Curator at the Brandywine River Museum of Art; Lisa N. Peters, independent scholar and curator of *Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman*; and Scott Shields, Associate Director and Chief Curator at the Crocker Art Museum. Presented in partnership with Historic Artists Homes and Studios, a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

NEWS AND UPDATES

Museum Store



The Museum store is ready for the fall season with gifts, jewelry, tableware, children's games and crafts, Greenwich-

themed items and selections related to the upcoming exhibition. Support the Historical Society, shop local, and enjoy easy parking and free gift-wrapping!

Bush-Holley House Undergoes Restoration Work



The Bush-Holley House will reopen this September after undergoing a series of restoration projects to ensure its continued

preservation. Since late June, craftsmen have been working on both interior and exterior areas of the house, replacing aging wooden siding and carefully restoring the house's historic window panes to provide improved insulation and prepare for future installation of UV-filtering storm inserts. This fall, workers will begin repairs to the house's iconic two-story front porches to ensure they will remain sturdy and safe for visitors in the decades to come. Stay tuned for updates as we work to preserve this National Historic Landmark.

Opportunities at the Greenwich Historical Society

We are happy to announce several new employment opportunities at the Greenwich Historical Society, including managers in Visitor Services, Public Programs and Exhibitions/Curatorial support. Volunteers in Museum Store sales, visitor experience, special events, garden "Green Team" or museum docent roles are always welcome. Our work is strengthened by a wide range of perspectives, personalities, skills and experiences of our present and future staff and are dedicated to a policy of non-discrimination in employment on any basis. More information available online, or inquire with Laura Kelly, lkelly@greenwichhistory.org.

Get Hands-On with the Create in the Barn Series



For over a century, the Bush-Holley House and grounds have nurtured creativity, design and artful living. This Fall, join us for intimate, hands-on workshops celebrating creative expression, from floral design and painting to entertaining and decorating. Join us for cocktails and camaraderie, presented with local realtor Karen McKenna, and hosted in our historic Barn.

September 23, 2021

Design, Feed, Eat & Entertain with Graze New York

\$80 Member/\$90 Non-Member

November 18, 2021

A Thanksgiving Tablescape: Succulents & Gourds with the Red Flower Truck

\$90 Member/\$100 Non-Member

October 21, 2021

Mixed Media Painting Workshop with Katy Garry

\$80 Member/\$90 Non-Member

December 3, 2021

Holiday Wreathmaking with the Red Flower Truck

\$90 Member/\$100 Non-Member

Tavern Garden

Tavern Garden Markets continue this fall featuring a curated selection of food, crafts, gifts, flowers and produce. Don't miss Bear Creek Farm's weekly Dahlia deliveries, Double L's produce and farm-fresh egg boxes, and more! Presented by Yashmin Lloyds for Compass. Bi-weekly vendor listings at greenwichhistory.org/tavern-markets

Music on the Great Lawn

Concerts continue this fall with Thursday evening performances by Billy & The Showmen September 2, and Vinny Nobile & The Jazz Alliance on September 16. Order your Marcia Selden picnic and join us as we close out another great season of live music. Presented by First Bank of Greenwich and Waterside.

History in the Making: Honoring the Philanthropy of Barbara and Ray Dalio

October 13, 2021



Our long-awaited History in the Making Award Dinner, honoring the philanthropic leadership of Barbara and Ray Dalio is set for October 13. Philanthropist, author and Carlyle Group founder David Rubenstein will interview the Dalios in an intimate conversation, and Indra Nooyi, past honoree and former chairman of PepsiCo, will present the award. Proceeds from the event support the expansion of our educational programs, including our partnerships with Title 1 schools in Greenwich. Individual tickets now available.



FALL
FÊTE

November 4, 2021
6:00 p.m.

FOUNDATION HOUSE @ OLD MILL FARM

Celebrate the best of fashion, art and design at an evening in one of Greenwich's Elizabethan-style great estates. Presented in the tradition of Antiquarius, Fall Fête is a critical fundraiser benefiting Greenwich Historical Society's programs in education, historic preservation and the arts.

This year's event is presented by Oscar de la Renta led by Chairs Holly Cassin, Heather Georges, Deborah Schmidt Robinson and Catherine Tompkins and supported by Co-Chairs Alexandra Kittle, Douglas Graneto and Mimi Moulton. Site of the circa 1796 Sylvanus Selleck Gristmill, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Old Mill Farm estate was built in 1927, is the former estate of actor Mel Gibson and is today the home of Foundation House.

Oscar de la Renta

PRESENTING SPONSOR OSCAR DE LA RENTA

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

September 6, October 11, 2021

OFFICE & MUSEUM STORE

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, noon-4:00 p.m.

MUSEUM GALLERIES

Wednesday-Sunday, noon-4:00 p.m.
Reservations recommended.

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE

The Bush-Holley House will reopen soon for tours, please continue to check our website for updates. Attend an outdoor guided Historic Site and Landscape tour, Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. or by appointment. Reservations recommended.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

By appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$7 group rate

FREE: Youth under 18, members, active military/Blue Star and free for all the first Wednesday of every month.

Visit all 21 museums on the Connecticut Art Trail for \$25. Buy a passport at the museum lobby desk or at ctarttrail.org.

Greenwich Historical Society preserves and interprets Greenwich history to strengthen the community's connection to our past, to each other and to our future.



October 9, 2021, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Bring the whole family for a festive day on the beautiful Historical Society grounds as we celebrate the historic Cos Cob art colony, inspired by our current exhibition, *Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman*. Sing and dance with the Trummytones, compete in our annual scarecrow-

building competition, paint *en plein air* like the Impressionists, and help create a community masterpiece. Tickets available online: \$50 per family for members, \$60 per family for non-members, includes scarecrow supplies.

We happily welcome donations of creative scarecrow-making clothes and accessories! Deliver to the lobby by October 8! Thank you!

For more information and tickets for all of our fall programming
www.greenwichhistory.com or call 203.869.6899

Save the Date

SEPTEMBER 2021

September 2, 2021

Concert on the Great Lawn: Billy & The Showmen

September 5, 2021

Beautiful Work Exhibit Closes

September 8, 2021

Tavern Garden Market

September 16, 2021

Concert on the Great Lawn: Vinny Nobile & The Jazz Alliance

September 22, 2021

Tavern Garden Market

September 23, 2021

Create in the Barn: Design, Feed, Eat & Entertain with Graze New York

September 30, 2021

Annual Meeting / Landmarks Recognition Event

OCTOBER 2021

October 5, 2021

Life and Art: The Greenwich Paintings of John Henry Twachtman Member Preview Party

October 6, 2021

Life and Art Opens to the Public

October 6, 2021

Tavern Garden Market

October 6, 2021

Greenwich Realtor's Forum

October 9, 2021

Family Fall Festival

October 13, 2021

History in the Making Event Honoring Barbara and Ray Dalio

October 19, 2021

Tour of Twachtman's Greenwich Property

October 20, 2021

Tavern Garden Market

October 21, 2021

Create in the Barn: Mixed Media Painting Workshop with Katy Garry

October 28, 2021

Curator's Lecture: Twachtman and Monet

NOVEMBER 2021

November 4, 2021

Fall Fête at Old Mill Farm

DECEMBER 2021

December 2 - 4, 2021

Winter Festival and Holiday Market