



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATTINGHAM

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Please join us at the *English-Speaking Union* for AFA's 2019 Annual Meeting
144 East 39th Street NYC 10016

Thursday, October 10, 2019
6:00 PM

Your response is needed to reach a quorum. Please reply to attend or vote by proxy.

Meeting Agenda

6:00 PM *American Friends of Attingham, Inc.*
Annual Meeting

- I. Reports on the activities and finances of the organization
- II. Thank Yous and Farewells
- III. The Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate of candidates to be elected to the Board of Directors by the Members:

Second-terms

Betsy Shack Barbanell SS '99

Heather Ewing SS '99

Jennifer Klos SS '12, LHC '14, SP '13, '16, '19

First-terms

E. Randolph Hooks SP '18

Anne Kenny-Urban SS '16

- IV. Announcement of Summer School Class of 2019 Representative, to serve a two-year term as a non-voting advisory representative to the Board:

Michael Kerrigan '19

6:30 PM *American Friends of Attingham, Inc.*
Board of Directors Meeting (*Break for non-Board members*)

- I. Election of **Beth Carver Wees** SS '81, RCS '04 as President
- II. Election of **Kathy Galitz** SS '07, RCS '17 as Vice President
- III. Election of **Jessa J. Krick** SS '13 as Secretary

(continued)



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6:45 PM *Presentations of Attingham-inspired research by young alumni*

I. Christian Roden SS '17

The Country House Goes to Sea

Although ocean liners were the embodiment of modern technology in the 19th and early 20th centuries, designers looked to country houses and palaces to attract passengers and assure them of their comfort and safety. Whether by hiring the favored decorators of the elite, or in some cases copying and adapting well-known interiors for seagoing use, shipping companies exploited the lure of these historic structures to attract passengers, while simultaneously introducing some of the most significant technological advancements of the Industrial Revolution.

Christian Roden SS '17 currently serves as the Assistant Director of Prospect Research for the University of Pennsylvania Libraries, seeking new partners and supporters for the Libraries collections, archives, and exhibit program. He has previously worked at the Decorative Arts Trust, the SS United States Conservancy, and the Delaware County District Library in Ohio. He holds an MA from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the University of Delaware and a BA in Art History and English from Washington and Lee University. He was a 2011-2012 Fulbright Research Fellow based at L'Association French Lines in Le Havre, France, and is an active maritime historian and museum consultant.

II. Laurel O. Peterson SS '14

Through Space and Across Media: Art in the Country House

At the turn of the eighteenth century, newly built and renovated country house interiors were often decorated with colorful murals. Covering acres of ceilings and walls at houses like Chatsworth and Blenheim, these elaborate compositions intertwined with national, familial, and cultural politics. Despite their prevalence, relatively little attention has been paid to the role that these murals played in the experience of the country house or in the longer history of British art. My research explores how these painted interiors generated and responded to new forms of artistic exchange, invigorating the arts in Britain.

Laurel O. Peterson SS '14 received her PhD from Yale University in 2018 and holds an MA from the Courtauld Institute of Art. Research for her dissertation, "Making Spaces: Art and Politics in the Whig Country House Interior, 1688-1745," was supported by grants from the Paul Mellon Centre, the Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation, and the World Monuments Fund. She is currently the Moore Curatorial Fellow at the Morgan Library & Museum, and is the organizing curator of *John Singer Sargent: Portraits in Charcoal* (October 4, 2019 – January 12, 2020).

A light reception will conclude the Annual Meeting.



2019 Annual Meeting: Board of Directors Nominations

Betsy Shack Barbanell SS '99 is curator of a private New York art collection which integrates Native American artifacts with contemporary art and antiques. A portion of the Native American collection is on exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the American Wing. A graduate of Vassar College, she has a master's degree in history from NYU, and completed art history courses and study programs here and in England, including the Attingham Summer School in 1999. Currently, Betsy is a board member of the American Federation of Arts and American Friends of Attingham. She recently rotated off the Royal Oak Foundation Board and the Board of Governors of The Cosmopolitan Club. Previously she served as a Board Member and then Board Chair of the Royal Oak Foundation, Board Chair of the Jose Limon Dance Foundation, a member of the Advisory Council of the Institute for Women and Art, Rutgers University and on the Vassar College Development Council after serving on the College's 150th Capital Campaign.

Heather Ewing SS '99 is currently a consultant working with the Smithsonian Institution and other museums. From 2013 to 2018 she served as founding Executive Director of the Center for Italian Modern Art, a nonprofit exhibition and research center in SoHo. She has published a number of books, including *Life of a Mansion: The Story of the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum* (Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, 2014); *Carrère & Hastings, Architects: The Masterworks* (Rizzoli, 2011), co-authored with Laurie Ossman; *The Lost World of James Smithson: Science, Revolution, and the Birth of the Smithsonian* (Bloomsbury, 2007).

Anne Kenny-Urban SS '16 is the Executive Director of Agecroft Hall & Gardens in Richmond, Virginia. Previously, she worked for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for nearly a decade in departments as varied as Education, Risk Management and Finance. Prior employers include: Christie's auction house and Citibank.

Outside of work, she is an active community volunteer. She is a former member of the Board of the Richmond Symphony and Past President of the Princeton Association of Virginia. Currently she is a member of the Board of Governors for St. Catherine's School and the Search Committee for the new Head of School. Mrs. Kenny-Urban also serves as Board Chair for the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Foundation which is dedicated to the historic preservation of the Cathedral, a building listed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks. For all four organizations, Mrs. Kenny-Urban has been an active fundraiser.

Mrs. Kenny-Urban earned an A.B. from Princeton University and a M.A. in art history from the University of Chicago. In addition, she holds an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She is a 2013 graduate of Leadership Metro Richmond.

Jennifer Klos SS '12, SP '13, '16, '19, LHC '14 is an art advisor and independent curator based in Dallas, Texas. She is President of Collector House Inc., an art advisory firm that assists private

collectors in the acquisition of fine and decorative arts in the United States and Europe. She was formerly Curator at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art for eight years, organizing national and international exhibitions, expanding the presentation of decorative arts and design, and contemporary art installations. Jennifer earned her master's degree in the history of decorative arts, design, and culture from the Bard Graduate Center and her bachelor's degree in Art History and French from Vanderbilt University. She studied interior decoration at the Inchbald School of Design, London and art business at Christie's London. Her current research includes the history of collecting and particularly the display of art and objects within interiors from 1600 to the present. She is a member of the Association of Art Museum Curators and the Costume Society of America.

Until his retirement in February 2018, **E. Randolph Hooks SP '18** was Managing Director and Associate General Counsel at JPMorgan Chase in New York, overseeing the legal aspects of the firm's underwriting of municipal bonds. Randolph was born and raised in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and law school at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He lived in New York City for more than twenty years, but now lives in rural Lunenburg County, Virginia, at Spring Bank, a house built in 1793 for John Stark Ravenscroft, who became the first Episcopal bishop of North Carolina. Randolph purchased Spring Bank in 1998 and has enjoyed the ongoing project of renovations and improvements to the house and farm. Horses, equestrian art and historic houses have been three of Randolph's greatest interests throughout his life. These interests led him to apply for Attingham's fall 2018 Study Program, "The Horse and the Country House". His participation in the program introduced him to the work of the Attingham Trust, as well as to many new friends, and spurred an interest to be more involved with the American Friends of Attingham. Randolph looks forward to working with the officers, board members and staff of the AFA.

Summer School Class of 2019 Representative

Michael Kerrigan SS '19 is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Irish Georgian Society in the United States. The Irish Georgian Society is the leading historic preservation group in Ireland, focused primarily on the preservation of Georgian architecture, landscapes and gardens and the related decorative arts. Michael has served as the Executive Director for four years and has been on the Board of Directors of the Society in the United States since 2008. These roles involve a focus on historic preservation, fundraising, planning and organizing tours of country houses in Ireland and working closely with a Board of Directors and lead donors.

Prior to that, Michael worked as an officer of Mercer Human Resource Consulting, a business unit of Marsh and McLennan.

After being raised in Wisconsin, Michael attended Canterbury School in Connecticut and college at the University of Wisconsin in Madison where he majored in early modern European History.