



THE CHARLES HOSMER
MORSE MUSEUM
of American Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Free Winter/Spring Lectures at the Morse:
Jewelry, Art Nouveau, Art Pottery, and Tiffany**

Note to editors: High-resolution images of each of the four lecturers this season are attached.

WINTER PARK, FL—In the Morse Museum’s free 2020 lecture series beginning in January, scholars in the field of decorative arts will give informative talks related to the Museum’s new exhibitions and its renowned collection. Topics for the four lectures include Louis Comfort Tiffany, jewelry, Art Nouveau, and American art pottery.

On January 22, Morse Museum Curator and Collection Manager Jennifer Perry Thalheimer will kick off the series with an in-depth look at the new exhibition *Stories from the Archives—Louis Comfort Tiffany and His Studios*, which opens at the Morse October 15. The talk will explore the role artifacts and preliminary materials, such as sketches and plans, play in understanding the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany and his studios.

In February, Beth Carver Wees, the Ruth Bigelow Wriston Curator of American Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will discuss the evolution of jewelry as American socioeconomics changed in the late 19th century. Financial prosperity and technological progress shifted the considerations of the American jewelry industry from sentimental pieces to high-end luxuries—a change that spurred the establishment of several new jewelers that joined the likes of Tiffany & Co. and Cartier.

Richard Guy Wilson of the University of Virginia, where he is the Commonwealth Professor in Architectural History, will return to the Morse in March to examine Art Nouveau in the United States. The series will wrap up with a lecture in April by Gilcrease Museum of Art’s Senior

Curator and Curator of Art, Laura F. Fry. Fry is the great-great niece of Laura A. Fry, an early and influential decorator for Rookwood Pottery (1880–1967), one of the largest and arguably best-known American art potteries.

The lectures take place on selected Wednesdays in the Jeannette G. and Hugh F. McKean Pavilion, 161 West Canton Avenue (just behind the Museum) and are followed by a reception. All are free and open to the public.

Details of the lectures are as follows:

Stories from the Archives—Louis Comfort Tiffany and His Studios

January 22, 2:30 p.m.

Jennifer Perry Thalheimer

Curator and Collection Manager, Morse Museum, Winter Park

Jewelry for America

February 19, 2:30 p.m.

Beth Carver Wees

The Ruth Bigelow Wriston Curator of American Decorative Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City

Art Nouveau in the United States

March 11, 2:30 p.m.

Richard Guy Wilson

Commonwealth Professor's Chair in Architectural History, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Artist, Inventor, Activist: Laura Anne Fry and the American Pottery Movement

April 1, 2:30 p.m.

Laura F. Fry

Senior Curator and Curator of Art, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Morse Museum, located at 445 North Park Avenue, is home to the world's most comprehensive collection of works by American artist and designer Louis Comfort Tiffany. The Museum's collections also include extensive holdings of American art pottery as well as late 19th- and early 20th-century American paintings and graphics, and decorative art from Europe and America.

Through April, Museum hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and Saturday; 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday; and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Regular admission is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$1 for students, and free for children younger than 12. Admission is free from 4 p.m.

to 8 p.m. on Fridays, November through April. The Museum is owned and operated by the Charles Hosmer Morse Foundation and receives additional support from the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation. It receives no public funds.

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