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Story of a Klimt Masterpiece Is the Focus of
2015 Hugh F. McKean Public Lecture on April 21

Note to editors: Images of Anne-Marie O’Connor and the book cover of The Lady in Gold are attached to this e-mail. Author photo by Phoebe Ling; book cover courtesy of Knopf.


In her talk, O’Connor will share details from her riveting 2012 book on the dazzling Viennese Jewish society figure who became the subject of an important Gustav Klimt painting confiscated by the Nazis. The decade-long legal battle that led to its successful recovery by her heirs has had profound ramifications in the art world.

The McKean Public Lecture is at 7:30 p.m. in the John M. Tiedtke Concert Hall at Rollins College. Admission is free. A reception, also open to the public, will follow the lecture. Parking is available in the SunTrust Parking Garage in Winter Park, which is accessed via Lyman or Comstock Avenues off of Park Avenue.

O’Connor is a veteran foreign correspondent, war reporter, and culture writer who has covered everything from post-Soviet Cuba to American artists and intellectuals. A staff writer with the Los Angeles Times for 12 years, she currently writes for The Washington Post from Jerusalem. She has also written for Esquire, The Nation, and The Christian
Science Monitor. The Lady in Gold won the Marfield National Award for Arts Writing and the California Book Award. It was named one of the “Best Books of the Year” by The Huffington Post and The Christian Science Monitor.

The Morse initiated its Public Lecture with Rollins in 2004 to bring speakers to the community whose specialty in art holds relatively broad public interest. The more popular subject matter of these lectures distinguish them from others presented at the Morse, which are also free to the public but more narrow in topic.

These special presentations of the Morse honor Hugh F. McKean’s career as an educator, his love for art, and his vision for enriching the community through the museum with a knowledge and appreciation of art. McKean was president of Rollins College from 1951 to 1969 and the museum’s director until his death in 1995.

About the Morse
The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art is home to the world’s most comprehensive collection of works by Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933). The museum’s collection includes jewelry, pottery, paintings, art glass, leaded-glass windows and lamps, the chapel interior the artist designed for the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and a new wing dedicated to art and architectural objects from Tiffany’s Long Island estate Laurelton Hall. The museum’s holdings also include a major collection of American art pottery and representative collections of late 19th- and early 20th-century American painting, graphics and decorative art.

For more information about this lecture, visit www.morsemuseum.org or call the museum at (407) 645-5311.

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