

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



THE CHARLES HOSMER  
MORSE MUSEUM  
*of American Art*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Recovered Diary of Hitler Aide Alfred Rosenberg is the Focus of 2017 Hugh F. McKean Public Lecture on May 16**

*Note to editors: Attached are images of Robert K. Wittman and the book cover of the paperback edition of The Devil's Diary: Alfred Rosenberg and the Stolen Secrets of the Third Reich. Author photo by Donna J. Wittman; book cover courtesy of HarperCollins.*

**WINTER PARK, Fla.**—The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art, in association with Rollins College, is pleased to present the 2017 Hugh F. McKean Public Lecture on Tuesday, May 16, with Robert K. Wittman, author of the bestselling book, *The Devil's Diary: Alfred Rosenberg and the Stolen Secrets of the Third Reich*. Admission is free.

Wittman—an author, art consultant, and retired FBI special agent—has spent his career investigating cultural property crime. During his 20-year career with the FBI, he recovered more than \$300 million worth of stolen art and cultural property. His latest book, *The Devil's Diary: Alfred Rosenberg and the Stolen Secrets of the Third Reich* (HarperCollins, 2016, coauthored with David Kinney), chronicles this intrepid investigator's dramatic recovery of Rosenberg's long-lost diary.

Alfred Rosenberg came to Adolf Hitler's inner circle having made a name for himself spreading toxic ideas about Jews throughout Germany. His 500-page diary—which provides insights into the inner workings of the Nazi regime as well as a glimpse into the mind of a man whose philosophy set the stage for the Holocaust—was first examined during the

Nuremberg war crimes trials. But after Rosenberg was convicted, sentenced, and executed, it mysteriously vanished.

Wittman will discuss the decade-long hunt— its twisting path of leads, clues, and secrets— for this vitally important historical document.

The McKean Public Lecture is at 7:30 p.m. in the John M. Tiedtke Concert Hall at Rollins College. Although there is no cost for admission, seating is limited and available on a first-come first-serve basis. 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.

The Morse initiated its Public Lecture with Rollins in 2004 to bring speakers to the community whose specialties in art hold 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, which celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February, 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 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](http://www.morsemuseum.org) or call the museum at (407) 645-5311.

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