



Smithsonian Associates

The Color of Light: Impressionists Degas, Monet, Morisot, and Renoir

With Janetta Rebold Benton, Ph.D.

Wednesday, July 7 & July 14, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. ET

About the Lecturer

Janetta Rebold Benton is the Distinguished Professor of Art History at Pace University, NY. She is the recipient of two Fulbright Scholar Awards: In 2018 she was visiting professor in the graduate school of Art History, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China; in 2012 she was visiting professor in the graduate school of Art History, European University, St. Petersburg, Russia. Beginning 1988, Dr. Benton regularly presents subscription seminars at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. She also presented subscription lecture series at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC, every season 1988-2011, and has lectured at The Cloisters, NYC; National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Boston Museum of Fine Arts; Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach; the Schimmel Center for the Arts, NYC; 92nd Street Y, NYC, and elsewhere in America and abroad. She serves as the Expert Lecturer on Smithsonian Journeys and Metropolitan Museum of Art trips throughout the world. A former resident of Paris, she taught courses in art history as the Art Historian at the American Embassy.

Dr. Benton's ninth and newest book is *How to Understand Art*, published by Thames & Hudson, London, 2021, in the Art Essentials series, with translations in French, Italian, Spanish, German, and Latvian. The fifth edition of *Arts and Culture: An Introduction to the Humanities* is in preparation (Robert DiYanni co-author, Pearson/Prentice Hall, NJ, two volumes and combined volume, fourth edition, 2012; Chinese translation forthcoming from Tsinghua University Press, Beijing, 2021; Chinese translation of the second edition, 2011). *Handbook for the Humanities* (Robert DiYanni co-author, Pearson/Prentice Hall, NJ, 2014) is published in paperback, as an E-book, and in Chinese translation, 2016. Her other books include *Materials, Methods, and Masterpieces of Medieval Art* (Praeger Series on the Middle Ages, ABC-CLIO, Santa Barbara, CA, 2009), in hardcover and as an E-book. *Medieval Mischief: Wit and Humour in the Art of the Middle Ages* (The History Press, Sutton Publishing, Stroud, Gloucestershire, 2004) examines an engaging aspect of medieval culture. *Art of the Middle Ages* (Thames & Hudson, London, 2002, World of Art series) offers a complete overview of the art and architecture of medieval Western Europe. *Holy Terrors: Gargoyles on Medieval Buildings* (Abbeville Press, NY, 1997) is also published in French as *Saintes Terreurs: Les Gargouilles dans l'Architecture Médiévale*, 2000. *The Medieval Menagerie: Animals in the Art of the Middle Ages* (Abbeville Press, NY, 1992), a Book of the Month Club selection, is also published in French as *Bestiaire Médiéval: Les Animaux dans l'Art du Moyen Age*, 1992. Dr. Benton was the guest curator and catalog author for the 1995 exhibition *Medieval Monsters: Dragons and Fantastic Creatures* at the Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY.

Articles and reviews written by Dr. Benton appear in the Periodical of Tsinghua University Art Museum (清华大学艺术博物馆馆刊), Beijing, 2020; IKON, Center for Iconographic Studies, University of Rijeka, Croatia, 2017; Proceedings of the International Conference, State Hermitage Museum Publishers, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 2017 and 2015; Encyclopedia of Humor Studies, Sage Reference, Los Angeles, CA, 2014; Metropolitan Museum of Art exhibition catalog, *Set in Stone: The Face in Medieval Sculpture*, 2007; as well as in scholarly journals including *Cahiers de Civilisation Médiévale*, Poitiers, 1998; *Arte Medievale*, Rome, 1993; *Artibus et Historiae*, Vienna, 1989; and *Zeitschrift für Kunstgeschichte*, Munich, 1985.

Dr. Benton was educated at Harvard University, Graduate School of Education, MDP diploma; earned her Ph.D. in Art History at Brown University; Master's degree in Art History at George Washington University; and Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at Cornell University.

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