Location Changes

Our programs occasionally move to a different location from the one published on tickets.

We do our best to inform ticket holders of location changes by mail, phone, and email.

You are advised to confirm the location by calling our customer service staff at 202-633-3030 (M–F; 9–5)

You can also visit smithsonianassociates.org for the most up-to-date information.

Reading the Neapolitan Quartet



Join **Lisbeth Strimple Fuisz**, a lecturer in the English department at Georgetown University, in an informal discussion about the last novel in Elena Ferrante's rich, intense *Neapolitan Quartet*, which follows two friends—the fiery Lila, and the bookish narrator, Elena—whose lives change over the course of 60 years after World War II. As *The Story of the Lost Child* unfolds, Elena returns to Naples to

be with the man she loves and successful entrepreneur Lila deals with old-school chauvinism and nepotism.

Mon., June 4, 12 noon; Ripley Center; CODE 1H0-322D; Members \$25; Nonmembers \$35



The Great Food Cities of the World: San Francisco

Although New Yorkers or Los Angelenos might argue, food expert and passionate culinary historian **Fred Plotkin** presents a good case for San Francisco to represent the U.S. among the world's gastronomic citadels.

Book

Discussion

The city by the bay draws from some of the best farms in the world for its fruit, vegetables, meat, and dairy products,

along with the bountiful Pacific for fish and seafood. Many of the world's top wines are made nearby and its multi-ethnic communities contribute to the area's culinary traditions.

Tues., June 5, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1M2-945F; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45

Writings That Shaped a Nation

Voices From the Revolutionary Era



The revolutionary era produced some of the most important political texts and autobic Tin American history. This evening, historic Charles Federalist Papers. Although written by Alexande Tramilton, James Madison, and John Jay, the book was published under a single pseudonym—"Publius." It promoted the 1787 Constitution to a decidedly skeptical reading public,

laying out its provisions and protections clearly and persuasively.

Participants should read the week's text before the session. Sherry and cookies are available for refreshment.

Mon., June 11, 6:45 p.m.; CODE 1M2-964D; Ripley Center; Members \$25; Nonmembers \$35



Kitchen in a French home

In the French Kitchen

Where Joie de Vivre Begins

The typical French home cook's secret ingredient, according to **Susan Herrmann Loomis**, is a philosophy that combines a love of food with the pleasure in sharing that love with family and friends. After having lived in France for a quarter century and running a cooking school in Normandy and Paris, she understands how a French home-cooked meal, which can be as simple as it is elegant, is prepared with fresh, local-sourced ingredients, and plated with pride and tradition.

Loomis leads a culinary journey through the farmers markets, shops, supermarkets, and wine stores of France. She explains the role local food and wine merchants play in daily life and touches on some of the fine points of the Gallic culinary tradition, which includes methods for grilling foods to perfection. She shares tips, techniques, and recipes that may help you to become a home cook á la française.

Afterward, enjoy a reception featuring French-inspired hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and wine: French cheese and charcuterie board; marinated olives and honey-thyme roasted almonds; summer vegetable crudités; savory leek and goat cheese tart; French baguette with French ham and Gruyère cheese; country bread toast topped with eggplant caviar and roasted peppers; miniature desserts à la française; white wine and Perrier with lemon. (Ingredients list on website.)

Loomis's new book *French Grill* (Countryman Press) is available for signing.



Thurs., June 14, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1M2-965; Members \$75; Nonmembers \$90

Book

Discussion

The Symphonies of Franz Schubert

Tradition and Innovation, Passion and Sentiment

The symphonies of Viennese composer Franz Schubert (1797–1828) form a central repertory of orchestral masterpieces that have fascinated concert audiences for nearly two centuries. Although Schubert never heard a single one of them played by a full symphony orchestra in his short lifetime, they began to excite great attention throughout Europe in the 1830s, and several are still among the most frequently performed in the world.

One of the greatest of musical prodigies, Schubert's first five symphonies were composed in his late teenage years. In the greatest of these early works, No. 5 in B-flat major, Schubert succeeded in putting a very personal stamp on the Mozartean techniques he used for inspiration. The lightness and charm of Symphony No. 6 is evocative of less weighty Viennese musical traditions. In contrast, the Symphony No. 9 (the "Great C Major Symphony") evokes the grandeur of the most expansive Beethoven symphonies. Ironically, Schubert's best-loved symphony is an unfinished work. The Symphony No. 8 in B minor remains the only one known to have been left unfinished by any composer that has found acceptance as a masterpiece by orchestral audiences.

Musicologist and pianist **Daniel E. Freeman** offers insights into the reasons for the



Franz Schubert (painting detail by Wilhelm August Rieder) with a page of his manuscript written in 1817

unique appeal of Schubert's best symphonies and the musical environment from which they originated, along with tips on how to listen to them with a greater appreciation of the techniques that the composer used to create them.

9:30 a.m. Schubert's Life and Musical Style 11 a.m. Symphonies No. 1 through No. 5 **12:15 p.m. Lunch** (participants provide their

1:30 p.m. Symphonies No. 6 and No. 9 **3 p.m. Symphony No. 8** ("Unfinished") Sat., June 16, 9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.; Ripley

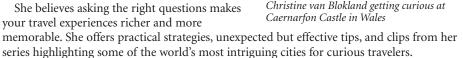
Center; CODE 1M2-969; Members \$90; Nonmembers \$140

Become a More Curious Traveler

Why bother going all the way to Paris, if you're just going to snap a selfie in front of the Eiffel Tower? For Christine van Blokland, it's all about traveling like you're trying to solve a mystery, and knowing there's so much more for travelers to discover. For example, why was that iconic tower almost torn down? Or why did the Louvre's treasured Mona Lisa once get carted on a mule?

Van Blokland, the Emmy-winning host, writer, and executive producer of PBS's "Curious Traveler" series shares details to enhance travelers' enjoyment and understanding. She can tell you why Venice's St. Mark's Basilica looks like Istanbul's Hagia Sophia; who got hitched at Bordeaux Cathedral in 1137, and why the union mattered; and why Vancouver's historic district is called "Gastown."

She believes asking the right questions makes your travel experiences richer and more



Tues., June 19, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1W0-030; Members \$20; Nonmembers \$30





Judy Garland, 1943

Judy Garland Climbing Over the

The great singer, actress, and vaudevillian Judy Garland (1922-1969), born Frances Ethel Gumm, began performing at the age of 2. She was signed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer at the age of 13, and was molded by the studio's star-making machinery. She grew up in girl-next-door parts and Andy Hardy films opposite Mickey Rooney. Then came her role as Dorothy in the career-defining *The* Wizard of Oz in 1939—and the arduous climb over the rainbow had begun in earnest.

Her decades of stardom and struggle were marked by bouts of alcohol and drug abuse, multiple divorces, and career swings, but she remains one of the greatest interpreters of American popular song. American music specialist **Robert** Wyatt explores highlights from Garland's extraordinary life with clips from her movies, including Meet Me in St. Louis and A Star Is Born, featuring her Oscar-nominated performance. Most poignant of all is a look at the 1964 London Palladium concert with daughter Liza Minnelli, in which a fading star passes the torch to a bright new one.

Wed., June 27, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1M2-968; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45



A Berkshires Summer Sampler

A popular summer retreat for Bostonians and New Yorkers for well over 150 years, the scenic and historic Berkshire hills of western Massachusetts are alive with



Edith Wharton's studio, Lenox



The Yellow Barn, Putney, Vermont

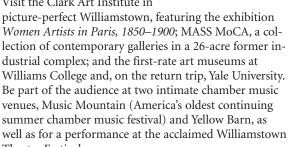
music, art, and theatre. Arts journalist **Richard Selden** leads a 5-day tour that offers a splendid sampling of cultural attractions in the region, from historic writers' homes to outstanding museums to music and theatre performances.

Destinations with literary connections include Herman Melville's evocative Pittsfield farmhouse, Arrowhead, and Edith Wharton's elegant Lenox estate, The Mount. Visit the Clark Art Institute in

Overnight accommodations are at the Hampton Inn, Lenox, Mass. (1 night), the Williams

Inn, Williamstown, Mass. (2 nights), and the Hampton Inn, Brattleboro, Vt. (1 night).

Women Artists in Paris, 1850–1900; MASS MoCA, a collection of contemporary galleries in a 26-acre former industrial complex; and the first-rate art museums at Williams College and, on the return trip, Yale University. Be part of the audience at two intimate chamber music venues, Music Mountain (America's oldest continuing summer chamber music festival) and Yellow Barn, as Theatre Festival.





Berkshire County, Massachusetts

With Performances

Music Mountain Sun., July 29 The Harlem String Quartet

Williamstown Theatre Festival

Tues., July 31

World premiere of musical Lempicka

Yellow Barn Wed., Aug 1

Chamber music concert



Sun., July 29, 6:30 a.m.-Thurs., Aug. 2, 9:30 p.m.; bus departs from the Mayflower Hotel, Connecticut Ave. and DeSales St., NW, with a pickup stop at the Doubletree by Hilton Laurel, 15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland, at about 7 a.m.; singles registering at the double-room rate are paired (on a nonsmoking basis) if possible, but must pay the single-room supplement (\$395) otherwise; cost includes bus transportation, lodging, all activities, admissions and

fees, 3 performances, gratuities, and meals (4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners); tour includes indoor and outdoor walking and standing, as well as extended bus rides; information mailed to registrants about 4 weeks prior to departure; purchase of trip insurance recommended; CODE 1NN-BER; Members \$1,950; Nonmembers \$2,600



Georgetown Gilbert and Sullivan Society

Gilbert and Sullivan in the 21st Century

The unique comic operas of Gilbert and Sullivan have lost none of their freshness since the curtain went up on their first more than 140 years ago. In some cases, their social commentaries seem even sharper today.

Popular lecturer, theater director, and performer Jack Marshall, founder of the Georgetown Gilbert and Sullivan Society and the artistic director of the American Century Theater, along with his longtime collaborators singer and musical director Thomas **D. Fuller** and composer and pianist **Loren**

Platzman, explore how Gilbert and Sullivan's genius still adapts easily to contemporary issues and art forms, and resonates with modern audiences. They also examine, with illustrative performances and commentary, how the development of the American musical owes much to the G&S genre.

Sat., June 30, 9:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1B0-258; Members \$35; Nonmembers \$50



Apfelwein

New Fizz for a German Favorite

Originally born from environmental necessity (the German climate is more conducive to growing apples than grapes), Apfelwein hard cider has a long and storied history. The traditional drink was poured out of



painted stoneware pitchers called *bembel* into easy-to-grip faceted glasses. Tradition aside, drinking Apfelwein was in danger of becoming a thing of the past, and was clearly in need of some updating to appeal to 21st-century Americans. Today's version is carbonated, comes in exotic flavors, and is packaged in eyecatching cans. But it is still pressed from apples harvested from the gnarled old trees of the Oldenwald, a wooded mountain range overlooking the Rhine Valley.

An expert panel covers Apfelwein history and how the traditional beverage is changing to appeal to a contemporary audience. Participants include **Lars Dahlhaus**, head of Liquid Projects LLC; **Christoph Trares**, managing director of the cider brand Bembel-With-Care; and cider makers and journalists **Ronald Sansone** and **William Grot**. Afterward, join them for a tasting of several flavors of Bembel-with-Care Apfelwein, including a new cider—cola mix.

Fri., July 6, 7 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1B0-262; Members \$25; Nonmembers \$35

The All-Star Game Comes to Washington

Our very own Nationals Park is set to host the All-Star game on July 17, and Washington will be packed with events leading up to that event. So now is your chance to chat about all-things-Washington baseball, past and present, with an all-star lineup of experts managed by veteran attorney and sportscaster **Phil**



Hochberg, who was the stadium announcer for the 1962 game.

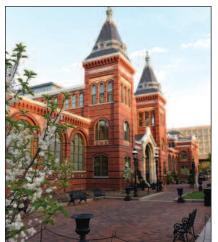
Gregory McCarthy from the Washington Nationals is on hand to discuss all the events and expectations of All-Star week. Sports author Frederic Frommer has all the history of the four other All-Star games played in D.C., as well as endless baseball trivia. And batting clean-up, Washington Nationals' analyst Phil Wood has been keeping a keen eye on Washington baseball since his childhood attending games at Griffith Stadium.

Come with questions, and—if you're one of the lucky winners of our trivia contest—leave with your own baseball signed by former New York Yankees manager and Hall-of-Famer Joe Torre.

Wed., July 11, 6:45 p.m.; location indicated on ticket; CODE 1B0-266; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45

An Evening with Gourmet Symphony

Musical World's Fare at the Arts and Industries Building



Arts and Industries Building

Enjoy a night of fine cuisine, wine, and gorgeous music with **Gourmet Symphony** in the historic Arts and Industries Building. After the Centennial



Smithsonian Spotlight Exposition of 1876 in Philadelphia—the first World's Fair held in

America—many of its displays were donated to the Smithsonian, and some of the proceeds from the exposition were used to build the structure. Inspired by that historic connection, both the menu and the program celebrate the intersection of ethnic backgrounds.



John Devlin conducts Gourmet Symphony

Artistic Director **John Devlin** offers a program of works from composers who immigrated to the United States, including Béla Bartók, Antonín Dvorák, and Gustav Mahler.

Hungarian exile Bartók came to the United States in 1940; his *Romanian Folk Dances* evoke the traditional folk dances of his homeland. Czech composer Dvorák moved to New York in 1892; the orchestra performs his masterwork, the "New World" symphony. Mahler immigrated from Vienna to New York as music director of the New York Philharmonic in 1908. His

dramatic song cycle *Songs of a Wayfarer* is the main selection of the evening.

After enjoying a three-course gourmet dinner and wine pairings, guests have the opportunity to meet and mingle with the musicians.



MENU HIGHLIGHTS Welcome Beverages: Sparkling wine, lemonade, and sparkling water (Charles de Fère Jean-Louis Rosé); **First Course:** Shrimp 'n' Grits (Bernier Chardonnay); **Second Course:** Summer Schnitzel (Jadot Beaujolais Villages); **Dessert:** Roasted-Apple Palatschinké (*Ingredients list on website*; *please contact us to accommodate dietary restrictions.*)

Sun., July 8, 5-8 p.m.; Arts and Industries Building; CODE 1L0-201; Members \$175; Nonmembers \$225

Modern First Ladies

Creating (and Re-Creating) an Identity

Over the course of more than 200 years, the only thing America's first ladies share is the fact that their spouse is the president of the United States. These women are otherwise unique individuals, with their own personality, interests, and

desire to embrace or shun the spotlight. How a first lady shapes her role inevitably affects our culture and America's standing around the world.

Andrew Och, author and producer of the C-SPAN series "First Ladies: Influence and Image," looks at how several 20th- and 21stcentury first ladies, including Edith Wilson, Laura Bush, Hilary Clinton, and Michelle Obama, created identities that reflected their personal outlooks and the issues of their times, and complemented their husbands' presidencies.



First Lady Michelle Obama during the national anthem at Camp Lejeune, N.C., 2011

Och's book *Unusual for Their Time: On the Road with America's First Ladies, Volume Two* (Tactical 16 Publishing) is available for sale and signing.

Tues., July 17, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1H0-356; Members \$20; Nonmembers \$30

David Bowie Is

Celebrating an Artist of Startling Transformations

He blasted onto the music scene in 1969, an artist of extraterrestrial presence and dazzling star power. David Bowie (aka Ziggy Stardust, the Thin White Duke, and other memorable reinventions) was one of rock's most pioneering and influential performers. His life and work are the subject of *David Bowie Is*, an exhibition featuring hundreds of objects drawn from the performer's personal



David Bowie, 1982, by Greg Gorman

archive. It ends its world tour at the Brooklyn Museum in July.

Flamboyant costumes, handwritten lyric sheets, original album art, photographs, and videos provide a fascinating look at an artist whose personal reinventions, collaborations, and fearless upending of social traditions have left an indelible mark on our culture.

Matthew Yokobosky, senior curator of fashion and material culture at the Brooklyn Museum, discusses how the exhibition was adapted for the Brooklyn Museum's unique gallery spaces to create an immersive visitor experience featuring the art of David Bowie. Afterward, complete your own experience with a Bowie-inspired cocktail.

Fri., July 20, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1L0-202; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45

Discovering Georges Bizet

Georges Bizet (1838–1875) lived only one year longer than Mozart, and his music shared the Mozartean gifts of melody, clarity, and grace. The young composer's desire to fulfill that promise—and the lure of Parisian decadence—remained competing forces throughout his life. Using CD and video recordings, **Saul Lilienstein** explores the many facets of Bizet's genius, spanning his concert music, symphonic compositions, early works for the theater, and his operatic masterpiece, *Carmen*.

Carmen premiered at the Opera Comique in Paris, shocking audiences who expected an opera with a moral message. Only later, when Bizet adapted the work into the fully sung-through grand opera style, did the masterwork receive acclaim.

Excerpts from both versions are compared and a discussion of *Carmen's* influence and continuing relevance in the contemporary world underscore the genius of Bizet.

9:30 a.m. The Precocious Student in Paris

11 a.m. Early Works for the Theater

12:15 p.m. Lunch (participants provide their own)

1:30 p.m. Carmen: The Genesis and Early Reception

3 p.m. Everyone's Carmen

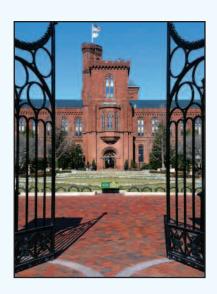
Sat., July 21, 9:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1M2-973; Members \$90; Nonmembers \$140



Georges Bizet with a poster image for his opera Carmen

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A Toast to the Rat Pack

Spend a delightful evening with the Rat Pack: Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Dean Martin, Joey Bishop, and other members of the swingin', high-living clan who became a collective smash as entertainers on the Las Vegas casino scene—and were the epitome of '60s-style cool onstage and off.



Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis, Jr., Peter Lawford, and Joey Bishop

The gang was part of an era of great music,

and of course, great cocktails and fine spirits. Sample a few they helped make famous, notably, Frank's favorite whiskey, Jack Daniel's; the Navy Grog that Frank favored when in Palm Springs; and the Flame of Love, invented for Dean at Chasen's in Beverly Hills.

Author and cocktail historian **Philip Greene** and **Noah Rothbaum**, senior editor, Drink+Food, *The Daily Beast*, present a spirited look at the lifestyles—and the cocktails—of the Rat Pack.

Thurs., Aug. 2, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1H0-370; Members \$50; Nonmembers \$65

Decoding Air Travel

A Practical Guide for Frustrated Flyers

Air travel grows more unpleasant than ever, with airlines making the experience less comfortable and convenient, while constantly adding new fees and hidden charges. **Nicholas Kralev,** a globe-trotting author and entrepreneur, decided that knowledge is the most effective key and learned how to beat the

airlines at their own game. His resulting book, *Decoding Air Travel:* A Guide to Saving on Airfare and Flying in Luxury, became an Amazon bestseller.

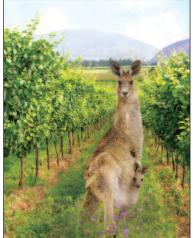
Spend a day with Kralev and gain the practical skills and savvy to help you become a more empowered and sophisticated traveler. Learn how to get the flights you want for the price you want, how to fly in business class for the price of coach, and how to maximize your hard-earned miles to tap into benefits that make travel more pleasurable.



10 a.m. Airfare Secrets, Booking Strategies, and Outsmarting the System

12:30 p.m. Lunch (participants supply their own)

1:30 p.m. Mastering the Frequent-Flier Game and Flying in Luxury Sat., Aug. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1B0-264; Members \$90; Nonmembers \$140





New Frontiers and Old Traditions

Trends in South American and Australian Wines

While South American and Australian wines have been available in the United States for many years now, the popular misconception persists that Australia and South America are up-and-coming areas for wine. In fact, their respective viticulture legacies are centuries old: Wine has been made continuously in South America since the 1500s, and the first grapes were planted in Australia shortly after the First Fleet landed in New South Wales in 1788.

Southern Hemisphere winemakers have made huge strides in quality, consistency and diversity—particularly over the last 20 to 30 years. Argentine Malbec and Aussie Shiraz may still rule the export markets, but a closer inspection of wines from either continent reveals a rich tableau of indigenous and (more recently) imported grape varieties, some of the world's oldest vines, and a range of winemaking styles as varied as anywhere on Earth.

Taylor Parsons, a Los Angeles-based sommelier, guides a two-part exploration of the history, development, and diversity of these two pivotal players in the world of wine, with a particular emphasis on more recent efforts to expand and develop historic grape varieties and winemaking traditions.

On Friday evening, South American wines are the focus of a conversation between Parsons and **Keith Goldston**, formerly head sommelier at Washington's Range restaurant, who holds the designation of Master Sommelier.

On Saturday, Parsons is joined by **Mark Davidson**, education director for Wines of Australia, in a conversation about Australia's rich winemaking history.

Both evenings feature tastings of both "classic" wines and more progressive styles that have emerged during the past decade.

Both programs: Fri., Aug. 3 and Sat., Aug. 4; 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1W0-034; Members \$100; Nonmembers \$120

Individual programs: Fri., Aug. 3 (CODE 1W0-032) and Sat., Aug 4 (CODE 1W0-033), 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; Members \$55; Nonmembers \$65

With

TASTINGS



Fred Rogers

America's Favorite Neighbor

Today, when the invitation "Won't you be my neighbor?" may sometimes be a fraught question, it's no wonder that the gentle warmth and sensitivity of the man who most famously posed it are qualities we long to see more often in daily life. Fred Rogers, whose beloved television

program invited children into his neighborhood for nearly four decades, is having a resurgence in the cultural spotlight with a postage stamp, a new documentary film, and an upcoming biopic, You Are My Friend, starring Tom Hanks.

Karen Struble Myers of the Fred Rogers Center at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, talks about Fred Rogers' small-town childhood and how it informed his children's show, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Myers explores Rogers' creative process and the lessons his show brought to millions of young viewers. She also reveals why the question "What would Fred Rogers do?" is a particularly apt one today.

Archivist Emily Uhrin serves as a guide to an accompanying pop-up exhibit of items from the college's Fred Rogers Archive—vivid reminders of a man who was everyone's favorite neighbor.

Mon., Aug. 6, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1W0-035; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45

Mixing Cocktails With Panache

Drinks From the Bar at Quill

Are you a fan of the craft cocktails you enjoy at a restaurant or bar, but think they are beyond the skills of an amateur mixologist? Katie Dandridge, one of the cocktail experts



behind the bar at Quill, the elegant lounge at Washington's Iefferson Hotel, leads a hands-on class that can change your mind.

Participants learn how to mix inventive cocktails on Quill's summer list, including the Jefferson, which incorporates two fruit-infused spirits. Create and sample these drinks as you sharpen your cocktail-making

skills, as well as learn some of Dandridge's pro tips about shaking things up at home. Light refreshments are also on the afternoon's menu.

Sat., Aug. 18, 3 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1L0-210; Members \$65; Nonmembers \$85; limited to 25 participants; all participants must be 21 or over

Some cocktail ingredients supplied by D.C.-based Capitoline Vermouth



Evening ensemble by John Galliano for House of Dior

Heavenly Bodies at the Met

Fashion and the Catholic **Imagination**

Angels, ecclesiastical prelates, and monks may be the most underestimated of great dressers. Whether seen as iridescent divine armor, sumptuous embroidered vestments, or austere hooded robes, Catholic art has produced some extremely memorable clothing.

A new exhibition at the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art acknowledges the apparent contradiction of Catholic fashion. Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination, features a dialogue between fashion and medieval art from the Met's collection to examine fashion's ongoing engagement with the devotional practices and traditions of Catholicism. Papal robes and accessories from the Sistine Chapel sacristy serve as the cornerstone of the exhibition, alongside fashions from the early 20th century to the present.

Inspired by this exhibition, Anne Higonnet, Anne Whitney Olin Professor of Art History, Barnard College, Columbia University, looks at an unexpected range of style leaders, from the archangel Gabriel to Pope Francis I, and their influence on recent fashion.

Wed., Aug. 15, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1L0-207; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45

A DC Theatre Season Preview

The 2018-2019 season in Washington theatre is packed with excitement.

Arena Stage offers the world premiere of IQA, about the often-overlooked John Quincy Adams. One of the hottest and most surprising musicals from the recent Broadway season, The Band's Visit, arrives at the Kennedy Center. Separate Rooms by Washington playwright Joe Calarco debuts at 4615 Theatre, one of the area's newest and most ambitious companies. Michael Kahn's grand-finale season as artistic director at the Shakespeare Theatre Company includes the suggestively titled The Panties, the Partner, and the Profit by audience favorite David Ives. And those are just a few highlights.



4615 Theatre Company's production of The Changeling, performed in a suburban home

With more than 80 professional companies in the area, how can theater fans really know what might be the hottest ticket in town, what's worth the price, and what they might be able to skip? Turn to **Lorraine Treanor**, editor of DC Theatre Scene, Washington's liveliest theatre website. She's ready to reveal what's buzz-

worthy in the new season, as well as the up-and-coming companies, directors, and artists to watch.

Bv Popular Demand

Tues., Aug. 28, 6:45 p.m.; Ripley Center; CODE 1B0-265; Members \$30; Nonmembers \$45