Museum Closure Announcement
Renovations from May 23 through the End of 2016

Please note: The Dumbarton Oaks Museum will be closed to the public from May 23 through the end of 2016. We are excited about the reopening of the museum galleries with state-of-the-art lighting and upgraded exhibits. We regret that we cannot accommodate scheduled tours of the museum and Main House during this period. However, the gardens will be open, and both introductory group tours and booked private tours will be offered. During renovations in the museum, the shop will move to the Orangery in the gardens on June 1, and will be open during the gardens’ hours (2–6 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday). The “Pop-Up” Garden Shop will offer a limited selection of books and merchandise. The fall Friends of Music concert series will also continue, but will be held in an alternative Dumbarton Oaks venue. More information will be provided to
subscribers in advance of the new season.

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**Fellows for 2016–17 Academic Year**
Dumbarton Oaks Announces Forty-Five Award Recipients

Dumbarton Oaks is proud to announce its fellowship awards for the 2016–17 academic year. Twenty-four fellows and junior fellows have been named for the fall and spring terms, as well as nine summer fellows, four Tyler fellows, three Mellon fellows, and five project grant recipients.

The full list of incoming fellows and project grant recipients can be found on our website.

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**75 Years/75 Objects: Revealing**
A Dumbarton Oaks Video

This month brings the museum’s celebratory special exhibition *75 Years/75 Objects* to a close with its ninth and final rotation, “Revealing.” In this video, museum director Gudrun Bühl and exhibitions coordinator Renée Alfonso talk about how they found a way to allow museum guests to look inside objects that are normally closed—without ever touching them. (“Revealing” is on display until May 22.)

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**Celebrating 75 Years of Scholarship**
A Selection of Books and Projects Supported by Dumbarton Oaks

Looking for something to read? To celebrate our seventy-fifth anniversary as a research institute, the directors of all three programs of study, with the input of staff and former fellows, compiled lists of influential books and articles produced with our institution’s support. Explore the list and learn about Dumbarton Oaks’ support for scholars over the past seventy-five years in a special online feature.

Watch Dumbarton Oaks Lectures Online

Dumbarton Oaks is excited to begin offering online recordings of some of the many lectures and talks that happen at the institute. This month, we are happy to share the April 8 lecture delivered by Inge Reist, director of the Center for the History of Collecting at the Frick Art Reference Library, on "What's Mine Is Yours: Private Collectors and Public Patronage in the United States, 1870–1950," which launched a two-day conference on “Private Collecting and Public Display.” Also available is the April 14 Garden and Landscape Studies public lecture, “Olympic Landscapes: Green and Greenest,” delivered by Mary Margaret Jones, president and senior principal of Hargreaves Associates and Hargreaves Jones Landscape Architecture. Stay tuned for more videos to come, including further talks from the museum conference! For updates, you can subscribe to our YouTube channel.

New Books in the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library

Hermit’s Lives, the Latin Timaeus, and Old English Psalms in Spring 2016

This spring, the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library adds to its growing series of facing-page
translations of important medieval literature with one new work in each of its current languages. *Holy Men of Mount Athos* assembles a number of accounts of the lives of hermits associated with the Byzantine Empire’s most important monastic center. Calcidius’ Latin translation of and commentary on Plato’s *Timaeus* was the only Plato available in Western Europe for a millennium. The *Old English psalms of the Paris Psalter* were a centerpiece of Anglo-Saxon religious life. All three volumes provide English translations of these texts for the first time. Read more about the new entries to the series on our website.

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**Dumbarton Oaks Publication Discussed at German Embassy**

Prince Hermann von Pückler-Muskau’s *Letters of a Dead Man*

On April 13, German Ambassador Peter Wittig and his wife, Huberta von Voss-Wittig, hosted a book discussion of the recent Dumbarton Oaks publication *Letters of a Dead Man*, the first full English translation of a remarkable volume by the early nineteenth-century traveler, landscape designer, and author Prince Hermann von Pückler-Muskau. Consumed by his desire to finance an ambitious English-style landscape park on his estate in Saxony, Pückler amicably divorced his wife (who remained behind to look after the estate) and embarked on a tour of England in search of a wealthy bride. His romantic search failed, but produced instead a best-selling mix of memoir, travelogue, political commentary, and epistolary novel that served as an alternative source of support for the magnificent Muskauer Park, now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Director of Garden and Landscape Studies John Beardsley and Linda Parshall, the book’s editor and translator, discussed aspects of Pückler’s career and letters. Parshall then read excerpts from the book ranging from descriptions of the British landscape and the comforts of its nineteenth-century inns to notable political figures and events of the period.

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**A Report on the Proceedings of the 2016 Byzantine Studies Symposium**

Reconsidering the “Worlds of Byzantium”
The 2016 Byzantine Studies symposium, “Worlds of Byzantium,” reconsidered the identity and character of Byzantium, especially the traditional understanding of an empire with a fixed center and periphery. It emphasized the plurality of cultures and multiple centers of action found in the Byzantine world and the connections that once existed among the various Eastern Orthodox Christianities. Read more about the proceedings and individual talks in this brief dispatch on our website.

From the Archives
75 Years Ago This Month: The Change from Domicile to Institution

When Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss gave Dumbarton Oaks to Harvard University in November 1940, they envisioned that the Main House would remain a residence and provide housing for senior scholars and distinguished guests as well as spaces for teas, dinners, and receptions. By May 1941, however, it was clear that this arrangement was not going to work. How did the Blisses resolve the problem of transforming a home into a research institute? Find out in a post this month from archivist James Carder.

From the Garden Blog
Wisteria Lane
Wisteria blossoms along the amphitheater that overlooks Lovers’ Lane Pool and Mélisande’s Allée. See more spring photos in our garden blog, What’s Blooming at D.O.

Above: Photo courtesy Luis Mármol

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**Now on View**

Find more information about the exhibits and rotations on our [website](#).

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75 Years/75 Objects: Revealing

April 28–May 22, 2016, in the Special Exhibition Gallery
Curator’s Tours on May 5 and 20 at 3 p.m.

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Clothing for the Afterlife: Textiles from the
Pre-Columbian Collection
Through May 22, 2016, in the Textile Gallery

From Consul to Emperor: The Origins of the Loros
Through May 22, 2016, in the Byzantine Gallery

Porphyry: The Imperial Stone
Through May 22, 2016, in the Bliss Gallery Case

Stephens & Catherwood Revisited: Maya Ruins and the Passage of Time
From September 2015, in the Orientation and Rare Book Galleries and online