75th Anniversary Gala Concert and Reception

On November 1, Dumbarton Oaks celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary with a gala concert and reception featuring the premiere of a work composed by Caroline Shaw, 2014–15 Early-Career Musician at Dumbarton Oaks, and performed by the Dover Quartet. You can read about the gala and see Director Jan Ziolkowski’s full remarks on our website.

Above: The Dover Quartet and Caroline Shaw, from left to right: Joel Link, violin; Bryan Lee, violin; Camden Shaw, cello; Caroline Shaw, viola; Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt, viola

Pre-Columbian Studies Public Lecture

“A Crack in the Mirror: Desires for Pre-Columbian and American-Made Colonial Art, Then and Now”

Friday, December 4th, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.
RSVP required: pre-columbian@doaks.org

Thomas B. F. Cummins, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art at Harvard University, will discuss the relationship between Pre-Columbian and Byzantine art and the classical world, as well as the desire to collect both types of works in early modern Europe and twentieth-century Washington. Read the full
Dumbarton Oaks/HMML Syriac Summer School Registration
July 10 to August 6, 2016

Dumbarton Oaks, in collaboration with the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML), announces a new intensive introduction to Syriac language and paleography. The program will be hosted at HMML on the campus of Saint John’s University in Collegeville, MN, with a long weekend visit to Dumbarton Oaks. Apart from travel to and from HMML, all costs will be covered by Dumbarton Oaks, including tuition and the D.C. trip. Mornings will be devoted to the study of Syriac; afternoons will provide orientation in the reading of manuscripts. Applications are due January 15, 2016; awards will be announced in late February 2016. Read more on our website.

Pre-Columbian Studies Symposium

Last month’s Pre-Columbian Studies Symposium addressed the topic of “Smoke, Flames, and the Human Body in Mesoamerican Ritual Practice.” Read a brief report on the proceedings online.

Above: Speakers at the October 2015 Pre-Columbian Studies Symposium
Tyler Fellow Update: Deirdre Moore

Deirdre Moore, 2015–17 Tyler Fellow in Garden and Landscape Studies, has spent the last month working in the archives of the Royal Society in London, building on work she has already completed in Mexico. She has been studying indigenous methods of breeding cochineal, and is consulting eighteenth-century images and documents from the archives of the Royal Society. Read her research dispatch here.

From the Rare Book Collection

Love in a Dream

Learn more about the Rare Book Collection's editions of the mysterious mix of romance, graphic design, architecture, and alchemy known as the Hypnerotomachia Poliphili, and see what 2015–16 Garden and Landscape Studies Fellow Tom Conley is doing with them. Read more on our website.

Right: Title page and colophon of Dumbarton Oaks' copy of the 1545 Hypnerotomachia Poliphili

Behind the Scenes
The 2015–16 Fellows and their families gathered the night before Halloween at the residence of Director Jan Ziolkowski for a festive evening of food, costumes, and pumpkin carving. Jack-o'-lanterns included several ghosts and a rabbit, as well as baby-size pumpkins!

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**From the Archives**

Seventy-Five Years Ago This Month: The Inauguration of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection

The first month of Dumbarton Oaks’ new life as a research institute and museum seventy-five years ago was a huge event in the cultural life of the entire nation, garnering coverage from all of the country’s major newspapers. Find out what those stories said in this post from our archives.


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**From Our 75th Anniversary Blog**

Paraphenomenal Dumbarton Oaks

Dumbarton Oaks is known for its world-class collections of art, its stunning architecture, and its lovely gardens. But does it also have a collection of ghosts? Find out more about the haunting of Dumbarton Oaks.

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**New Publication**

**SAINTS and SACRED MATTER**

*The Cult of Relics in Byzantium and Beyond*

*edited by Cynthia Hahn and Holger A. Klein*

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**Now on View**
Find more information about the exhibits and rotations on our website.

75 Years/75 Objects: Collecting
November 1–29 in the Special Exhibition Gallery
Curator’s Tour on November 20 at 3 p.m.

Coming soon: Reinterpreting
December 3, 2015–January 3, 2016. Curator’s Tours on December 4 and 18 at 3 p.m.

Clothing for the Afterlife: Textiles from the Pre-Columbian Collection
October 9, 2015–April 3, 2016, in the Textile Gallery

Stephens & Catherwood Revisited: Maya Ruins and the Passage of Time
Until November 30 in the Orientation and Rare Book Galleries, and online

Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection
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