

FRIENDS OF
European Art

A support organization of

Phoenix Art Museum

Two New European Gifts



A Field at Beaubé la Rolande,
Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot,
c. 1865-1875. Oil on canvas.
Collection of Phoenix Art Museum,
Gift of Donald F. and Joy V. McCann
in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Vietor.



*Before the Race: Fantasia or
The Halt in the Desert*,
Eugene Fromentin, 1867.
Oil on panel.
Collection of Phoenix Art Museum,
Gift of Thomas W. and Ann T. Shields.

Toward the end of last year, the Museum was gifted two paintings by significant French painters working during the middle years of the 19th century. Eugene Fromentin and Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot were contemporaries, but created works in very different styles. Corot's painting, *A Field at Beaubé la Rolande* (circa 1865-75), given by Mr. and Mrs. Donald McCann in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest G. Vietor, is a small, precisely painted landscape demonstrating the artist's plein air abilities to capture a "meteorological moment," giving the viewer an immediate sense of the light, wind, and smell of the landscape. This ability was Corot's gift, and it is his reputation as a landscape painter working primarily around the villages of Barbizon which influenced the next generation of French landscapists, the Impressionists.

By comparison, Fromentin's small 1867 picture, *Before the Race: Fantasia or Halt in the Desert*, a gift of Thomas W. and Ann T. Shields, fits comfortably with our other Orientalist painters such as Jean-Léon Gérôme, Eugène Delacroix and Adolph Schreyer, all with significant works in our collection. Academic artists such as Fromentin were the most highly regarded French painters prior to the revolutionary development of Impressionism. Carefully drawn, modeled and composed canvases were the standard to which, first the Barbizon artists and then the Impressionists distanced themselves. By working outdoors, not in the studio, and by creating casual images they symbolized the changes in French society following the various political upheavals at mid-century.

Corot and Fromentin died in the same year, 1875, and left a strong legacy recognized today by their work being in scores of museum collections. Both had sound academic training, and both studied in Italy. However, Corot's later work kept him in and around central France capturing purely French subjects. Fromentin made three trips to the Middle East in 1846, 1847 and 1852. For the remainder of his career he would draw on his memories and his sketchbooks to create narratives such as *Before the Race: Fantasia*.

The provenances of the Fromentin work are most interesting, first being included in the well known Gibson collection and then entering in collections of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts where it remained for 90 years. It was deaccessioned when the Academy, one of the America's greatest teaching institutions, decided to collect only work created by American artists.

The addition of these two works provides depth to the Museum's collection of mid-19th century European paintings. Our thanks go to the McCanns and the Shields for their generosity.

Jim Ballinger
Sybil Harrington Director of Phoenix Art Museum

Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

One of the things I like BEST about our organization is our name! We are "**FRIENDS**"! We have the common denominator of a love of European art and share a common purpose of assisting the museum, but first and foremost we are **friends**! In a world of uncertainty on so many fronts, it is good to know we have **friends** in our lives that we can count on.

We have had obstacles this year, which we have conquered by sticking together and depending on each other, the way real **friends** do. We lost our curator in October but did not despair. We called on our **friend** and Sybil Harrington Director, Jim Ballinger, to act as museum liaison and guiding force. (I always think it is good to get the best for your **friends**, so went right to the top!)

A small but **friendly** group of 13 travelers went to Los Angeles under the guidance of Terri Hardy and Deborah Cross and enjoyed not only a great two days at the two Getty museums, but some camaraderie around the table in the **friendly** confines of our boutique hotel.

Our fall program for our Veterans was a big success, thanks to our **friend** and member, Dr. Anthony Gully. Judee Morrison and Kathey Plenge supplied a **friendly** setting of refreshment for our guests after the rousing lecture given by Dr. Gully. This event was planned by Program Chairs Marcia Ruddock and Gigi Jordan. We made some new **friends** by reaching out to the community and hope to build on this for next year.

In January, in the absence of a new European exhibition, we joined hands with our American art allies, (the way Europe has done so many times in the past!), and heard a wonderful lecture on the *Rubaiyat* given by Jerry Smith in the warm and **friendly** atmosphere of the Plenge home. Spirits "flowed" and our spirits were high as we gathered together in the glow of a European Salon-type event. The FEA board provided the food and service so all who wanted to come could afford to enjoy the gracious hospitality of our dear **friend** and past president, Kathey Plenge and her husband Bob.

Last but not least, **Carnivale!** lived up to its reputation of being a **friendly** and festive event. An *unbelievable* group of **friends**, working to decorate and undecorate, to conduct a successful silent auction, to see that we had great food and entertainment, pulled off a perfect evening. Michelle Ray, Susie Baum and their committee (and some **other friends** as well as husbands!), showed that, even in tough economic times, you can count on your **friends**.

And the year isn't over yet! More programs, more travel, more opportunities to mingle and build new **friendships** await us this spring. I hope you all take advantage of being not just a member, but enjoying the **friendly** hand extended by **Friends of European Art**.

Warmly,
Sherry Koopot, President, 2008-2009

Please welcome our newest Friends

Bunny and Richard Gordon
5403 E. Roadrunner Road
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
(480) 483-0352
bungor@cox.net

Sam Gualtieri
922 W. Avalon Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85013
(602) 274-0633
sjgualtieri@wmconnect.com

Dan Klingenberg
7630 E. Windrose Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85260-4828
(480) 236-1441
dan2K@cox.net

Rachel Maloney
6242 E. Maverick Road
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
(480) 998-0542
mavbay07@aol.com

Lina Quintero
P.O. Box 930
Carefree, AZ 85377
(480) 329-4195
lina@elementofdesign.com



Discover Three Art Treasures in Our Own Backyard

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Join your friends on a day trip to see three artworks on Jim Ballinger's list of the ten most important pieces in Arizona: **The Altarpiece from Ciudad Rodrigo, Green on Blue** by **Mark Rothko** and the impressively restored interior of **San Xavier del Bac**.



Rothko, will be followed by lunch at the **Arizona Inn**. Then it is on to San Xavier del Bac to see the recently restored interior. San Xavier Mission is acclaimed by many as the finest example of mission architecture in the United States. The mission's interior houses a dazzling array of wall paintings and polychrome and gilded sculpture.

We'll begin at the **University of Arizona Museum of Art** with the exhibition on the restoration of the altarpiece. This exquisite group of 26 Spanish medieval panel paintings has undergone ultraviolet light, x-ray and infrared examination at the Kimball Art Museum's Conservation Studio. The resulting scientific and art historical research has unlocked 500-year-old secrets about the altarpiece's creation, all explored in a uniquely comprehensive exhibition. A tour of the highlights of the permanent collection, including the

This day trip will depart from Phoenix Art Museum's north parking lot at 8:30am on **Wednesday, March 18th** returning about 1pm. Cost is \$100 which includes ground transportation, admissions and lunch.

SOLD OUT!

To sign up mail a check payable to Friends of European Art to Pam Farrer, 4430 E. Camelback Road #40, Phoenix, AZ 85018. The trip is limited to 30 participants.

FEA Spring trip to New York City Five nights, Wednesday, April 29, to Monday, May 4, 2009

We'll stay at the **Hotel Elysee**, 60 E. 54th Street, a lovely boutique hotel with a European flair. Continental Breakfast daily and Wine & Cheese Happy Hour weeknights are included. We'll spend a day at the **Metropolitan Museum of Art**, see what's new at the **Frick**, and visit the **Dahesh** in new quarters as a result of a partnership with **Syracuse University Museum of Art**. Additional highlights are the **International Fine Art Fair** at the Seventh Regiment Armory, Park Avenue and 67th Street and a visit to the **Statue of Liberty** and the **Ellis Island Immigration Museum** via Ferry from Battery Park. Free time will be available for shopping, theater, more museums etc. on your own.



departing at these times a SuperShuttle transfer to and from the hotel is included in the trip price. If you arrive or leave at other times airport transfer is your own expense. Please write a separate check for your tax deductible gift to FEA. Mail payments to Deborah Cross, 10040 E. Happy Valley Road, Unit 447, Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Questions? (480) 502-2211, desert4deb@yahoo.com

**Please note, there was an "early bird" e-mail sent January 31 for this trip priced at \$1220, which included airfare. Unfortunately the airline deadline for group rates was February 10th. By the time you receive this Newsletter sign-ups will be available only if you book your own air travel.

The trip price, \$975 plus a \$50 gift to FEA, does not include airfare.** Payment, in full, is due March 15, 2009. Suggested travel is with Continental #534, departing Phoenix 7:10am arriving Newark 2:50pm on Wednesday, April 29th and returning on Continental #1635 departing Newark at 4:40pm arriving Phoenix 7:12pm on Monday, May 4th. Arriving and

To add your e-mail address to the FEA database, contact Janie Russo, janieleer@cox.net.

FEA TRAVEL, Deborah Cross and Terri Hardy

FEA Nominating Report

OFFICERS 2009-2010

PRESIDENT: MARCIA RUDDOCK

Marcia has been an active member of FEA for several years serving as Program Co-Chairman this past year and Secretary the previous year. Her professional background is with business and farming in Iowa. She has a B.S. from Iowa State University and an M.B.A. from the University of Iowa. Marcia met her husband, Hugh, at Phoenix Art Museum, where Hugh has been a docent since 1989. Marcia recently completed the Museum Docent Program, Class of 2007. They both enjoy the events, lectures, and travel offered by FEA.

VICE PRESIDENT: MARY LYNNE MITCHELL

Mary Lynne was born and raised in Phoenix and completed all her schooling in Arizona graduating from ASU with a teaching degree. She taught third, fourth and fifth grades. Mary Lynne entered the Museum Docent Program in 1982 and has loved every minute of her time as a docent. Serving as Docent President was an honor and highlight for her. Mary Lynne's husband, John, was treasurer of FEA and she looks forward to her first opportunity to serve on the FEA board.

SECRETARY: COLLEEN COOKSON

Colleen has been a member of FEA for 5 years and served on committees for the Scottsdale Fine Arts and Antiques Show for 2 years and *Carnivale!* for 2 years. She has been a Phoenix Art Museum member since 1990 when she first moved here from the San Francisco Bay Area. An Interior Designer with C-C Designs, Colleen has a B.A. in Art History from University of California, Berkeley; Post Baccalaureate K-8 Teaching Credential from California State University and A. A. Interior Design from Scottsdale Community College. She has held several leadership positions with Junior League and Scottsdale Public Schools, Arcadia Complex. She has been married to Bob Cookson for 38 years.

TREASURER: KEN HUSBAND

Ken has been active with the Museum since he moved to Phoenix in 1973. He has served two terms on the Board of Trustees including two years as Treasurer. He has been President of the Men's Arts Council and served as Chairman of the Cowboy Artists of America Show. Other Museum activities include Treasurer of the Western Art Associates and a founding member of the Planned Giving Committee of the Museum. Ken is a CPA and retired as a Tax Partner from Arthur Anderson after 35 years of service. He was recently the Chairman of the Arizona Society of CPAs. His wife, Nancy is a Phoenix Art Museum Master Docent and a former Docent President. They are both graduates of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Ken served as FEA treasurer this past year.

BOARD MEMBERS

JAMES MELIKIAN

James graduated from ASU with a degree in history and wrote several novels while working as a security guard at Phoenix Art Museum. He then joined his family's real estate firm and has helped develop many historic buildings in Phoenix, Scottsdale and Tucson. In 2003 he married Ana Almeida, a psychotherapist from Portugal. In 2004 he began collecting Biblical manuscripts and antiques. This collection now spans many cultures and he has loaned items to Phoenix Art Museum for display. James hopes to see the Museum branch out into new areas previously unavailable to the Arizona public.

PAM FARRER

Pam has been a member of FEA since 2000 and has served on the Travel Committee for four years. She has been a Phoenix Art Museum Docent since 1982 and has served in various capacities. Pam has served on the Brophy Mother's Guild and Xavier Parent's Association boards and has been on the board of the Friends of Arizona Cancer Center for 12 years. She has a B.S. in business education from the University of Arizona and a M.A. in secondary education from Arizona State University. Pam taught for 13 years in the Phoenix Union High School district. Her husband, Bob, is active with FEA and they both enjoy participating in FEA events.

DONN SNYDER

Donn has been a resident of Phoenix since 1970 and a member of FEA since 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Interior Design from the University of Minnesota and has been in practice for forty years. Donn enjoys many forms of art and he has found the FEA trips to be a wonderfully enriching way to actually see the art masterpieces he has studied.

The FEA Nominating Committee 2009-2010, Roxie Stouffer, Judee Morrison, Robert Farrer, Margaret Walker and Jennifer Wright, Committee Chair, is pleased to nominate the candidates.

Please visit our Web site
FriendsOfEuropeanArt.org
for membership information
and program updates.

Ballot

Please complete the ballot and mail to:
Jennifer Wright
15263 E. Sage Drive,
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

To nominate other candidates, you must first have their written consent. Votes will be counted and the results announced at the Annual Meeting, April 23, 2009.

Candidates for Officers 2009-2010
Vote for one for each position

President:
Marcia Ruddock _____
Other _____

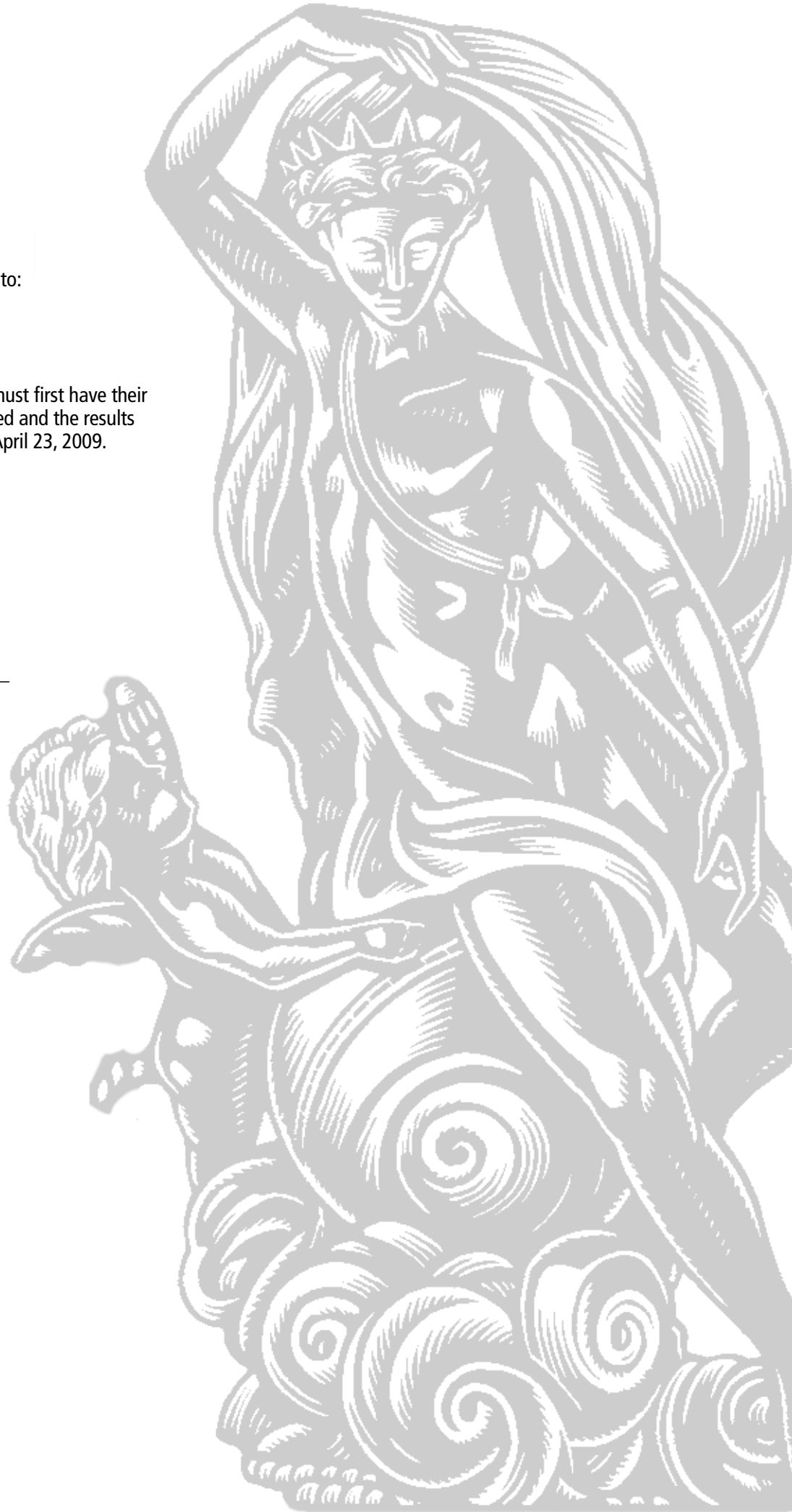
Vice President:
Mary Lynne Mitchell _____
Other _____

Secretary:
Colleen Cookson _____
Other _____

Treasurer:
Ken Husband _____
Other _____

Candidates for Board Members
2009-2010
Vote for three

James Melikian _____
Pam Farrer _____
Donn Snyder _____
Other _____
Other _____
Other _____



Carnivale! 2009

Special thanks to Blue Cross/Blue Shield Arizona, Columbine Garden Club, and Angela & Leonard Singer for their contributions to the success of *Carnivale!*



Michelle Ray and Susie Baum
Carnivale! 2009 Chairs



Hugh & Marcia Ruddock



Ravi & Sherry Koopot



Milena & Tony Astorga



Lucy & Kent Wagner



Judee Morrison

Friends of European Art (FEA) and their guests experienced the magic of Venice's famed Carnivale without leaving the Valley. On Friday January 23, party goers danced and dined the night away under the radiant new installation **Large Glass** by James Turrell, now housed in the Great Hall. Revelers enjoyed upbeat sounds of the party band **Snake Eyes** while feasting on delicious food.

Guests in attendance wore festive costumes and masks similar to those worn by Italian masqueraders. As they mingled and mixed amongst old and new friends they had the opportunity to bid on one-of-a-kind artwork, antiques, gourmet meals and exclusive tickets to sporting and cultural events. The night was such a hit that FEA raised nearly \$30,000.

The crowd was jovial and filled with excitement from bidding, mingling and dancing. Susan Baum and Michelle Ray were the toasts of the evening as guests praised them for their tireless work as **Carnivale!** Co-chairs. Current President of FEA, Sherry Koopot, and Phoenix Art Museum Sybil Harrington Director/FEA Liaison, James Ballinger, spoke of upcoming events and future acquisitions that FEA will contribute to the museum.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the evening. All proceeds generated from the event benefit Friends of European Art's acquisition and exhibition fund. Visit our website for upcoming events: www.friendsofeuropeanart.org/index.html



Michelle & Patrick Ray



Anne & Tony Gully



Jim & Barbara Nazzal



Mary Lynne & John Mitchell



Beth Smith, Robin Thorstensen, Lucy Wagner, Michelle Ray, and Jennifer Wright



Pam & Bob Farrer



Mark Your Calendars

FEA Gallery Walk: Medievalism: Fashion's Romance with the Middle Ages*

March 10, 2009 - 6:30pm

A special opportunity for FEA members to learn from Dennita Sewell, curator of fashion design, as she examines why modern designers revisit details of historical fashion in their collections, and recounts the interesting tales of some garments on view in the special exhibition. Fashion Design Gallery. Optional social to follow in Arcadia Farms at Phoenix Art Museum.

FEA Day Trip to Southern Arizona March 18, 2009

Lecture: Fashion in the Middle Ages?

March 31, 2009 - 7pm

Did "fashion" as we know it exist in the Middle Ages? Which novelties were sought after, and how was personal distinction possible during this period of violently interrupted trade and restrictive legislation? Sarah-Grace Heller, Ph.D., uncovers the roots of fashion and explores the innovative ways that people expressed themselves from 500 to 1300 AD. Whiteman Hall

Lecture: Elijah in Sight and Sound

April 4, 2009 - 2pm, Saturday

When ASU presents *Elijah* on April 30, images projected near the stage will illustrate Felix Mendelssohn's vivid musical drama. David Schildkret, conductor, and Celina Chiarello, Education intern, will preview the artworks and discuss how this unique presentation came to be. Whiteman Hall
Co-presented by ASU's Herberger College of the Arts, School of Music.

FEA Annual Meeting*

April 23, 2009 - 6:30pm

Join your Friends for cocktails, appetizers, and a short meeting at the lovely home of Anne and Fred Christensen.

FEA Spring trip to New York City April 29 - May 4, 2009

Lecture: On a Pilgrim's Trail: Adventures in Early Buildings May 2, 2009 - 2pm, Saturday

Internationally renowned art historian Marilyn Stokstad, Ph.D., author of *Art History* and a forthcoming tome

of world architecture, presents a Grand Tour of great European medieval and Renaissance architecture. Whiteman Hall
Co-presented by FEA and Phoenix Art Museum League

Lecture: Reforming Women's Fashion May 5, 2009 - 7pm

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, many artists, designers and architects sought to reform women's dress. Their solution was to draw on fashions from the past, as seen in *Medievalism*. Patricia Cunningham, Ph.D., considers the new artistic styles they created to secure both health and beauty for women. Whiteman Hall

ArtBreak: Anne Birch by George Romney

Every Tuesday in May - 11:30am

Docent, Peggy Seletos, will speak about the artist George Romney, a noted eighteenth century British portraitist. British portraits from the 18th century have always enjoyed a wide audience in the United States and *Anne Birch* is one of the Museum's prime examples of this genre.

***Watch for postcard invitations and e-mails with more details about these FEA events**

FRIENDS OF *European Art*

A support organization of

Phoenix Art Museum

1625 North Central Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85004-1685

FriendsofEuropeanArt.org

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