

Illustrated talks that illuminate the world of art

Co-sponsored by Stony Brook Southampton Library

Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. on Zoom The talks are free, but registration is required

Made possible by support from the John H. Marburger III Fund of Stony Brook University

September 29

FOCUS: Jackson Pollock and Jazz



Helen A. Harrison

Director, Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center

[Register here](#)

Helen will examine the relationship between Jackson Pollock's "action painting" technique, which reached its apogee in 1947-1950, and the jazz music he loved. His spontaneous creation of free-flowing forms is often likened to jazz improvisation, specifically the bebop that was prominent at the time, and many people believe he listened to that music while he painted. Was Pollock responding directly to the rhythms and energies of jazz, or was the music's influence on his art more oblique and subtle?

[Helen A. Harrison](#), The Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Director of the Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center, is a former *New York Times* art reviewer and NPR arts commentator. With a Master's degree in art history from Case Western Reserve University, she has served as the curator of the Parrish Art Museum and Guild Hall Museum, a guest curator at the Queens Museum, and the executive director of the Public Art Preservation Committee. Until curtailed by the pandemic, she wrote a monthly column, "Eye on Art," for the *Sag Harbor Express*. Her books include *Hamptons Bohemia: Two Centuries of Artists and Writers on the Beach*, monographs on Larry Rivers and Jackson Pollock, and three mystery novels set in the art world.

October 13

FOCUS: Reconciling Realism with Modernism



Christian White

Artist

[Register here](#)

Christian will discuss the influences and ideas from Rome, Providence, and Tribeca that informed his career, including his family's close ties to people like Fairfield Porter, Wolf Kahn, Paul Georges and Aldous Huxley. Having spent much of his childhood in the Met, the Frick, MoMA and the Whitney, he has come to believe that Modernism, Realism, and Abstraction have all become deeply intertwined in contemporary painting.

[Christian White](#) was born in Rome but grew up on Long Island. He attended Liceo Artistico in Rome and has a BFA in Painting from RISD, and has studied with people as diverse as Robert Kulicke, Louisa Chase, Paul Georges and Shinkichi Tajiri. He currently

has major paintings hanging in The Nassau County Museum of Art and the Heckscher Museum. He has been represented by Salander-O'Reilly, Barbara Ingber and Gallery North, among others, and his work is in many public and private collections. Christian is also a sculptor; among his commissions is the "Iconic Wall" in the lobby of the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics at Stony Brook University.

October 27

FOCUS: Fakes, Forgeries, and Frauds



Nancy Moses

Author

[Register here](#)

What's real? What's fake? Why do we care? In these days of fake news and pseudo-science, these questions are more relevant than ever. In her new book, [Fakes, Forgeries, and Frauds](#), Nancy goes beyond the headlines, tweets, and blogs to explore the true nature of authenticity and why it's so important today. She delves into the fraught issue of sorting out the real Jackson Pollock paintings from the thousands of fakes, and why so many bogus works, so-called zombie Pollocks, keep circulating long after they've been discredited.

[Nancy Moses](#) writes about cultural treasures and the provocative issues they raise. Her books include *Lost in the Museum: Buried Treasures and the Stories They Tell* and *Stolen Smuggled Sold: On the Hunt for Cultural Treasures*. A former director of the Atwater Kent, Philadelphia's History Museum, Nancy has held senior positions at the National Endowment for the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, and WQED-Pittsburgh public media. She is the creator of the film, *Sisters in Freedom*, produced by History Making Productions, and was a columnist for the *Philadelphia Business Journal*. She is currently chair of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museums Commission. She holds a Master's degree from George Washington University and is a visiting scholar at the American University in Rome.