

December at the Smithsonian

New Exhibits

Gerhard Richter The first major North American showing of this German artist includes more than 50 paintings, objects and photographs. Hirshhorn Museum (Dec. 11 through Feb. 12, 1989).

"Coyote" — A Myth in the Making Through paintings, bronze sculptures and serigraphs and lithographs, American Indian artist Harry Fonseca focuses on a mythical being prominent in the literature and religion of many Native Americans. Museum of Natural History (Dec. 21 through March 21, 1989).

U.S. Marshals, 1789-1989 A Smithsonian traveling exhibition honors the 200th anniversary of U.S. Marshals Supreme Court Building (Dec. 12 through Feb. 26, 1989).

Catlin Paintings



Mint, a pretty girl by George Catlin

The Museum of American Art has installed an entirely new selection of paintings by George Catlin, the first renowned painter to capture on canvas the Indians in their native habitat. The works will be on display indefinitely.

Lectures

Social Etiquette and Dress in the 19th Century Social graces and apparel in the mid to late 19th century. Renwick Gallery (Dec. 1 at noon, free).

General Electric Aviation Lecture Memoirs of John Muirhead, a B-17 pilot. Air and Space Museum (Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m., free).

American Art Museum Features Man Ray



Blanche et Noir by Man Ray. © Man Ray Trust/ADAGP Paris, ARS USA

A pioneer of 20th-century art, Man Ray's 268-piece collection, which will be on exhibit Dec. 2 through Feb. 20, 1989, includes air brush paintings, photographs, films and other modern works. Innovator of both dada and surrealism, Man Ray is considered one of the founding fathers of modernism.

Man Ray In conjunction with the Man Ray exhibit, this all-day symposium focuses on the prominence of dada and surrealism in his works. Museum of American History (Dec. 3 at 9:15 a.m., free). Reservations required, call 357-8095.

Kalabari Ancestral Screens as Political Instruments The political ramifications of ancestral screens. Museum of African Art (Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m., free). Reservations required, call 357-4860.

Foods in the 17th-Century Delaware Valley Culinary historians and food anthropologists discuss foods as links to social history. Museum of American History (Dec. 2 from 7 to 11 p.m., free).

Galaxies Monthly Sky Lecture on the mysteries of galaxies. Air and Space Museum (Dec. 5 at 9:30 a.m., free).

France in the 1930s All-day seminar explores the history of France during the decade between the 1929 stock market crash and World War II. Ripley Center (Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., \$55*).

Irish Houses and Castles Illustrated lecture tracing the development of Irish architecture, gardens and decorative arts. Hirshhorn Museum (Dec. 5 at 8 p.m., \$9*).

Journey to the Center of the Earth New discoveries in Earth's interior may affect magnetic fields. Museum of American History (Dec. 6 at 8 p.m., \$9*).

Dressing the Bed, Dressing the Room Decorative cloths and aesthetics among Nigeria's Kalabari people. Museum of African Art (Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m., free).

The Orient as Art Nouveau In conjunction with the Henri Vever exhibit, the first of a series of lectures on the relationship between the French fascination with Asia and the Art Nouveau movement. Ripley Center (Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m., free).

The DeMilles: An American Family An account of this family's influence on Broadway and Hollywood. Museum of American History (Dec. 8 at 8 p.m., \$9*).

The Dawn of Christianity All-day seminar explores the birth of Christianity and its impact on world history. Hirshhorn Museum (Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., \$55*).

Washington's Distinguished Apartment Houses James Goode, former curator of the Smithsonian Institution Castle and author of books on Washington's art and architecture, discusses elegant buildings that have characterized the nation's capital since 1920. Museum of American History (Dec. 13 at 6 p.m., \$8*).

Christmas in a Tropical Dry Forest Tropical ecologist David Janzen presents an illustrated lecture on tropical dry forests, an ecological phenomenon. Ripley Center (Dec. 15 at 6 p.m., \$9*).

Forbidden Journey Co-authors Barbara and Michael Foster discuss their biography of Alexandra David-Neel, the first foreign woman to visit the holy city of Lhasa, Tibet. Museum of American History (Dec. 11 at 8 p.m., \$9*).

Aerospace Former astronaut Frank Borman discusses aerospace programs. Air and Space Museum (Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m., free).

Molecular Studies of Mammalian Taxonomies Special reference to pandas, bears and raccoons. National Zoo (Dec. 11 at 8 p.m., free). A reception precedes the lecture.

Festival of Claymation Shorts by Will Vinton, inventor of the California singing raisins, in conjunction with the Stephen De Staebler exhibit. Renwick Gallery (Dec. 15 and 17 at 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., free).

The Search for New Gravitational Forces New discoveries in Newton's theory of gravity. Museum of American History (Dec. 15 at 8 p.m., \$9*).

Display Techniques Creative techniques for small spaces and limited budgets. Sponsored by Friends for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture. Anacostia Museum (Dec. 15 at 1 p.m., free).

Orville and Wilbur Wright The lives and careers of two brothers — 85 years after Kitty Hawk. Air and Space Museum (Dec. 17 at 9 a.m., free).

Capitol Writers Holiday narratives feature author Susan Shreve. Museum of American History (Dec. 18 at 7 p.m., free).

Mountain Gorillas New findings on one of the world's most endangered species. Museum of Natural History (Dec. 19 at 6 and 8:30 p.m., \$4* for age 16 and younger, \$7* for all others).

Family Events

Children's Story Hour Chinese stories. Sackler Gallery (Dec. 3 and 17 at 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., free). Reservations required, call 357-6886.

Beginning Drawing The African Art Club sponsors a two-hour workshop for children ages 9 to 15 who enjoy drawing. Museum of African Art (Dec. 3 at 1 p.m., free).

Art Contest Children, ages 12 and older, can try their hand at drawing objects from the Naturalist Center's diverse collection of natural history specimens. Bring your own art supplies. Museum of Natural History (Dec. 1 from 12:30 to 5 p.m.; for more information, call 357-1503).

African Folk Tales Stories that bring African lore and history to life. Museum of African Art (Dec. 10 at 4 p.m., free).

The Nutcracker Performance and workshop. Following the Joffrey Ballet's performance, learn behind-the-scenes techniques of productions, meet cast members and receive an autographed souvenir. Kennedy Center (Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m., \$51*).

Dr. Doolittle A Disney cartoon classic. National Zoo (Dec. 11 at 1 p.m., free). Tickets required, call 675-1717.

Films

Grandpa Joe's Country Part 1 of the film series "Make Prayers to the Raven." More about Alaska's Koyukon Indians. A short film about animals of Alaska's Denali National Park will also be screened. Museum of Natural History (Dec. 25 at noon, free).

Xala A satire on how polygamy affects a Senegalese businessman in urban society. Ripley Center (Dec. 9 at 7 p.m., free). Museum of African Art (Dec. 11 at 2 p.m., free).

Cold War Aviation Film Series "A Gathering of Eagles" with Rock Hudson as a newly promoted commander. Air and Space Museum (Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m., free).

Wend Kuuni (God's Gift) A young adopted mute's adjustment to life without his natural family. Ripley Center (Dec. 16 at 7 p.m., free). Museum of African Art (Dec. 18 at 2 p.m., free).

Ocean Symphony A visual exploration of the ocean's depths. Museum of Natural History (Dec. 26 through Jan. 1 at 1 and 2:15 p.m., free).

Sunday Film Series Three films depict the Cultural Revolution and how it affected China. Ripley Center (All shows at 2 p.m., free).

• *River Without Bridges* (Dec. 1)
• *At Middle Age* (Dec. 11)
• *Xu Muo and His Daughters* (Dec. 18)

Holiday Celebrations



Meating in Central Park by Agnes Jan

The spirit of the yuletide season is in evidence in the various Smithsonian museums. From Christmas carols to unique ornaments, the Holiday Celebration returns in a joyous mix of activities that focus on how Americans celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and the New Year.

Trees of Christmas Exhibit. Eleven spruce, pine and fir trees decorated with handcrafted ornaments that depict a particular craft, tradition or style. Museum of American History (Dec. 16 through January 1989).

Kwartz Family Workshop A three-hour workshop featuring storytelling, musical instruments, tie-dyeing, silk-screening and a candle lighting finale — all symbolic of the African harvest celebration. Anacostia Museum (Dec. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.). A \$2 per person fee is required for materials. To pre-register, call 287-3369.

Holiday Festivities Live multi-ethnic music that ranges from gospel to folk to barbershop quartet, crafts that depict global cultures and foods from ethnic communities. Special events for children as well. Museum of American History (Dec. 26 through 31 from noon to 1 p.m., free). For specific events, call 357-2700 or 357-4185.

Capital City Brass Brunch Concert Christmas carols and other seasonal tunes by the Capital City Brass Ensemble. Brunch and champagne included. Museum of American History (Dec. 11 at 10 and 11 a.m., \$18*). Reservations required, call 357-4185.

Once Upon a Christmas A re-enactment of a Christmas celebration during the Victorian era, featuring both American and European songs. Museum of American History (Dec. 18 at 1:30 p.m., \$15*).

Performances

Classical Music The 20th-Century Consort performs George Crumb and Olivier Messiaen. Hirshhorn Museum (Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m., \$12*). A pre-concert lecture will be given at 1:30 p.m.).

International Poetry Forum Poetess Ruth Stone presents an American vision through her poetry. Hirshhorn Museum (Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m., \$10*).

- *Drum Masters of the 1920s and 1930s* Drumming techniques of jazz pioneers (Dec. 1 and 18 at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.).
- *Rudgers and Hart* Songs from shows such as "Jumbo" and "The Boys from Syracuse" (Dec. 9 at noon; Dec. 11 at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.).
- *All American Music* Theater songs about working Americans (Dec. 16 and 17 at noon).

Hours/Information

Metro Information Ride Metro to the Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo.

General Visitor Information Call 357-2700 or 357-1729 (TDD). An audio cassette edition of this calendar is available by calling 357-1697 (voice) or 357-1696 (TDD).

On-the-Mall Museum Hours are as follow: Air and Space Museum, Museum of American History, Museum of African Art, Sackler Gallery, Hirshhorn Museum and International Gallery — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Off-the-Mall Museum Hours are as follow: Museum of American Art, National Portrait Gallery, Renwick Gallery — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Anacostia Museum — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; National Zoo — 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (buildings) and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (grounds); Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York City, call 357-2700 for information.

*Resident Associate Events. Advance tickets are usually required, call 357-3040 for availability. Discounts for members.

Volunteers Needed Museum Information Desks or Telephone Information Services. Call 357-2700 for a Volunteer Information Specialist Packet and application.

The January 1989 calendar will appear in the Washington Post on Dec. 16.



Musical renditions from the jazz era will be a popular highlight at the Museum of American History. The Jazz in the Palm Court series will focus on the impact of the Black migration, 1915-1940, and the development of 20th-century jazz. (Free).