

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

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AIHA OFFERS A FIRST, FREE LOOK AT NEW “ST. PETER’S CHURCH” EXHIBITION

ALBANY, NY— Visitors to the Albany Institute of History & Art on Friday, March 2 from 5–8 PM can enjoy a **FREE** sneak peek at the museum’s newest exhibition, *St. Peter’s Church: 300 Years of History & Art* before it’s officially opening on March 3. The event is in association with Albany’s 1st Friday art walk, showcasing the thriving and lively art scene in downtown Albany. The show, running through April 29, will examine the role St. Peter’s Church has played in shaping Albany and the upper Hudson Valley.

The exhibition showcases the distinguished history of St. Peter’s Church in Albany, New York, which begins in 1708 when England’s Queen Anne sent missionaries to establish friendly relations with the Iroquois. A gambrel-roofed masonry edifice with a bell tower was completed in 1715. Located on State Street, just below present day Chapel Street, it was the first Anglican Church built north of New York City and west of the Hudson River. In 1802 Albany architect Phillip Hooker designed a new Federal Style church near the same location, which Richard Upjohn of New York City, well-known for his Gothic Revival Style replaced in 1860. His son, Richard M. Upjohn added the impressive bell tower in 1876. The richly decorated interiors include work by leading artists designers including windows designed by the English artist Edward C. Burne-Jones and fabricated by the William Morris Company of London in 1880; the chancel windows made by Clayton and Bell of London in 1885; and the rose window over the State Street entrance made by the Tiffany Company in 1892. Drawn from the collections of St. Peter’s Church and the Albany Institute, the exhibition includes the rarely seen 1712 Queen Anne Communion Service, land grants, portraits, furniture, drawings, prints, maps, and photographs arranged to highlight the history of the church and its role in the historical events that molded the region.

The show will be located within the Entry Gallery of the Albany Institute of History & Art, which is situated at 125 Washington Avenue, Albany. In conjunction with the show, the Institute is hosting a three-part lecture series entitled “300 Years, One Congregation” for a more in-depth look at the church and its legacy. Visit albanyinstitute.org for more information.

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RELATED EVENTS:

300 Years, One Congregation: Three Buildings, Four Distinguished Architects**SUNDAY, MARCH 4 | 2 PM**

John G. Waite, FAIA, and Doug Bucher of John G. Waite Associates, Architects, PLLC will present a lecture on the architectural and artistic history and legacy of St. Peter's Church. **FREE with museum admission.**

300 Years, One Congregation: One Faith: The Stained Glass Windows at St. Peter's Church**SUNDAY, MARCH 25 | 2 PM**

Mr. Anthony Anadio will present an illustrated lecture of the stories told by the thousands of pieces of stained glass created by some of the world's finest artisans that are part of St. Peter's Church. The lecture will be followed by a tour of St. Peter's to see the actual windows. **FREE with museum admission.**

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The Albany Institute's distinguished collections and acclaimed exhibitions comprise the definitive expression of the cultural, historical, and artistic heritage of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley. From its world-renowned Hudson River School collection, to the famous Albany Mummies, to the wide range of performances, lectures, and festivals, to its outstanding educational and family programming, this distinctive and engaging institution provides visitors of all ages and interests with a splendid museum experience. Visit www.albanyinstitute.org for more information, and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute).

The Albany Institute of History & Art is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 AM-5 PM and Sundays NOON-5 PM. The museum is closed on Monday and open for pre-registered groups only on Tuesday. The library is open Thursdays 1:30-4:30 PM and by appointment.

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