

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALBANY INSTITUTE TO HOST ALBERT M. ROSENBLATT AND JULIA C. ROSENBLATT FOR LECTURE AND BOOK SIGNING

Opening Statements: Law, Jurisprudence, and the Legacy of Dutch New York
Sunday, September 29, 2PM

ALBANY, NY- The Albany Institute of History & Art will host retired New York Court of Appeals Judge Albert M. Rosenblatt and Julia C. Rosenblatt for a lecture about their book *Opening Statements: Law, Jurisprudence, and the Legacy of Dutch New York* on September 29, 2013 at 2PM. The Rosenblatts will give an engaging talk about the litigious Dutch in colonial America. They will discuss the ways in which the legal system of the New Netherland colonies has influenced modern day American concepts of governance, liberty, women's rights, and religious freedom. After the lecture, the Rosenblatts will be available to answer questions and sign copies of their book. This lecture and book signing is organized by the Museum Shop at the Albany Institute of History & Art and is free with museum admission.

Although much has been written about the English roots of American law and jurisprudence, little attention has been paid until recently to the legacy left by the Dutch. In *Opening Statements*, a broad spectrum of eminent scholars examine the legal heritage that New Netherland bequeathed to New York in the seventeenth century. Even after the transfer of the colony to England placed New York under English Common Law rather than Dutch Roman Law, the Dutch system of jurisprudence continued to influence evolving American concepts of governance, liberty, women's rights, and religious freedom in ways that still resonate in today's legal culture. *Opening Statements* is published by SUNY Press in cooperation with the Historical

Society of the Courts of the State of New York. It was released in June 2013. For more information, please visit the SUNY Press website: <http://www.sunypress.edu/p-5717-opening-statements.aspx>.

Albert M. Rosenblatt is a Judge (Ret.) of the New York Court of Appeals, a Judicial Fellow at New York University Law School, of counsel to the law firm of McCabe & Mack, and President of the Historical Society of the Courts of the State of New York. His books include *The Judges of the New York Court of Appeals: A Biographical History*. Julia C. Rosenblatt is the coauthor (with Frederic H. Sonnenschmidt) of *Dining with Sherlock Holmes: A Baker Street Cookbook*. Together, the Rosenblatts coauthored *Historic Courthouses of the State of New York: A Study in Postcards*.

The lecture and book signing will be held at the Albany Institute of History and Art, located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. It is free with museum admission and no reservations are required. A limited number of copies of *Opening Statements: Law, Jurisprudence, and the Legacy of Dutch New York* will be available for purchase at the Museum Shop.

The Albany Institute is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursdays until 8PM (starting October 2013) and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and some holidays. Admission is FREE for Albany Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors and students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

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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 lectures, outstanding educational and family programming, and special events, this distinctive and engaging institution provides visitors of all ages and interests with a splendid museum experience. One of America's oldest museums, the Albany Institute of History & Art was founded in 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, making it older than the Louvre, the Smithsonian, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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