

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

Albany Institute of History & Art

125 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12210

T: (518) 463-4478; F: (518) 462-1522

www.albanyinstitute.org

www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute

www.twitter.com/albanyinstitute

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 22, 2014

CONTACT:

Erika Sanger
Director of Education
sangere@albanyinstitute.org
(518) 463-4478 ext 404

Aine Leader-Nagy
Marketing Associate
leader.nagya@albanyinstitute.org
(518) 463-4478 ext 408

SPECIAL THOMAS COLE EXHIBITION TO PAIR WITH NOVEMBER LECTURE EVENT

ALBANY, NEW YORK- The Albany Institute of History & Art is excited to announce that it will install a special exhibition of Thomas Cole materials to coincide with Dr. Paul Schweizer's lecture and book signing at the Albany Institute on Sunday, November 2, 2014, at 2PM. Dr. Schweizer is Director Emeritus of the Munson-Williams-Proctor Art Institute's Museum of Art and will speak about his new book *Thomas Cole's Voyage of Life* as part of the Institute's *Making it American* lecture series. The Albany Institute owns Cole's original oil studies for the *Voyage of Life* series as well as the first concept drawing for his painting, "Youth." This event is open to the public and free with museum admission.

Thomas Cole (1801–1848) was the founder of the American art movement known as the Hudson River School. He created a distinctly American style of painting and influenced other significant artists of the time. Schweizer will discuss how Thomas Cole took the old master idiom of history painting and put it in the form of American landscape to create his most iconic series, the *Voyage of Life*. Schweizer will be available to sign copies of his book after his presentation.

In addition to the lecture, attendees will be able to visit the exhibition to see a selection of Thomas Cole materials from the Albany Institute's collection. Exhibited items will include paintings, drawings, a sketchbook, rare print, and selected letters by Cole, as well as a portrait of Cole by Thomas Seir Cummings. Of special note are his earliest sketches made while living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1823, male figure studies sketched in Italy, paintings of the Colosseum and Italian countryside, and American landscapes. The exhibition will be up at least through the end of the year [please check www.albanyinstitute.org for to-be-determined closing date].



The Voyage of Life:
Youth, Thomas Cole
(1801-1848), 1839, oil
sketch on wood panel,
Albany Institute of
History & Art
purchase, 1942.56.2

The *Making it American* lecture series takes a broad look at what art, artifacts, objects, manuscripts, and other primary source materials can teach us about the development of American history, culture, the arts, and our national identity. Invited scholars analyze the construct of American values and ideals through our collections and exhibitions. Experts in their fields create presentations illuminating the development of our culture and international trends influences. These lectures are an exciting opportunity to learn from scholars recognized in their field who make their expertise and our collections accessible. Additional lecture in the series include:

A Promising Venture: Shaker Objects in the Index of American Design

Lesley Herzberg, Curator of Collections, Hancock Shaker

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 | 2 PM

Produced between 1935 and 1942, the Index is a visual archive of American decorative arts that reflects the expanding interest in our nation's material culture. Herzberg will illuminate the unique design characteristics of the Index's Shaker Portfolio and how accompanying photographs created a record of their context. This lecture is co-sponsored by Partners for Albany Stories (PASt). **Free with museum admission**

Under the Same Roofs: Slavery at the Ten Broeck Mansion in the late Eighteenth Century

Matthew J. Kirk, Principal Investigator/Cultural Resource Specialist, Hartgen Archeological Associates

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 | 2PM

Recent excavations and research revealed outbuildings on Ten Broeck land likely used as summer kitchens and/or slave quarters, like those at Schuyler Mansion, Johnson Hall, and other prominent residences, particularly in the south. With a unique mix of archaeology and history these findings provide insight into the slave/master relationships shortly before abolition. They suggest we reconsider our modern concepts of slavery in the north at the end of the eighteenth century. This lecture is co-sponsored by Partners for Albany Stories (PAST). **Free with museum admission**

This series has been supported by a grant from the New York Council for the Humanities. To learn more about the Council, please visit their website: <http://www.nyhumanities.org/>

The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. There is limited parking available in the museums lot, located at the corner of Dove and Elk Streets in Albany (just behind the museum). There is also on street parking available. The Albany Institute is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursday until 8PM*, 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. The museum is now offering free admission on Thursdays from 5PM-8PM. For more information, visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Over 25,000 people visit the Albany Institute of History & Art every year, enjoying the collections, workshops, school programs, and lectures, helping to build an understanding of the history and culture of our region. Among the museum's best-known and most-loved collections are the 19th century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, the 19th century sculpture collections, and, of course, the famous Albany Mummies that came to the museum in 1909 and have been on view ever since. For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute) and Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute).

###